# ReleaseChecking

## Checking a Release Candidate

The purpose of this page is to provide guidelines for the kind of things to check for a *Release Candidate* before voting. As well as helping people checking releases, hopefully it will help Release Managers avoid some potential pitfalls / objections.

These are just some initial thoughts - hopefully others will add in their 2c - niallp

### 1. General Checks

- Has the release been tagged in Subversion?
- Are there open (non-enhancement) bugzilla tickets?
- Have any version-specific files been updated? (e.g. build.xml, Version.java)

### 2. Binary Distribution

- Are the NOTICE and LICENSE files included in the root directory?
- Are the NOTICE and LICENSE files included in jar?
- Is the jar's manifest file correct?
  - Check the component version number is correct.
  - Oheck the title and vendor.
  - o Check the JDK version.
    - if the JDK version is higher than expected (e.g. JDK 1.4 rather than JDK 1.3) does the maven build have the compatibility option set?
  - O Check the Built-By field.
    - If the name in the jar file does not match your ASF account name, rebuild with '-Duser.name=your-asf-account'.
- Check the documentation
  - o Is the version information correct (has it been updated)?
  - o Is the style in keeping with other Commons components
  - Is there adequate information on:
    - Releases
    - Mailing Lists
    - Dependencies
      - Are all dependencies appropriately licensed?
      - Are all dependencies released versions?
      - Dependency comments are good (indicating whether its required/optional/for testing/for the site generation) e.g. Resources
    - Issue Tracking there are some good examples of custom issue tracking pages (see Validator or IO).
    - Project License
  - O Do the JavaDocs look OK?
  - o Are there any check style or javadoc warnings
  - O Do all the links work for the local copy of the documentation?
- If you're a user of the component can you give the RC a test run?

#### 3. Source Distribution

- Are the **NOTICE** and **LICENSE** files included in the **root** directory?
- Is everything in the source repository included in the distro?
  - Files typically in the root directory
    - project.xml
    - maven.xml
    - project.properties
    - (maybe) build.xml
    - Checkstyle files (xml config, checkstyle headers file)
  - $^{\circ}$   $\,$  Are the contents of the source directory present
  - Are the contents of the xdocs directory present
  - Are configuration files / directories present?
  - Are there any additional files included that are not in the source repository?
    - e.g. SVN files, log files, temporary distribution directories
- Can the project be built (e.g. run "maven dist" or relevant ant command) from the source distribution (note the commons-build directory will need to be available)?
  - o do the tests run?
  - o is the jar correctly generated
  - o do the distribution files generated (i.e. binary/source zip/tar.gz files) match the ones for the release (md5's and bytecounts may be different and diffs may fail if checking is done on a different platform than that used to cut the release)?

Other pages which might be of interest

ReleaseShoppingList