
Subject: Re: C++ FQA

Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 09 Nov 2007 13:48:52 GMT

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mdelfede wrote on Fri, 09 November 2007 07:41luzr wrote on Fri, 09 November 2007 08:51
Well, but that is useful feature and this is one of things I like with C++ - the "default" mode is "safe", but you can always do dirty things when you need them.

no, here I don't agree.... such things make virtually impossible write 'safe' libraries. A 'const' should be a 'const', not a 'maybe const'.... as 'private' should be so, not a maybe one.
I've seen constructs like that :

```
#define private public  
#include "alib.h"
```

just to overcome a private class declaration and access the low-level stuffs inside it.... Then, when library changes, people (maybe also people that hasn't nothing to do with such a hack) starts wondering why his program that up to the day before worked like a charm just crash. IMHO that has nothing to do with commercial-grade applications.

Sure, this is awful, but very often, the alternative is that it is not possible to finish your job.

Note that all these "high-level" language, whose propagators despise C/C++, have interfaces for these languages so that the dirty stuff can be done.

Quote:

well, a well written lib should do what the coder will, *not* what the user is missing. Before using C++ hacks to overcome libs limitations, you have 3 solutions :

- 1) Patch the sources, if you have them
- 2) Ask the original programmer to enhance the lib
- 3) Just find another lib that suit your needs

And if neither is possible? You quit the job?

Mirek
