Subject: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 14:13:27 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

OK, I am afraid this topic might offend many...

Anyway, I believe that in the long term, U++ needs some cash flow to grow.

Ideally, it would be nice to have some commercial backing for the library, and maybe we will get there at some point in the future.

In any case, in all of my plans, U++ library is free BSD licensed open software, usable even for closed-source commercial applications without any fee.

So where the little cash might come from? I plan to implement following features soon:

- some limited website advertising, most likely google adsense. I will try hard to keep it decent and not too much disturbing.

- PayPal donations. Inspired by www.winscp.net, you will be even able to get something in return - we will be listing all donors in TheIDE main help page (again in some decent way), with added features based on donation size - so it will be a kind of advertising too (big donation -> big font, www link and perhaps some additional info) (it is good that topic++ is now compressing files

Now rather exotic idea:

- sponsorship banner on TheIDE splash-screen and about box. Actually, there already was such banner in 511 release. The sponsorship would be granted based on eBay auction.

Distant future plans, not very high level of probability:

* U++ consulting

* U++ Pro boxed version with enterprise tools (but in no case the free version would be made less useful for average users - this would be rather about Fedora/RHEL model..)

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 14:18:52 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

P.S.: Feel free to comment / criticise..

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by fallingdutch on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 14:38:56 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Well Mirek, you - and many others - invest a lot of time into Ultimate ++, so i have no Problem if you try to get at least a part of the time paid!

What kind of enterprise tools are you thinking of?
Bas

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by forlano on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 15:05:11 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I agree with Bas. I do not see any problem.

Luigi

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by zsolt on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 15:07:51 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Without money, it is very hard to manage anything, I think. So I agree with you, Mirek.

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 15:14:56 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

fallingdutch wrote on Thu, 02 November 2006 09:38Well Mirek, you - and many others - invest a lot of time into Ultimate ++, so i have no Problem if you try to get at least a part of the time paid!

What kind of enterprise tools are you thinking of?
Bas

Things like E-R diagrams for .sch objects (something I never needed or used for my 600 tables IDIS schema

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by fallingdutch on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 15:44:05 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Thu, 02 November 2006 16:14

Things like E-R diagrams for .sch objects (something I never needed or used for my 600 tables IDIS schema

In that case I realy don't mind if you sell such boxes ... and if I ever earn money with Software written with U++ I am willingly to buy one of these or donate

Bas

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by Ulti on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 15:51:39 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Agree,advance feature(such as database support) of U++ can be considered as pro,but please at least keep the core part(GUI related) as BSD.people would like to spend proper money for good things,but there some thing prevent this(as exchange difficulty).

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 15:59:53 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Ulti wrote on Thu, 02 November 2006 10:51Agree,advance feature(such as database support) of U++ can be considered as pro,but please at least keep the core part(GUI related) as BSD.people would like to spend proper money for good things,but there some thing prevent this(as exchange difficulty).

Well, these "pro" things are just thoughts now, anyway:

The current library parts will always be BSD and free.

Even any other new library packages would be BSD/Free according to the current plan.

The only "Pro" part would be enhancements to TheIDE and perhaps some other tools could be "value" added.

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by yeohhs on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 16:05:57 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

It is a good idea to make Ultimate++ project generate money for its core developers. Otherwise, it will not grow quickly. IMHO it is unfair to expect its core developers to spend a lot of valuable time without any form of income.

I'd like to use Ultimate++ for developing commercial products. I'm already using a payment processor system which allows split payments. When I have an Ultimate++ program ready for sale, I will offer a split payment to the Ultimate++ project, a certain percentage that we can agree on comfortably.

Best Regards,
Yeoh

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by djesus on Thu, 02 Nov 2006 17:29:54 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I think U++ it's a great tool (for Linux the best (my opinion)). This is a great idea to get business, and the money... I think that to grow the money is critical, so I am agree with Mirek.

Good Luck

Best Regards

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by masu on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 10:53:42 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

What do you think about also adding an ad to the forum pages?
I think the forum pages requests are higher than the Ultimate++ page requests at the moment.
Of course, I don't have any statistics on that.
Another issue is that the forum is and will be an important source of documentation for all working on and with upp.
Just an idea (codeblocks does the same).

Matthias

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 11:00:21 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

masu wrote on Fri, 03 November 2006 05:53What do you think about also adding an ad to the

forum pages?
I think the forum pages requests are higher than the Ultimate++ page requests at the moment.
Of course, I don't have any statistics on that.
Another issue is that the forum is and will be an important source of documentation for all working on and with upp.
Just an idea (codeblocks does the same).

Matthias

Yes, this is definitely planned.

I would like to integrate everything in single web server-> forum.ultimatepp.org, wiki.ultimatepp.org....

Anyway, I am afraid this will take some time now (like week or two

Another thing I would like to do soon is to prepare the fund-raising info. As I have described before, donors will get publicity inside TheIDE help and I there will be a "release sponsorship" auction with advertising space on login.

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by fallingdutch on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 12:17:38 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Fri, 03 November 2006 12:00
I would like to integrate everything in single web server-> forum.ultimatepp.org, wiki.ultimatepp.org....

Hope you will use mediawiki as wiki - will you?

Bas

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 12:48:22 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Frankly I have not investigated the issue yet....

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by Werner on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 19:54:42 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Thu, 02 November 2006 15:13...
- PayPal donations. ...

PC Professionell, a major German Computer magazine (www.pc-professionell.de), reports in its latest edition (published today) under the headline "Account Terrorism" that PayPal freezes the accounts of its clients in the slightest cases of suspected terrorism. This would even affect many innocents. Consumer rights would be grossly disregarded.

It then cites among others web sites "www.paypalsucks.com" and "www.paypalwarning.com".

Werner

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by fallingdutch on Sat, 04 Nov 2006 23:15:42 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Werner wrote on Sat, 04 November 2006 20:54luzr wrote on Thu, 02 November 2006 15:13...
- PayPal donations. ...

PC Professionell, a major German Computer magazine (www.pc-professionell.de), reports in its latest edition (published today) under the headline "Account Terrorism" that PayPal freezes the accounts of its clients in the slightest cases of suspected terrorism. This would even affect many innocents. Consumer rights would be grossly disregarded.

It then cites among others web sites "www.paypalsucks.com" and "www.paypalwarning.com".

Werner

you can read about it in german law forums, too

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Sun, 05 Nov 2006 05:17:15 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I am afraid we have to live with this danger, there really is no other option for this...

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by exolon on Sun, 05 Nov 2006 17:54:03 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I think google ads on the upp homepage and forums is a great idea, as is free sponsorship. About adding such matters to theIDE, I'm not 100% sure. If it's done wrong, theIDE and thus UPP might not be considered as free, rather adware... I'm sure you'll be careful to avoid such classification.

"Enterprise" stuff is good too if we can come up with some good ideas for features Perhaps stuff

this (and generate more interest with a more flexible, powerful IDE)?

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Sun, 05 Nov 2006 17:59:36 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

exolon wrote on Sun, 05 November 2006 12:54I think google ads on the upp homepage and forums is a great idea, as is free sponsorship. About adding such matters to theIDE, I'm not 100% sure. If it's done wrong, theIDE and thus UPP might not be considered as free, rather adware... I'm sure you'll be careful to avoid such classification.

Actually, you can check now: 511 version had such "sponsorship strip" in the splash screen and about box. I am really interested in community opinion on this, please check it out (still can be downloaded from sf.net).

In any case, I would never used anything that occupies screen space that can be usefully used to do your work or that is always visible on the screen. (note that google ads occupy areas that were empty before).

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by yeohhs on Mon, 06 Nov 2006 04:37:17 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Ads in splash screen and about box is fine with me.

Best Regards,
Yeoh

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....

Posted by yeohhs on Mon, 06 Nov 2006 04:44:56 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Thu, 02 November 2006 22:13

Distant future plans, not very high level of probability:

* U++ consulting

IMHO, you should seriously consider U++ consulting and training as soon as possible. Although more time consuming, this is where the money is and it is also a very good way to promote U++.

Technologies such as webinars, podcasts, etc. make online consulting and training feasible.

Best Regards,
Yeoh

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by exolon on Mon, 06 Nov 2006 18:03:35 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

yeohhs wrote on Mon, 06 November 2006 04:44Technologies such as webinars, podcasts, etc. make online consulting and training feasible.
Great point! If anyone here has is on any of the SANS-bites security mailing lists, there are webinars and such advertising hands-on training every couple of weeks. Seems to work well for them!

Such an approach might indeed be suitable for UPP.

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mobilehunter on Wed, 08 Nov 2006 22:40:25 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Getting money is good thing.
How about do feature's based donation, may be sound silly.
My idea is, you have a list of features and ask the community which feature that they wish to come true, by putting some donation for certain period. Then we can start with feature with highest donation.

For example,
For januari 2007 we will have these features:
a. feature a

b. feature b
c. feature c

You can ask people to donate for the feature they like to be included in next release.

That's all

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Thu, 09 Nov 2006 19:21:59 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

mobilehunter wrote on Wed, 08 November 2006 17:40Getting money is good thing.
How about do feature's based donation, may be sound silly.

Not silly at all, quite standard in open-source projects I guess.

I have no final opinion on this...

Edit (2 minutes later): I start to like it Just not sure what to propose...

In any case, we can incorporate this to the donations system. Voting by money

OK, I see feature list for past 2007.1 development like this:

- TheIDE improvements
- MacOS X support
- Widgets enhancements

Any other ideas?

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mobilehunter on Thu, 09 Nov 2006 22:40:17 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Fri, 10 November 2006 04:21
Edit (2 minutes later): I start to like it Just not sure what to propose...

In any case, we can incorporate this to the donations system. Voting by money

OK, I see feature list for past 2007.1 development like this:

- TheIDE improvements
- MacOS X support
- Widgets enhancements

MacOsX support is great, when i told to my friend about Ultimate++, his question was, "can it run under MacOsX?"
I said not in current version, then he said "hmm not this time"

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by exolon on Thu, 09 Nov 2006 23:05:12 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Thu, 09 November 2006 19:21In any case, we can incorporate this to the donations system. Voting by money
I was thinking about this a while ago, about how such a project would get donations. Seems like a good idea. You could call it a support table and have poll-like progress bars for relative competition and get imaginative (and of course, invite suggestions).

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Thu, 09 Nov 2006 23:18:07 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

exolon wrote on Thu, 09 November 2006 18:05luzr wrote on Thu, 09 November 2006 19:21In any case, we can incorporate this to the donations system. Voting by money
I was thinking about this a while ago, about how such a project would get donations. Seems like a good idea. You could call it a support table and have poll-like progress bars for relative competition and get imaginative (and of course, invite suggestions).

Well, the only possible problem I see is that it could steer U++ in wrong direction - e.g. I think OS X is absolute must ASAP... In any case, I believe that it should be considered as "hint" rather than firm development plan...

And there is should also be the "poll reset" sort of event...

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mobilehunter on Fri, 10 Nov 2006 05:29:08 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Fri, 10 November 2006 08:18

Well, the only possible problem I see is that it could steer U++ in wrong direction - e.g. I think OS

X is absolute must ASAP... In any case, I believe that it should be considered as "hint" rather than firm development plan...

And there is should also be the "poll reset" sort of event...

Mirek

I see, it's possible for Ultimate ++ goes to wrong direction.
May be we can separate into two development paths if possible, the first path is main milestone of Ultimate++, maybe you can describe the main feature that will be developed and the second path is some features that Ultimate++'s users like to have for their need but will be benefit to others.

Both path can be voted by donation, but the first path will have higher priority.

Reza

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Sun, 12 Nov 2006 07:51:56 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

OK the first attempt at "funding U++" page:

http://www.ultimatepp.org/www$uppweb2$Funding$en-us.html

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by masu on Sun, 12 Nov 2006 19:01:47 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

luzr wrote on Thu, 09 November 2006 20:21OK, I see feature list for past 2007.1 development like this:

- TheIDE improvements
- MacOS X support
- Widgets enhancements

Any other ideas?

Mirek

Version control integration for theIDE ?
I would suggest Subversion (or an improved uvs2).

Matthias

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by zsolt on Sun, 12 Nov 2006 20:05:04 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Quote:Any other ideas?
SOAP (web service) support, at least the client side, would be very benefical if the enterprise level is the target.

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by dudymas on Mon, 13 Nov 2006 23:30:02 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Hey, Mirek! I have no problem with such ideas. Seems like these days everything starts to cost more money. You deserve something back for what you've been able to develop here.

Also, it's almost tempting to see if I could win the ebay auction and put something silly like "Real programmers use a magnet and a sheet of paper to compile their code onto a hard drive" or something like that down as the advertisement.

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by mirek on Mon, 13 Nov 2006 23:47:55 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

The plan has changed, but only a little - no ebay this time, bids are placed by email.

See

http://www.ultimatepp.org/www$uppweb2$Funding$en-us.html

Mirek

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by cioannou on Wed, 22 Nov 2006 11:55:59 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

zsolt wrote on Sun, 12 November 2006 22:05Quote:Any other ideas?
SOAP (web service) support, at least the client side, would be very benefical if the enterprise level is the target.

http://www.arilect.com/upp/forum/index.php?t=msg&th=1691 &start=0&

An Idea that I strongly believe that would give a great push to U++ and it's something that only one tool in the market has.

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by captainc on Tue, 26 Dec 2006 16:40:18 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Training and Consulting is a great idea. Try to work off donations and advertising for a few more releases and set a plan for training and consulting (will you travel, or use a webex like interface, etc). I think there is a HUGE market for a good cross-platform C++ full development environment; U++ looks to me to have the most potential.

Keep the licensing the same and I think you will get big business in training, consulting, and support packages (priority support for a fee, possibly phone support, guaranteed response within certain time frame, etc). I know I would push my company to have someone from your team provide some training on using the tool and also on the nuances of cross-platform development.

The only thing I would worry about as an enterprise developer at this stage though is project shut down, though the open nature of the project provides relief in that area. This worry will undoubtedly diminish as the project progresses.

Subject: Re: Bit of bussines and money....
Posted by slashmais on Wed, 03 Jan 2007 09:46:05 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Hi Mirek,
First, many thanks for a really outstanding tool.

Second: re enterprise tools:

1. Project management support: e.g. links with planner,
   reporting tools;
2. Team support: e.g. code sharing/re-use repository;
3. CVS (or other version control) support;
4. Testing & QA support
5. Direct link to professional support for UPP
   (*most important - managers want the security of telling
    someone else to fix there problems)

Regards
