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Subject: Problematic hack in upp::Build.cpp  
Posted by [slashupp](#) on Fri, 07 Feb 2014 07:21:28 GMT  
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In Build.cpp there is the following code:

```
bool MakeBuild::Build(const Workspace& wspc, String mainparam, String outfile, bool
clear_console)
{
    String hfile = outfile + ".xxx";
    SaveFile(hfile, "");
    FileTime start_time = GetFileTime(hfile); // Defensive way to get correct filetime of start
    DeleteFile(hfile);

    ClearErrorEditor();
    BeginBuilding(true, clear_console);
    ...
}
```

I use a background process to automatically backup changed files  
in my project-dir (See: <https://github.com/slashmais/simplebup>)  
and some of my workfiles happen to use the extension '.xxx'.

The above code caused an empty '.xxx' backup that had me  
bug-hunting my code for hours..

I'm sure there are better ways to get the needed timestamp, or  
at least create a proper temporary file without this kind of  
clashing, this is not a good hack at all

(I've for now changed my extension to '.x\_x' but it is only a  
temporary work-around)

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Subject: Re: Problematic hack in upp::Build.cpp  
Posted by [nneilson](#) on Sat, 08 Feb 2014 21:13:46 GMT  
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slashupp wrote on Thu, 06 February 2014 23:21

(I've for now changed my extension to '.x\_x' but it is only a  
temporary work-around)

Sorry it took you so much time to find the problem.

Upp has used the .xxx extension for some time.

Since a single user has a conflict is not a viable solution for a change to the Upp core code.

You can use .x\_x, .xyz, your initials, etc.

If you need more options to choose from just ask.

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Subject: Re: Problematic hack in upp::Build.cpp  
Posted by [slashupp](#) on Sun, 09 Feb 2014 04:46:26 GMT  
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@nneilson: touchy!? did you perhaps produce that heinous travesty?

In idefile.cpp [305] and Util.cpp [54 & 59] the extension '\$tmp' is already used.

A logical and \_consistent\_ continuation would be to use this extension elsewhere as well, or if that will clash, to at least use the '\$' character \_consistently\_ to indicate upp-private temporary files, e.g '\$xxx'.

Anyway, on Linux there is a /tmp directory for exactly these kind of files, or for persistent discardable data /var/tmp is available. To use them in this case would require a '#ifdef PLATFORM\_POSIX' ...?

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Subject: Re: Problematic hack in upp::Build.cpp  
Posted by [nneilson](#) on Sun, 09 Feb 2014 08:32:39 GMT  
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No I am not sharp enough to make much of a contribution to Upp.

The point I was trying to make is if a change needs to be made why do you expect the Upp code to be changed rather than you make the necessary changes in your code.

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