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Subject: import.ext

Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 06 Sep 2015 18:32:57 GMT

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import.ext package directive file is supposed to simplify converting external libraries into packages in source form.

Sometimes it is useful to transform 3rd party code into U++ package. There are several methods to do that, however if 3rd party code is huge codebase of hundreds or thousands files, traditional approaches (e.g. put all these files into package) are tedious or outright impossible.

To solve this issue, concept of import description file was introduced. This describes which files of external library are to be compiled and helps with setting up include path.

Import description file is file in package with name "import.ext"

Here is an example of import.ext content:

```
files *.cpp *.c;

exclude
port/vsipreload.cpp
ogr/generate_encoding_table.c
*/geojson/*
*/sqlite/*
*/sqlite3/*
*/pg/*
*/sde/*
*/sosi/*
*/tiger/*
*/vfk/*
*/shape/*
*/libkml/*
*/dgn/*
*/arcobjects/*
*/dods/*
*/dwg/*
*/filegdb/*
*/fme/*
*/gpkg/*
*/grass/*
*/idb/*
*/ingres/*
*/ili/*
*/mdb/*
*/mysql/*
*/kml/*
```

```
*/nas/*
*/idrisi/*
*/xlsx/*
*/xls/*
*/oci/*
*/ogdi/*
*/ods/*
*/gpkg/*
*/osm/*
port/cpl_win32ce_api.cpp
frmts/*
;
```

```
includes *.h *.hpp;
```

In this case, line with "files" basically says that all .cpp and .h files found in package folder are to be added into the project. "exclude" specifies exceptions to this. "includes" adds folders of all matching files into include path.

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