

Single-Sourcing for Real



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CURVENTA™
SOFTWARES

Real-world
single-sourcing
for startups

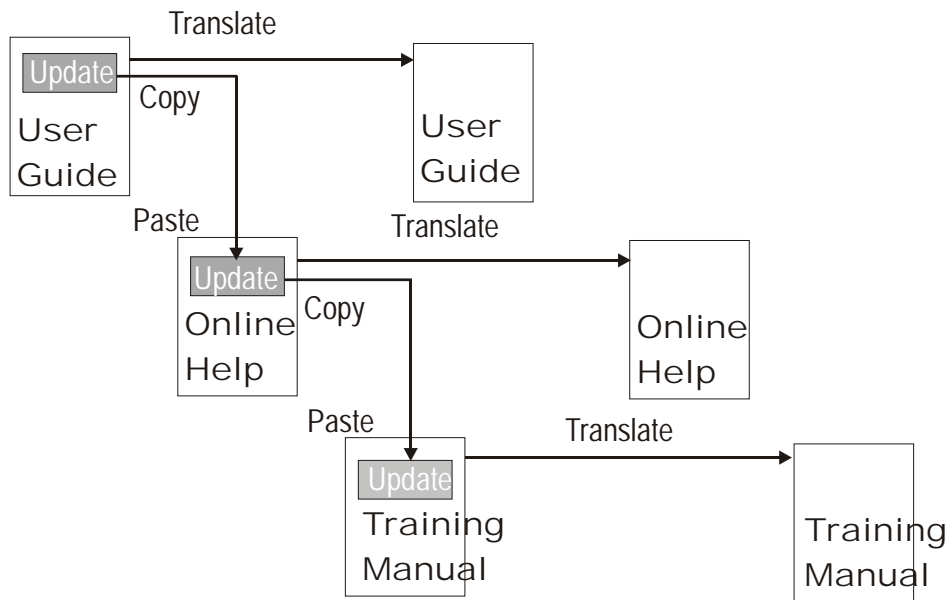
precisely:
documents by design

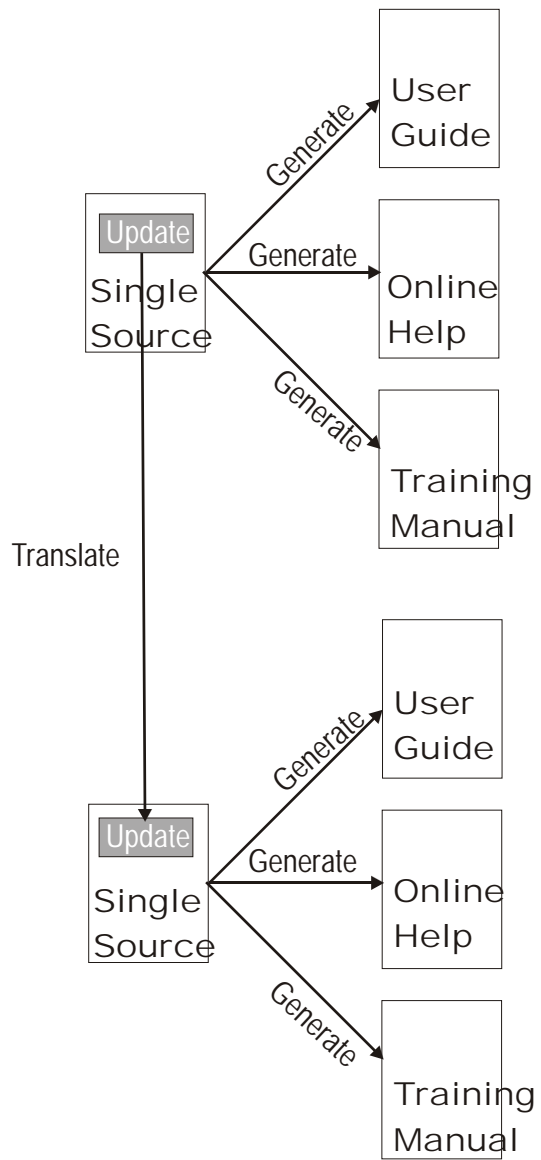
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Single-Sourcing for Real

- Preparing for a single-sourcing project
- Planning for translation
- Using change control tools
- Positioning for content management

What is Single-Sourcing?





Planning a Single-Sourcing Project

Good reasons for taking a single-sourcing approach:

- Limited technical writing resources
- Rapid application development
- Translation

Planning a Single-Sourcing Project

Tools of choice:

- FrameMaker (authoring)
- WebWorks Publisher Pro (online help)
- Visual Source Safe (versioning and change control)
- Defect-tracking software (review database)

Planning a Single-Sourcing Project

Strategies:

- Assign conditional tags for online and print variations
- Use text insets for repeated text
- Define variables for changeable names and terms, and for repeated phrases

Planning a Single-Sourcing Project

Strategies (cont'd):

- Organize printed documents into Frame book files
- Organize online help into WebWorks Publisher project files

Planning for Translation

Develop strategies for:

- Using all terminology and formatting consistently
- Reusing all repeated text as text insets and variables

Planning for Translation

Provide translators with:

- Documentation process documents
- Glossary of terms
- Style Guide

Using Change Control Tools

Maintain your own history

- Check documents in and out of Source Safe to retain document versions
- Store review comments and revision notes in a database for future reference

Using Change Control Tools

Provide translators with:

- A history of all changes
- Copies of all source files with change bars displayed where changes have been made

Positioning for Content Management

Looking to the future, imagine:

- A database full of structured document fragments, help topics, and other information chunks
- You can roam freely through this database, picking and choosing, mixing and matching

Positioning for Content Management

Structural considerations:

- Organize files into information types (procedures, descriptions, definitions)

Process considerations:

- Use semantic rather than formatting tags
 - Describe the content, not the format
- Never repeat text if you can avoid it
 - Structure your documents for reuse

Conclusion

INVOICE

WebWorks Publisher.....	\$1000.00
FrameMaker.....	\$800.00
Imaging software.....	\$600.00
Screen animation software.....	\$150.00
Color printer with duplexer.....	\$FREE*
Page imposition software.....	\$49.00
Extended-arm stapler.....	\$29.00
Empowering a single tech writer to deliver professional-quality online help and printed manuals to a dozen beta testers and a translator in half a year:.....	Priceless

* See me for details

Thank you!

For more information:

- SingleSource Associates

www.singlesourcing.com

- The WebWorks Publisher Cookbook

or contact us:

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