

RSS for VFP Programmers

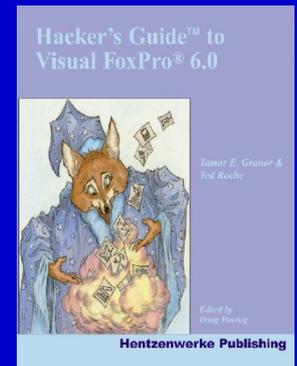
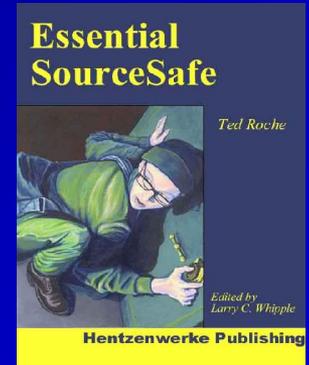
Ted Roche

Ted Roche & Associates, LLC

<http://www.tedroche.com>

Who Am I?

- Independent Consultant
Ted Roche & Associates, LLC
- Software developer & mentor
- Author
Hacker's Guide to VFP
Essential SourceSafe
FPA Ask Advisor x 50
FoxTalk 1.0 and 2.0



Agenda

- What's all this about blogging and news aggregators?
- What is RSS and how does it work?
- How do we consume and create RSS in VFP?

NEWS FLASH!

- RSS is no longer cutting-edge
- BG said “RSS” at Tech Ed
- RSS now established technology
- Watch for new “innovations” -
embrace, extend, ...

Blogging

- Not just people's diary about their cats and their problems
- Journals of leading industry figures, project leaders and technologists
- Also, RSS news feeds from nearly all major publications, and links

RSS, Subscriptions, Aggregators and Blogging

- Easy way to describe documents
- Lightweight update notification
- News providers can post news
- Aggregators can skim content changes, detect phrases of interest
- **DEMO**

RSS History

- Started with RDF, pre-XML
Resource Description Format
- My.Netscape.com portal
RDF Site Summary (RSS)
- MSFT: Channel Descriptor Format
- Portal failed, but subscriptions
continue

RSS Versions

0.9x, 1.0, 2.0

- What's the difference?
- 0.9x Netscape portal derived
- Dave Winer, UserLand 0.91-0.94
- 1.0 IETF Working Document
 - RDF-based, namespace support
- 2.0 Ad-hoc, real-world
 - Namespace?, single vendor

RSS 2.0 Document

XML declaration

RSS Item – topmost, outer

Channel

Image

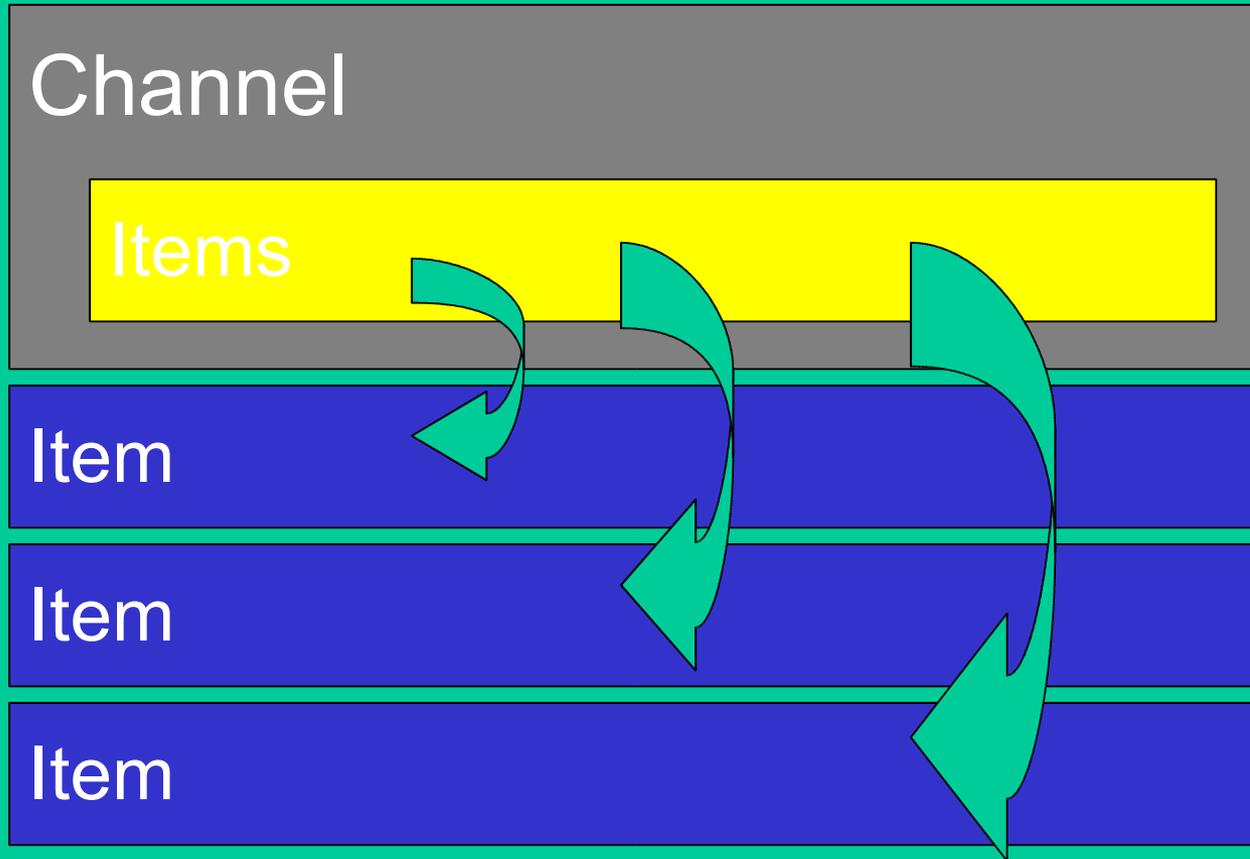
TextInput

Item

Item

RSS 1.0 Document

RDF envelope



How to read and write RSS

- VFP string functions
 - TextMerge, StrExtract()
- XMLToCursor()
 - Flat, need to extract/insert
- VFP XMLDOM manipulations

Demo

- View an RSS document
- Demo of blogging
- News aggregation
- Generate an RSS Feed
- Consume an RSS Feed

More Resources



Summary: RSS-VFP

- RSS is a simple XML format
- Publish/Subscribe (“pull”)
- Generate/consume news/sports
- Remote messaging facility
- No guaranteed delivery



DevEssentials Web Update

www.develements.com

This session will/will not have web updates.

Thank you!

Please remember to fill out
your evaluation.