

BornAgain - Feature #1521

Feature # 964 (Rejected): === GUI ===

GUI: find the way for update notifier to not to rely on CHANGELOG

19 Jul 2016 15:24 - pospelov

Status:	Rejected	Start date:	19 Jul 2016
Priority:	Low	Due date:	
Assignee:		% Done:	0%
Category:		Estimated time:	0.00 hour
Target version:			
Description			
Our GUI's update notifier works as following:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• on every GUI start, if the user has "online update notification" allowed, the Notifier goes to internet and downloads our CHANGELOG• then he read top line of the file			
BornAgain-1.6.1, released 2016.07.15			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• parses version number, and compares current GUI's version with version number in the CHANGELOG• if names are different, a simple http-label containing whole line "BornAgain-1.6.1, released 2016.07.15" is shown on WelcomeView			
The disadvantages is that every time 50k CHANGELOG gets downloaded. It might become a problem with the rise of a number of GUI's running around the world, and size of CHANGELOG. Also if somebody change CHANGELOG top line format, update notifier will stop working.			
Within this item			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• study alternatives<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ consider somewhat lighter VERSION file located in same directory			

History

#1 - 12 Oct 2016 08:59 - pospelov

- *Description updated*

#2 - 12 Oct 2016 09:50 - wuttke

50k are very little by today's standards. So the current solution is not really problematic.

I do not like very much the idea of adding an extra VERSION file just to save a few nanoseconds.

As for other alternatives:

It would be sufficient to download just the first 80 bytes of CHANGELOG. However, partial download is not supported by wget. I guess this is due to fundamentals of the HTTP. So this is not an option.

We could download the directory index <http://apps.jcms.fz-juelich.de/src/BornAgain/>, and parse it for BornAgain-*.tar.gz. This would limit the download to <7k, not growing with time. Nice, but quite some coding effort.

We could restrict downloads to one per day, by storing the last look-up date in .config/BornAgain/BornAgain.conf.

#3 - 12 Oct 2016 10:02 - pospelov

May be you are right, and there is no problem at all, at least now. So we can continue with current approach, for the moment. As for restricting downloads, I wouldn't do this because this http calls appears in our httpd log and allows us to judge (to some extent) how many people are using BornAgain, and deduce (to some extent) daily usage statistics. Anonymously, of course.

#4 - 12 Oct 2016 12:20 - wuttke

- *Status changed from Backlog to Rejected*

current solution works, and perhaps is even preferred over the above alternatives