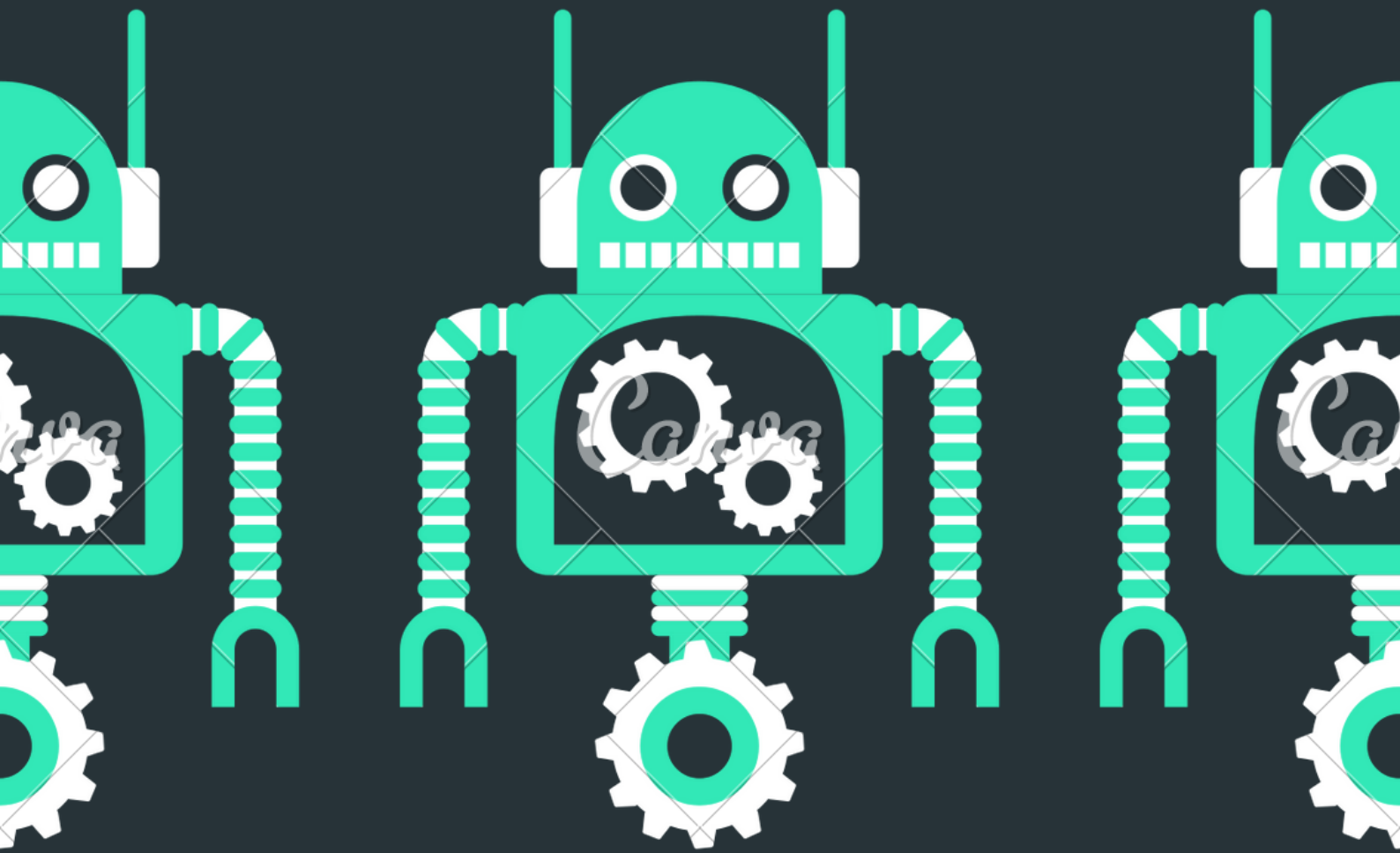# Guidelines For Publishing on UiPath Connect

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Content

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- Publishing Snippet

- Publishing WorkFlow Template

- Publishing Solution

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GUILDELINES

Tips for publishing your Custom Activity/Snippet on UiPath Connect

What is a Snippet?

Snippets are ready-made bits of code that you can invoke/include in your own workflows in UiPath Studio. They should be reusable for as many users, environments and processes as possible.

Snippets use the same deployment, versioning and release management as the custom activities so I will be covering the guidelines of snippet and CustomActivity together.

What is a Custom Activity?

Custom Activities are components that you can install and drag-and-drop into your workflows in UiPath Studio like any other activity present in Activity Panel.
They should cover areas that are not already handled by the default activities and activity packs which come with UiPath Studio.

While creating a custom activity keep in mind the scenarios that can ease the development for all.

Tips:

- Follow all the best practices while writing code.

- Try using 'Simulate Click' in 'Click' activity.

- Exception handling should be done cautiously as the user is not aware of inner functionality of the activity.

- If possible, there should be an output argument indicating whether the activity has executed successfully or not.

- Do not duplicate the functionalities that are already provided by UiPath.

- The versioning should start from 1.0.0.

- The arguments name should clearly specify the input you want from user.

- The arguments name should not specify the direction of the argument i.e. in/out, instead that should be mentioned in the annotation.

- Add crisp and clear annotation to all your arguments.

- Do not forget to mention the data type in your annotation like <String> or <Boolean>.

- Delete all unnecessary dependencies before publishing.

- For snippet, the file upload and the source code both are 'zip(xaml)/xaml'.

- For CustomActivity the file upload is 'nupkg' whereas the source code is 'zip(xaml)/xaml'.

- Publish your code using UiPath Studio to create a nugget package (nupkg).

- Give short and relevant name to your activity, i.e., the name should in itself explain the functionality.

- Use Nuget package explorer tool to change the metadata of Nuget package as below:

  a. Write the 'Id' as '**<Company>.<ActivtyName>.<Activities>** In case of personal activity, skip the <Company> .

  The same should be written in 'Title' followed by <Version> (Refer Fig 1)

  Example:

  KillMultipleProcesses.Activities.1.0.0

  b. Remove the client minimum version field,i.e., this field should be empty.

  c. Mark required license check box and provide the link of terms and conditions of the license as applicable.

Id	`<ActivityName>.Activities`
Version	`<Version>`
Title	`<ActivityName>.Activities.<Version>`
Authors	`<Name of Creator>`
Owners	`<Name of Creator>`
Min client version	

☐ Development Dependency

Icon	⌄
Project Url	
Repository Type	
Repository Url	
Repository Branch	
Repository Commit	

☑ Requires License Acceptance

License Url	`<License URL>`
Summary	`<Summary of your activity>`

Fig 1: Metadata

Example:

If you're using open source license you can add Apache 2.0 or MIT link

d. Provide the description, summary and release notes in the meta data and provide the same in UiPath.

e. Provide all the dependencies while uploading the component.

f. Provide the benefits of using your Custom Activity .

g. Delete the 'Content' and 'Settings' folder from right pane on your Nugget Package Explorer (Refer Fig 2).

h. Delete the 'Project.json' (Refer Fig 2)

Package contents

- ▷ 📄 contentFiles
- ◢ lib
  - ◢ 📁 net45 (.NETFramework,Version=v4.5)
    - ▷ 📁 .objects
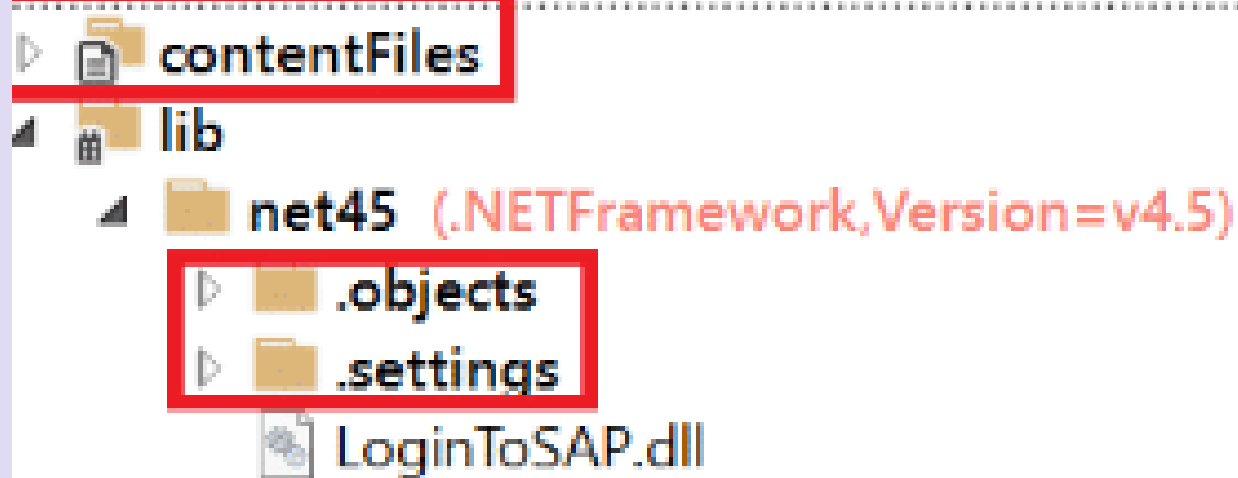   - ▷ 📁 .settings
    - 📄 LoginToSAP.dll

Fig 2: Metadata

What is WorkFlow Template?

Workflow Templates are frameworks that help you get started with new projects, swiftly and easily. With an already established structure, your team's productivity will be boosted, regardless of the projects they are working on, by facilitating best practices such as modularity, re-usability, maintainability, and extensibility.

For example:

ReFramework handling the retry logic and exception handling.

Framework for handling Covid-19 data and informing state authorities via mail if death count exceeds a certain level.

Tips:

- Do not use any thrid-party website or applications instead use an API.
For example:

- If you are extracting weather details of locations instead of scraping data via browser, try to extract data using an API.

- If you have written the code, try recapitulating it by adding comments so that the user can add/modify it according to need.

- If you are using any activity give relevant name to it which signifies its usage.

- Remove your credentials like Email ID and password from the workflow and mention that here the credentials need to be given when using.

- While using any variable give, relevant name to it, thereby, following the naming convention viz CamelCase, UpperCase, Constant etc.

- While using any argument make sure that the argument name specifies the direction of argument
  For example:
  If the workflow is expecting a PONumber, the argument name should be in_PoNumber, similarly

for out argument (out_PoNumber),
for input/output (io_PoNumber)

- Only include the dependencies that
  are required for your workflow to
  behave as expected. Remove any
  unnecessary dependencies. Avoid
  using the version of dependencies
  that are in beta version or are in
  public preview.

- For WorkFlow template the file
  upload and the source code both
  are 'zip(xaml)/xaml'

- Create a detailed readme file or
  UserManual explaining every fine
  detail.

- Add relevant images to support the explanation, there is no limit on the number of images.

- Add video link (if possible) showcasing the demo, keep it short and crisp not exceeding more than 1-1.5 min.

- Mention the summary and description of workflow.

- Press that '**Submit**' button and get your component published on Connect.

Following all the above mentioned guidelines will surely help you save a lot of time by skipping the review cycle.

Save that time, Think Big and Create more complex content!

Happy Automation!

For any query, feel free to contact:
Mail: **shubhid365@gmail.com**
in: **Anmol Yadav**

References

- **Custom Activity:**
  https://connect.uipath.com/marketplace/components/killmultipleprocessactivities

- **Snippet**:
  https://connect.uipath.com/marketplace/components/excel-get-cell-with-row-and-column-value

- **Solution:**
  https://connect.uipath.com/marketplace/components/cg2020-demandmanagement

- **Workflow Template:**
  https://connect.uipath.com/marketplace/components/long-running-workflow-template-for-task-creation