

ITEM 15:

Date:

Provide access to raw resources
in resource managing classes.

- Many APIs refer to resources directly
- Item 13 introduces idea of smart ptr to hold the result of a call to a factory function like `createInvestment`.
- Suppose we need a function to use working with `Investment` object

```
int daysheld (const Investment* pi);  
// returns no. of days Investment has been  
held.
```

But we would like to call it like this

```
int days = daysheld(pInv) ; // error.
```

`daysheld` want raw `Investment` ptr &
we are passing object of type `shared`.

→ std::to::shared<Investment> pInv (createInvestment)

```
int days = daysheld(pInv.get());
```

// fine, passes the raw ptr in pInv to daysheld.

// above one is explicit conversion.

Implicit conversion.

```
class Investment {
```

```
public:
```

```
    bool isTaxFree() const;
```

```
};
```

```
Investment * createInvestment();
```

```
std::tr1::shared<Investment> pi1(createInvestment());
```

```
bool taxable1 = !(pi1 -> isTaxFree());
```

```
bool taxable2 = !(*pi2).isTaxFree();
```

Here we have overloaded the dereferencing ~~ptr~~ operators (operator \rightarrow & operator $*$).

taxable1 access resource via operator \rightarrow
 taxable2 access resource via operator $*$

often explicit conversion function like `get` is the preferable path. ~~bcz~~ it minimises the chances of unintended type conversions.

```
int double a = 10.5;  
int i;
```

```
i = a; // implicit conversion
```

```
i = (int) a; // explicit conversion.
```

explicit is better since it will not lead to any confusion & will be clear to compiler of what programmer wants.