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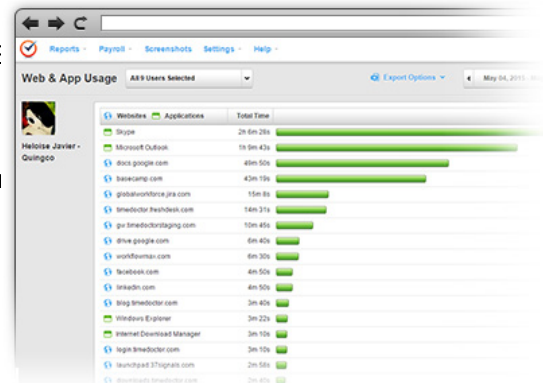
# 2017 Version Control Software Comparison: SVN, Git, Mercurial

## Is Your Team Working Efficiently?

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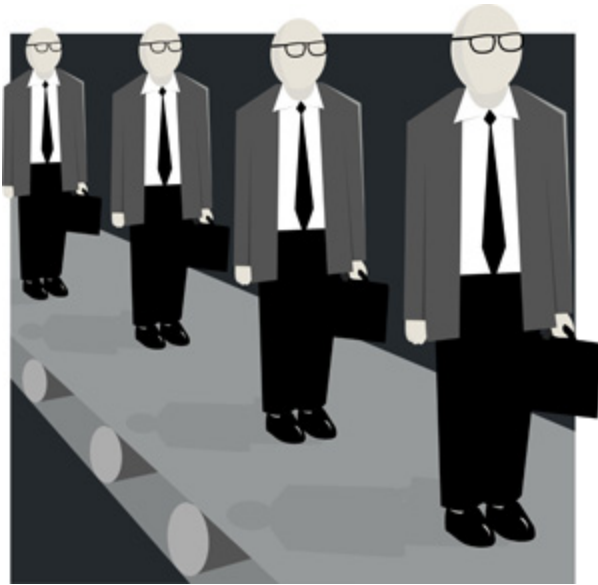
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Is your next big business idea based on software development? Does it involve an elaborate technical concept, or simply requires a large distributed team working on one task? Then you need to learn two words by heart:

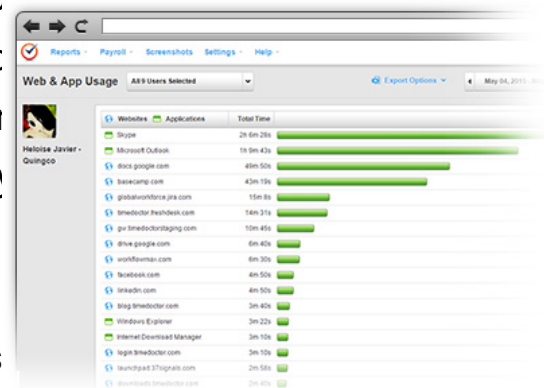
*Version Control.*

Version control, also called subversion control or revision control, helps large projects from spinning out of control. It allows programmers, writers, or project managers to work from different angles without getting in each other's way. What you can't be undone.

There's a great visual introduction to version control

(<http://betterexplained.com/articles/a-visual-guide-to-version-control/>) if you are completely unfamiliar with the concept.

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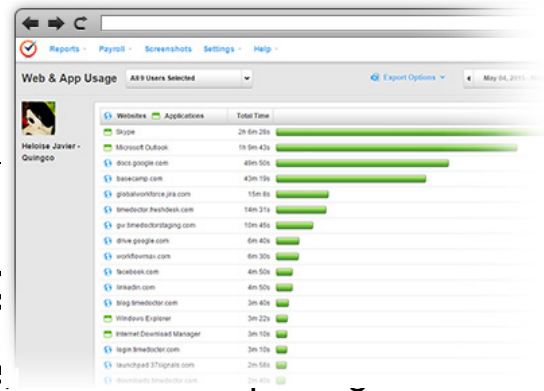
See how Time Doctor's easy-to-use time tracking software can help your team be more productive.  
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If you prefer a video explanation, check this one from GitHub instead:

What is VCS? (Git-SCM) • Git Basics #1



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**So, which version control is right for you?**

There are a number of solutions out there. Get a Free 30 Day Trial of Time Doctor's time tracking tool. Learn

exactly what your team is doing so you can work more efficiently and be more productive. This is a fairly technical topic, so if you don't have a software background, read our comparison carefully, and consult with your lead technical personnel before you make any final decisions.

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Version control software, including the well known SVN and Git, was designed from the ground up to allow teams of programmers to work on a project together without wasting man-hours on paperwork. Instead of manually scanning branches of code and associated notes, version control allows for a central repository that is organized, logical, and facilitates file updates, notation, and even merging.

There are a lot of opinions regarding which version control framework is the best, and can force programmers and project management teams into fierce debate. When choosing the right version control for your project, you should consider that some of pros of one package you will come across are subjective, meaning the opinion of the programmer, and other factors, such as speed and IDE plug-in capabilities, overshadow the raw numbers.

The main difference between version control systems is whether they are server based or peer-to-peer. Either they have a centralized repository where code is checked out and back in with changes, or a setup where the code is frequently updated from peer sources, a r

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Beyond that, you will also want to consider speed, functionality, and the learning curve associated with the system. To decide which one is right for your project and team, let's take a look at some of the major systems available and the reasons why some programmers prefer one over the other.

## Concurrent Versions System (CVS)

CVS (<http://www.nongnu.org/cvs/>) has been around since the 80s, and has been very popular with both commercial and open source developers.

It is released under the GNU license, and uses a system to let users "check out" the code they are going to work on and "check in" their changes.

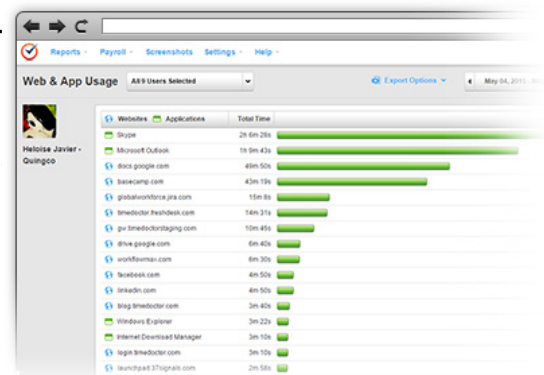
Originally, CVS handled conflicts between two programmers by only allowing for the latest version of the code to be worked on and updated. As such, it was a first come, first serve system where the user must publish changes quickly to ensure that other users

Now, CVS can handle branching projects diverge into different products with unique a later time.

The CVS server runs on Unix-like systems with client software that runs on multiple operating systems. It is considered the most mature version control system because it has been developed for such a long time and so does not receive many requests for new features at this time.

A fork project of CVS, CVSNT was created to run CVS on Windows servers, and it is currently being actively developed to increase functionality.

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## Pros:

- Has been in use for many years and is considered mature technology

## Cons:

- Moving or renaming files does not include a version update
- Security risks from symbolic links to files
- No atomic operation support, leading to source corruption
- Branch operations are expensive as it is not designed for long-term branching

## Apache Subversion (SVN)

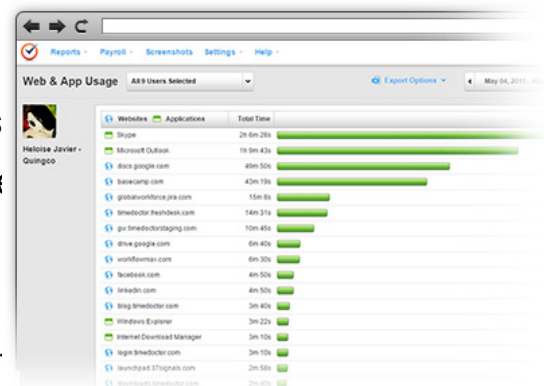


SVN (<http://subversion.apache.org/>) was that would fix some bugs in the CVS system compatibility with it.

Like CVS, SVN is free and open source with distributed under the Apache license as opposed to GNU

To prevent corruption in the database from being corrupted, SVN employs a concept called atomic operations. Either all of the changes made to the source are applied or none are applied, meaning that no partial changes will break the original source.

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Many developers have switched to SVN as it is a newer technology that takes the best features of CVS and improves upon them.

While CVS's branch operations are expensive and do not really lend themselves to long-term forks in the project, SVN is designed to allow for it, lending itself better to large, forked projects with many directions.

Criticism of SVN includes slower comparative speed and the lack of distributed revision control. Distributed revision control uses a peer-to-peer model rather than using a centralized server to store code updates. While a peer-to-peer model would work better for world-wide, open source projects, it may not be ideal in other situations. The downside to a dedicated server approach is that when the server is down, no clients are able to access the code.

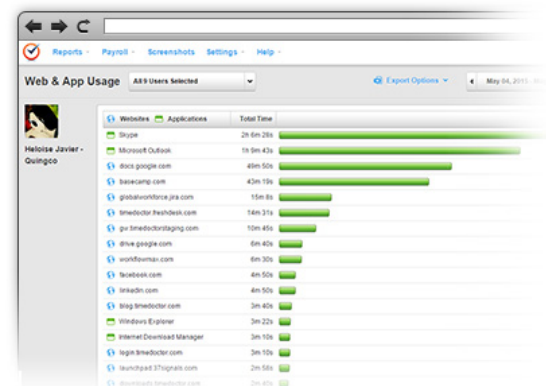
## Pros:

- Newer system based on CVS
- Includes atomic operations
- Cheaper branch operations
- Wide variety of plug-ins for IDEs
- Does not use peer-to-peer model

## Cons:

- Still contains bugs relating to renaming files and directories

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- Insufficient repository management commands
- Slower comparative speed

## Git



First developed by Linus Torvalds of Linux fame, Git (<http://git-scm.com>) takes a radical approach that differs greatly from CVS and SVN.

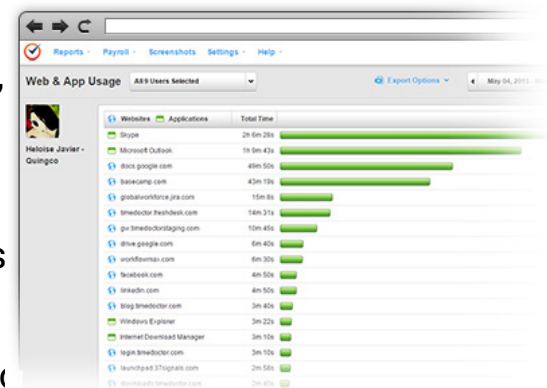
The original concepts for Git were to make a faster, distributed revision control system that would openly defy conventions and practices used in CVS. It is primarily developed for Linux and has the highest speeds on there.

It will also run on other Unix-like systems, available for Windows as msysgit.

As there is no centralized server, Git does projects or small teams as the code may using a non-repository computer. Workar

some see Git's improved speed as a decent tradeoff for the hassle

Git also comes equipped with a wide variety of tools to help users navigate the history system. Each instance of the source contains the entire history tree, which can be useful when developing without an internet connection.



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## Pros:

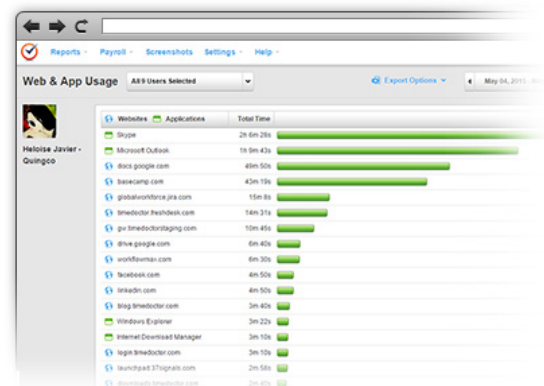
- Great for those who hate CVS/SVN
- Dramatic increase in operation speed
- Cheap branch operations
- Full history tree available offline
- Distributed, peer-to-peer model

## Cons:

- Learning curve for those used to SVN
- Not optimal for single developers
- Limited Windows support compared

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## Mercurial



Mercurial (<http://mercurial.selenic.com/>) began close to the same time as Git and is also a distributed revision control tool. Get a Free 30 Day Trial of Time Doctor's time tracking tool. Learn exactly what your team is doing so you can help them be more productive.

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It was originally made to compete with Git for Linux kernel development, and as Git was selected, Mercurial has seen less success in that area. However, that is not to say that it is not used as many major developments use it, including OpenOffice.org (<http://www.openoffice.org/>).

It's different from other revision control systems in that Mercurial is primarily implemented in Python as opposed to C, but there are some instances where C is used.

Due to its distributed nature and its creation in Python, the Python language developers are considering a switch to Mercurial as it would allow non-core developers to have easier access to creating new trees and reverting changes.

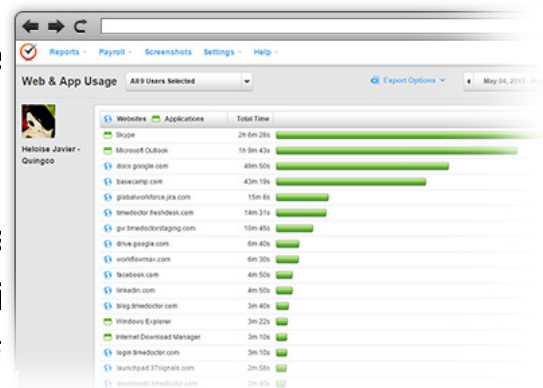
Users have noted that Mercurial shares some features with SVN as well as being a distributed system, and because of this the learning curve for those already familiar with SVN will be less steep. The documentation for Mercurial also is more helpful in learning the differences faster.

Some of the major drawbacks to Mercurial are the need for two parents to be merged and unlike Git, it is not as scriptable. That may be ideal for some, but others find the power of Git to be a feature they don't want to trade off.

## Pros:

- Easier to learn than Git
- Better documentation

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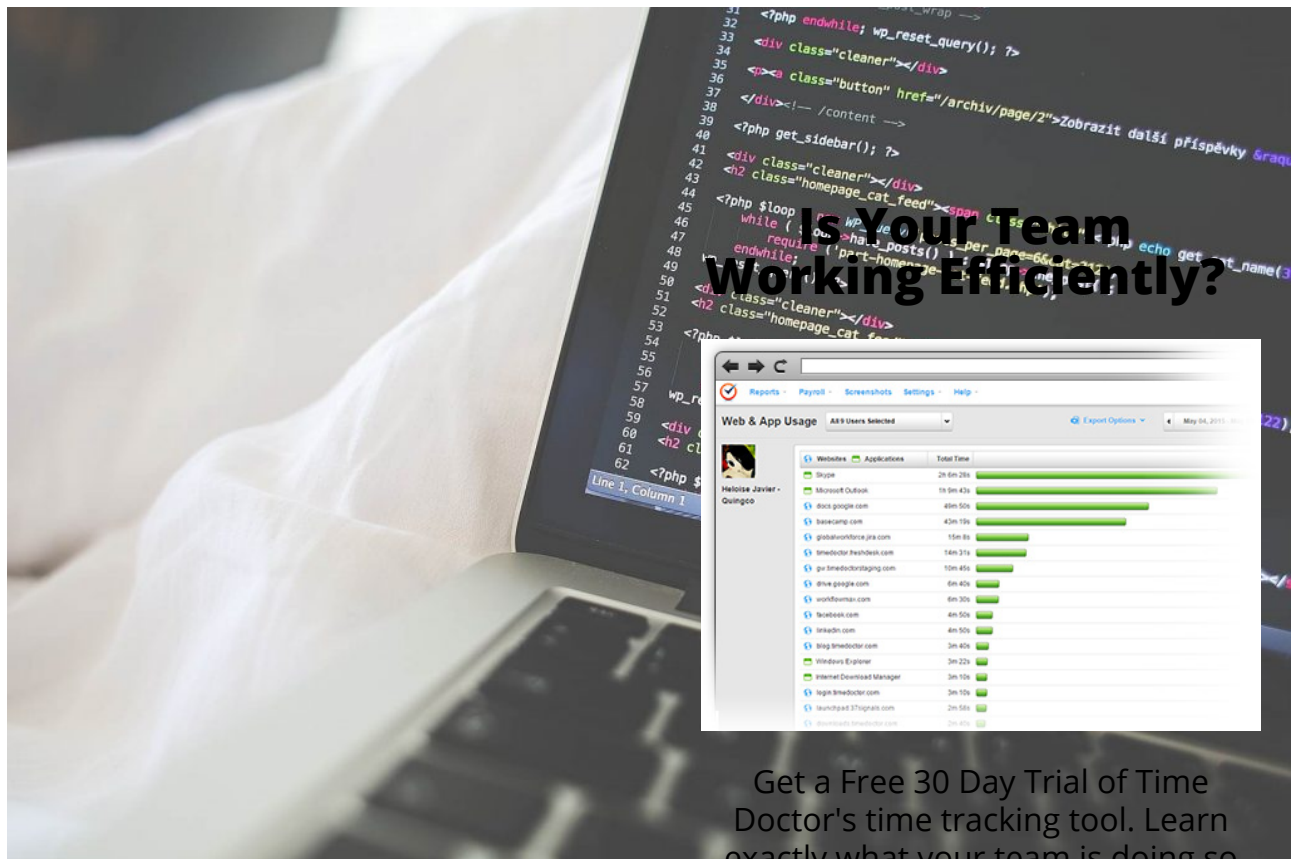
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- Distributed model

## Cons:

- No merging of two parents
- Extension-based rather than scriptability
- Less out of the box power

## Which system should I use?



The image shows a laptop screen with PHP code. Overlaid on the screen is a screenshot of the Time Doctor web interface. The interface shows a 'Web & App Usage' report for a user named 'Heloise Javier - Quingoo'. The report lists various applications and websites used, along with the total time spent on each. The text 'Is Your Team Working Efficiently?' is overlaid on the screenshot.

Web & App Usage	Total Time
Slack	2h 5m 28s
Microsoft Outlook	1h 5m 43s
docs.google.com	45m 50s
brave.com	43m 19s
globalwonderforce.com	15m 8s
timedocor.freshdesk.com	14m 37s
quingoo.timedocor.com	10m 45s
drive.google.com	6m 42s
worldwonder.com	6m 30s
facebook.com	4m 50s
linkedin.com	4m 50s
bing.timedocor.com	3m 40s
Windows Explorer	3m 22s
Internet Download Manager	3m 10s
login.timedocor.com	3m 10s
launchpad.37signals.com	2m 58s
download.timedocor.com	1m 20s

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As it has now moved into the “mature technology” part of its life cycle, it is unlikely that CVS will come out with any groundbreaking features, and as momentum is lost in the project as people move to SVN, it appears most likely it is on its way out.

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Web & App Usage

Heloise Javier - Guingoo

Webistes	Applications	Total Time
Google		2h 6m 26s
Microsoft Outlook		1h 5m 43s
docs.google.com		45m 50s
basecamp.com		43m 19s
globalwonderforce.pra.com		15m 8s
imdoctor.freemove.com		14m 21s
gw.imdoctorinaging.com		10m 45s
drive.google.com		6m 40s
worlthorizon.com		6m 20s
freemove.com		4m 50s
imdoctor.com		4m 40s
img.imdoctor.com		3m 40s
Windows Explorer		3m 22s
Internet Download Manager		3m 10s
img.imdoctor.com		3m 10s
imgdoctor37signa.com		2m 50s
imgdoctor37signa.com		2m 45s

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exactly what your team is doing so  
you can help them be more  
it can be at times difficult to  
a slow down in production as  
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For those absolutely repulsed by Git (and it does have its sworn enemies in the programming world), Mercurial offers a bridge between SVN and Git that is well documented and used in many well known projects.

The Windows-friendly version of Git has also made some strides which brings the speed closer to that of the Linux versions, so it could still be on the table if you are not developing in Linux.

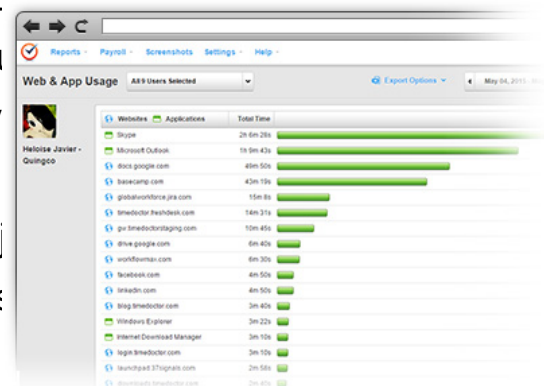
To find out which one is best for you, consider the project and the developers. And talk to them!

If you want to have a single master source tree that is being worked on by a small core development group, SVN should be the first system you try as it's reliable and tailored for that.

If you are starting an open source project or you have several developers going to be working at different times and/or submitting several updates to the code, Git is an excellent choice for you. It offers a more powerful boost and improved tree management over

If you're somewhere in the middle or you just don't know, Git works for you after trying them, there's

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All of these systems are fully functional. They're also all free. They've all been used to create software, websites, and even operating systems that you've used and heard of.

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productive.

The first decision you will need to make is whether the choice fits the needs of your business and team, and then—just as important—you should make sure your choice isn't going to send your coding team into a rage.

# Getting Started with SVN

If you've never worked with SVN or GIT before, and wouldn't have a clue where to start, a hosted solution coupled with a graphical desktop client means you can be up and running in no time.

Like most things, you'll learn your way around more quickly by jumping in and trying things out – Using Subversion is very similar to working with files from your host using an FTP client. If you've never done that before, perhaps try that first.

**NOTE:** I wouldn't have a clue how to set up subversion hosting, there are plenty of great hosted options around, some with free trials so you can create your very first repository (the place where you'll collaborate on files) at no cost. Here are some options to check out.

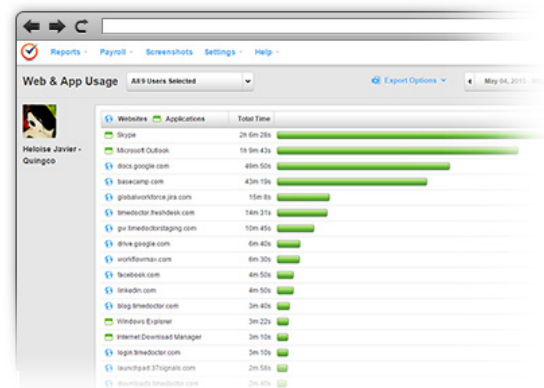
## SVN & GIT Hosting



Beanstalk

– Secure, private and reliable Git (<http://git-scm.com/>) and Subversion (<http://subversion.tigris.org/>) hosting. View activity, browse files, compare revisions. Great user interface. Integrates with a bunch of popular services, including Twitter! **From \$15 a month**

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[\(http://unfuddle.com/\)](http://unfuddle.com/)  
 We Bring Your Projects to LIFE.

## Unfuddle

– popular subversion and git hosting and hosted project management solution for software development teams. Comes with a handy Widget for Mac OS – you can monitor account activity across all of your projects from one simple interface. **Free with 2 people, with 1 project for up to 200MB storage**

- 

(<http://www.sliksvn.com/>)

## SlikSVN

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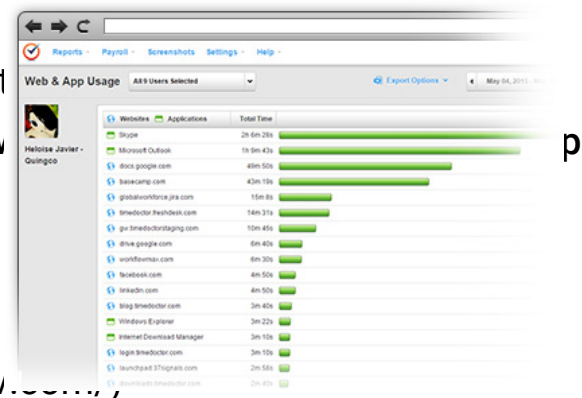
– another option for free hosting, but subscriptions are competitive. **Free v to 100MB storage**

- 
 XP-Dev.com

(<http://xp-dev.com/>)

## XP-Dev.com

– Subversion, GIT and Mercurial hosting. A decent feature set and represent excellent value for money. **From \$5 a month with unlimited projects, users and up to 2GB of storage**



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# Creating your first repository

Once you've created an account, you will need to create a repository – different on each platform. Typically you'd do something like this:

- Once logged in, click on your projects
- Create a project:
  - Under Create a New Project enter a name for your project.
  - Click on the Create Project button
- Enable Subversion:
  - Once your project is created, click on the Source Control tab
  - Click on the link Enable Source Control
  - Give your Subversion repository a name.
  - Click on the Save button

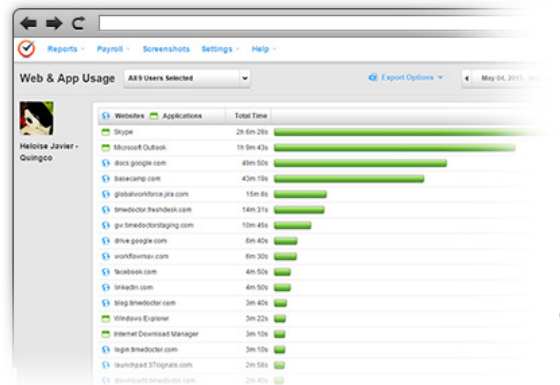
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## Graphical Clients for SVN and

You've got your repository setup, and if you want a graphical interface is your best option.

-  **TortoiseSVN**

TortoiseSVN



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(<http://tortoisessvn.tigris.org/>)

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– an easy to use source control software for Microsoft Windows and possibly the best standalone Apache Subversion client there is. It is implemented as a Windows shell extension, which makes it integrate seamlessly with explorer. **It's also open source with around 34 language packs available**



(<http://www.syntevo.com/smartgit/index.html>)

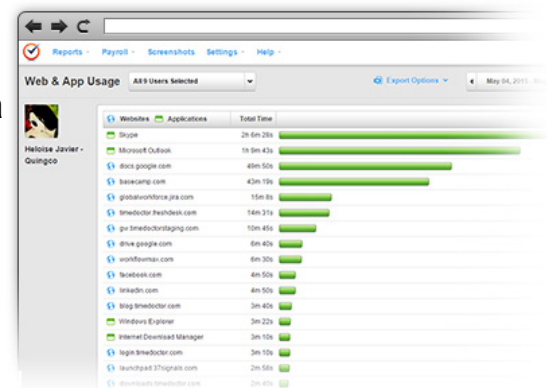
SmartGit

– a graphical client for Git, an Open Source distributed version control system. It runs on Windows, Mac OS X and Linux. **Is Your Team Working Efficiently?**



(<http://versionsa>)

Versions



– SVN client for MAC OS X – Versions offers the simplest Subversion on the Mac. In their own words, “Thanks to its clear cut approach, you’ll hit the ground running”. It is easy to use. **Get a Free 30 Day Trial of Time Doctor's time tracking tool. Learn exactly what your team is doing so you can help them be more productive.** **\$39 GBP (around \$64 USD at today's exchange rates).**

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(<https://www.git-tower.com/>)

## Tower

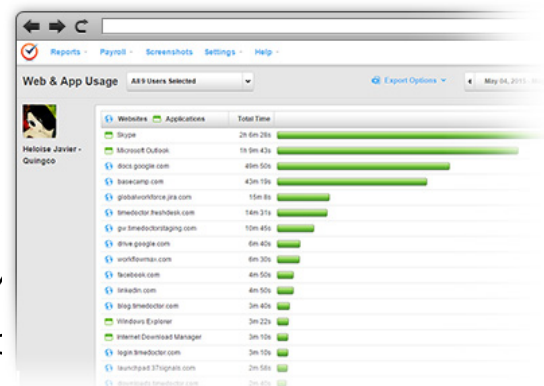
- GIT client for MAC OS X – is another very elegant solution, and is perfect for GIT users who have no need to learn command line syntax. There's also a good introductory overview on their product tour which covers a lot of the basic GIT concepts (see below). ~ around \$50 USD per license, cheaper multi-license options are available

## “Checkout” your repository

In whatever client you are using, you need to create a new source control repository. You will need to enter the URL user name and password in your client.

The URL will typically look something like *number>.hostname.com/svn/<repository* (you can use https:// (SSL) if you have a p

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1. click on the root folder, then click on the **Check Out** button and create a working folder in the client. You can now add files to this folder.
2. After checking out the project files, you can edit them from the directory you've created on your local computer

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After editing files, to commit them, click the check In button in the toolbar to update the changes. You can review the changes and add a comment – it's a good idea to add comments so you can remember what you were working on, what changes you made, and to notify other members of your project what you've been up to.

In your client you should also be able to check revisions at any time by clicking on the revision viewer or history button – you can then restore previous changes, for each file if necessary. Once you have your head around these basic concepts, the documentation provided with each client is a good starting point for more advanced features.

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 About the Author

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## Rob Rawson

Rob Rawson is a co-founder of Time Doctor which is software to improve productivity and help keep track and know what your team is working on, even when working from home.

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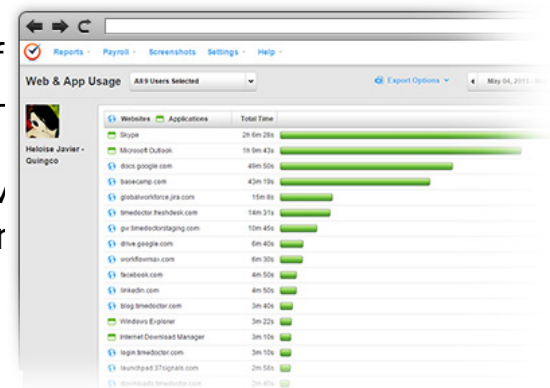
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Excellent way of describing, and nice paragraph to obtain data on the topic of my presentation subject matter, which i am going to convey in institution of higher education.

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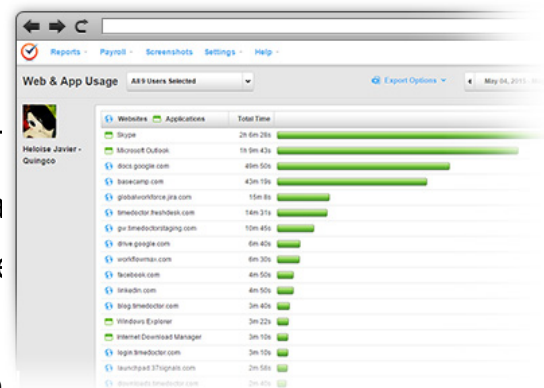
June 17, 2017 at 11:19 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-868972>)

Hello, great article. IMHO I'd like the title to include CVS in it. The you talk about four. I personally search result as I couldn't see

Thanks again for the clean text.

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Ilmari Kontulainen (<https://deveo.com/>)

February 9, 2017 at 7:51 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-842083>)

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Thank you for the great article. I would like to add Deveo to the tools list as it supports Git, Subversion (SVN) and Mercurial (HG). The pricing is lower than most of the tools listed and when you see the product you quickly understand what a good user experience means.

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September 29, 2016 at 3:18 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-841216>)

Should've stopped reading when I saw this as a pro for Git:  
Great for those who hate CVS/SVN

Now it's too late.

## Is Your Team Working Efficiently?

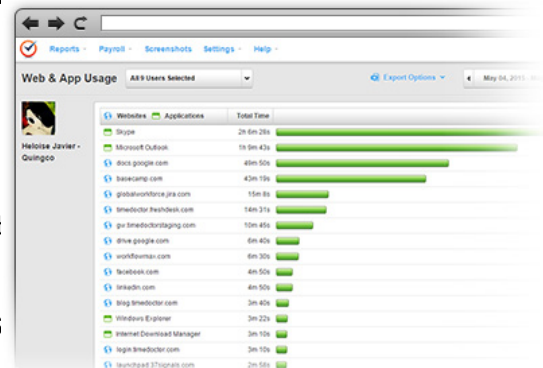
Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=841216#respond>)



Patrick Reynolds

February 16, 2016 at 10:58 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-816523>)

This probably needs to be changed to prevent data in the database from being corrupted,



Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=816523#respond>)

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michael

November 26, 2015 at 10:07 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-770787>)

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If there is one thing I wish SVN would adopt from CVS, and where it makes release management harder than it needs to be, it would be to simplify the task of tagging a release set when grabbing specific versions of a set of files from the trunk instead of its default of grabbing across the tree based on a single, global commit point.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=770787#respond>)



TS

February 26, 2015 at 7:38 pm (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-483798>)

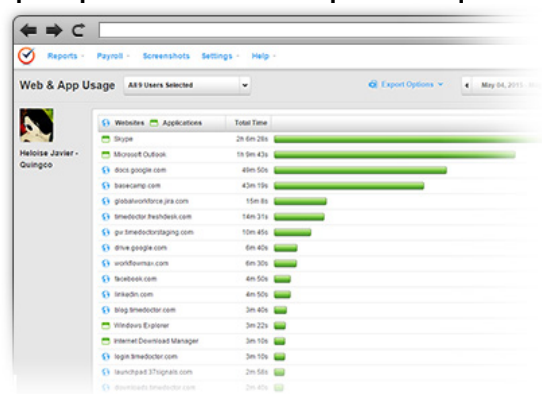
I've abandoned CVS for being too obsolete to handle renaming or moving or deleting of files and folders. Any of the others is a better choice.

## Is Your Team Working Efficiently?

Subversion is the one choice access over who is able to do example, in a classroom environment where people should not see necessary.

Mercurial works a lot like sub

alone. When you are disconnected from the net (perhaps on a long flight) you can still commit code when you want to. I haven't tried them, but there are supposed to be tools (most notably HgSubversion) to allow you to work disconnected with Mercurial and then merge all your changes to the server as you push. I've not tried it, but it sounds like the ultimate setup.



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Git is a low level tool that could be made useable with wrappers around it to suit your development process. Unless you know its internals, feedback when something goes wrong (conflicts needing to be resolved, for example) can be totally and inexcusably misleading. Subversion and Mercurial either make assumptions that you're following some standard usage practices, or enforce them, so they are better at directing helping the user know what to do next. If your team already uses and prefers Git, go for it. Anyone else would benefit from something more structured.

Then there's Bazaar. I haven't done enough with it to tell of any advantages or disadvantages beyond saying that it's currently not popular.

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Reply (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=483798#respond>)



japanese school bags

January 29, 2015 at 3:39 pm (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/svn-software/#comment-455924>)

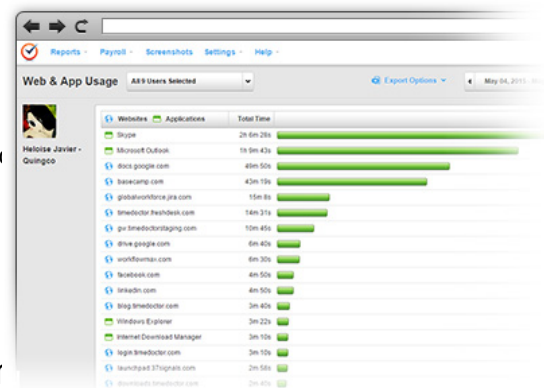
Hello would you mind letting company you're using?

I've loaded your blog in 3 con

must say this blog loads a lot faster then most.

Can you suggest a good hosting provider at a honest

price? Many thanks, I appreciate it!



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Reply (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=455924#respond>)

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Rob Rawson (<http://www.timemanagment.com>)

January 29, 2015 at 10:36 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-456299>)

We use Amazon AWS servers



John King

January 24, 2015 at 7:09 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-449895>)

Pros for GIT: "Great for those who hate CVS/SVN" – seriously?

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=449895#respond>)



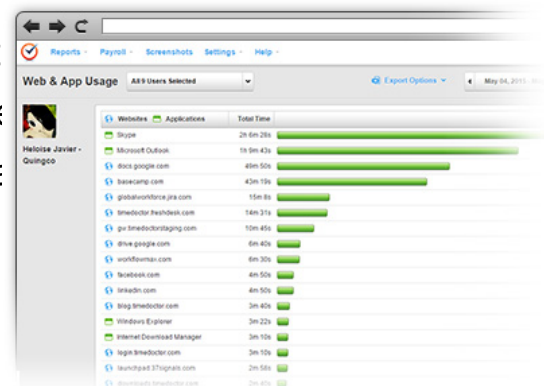
Danny (<https://unfuddle.com/>)

December 30, 2014 at 3:19 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-414335>)

Thank you for the great ment  
appreciated, and we would be  
from you or your readers. Tha

Danny  
Unfuddle.com

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Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=414335#respond>)

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JP

November 5, 2014 at 1:39 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-295199>)

Try Kiln from Fog Creek Software ([fogcreek.com/kiln](http://fogcreek.com/kiln)). It's free

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for 2 users and supports Git and Mercurial.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=295199#respond>)



Jerker Montelius

October 7, 2014 at 3:17 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-226658>)

If you have binary data(.jpg .gif .wav .dwg .doc) in your project SVN is the only modern system hadeling that case.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=226658#respond>)



anthropomorphic

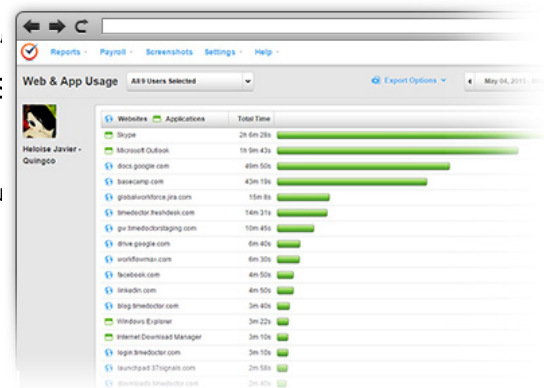
August 8, 2014 at 6:13 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-162890>)

Why is GitHub not listed in the "SVN & Git Hosting" area?

GitHub is immensely popular,  
most pleasant/featureful/easy

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-162890#respond>)

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Zahid

February 24, 2015 at 9:13 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-481344>)

Does Git allow one to many configuration? For example, one server hosts all the repository and different PCs can access it to either check in/check out a file/project. I am

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using TFS: Source Control but it requires you to upload a solution and download the entire solution not just an individual file.



Anonymous

July 3, 2014 at 2:46 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-141000>)

Thanks for sharing your thoughts about svn vs git.

Regards

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=141000#respond>)



buscar personas (<https://sites.google.com/site/dateenlinea/>)

May 21, 2014 at 8:39 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-115840>)

WOW just what I was looking  
svn vs git

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=115840#respond>)



Obfuscator

May 16, 2014 at 3:55 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-112594>)

Can anyone explain the “merge two master repositories” thing,  
please?

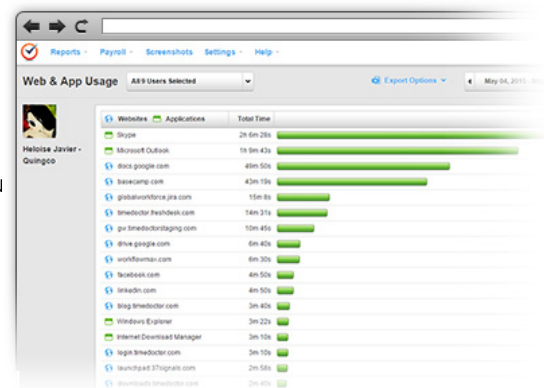
As a starter, this is what I understood to be the problem:

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DevA@MachineX does hg init and starts adding stuff

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DevB@MachineY does hg init and starts adding stuff

At some point the two want to combine what they did in a single repository.

Is that the problem mentioned above? What is the workflow to get this done in mercurial and/or git? Will the revision logs/version numbers etc. then be merged as well or will it simply be a new repository starting from scratch?

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mercurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=112594#respond>)



Debra (<http://www.google.com>)

December 31, 2013 at 2:22 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mercurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-57325>)

Getting to the top, especially if the **Is Your Team Working Efficiently?**

specific keywords is high, you techniques to

help you in the interim and the rankings, such as link building

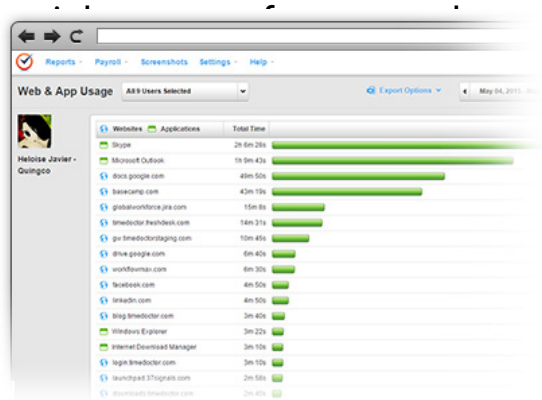
Google may consider the so- (the word

or phrase which is linked) and

the link is coming from to determine how highly

or lowly your website ought to rank. For instance,

if you write about flooring, you might have carpet ads on your page.



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Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mercurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=57325#respond>)

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mtemmanuel

December 7, 2013 at 12:27 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-46854>)

I have selected Git for my team but I like the analysis presented. Except for the bias of the use of “man-hours” which would be much better presented as “staff-hours” since I am hoping that your staff is inclusive and that it was just an oversight.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=46854#respond>)



KGarvin

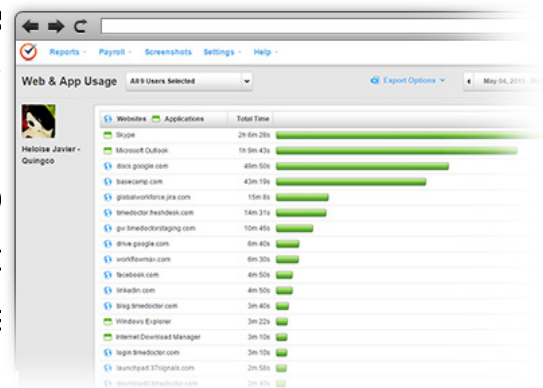
November 20, 2013 at 1:25 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-42392>)

I have a small development team that works on many different projects using different apps with different filetypes, including Microsoft Dynamics

Access, and lots of documents. Our team works remotely, and find it pretty slow. Right now we have a live server that all mirror most use our own machines to host different servers. Messy. We

are looking for a way to keep the code organized and be able to develop and deploy to many locations, keeping track of which machines the fixes were deployed to, and also to be able to work on files and then save/merge changes in a shared location for all to access. Keeping track of versions and history is key, and it

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would be nice to have the option to lock out other developers from files if necessary, and also to save a change or a bug fix as a unit of files, for ease of deployment. What say you?

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=42392#respond>)



PFury67

September 25, 2013 at 1:44 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-38786>)

Hard to disagree with Tim Eckel more. I don't want to focus on versioning things myself, akin to how I don't want to make a logging module from scratch.

Setting up GIT and learning a few commands is not a hard thing. The project can grow without having to develop a system to maintain code versioning.

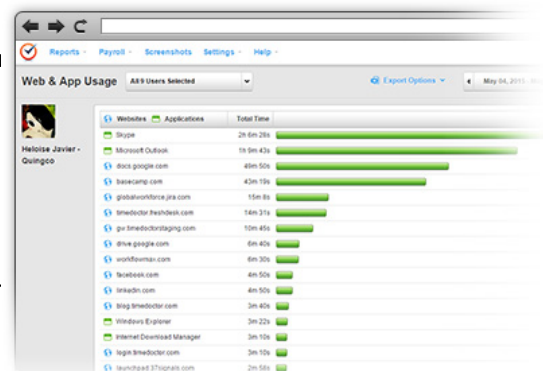
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Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-38786#respond>)



Tim Eckel (<http://www.dogblocker.com>)

April 30, 2013 at 4:42 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-15367>)



Why not list the other option, the version control system at all.

I've done everything this way for 30 years and have never had a problem. I create my own versioning backup system and via the cloud update all my development systems in real time. The advantage is that everything is automated and runs in the background. There's nothing to ever do, not only for me, but for you, you can help them be more productive.

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everything is always up to date. If I ever need to go back (which is SUPER rare), I can easily go back to my archived version database and retrieve what I need.

I can honestly not think of a reason why I would use any of the version control platforms listed in this article. I've tried using them, and they all get in the way of development.

Spend more time developing and less time messing with typing in CLI commands (how 80's). Maybe when the version control systems are updated to work like software from this century I'll reconsider.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=15367#respond>)

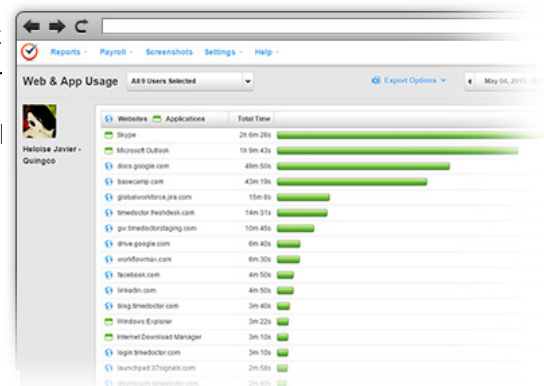


LaPingvino

December 18, 2013 at 12:39 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-52>)

Then look at Sparklesha Git under the cover. You manually.

## Is Your Team Working Efficiently?



Zangdaarr

December 1, 2014 at 10:36 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-354300>)

If you can allow working without an SCM, it's probably because you are working alone, without a team doing parallel development in the same files, in separate branch.

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In our case, we are using Hg and we would not be able to work without it (or Git, it does the same stuff). We are constantly merging branches and clones, and our merges often imply more than 900 files. Some are trying with SVN (or worst), and they spend weeks doing merges.

Even alone, I do use Hg, it allows me to work in branches, separate my change efficiently, work on parallel tasks and then merge it easily. It also makes me save a lot of time because I can find traces of change I made months ago very quickly and take actions if needed.

I would not switch it for SVN, ever, which as you said is often a loss of time, and I will not switch to a non controlled version system.

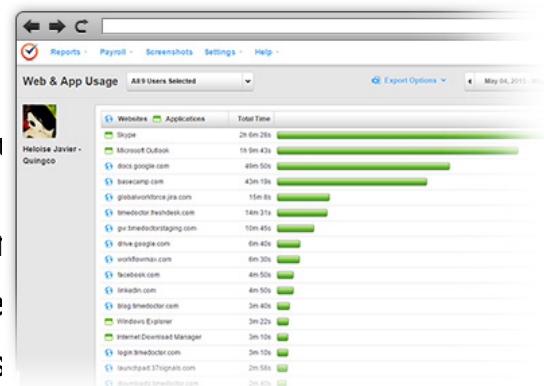
## Is Your Team Working Efficiently?



Harry Gilmore

January 8, 2013 at 9:53 pm (<https://biz30.timedock.com/svn-software/#comment-7604>)

"If you want to have a single master source tree worked on by a small core developer, the first system you try as it's



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This is crazy. SVN has no significant advantages over Hg or Git, regardless of team size. If you want a "single master source tree", then set up a single master Hg/Git server for your team to use (instead of a single master SVN server).

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As SVN relies on the network for so many basic operations, it's going to be slower and less reliable, in addition to merges being much more difficult.

Advocating SVN — or, heaven forbid, CVS — after about 2008 (3 years was plenty of time to shake out the early issues with DVCSs) is irresponsible. Non-distributed VCs like CVS are “mature” in the same way that Windows 3.1 is “mature”: seriously outdated, and due to their ancient architecture, simply unable to add the modern features that users today can reasonably expect.

If your VCS needs to do an  $O(n)$  set of queries over the network just to show annotations for a file, it's not suitable for use. That was barely acceptable in 1990 when we wanted backwards compatibility with Windows 3.1 for it today.

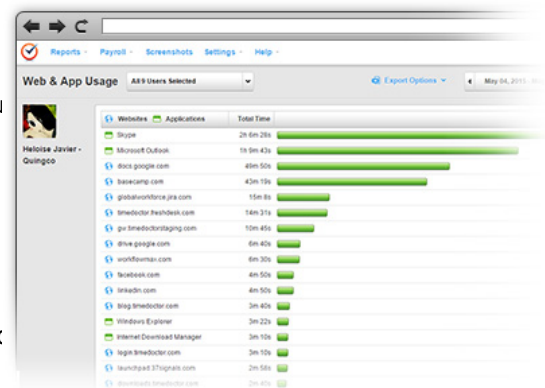
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Reply (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=7604#respond>)



Sello

November 27, 2012 at 3:54 pm (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-5585>)



subversion is awesome when used with netbeans.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedocor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=5585#respond>)

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Subversion Download

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September 21, 2011 at 9:12 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-87>)

Thanks. There are a number of solutions out there, and you need to do definitive feature comparison so you can decide the best solution that is best for you.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=87#respond>)

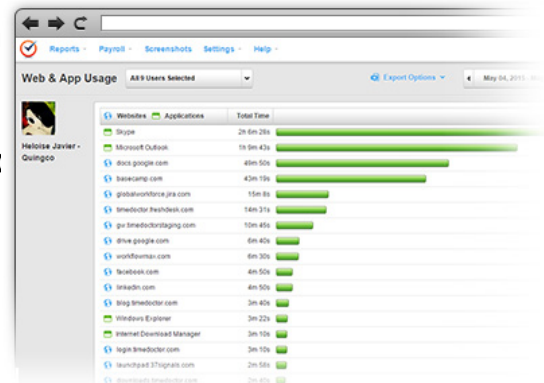


Lokiitoo

March 26, 2012 at 6:14 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-946>)

I use Git both at work and for personal rjepocts. Its superior branch merging and local branching capability are great advantages over Subversion. Git is very powerful but as a result has lots and lots of commands, options and features that are confusing and unnecessary for everyday use. However I found that once you learn how to do the basics, yo advice would be to seek the official documentati confusing!

**Is Your Team Working Efficiently?**



Afriza N. Arief

September 17, 2011 at 3:41 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-76>)

100% agree with Ches Martin.

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In addition, mercurial allows users to specify the format for its output ( <http://hgbook.red-bean.com/read/customizing-the-output-of-mercurial.html> ( <http://hgbook.red-bean.com/read/customizing-the-output-of-mercurial.html>) ), so it's actually scriptable and there are even more options to make script: by using APIs or using exec-approach.

The scriptability nature of git is one of the reason there are efforts to make cleaner API-based implementation like libgit2 (initiated by GitHub employee, <https://github.com/blog/752-libgit2-a-git-linkable-library> ( <https://github.com/blog/752-libgit2-a-git-linkable-library>) )

And it's super easy to use mercurial or git as a single developer. There is absolutely no need to set up server or such a thing.

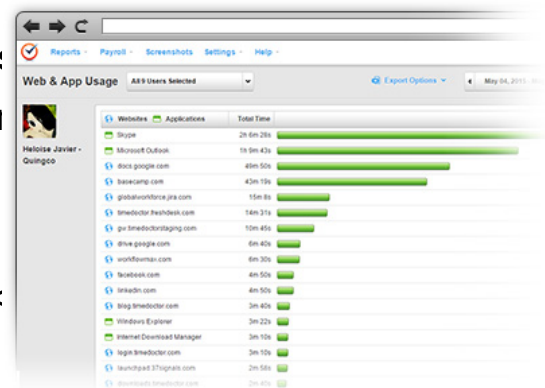
**Is Your Team Working Efficiently?**

"doesn't allow for two parents about some other version control mercurial.

"Less out of the box power" < safety. Possibly "destructive"

as you call it) are not turned on by default so that no data is lost by default.

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John

August 8, 2011 at 4:41 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-19>)

Ches, thanks for corrections!

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=19#respond>)



Ches Martin

July 30, 2011 at 3:29 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-12>)

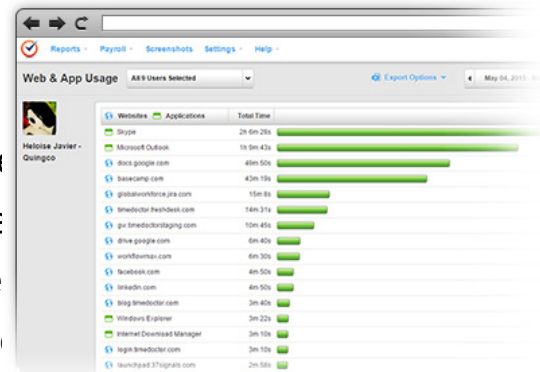
> “As there is no centralized server, Git does not lend itself to single developer projects or small teams as the code may not necessarily be available when using a non-repository computer.”

I don't understand this either. As a single developer, if I want to use SVN I need to configure and run a server (cvs server). With Git, `mkdir newproject && cd newproject && git init` — done. Start working.

I think you're confusing concepts. \*allow\* you to work complete systems prevent or encumber can edit my code offline, but it's troublesome to work on multiple different features and keep changes organized).

The scope of this article is ambitious, but it needs more research and editing I'm afraid.

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Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=12#respond>)

No, we're already too productive



kutay zorlu (<http://www.kutayzorlu.com>)

January 18, 2014 at 11:39 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-61085>)

yep man, you say truth, git is very good for single developers.



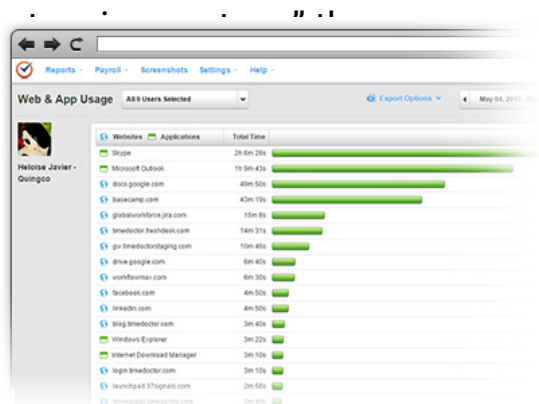
Ches Martin

July 30, 2011 at 3:18 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-11>)

I'm not sure what you're trying to say with Mercurial "doesn't allow for two parents to be merged" — that's absurd, of course it does. It's a distributed version system, as such making branching and merging less painful than SVN is inherent to its design.

## Is Your Team Working Efficiently?

Also, in regard to "it uses an extension mechanism" — that's a continuation "rather than being a separate tool" — that's a fair follow. Mercurial exposes a clean API for many features in Mercurial and its extensions in order to keep the learning curve low. This lends to its learning curve being aware of any particular strength or weakness.



department — you either dig into its hairy C and shell code to try to extend it, wrap the usual command line calls in your own scripts, or use libraries that wrap it or fully re-implement parts of Git like Python's GitPython, Dulwich or Ruby's Grit. If you're scripting the command line interface, I don't see why that should be any harder for Mercurial than Git.

No, we're already too productive

I'm not intending to take a stance of arguing for Mercurial as the leader in this argument — I use Git more these days — but I do think this assessment of Hg is inaccurate and somewhat unfair.

Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=11#respond>)



hardwyrd

July 29, 2011 at 1:30 am (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-10>)

On Linux, there's actually RapidSVN. I use it on my Ubuntu 10.04 64bit and on my Fedora boxen.

However, some purists actually shy away from gui-fied SVN clients and use the terminal client instead because it offers much more scripting flexibility and what not.

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Reply (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/?replytocom=10#respond>)

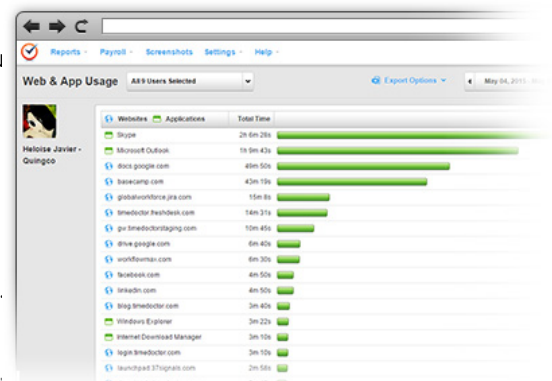


Tantrido

July 28, 2011 at 2:57 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-9>)

<http://www.gittiapp.com/> (<http://www.gittiapp.com/>), another one free Mac client.

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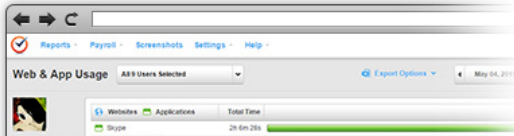
July 28, 2011 at 2:51 pm (<https://biz30.timedoctor.com/git-mecurial-and-cvs-comparison-of-svn-software/#comment-8>)

Not necessary to talk about CVS, I think, it is a dinosaur. One of its big disadvantage – it does not allow to version folders (directories).

We're using subversion now. Good enough for small teams. However there is not enough good clients for it: TortoiseSVN is good enough, kdesvn + kdiff3 (or kompare) in Linux – good enough too, however there is not good open source (or free) client for Mac. Latest XCode 4.1 has a svn client, but seems it is not ready and not stable.

Very interesting to try git, to learn something new and because it better work with branches as people say. Also it has good clients for all platforms. Also I like that it stores meta information only in root folder, unlike svn has .svn subdirectories in every project very convenient. Also it is very for big projects.

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The screenshot shows a web-based interface for monitoring application usage. The title bar indicates 'Web & App Usage' with 'All Users Selected'. Below the title bar, there is a table with columns for 'Web & App Usage', 'Applications', and 'Total Time'. The table lists several applications with their respective usage times and progress bars. The applications listed are: 'Web & App Usage' (20 min 25s), 'Google' (10 min 43s), 'Microsoft Outlook' (10 min 43s), and 'dash google.com' (40m 50s). The progress bars are green and show the relative usage time for each application.

Also need to mention following:  
TortoiseGit – <http://code.google.com/p/tortoisegit/>  
(<http://code.google.com/p/tortoisegit/>)  
for Windows.

GitX – <http://gitx.frim.nl/> (<http://gitx.frim.nl/>)  
 SmartGit – <http://www.syntevo.com/smartgit/why.html>  
 (<http://www.syntevo.com/smartgit/why.html>) – commercial

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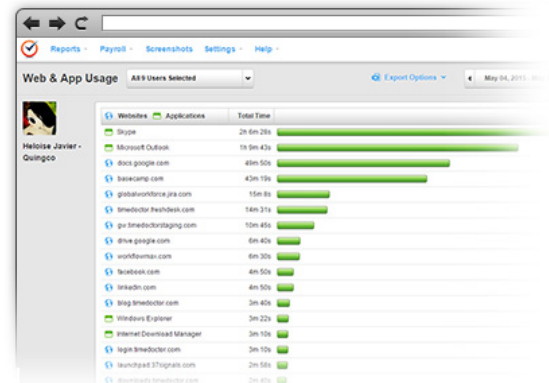
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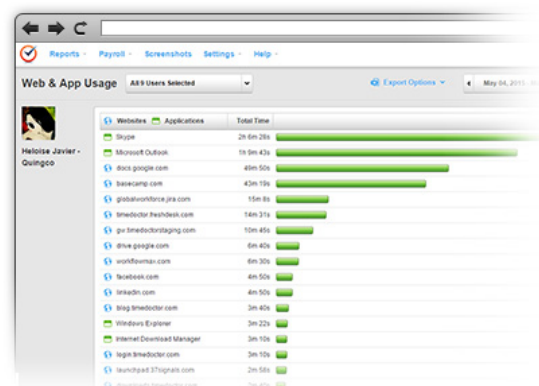
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