Deep CMake For Library Authors

Craig Scott

About Me

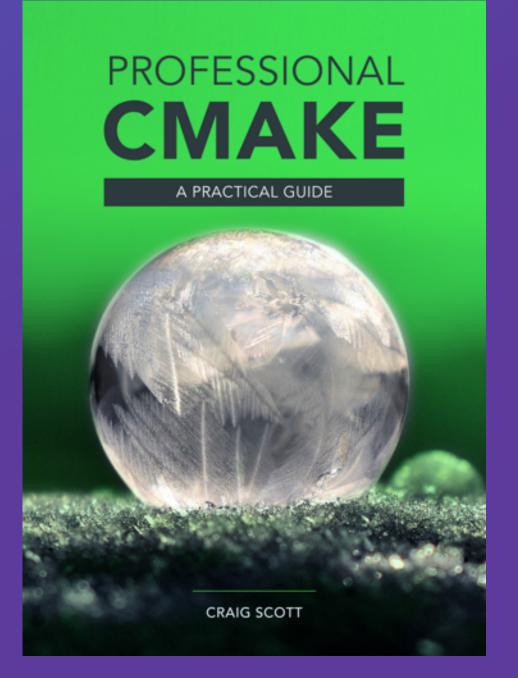
- Cross-platform C++ developer since 2001
- CMake co-maintainer (volunteer)
- Author of Professional CMake: A Practical Guide
- Consulting services available through Crascit Pty Ltd



https://crascit.com

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Focus of Talk



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Libraries (mostly shared)

Cross-platform considerations

Highlight CMake features





Key Questions For Library Authors



What does the library provide?



How does the library evolve?





How might the library be used?



Package Maintainers

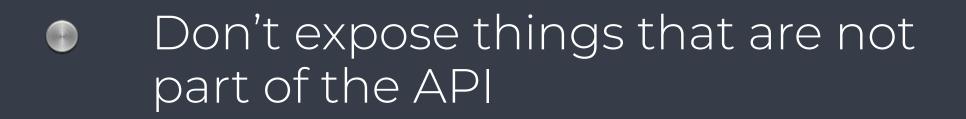
How might the library be packaged?





API Control





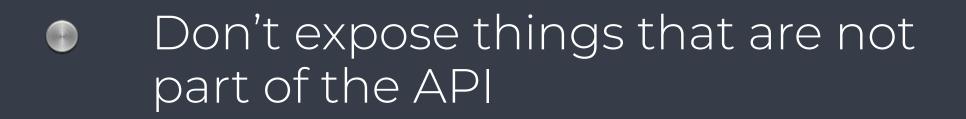


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API Control













Symbol visibility





API Control



Be clear about what is included in the API

Don't expose things that are not part of the API

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How To Control Visibility

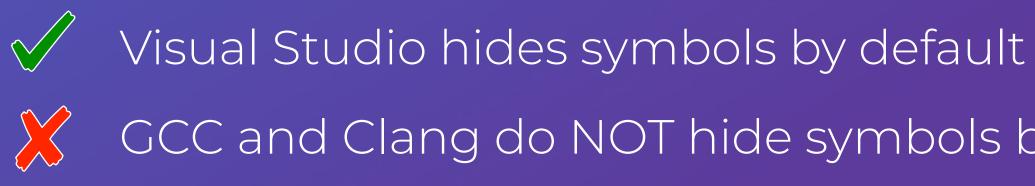
```
class MyGenerator
public:
    int nextValue();
};
```





How To Control Visibility

```
class MyGenerator
public:
    int nextValue();
};
```





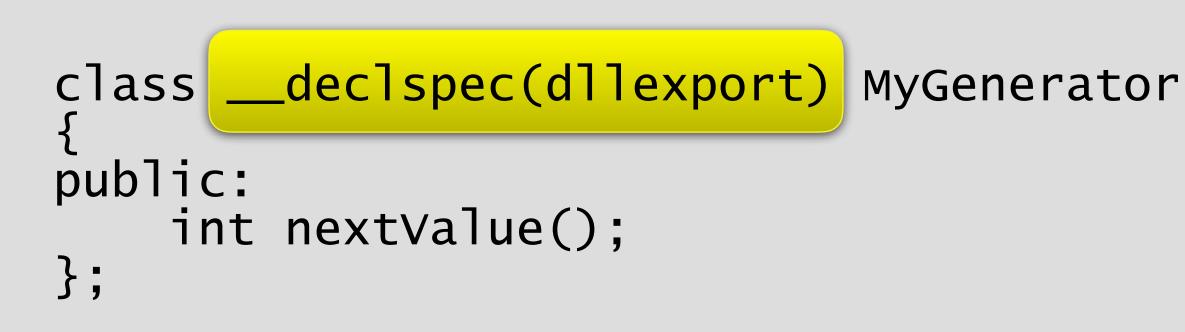
GCC and Clang do NOT hide symbols by default





class __declspec(dllexport) MyGenerator public: int nextValue(); };



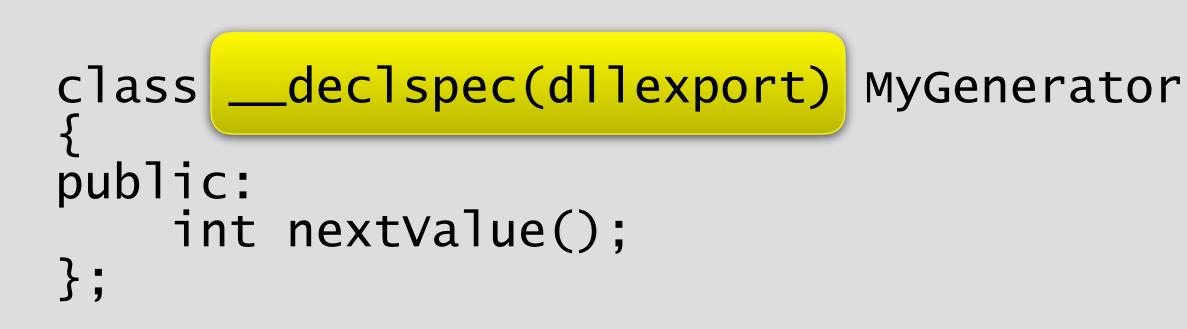


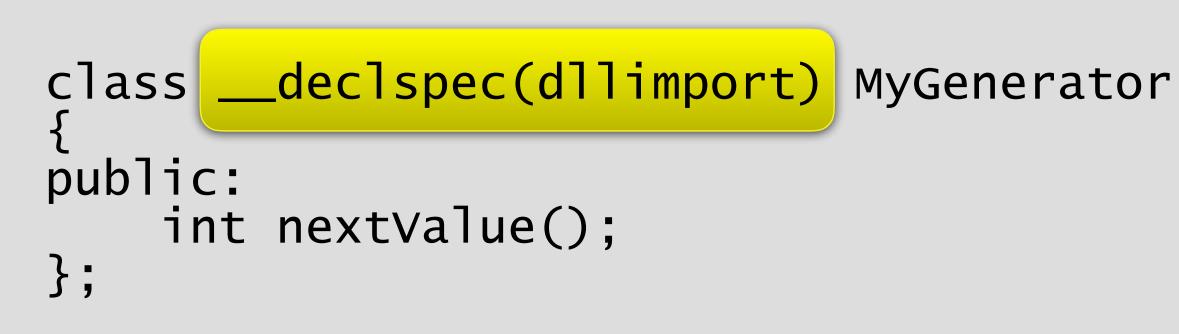
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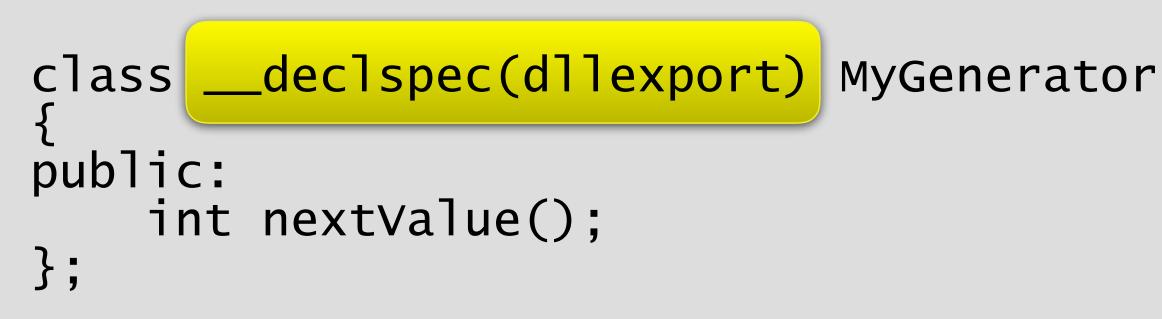
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Building

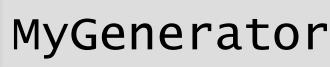
Using





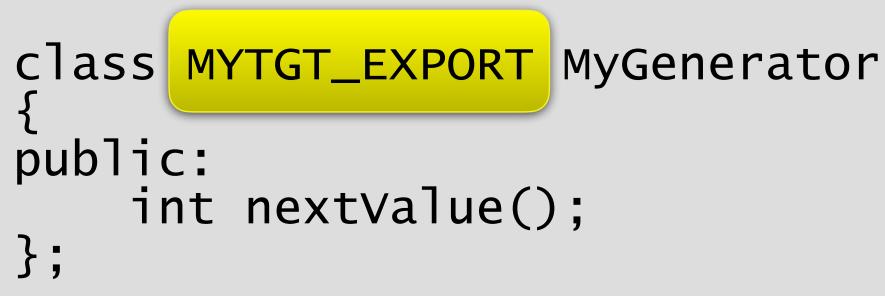


















#include "mytgt_export.h"

class MYTGT_EXPORT MyGenerator public: int nextValue(); };



Header defines MYTGT_EXPORT



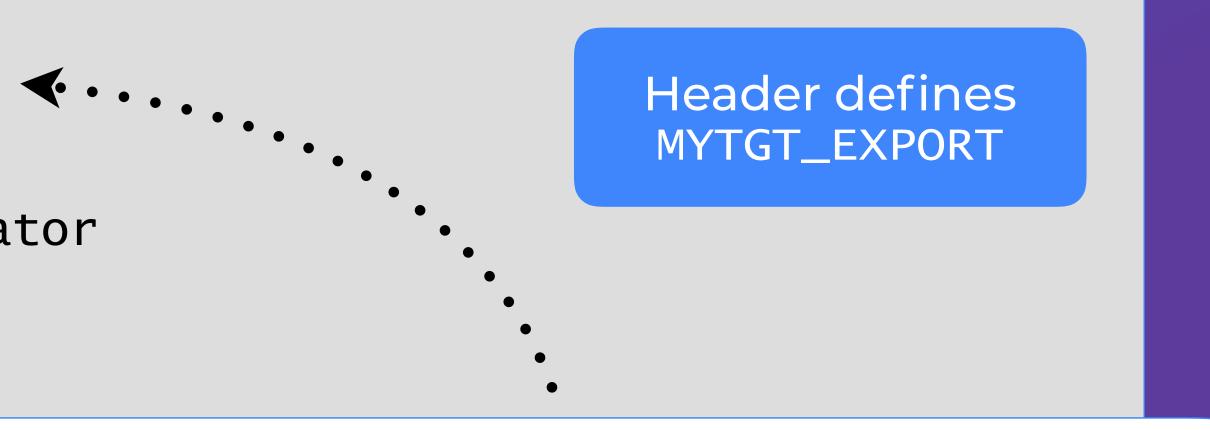


#include "mytgt_export.h"

class MYTGT_EXPORT MyGenerator public: int nextValue(); };

else # # #endif

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#ifndef MYTGT_EXPORT

ifdef MyTgt_EXPORTS

```
define MYTGT_EXPORT __declspec(dllexport)
```

define MYTGT_EXPORT ___declspec(dllimport) endif



#include "mytgt_export.h"

class MYTGT_EXPORT MyGenerator public: int nextValue(); };

#ifndef MYTGT_EXPORT ifdef MyTgt_EXPORTS # define MYTGT_EXPORT __declspec(dllexport) # # else define MYTGT_EXPORT ___declspec(dllimport) # endif # #endif

Craig Scott





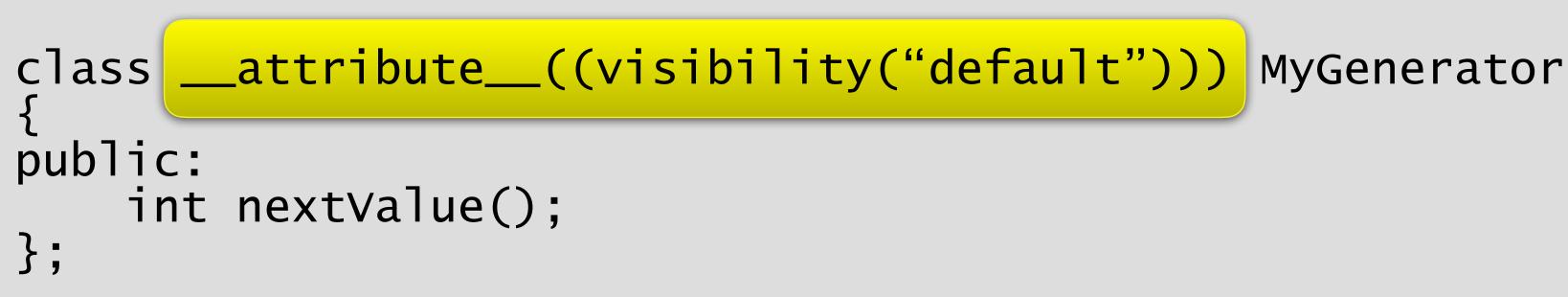
Change default visibility to hidden -fvisibility=hidden



- Change visibility of inlined code (including templates) -fvisibility-inlines-hidden





















#include "mytgt_export.h"

class MYTGT_EXPORT MyGenerator public: int nextValue(); };

Header defines MYTGT_EXPORT



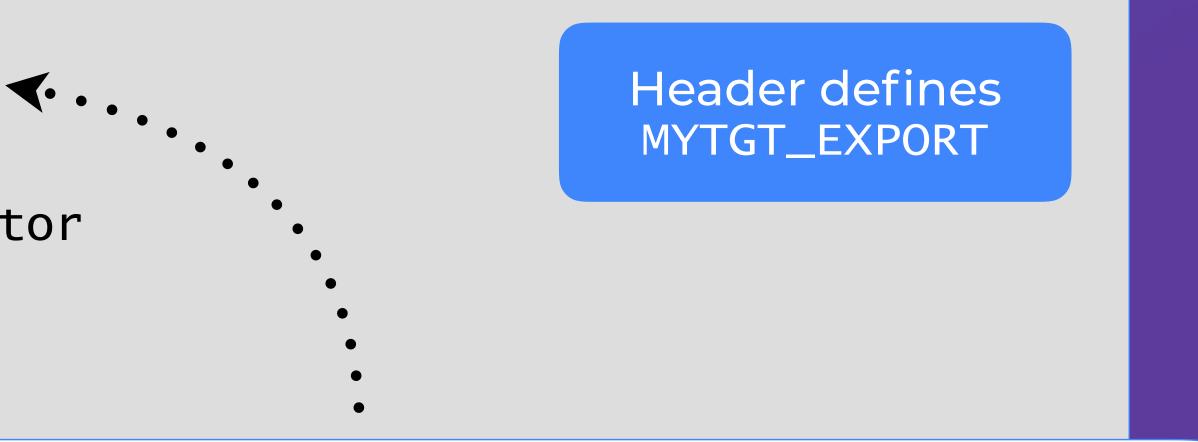




#include "mytgt_export.h"

class MYTGT_EXPORT MyGenerator public: int nextValue(); };

> #ifndef MYTGT_EXPORT #endif



define MYTGT_EXPORT ___attribute__((visibility("default")))





CMake Visibility Control

hidden) set(CMAKE_CXX_VISIBILITY_PRESET set(CMAKE_VISIBILITY_INLINES_HIDDEN YES)

add_library(MyTgt ...)

include(GenerateExportHeader) generate_export_header(MyTgt)





CMake Visibility Control

hidden) set(CMAKE_CXX_VISIBILITY_PRESET set(CMAKE_VISIBILITY_INLINES_HIDDEN YES)

add_library(MyTgt ...)

include(GenerateExportHeader) generate_export_header(MyTgt)



Set default visibility to hidden for all targets





CMake Visibility Control

hidden) set(CMAKE_CXX_VISIBILITY_PRESET set(CMAKE_VISIBILITY_INLINES_HIDDEN YES)

add_library(MyTgt ...)

include(GenerateExportHeader) generate_export_header(MyTgt)



Generates a suitable mytgt_export.h

Ensures MYTGT_EXPORT is defined

Adds MyTgt_EXPORTS definition to MyTgt



#include "mytgt_export.h"

class MYTGT_EXPORT MyGenerator public: int nextValue(); };

MYTGT_EXPORT double computeSomething();

MYTGT_EXPORT extern int naughtyGlobal;

Export Examples







Communicating what sort of changes were made since last release

https://crascit.com



Communicating what sort of changes were made since last release

Use a conventional versioning strategy

Craig Scott

https://crascit.com



Communicating what sort of changes were made since last release

- Use a conventional versioning strategy
- Consider semantic versioning

https://semver.org



https://crascit.com



Communicating what sort of changes were made since last release

- Use a conventional versioning strategy
- Consider semantic versioning

https://semver.org



MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH





Communicating what sort of changes were made since last release

- Use a conventional versioning strategy
- Consider semantic versioning

https://semver.org



Bug fix only No API changes MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH





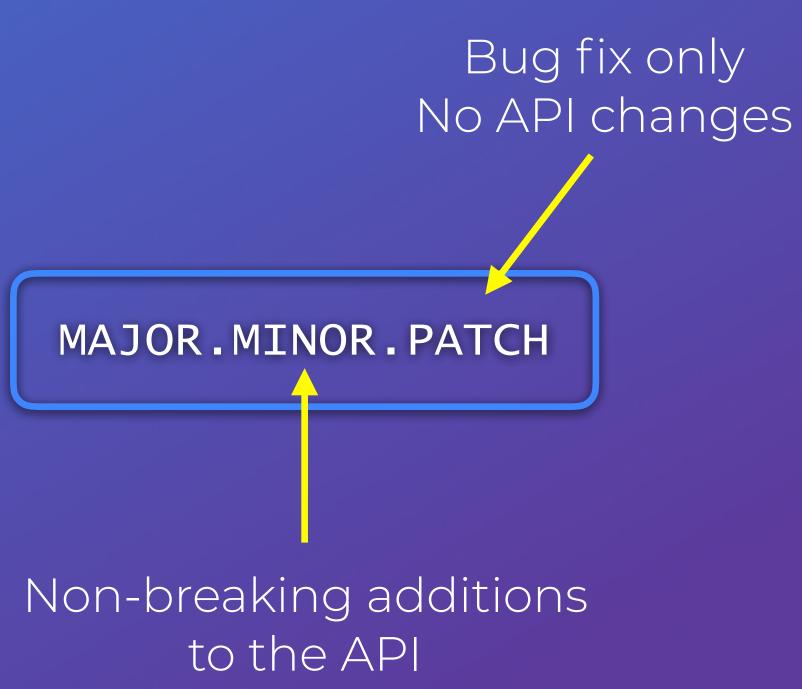


Communicating what sort of changes were made since last release

- Use a conventional versioning strategy
- Consider semantic versioning

https://semver.org











Communicating what sort of changes were made since last release

- Use a conventional versioning strategy
- Consider semantic versioning

https://semver.org





https://crascit.com



Shared Library Symlinks

Common convention used on Unix and Unix-like operating systems

Ordering of suffix and version number may vary, but principle is the same libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7



Shared Library Symlinks

REAL LIBRARY

Craig Scott

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2.4.7





Shared Library Symlinks

Humans, packages REAL LIBRARY

Craig Scott

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2.4.7





SONAME Humans, packages REAL LIBRARY

Craig Scott

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7





Run-time loader SONAME Humans, packages REAL LIBRARY

Craig Scott

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7

Check with commands like **1dd** or **otoo1** – L







NAME LINKRun-time loaderSONAMEHumans, packagesREALLIBRARY

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7
libExample.so.2.4.7



Build-time linker	NAME LINK
Run-time loader	SONAME
Humans, packages	REAL LIBRARY

Craig Scott

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7

Specified on linker command line as -lexample





Build-time linker	NAME LINK
Run-time loader	SONAME
Humans, packages	REAL LIBRARY

Craig Scott

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libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2.4.7

SONAME is most critical from a compatibility perspective





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(
 Example PROPERTIES
 SOVERSION 2
 VERSION 2.4.7



libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7



add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 2 VERSION 2.4.7

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

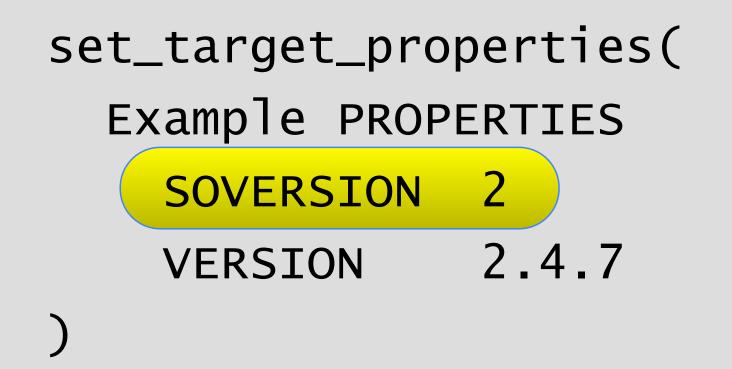
libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2.4.7











libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2.4.7





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 2 2.4.7 VERSION



libExample.so

-> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7

Always created





set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES 2.4.7 VERSION)











add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES VERSION 2.4.7



libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7

If **SOVERSION** is missing, it defaults to same as **VERSION**





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES VERSION 2.4.7



libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2.4.7

SONAME

If **SOVERSION** is missing, it defaults to same as **VERSION**





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES 2.4.7 VERSION



libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7

libExample.so.2.4.7

SONAME

PROBA WRO

If **SOVERSION** is missing, it defaults to same as **VERSION**





CppCon 2019

add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES 9 SOVERSION 2.4.7 VERSION

)



Independent SONAME





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 9 2.4.7 VERSION



)

libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.9 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7

Is this valid?





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 9 VERSION 2.4.7



libExample.so -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.9 -> libExample.so.2.4.7 libExample.so.2.4.7

Is this valid? YES!





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 2 VERSION 2.4.7



Windows?



add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 2 VERSION 2.4.7



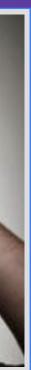
)

Example.dll Example.lib











add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES 2 SOVERSION 2.4.7 VERSION



)

Acts like SONAME Example.dll Example.lib





add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 2 2.4.7 VERSION



)









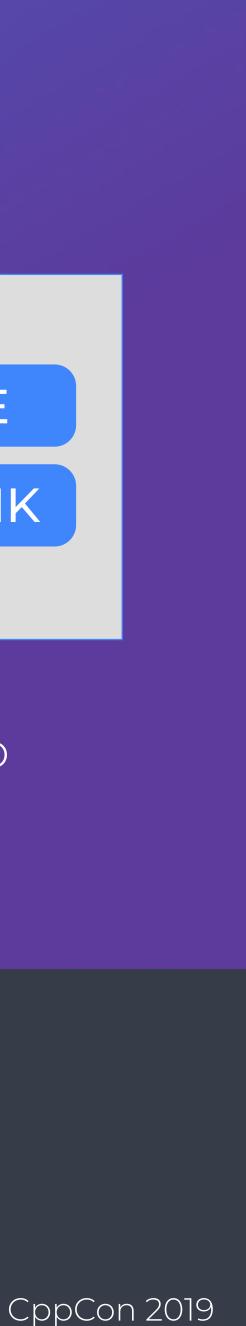
add_library(Example ...)

set_target_properties(Example PROPERTIES SOVERSION 2 2.47 VERSION



Some version details may be encoded into the binaries, but not into the file names





find_package(SomeProj 2.3)

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find_package(SomeProj 2.3)

- SomeProjConfig.cmake
- SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake





someproj-config.cmake someproj-config-version.cmake





find_package(SomeProj 2.3)

- SomeProjConfig.cmake
- SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake









- SomeProjConfig.cmake
- SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake









SomeProjConfig.cmake SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake









SomeProjConfig.cmake SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake



include(CMakePackageConfigHelpers)

write_basic_package_version_file(SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake VERSION 2.4.7 COMPATIBILITY SameMajorVersion





How Might A Library Be Packaged?

- By you in your own dedicated package
- As part of some other package (i.e. an embedded dependency)
- By a distribution maintainer
- By a packaging system not part of the OS





install(TARGETS Example DESTINATION lib)









install(TARGETS Example DESTINATION lib)











include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}







include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example **RUNTIME** DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}

Windows DLLs







include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} **LIBRARY** DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}

> Non-Windows shared libraries (including symlinks)





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} **ARCHIVE** DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}

> Static libraries (all platforms) Windows import libraries





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}

/usr/lib /usr/lib64 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu

- - -







include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}

install(TARGETS Example)

Requires at least CMake 3.14





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}

install(TARGETS Example)

Requires at least CMake 3.14







include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} Runtime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT NAMELINK_COMPONENT Development ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} Development COMPONENT

Craig Scott

- Runtime





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} Runtime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT NAMELINK_COMPONENT Development ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} Development COMPONENT

- Runtime





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} Runtime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT NAMELINK_COMPONENT Development ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} Development COMPONENT

- Runtime

Requires at least CMake 3.12





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} Runtime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT NAMELINK_COMPONENT Development ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} Development COMPONENT

Craig Scott

- Runtime





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} Runtime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT NAMELINK_COMPONENT Development ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} Development COMPONENT

Craig Scott

- Runtime







include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} Runtime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} Runtime COMPONENT NAMELINK_COMPONENT Development ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} Development COMPONENT







include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} SomeProj_RunTime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} SomeProj_RunTime COMPONENT NAMELINK_COMPONENT SomeProj_Development ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} SomeProj_Development COMPONENT





include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} SomeProj_RunTime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT

- SomeProj_RunTime
- NAMELINK_COMPONENT SomeProj_Development

 - SomeProj_Development



include(GNUInstallDirs) install(TARGETS Example RUNTIME DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_BINDIR} SomeProj_RunTime COMPONENT LIBRARY DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT ARCHIVE DESTINATION \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR} COMPONENT

- SomeProj_RunTime
- NAMELINK_COMPONENT SomeProj_Development

 - SomeProj_Development



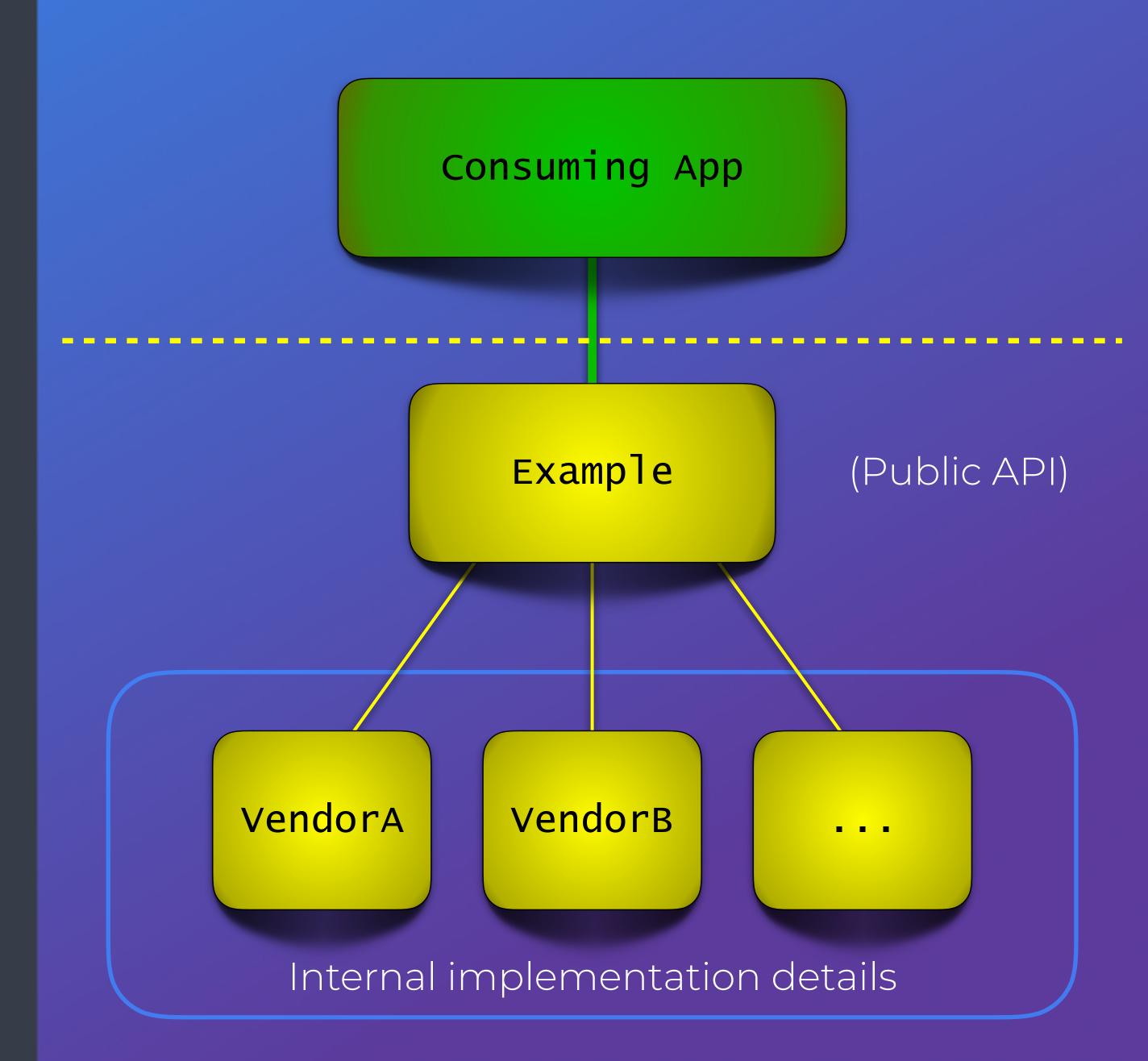




The **Example** shared library is the only thing consumers link to

The public API contains nothing from any internal implementation library

Craig Scott







The **Example** shared library is the only thing consumers link to

The public API contains nothing from any internal implementation library

Craig Scott

Build your libraries

Run your test apps against the libraries in your build tree

Package and install your libraries

Someone else builds against the installed libraries

They run the app they just built











The **Example** shared library is the only thing consumers link to

The public API contains nothing from any internal implementation library

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The **Example** shared library is the only thing consumers link to

The public API contains nothing from any internal implementation library

./myapp: error while loading shared libraries: libvendorA.so.3: cannot open shared object file: No such file or directory

Craig Scott





Run your test apps against the libraries in your build tree



Package and install your libraries



Someone else builds against the installed libraries



They run the app they just built



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CMake embedded **RPATH** information into the libraries and the app executable











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Craig Scott

CMake embedded **RPATH** information into the libraries and the app executable

RPATH is supported on all major platforms except Windows











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Craig Scott

CMake replaces the **RPATH** information it recorded for the build tree with a different set which is empty by default.

Libraries lose their **RPATH** connection to their dependencies unless you specify them.









Build your libraries

Run your test apps against the libraries in your build tree

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Craig Scott

Because CMake again provides RPATHs for the build, dependency libraries in the same directory as libraries linked to the app will also be found at link time











Build your libraries

Run your test apps against the libraries in your build tree

Package and install your libraries

Someone else builds against the installed libraries

They run the app they just built

Craig Scott

Behavior determined by entries in the binary's dynamic section:

DT_RPATH

DT_RUNPATH

If both are present, DT_RPATH is ignored.









Build your libraries

Run your test apps against the libraries in your build tree

Package and install your libraries

Someone else builds against the installed libraries

They run the app they just built

Craig Scott

Behavior determined by entries in the binary's dynamic section:

DT_RPATH LD_LIBRARY_PATH DT_RUNPATH

If both are present, DT_RPATH is ignored.







Build your libraries

Run your test apps against the libraries in your build tree

Package and install your libraries

Someone else builds against the installed libraries

They run the app they just built

Craig Scott

Behavior determined by entries in the binary's dynamic section:

DT_RPATH

DT_RUNPATH

If both are present, DT_RPATH is ignored.

ld.so man page:

...[DT_RUNPATH] are searched only to find those objects required by DT_NEEDED (direct dependencies) entries and do not apply to those objects' children, which must themselves have their own DT_RUNPATH entries. This is unlike DT_RPATH, which is applied to searches for all children in the dependency tree.



Setting Install RPATH Details

if(NOT APPLE) set(CMAKE_INSTALL_RPATH \$ORIGIN) endif()

add_library(Example ...)







Setting Install RPATH Details

if(NOT APPLE) set(CMAKE_INSTALL_RPATH \$ORIGIN) endif()

add_library(Example ...)



\$ORIGIN means the location of the binary requiring the dependency







Setting Install RPATH Details

if(NOT APPLE)

set(CMAKE_INSTALL_RPATH \$ORIGIN) endif()

add_library(Example ...)



\$ORIGIN means the location of the binary requiring the dependency

Apple has a similar feature, but uses different keywords (e.g. @loader_path)

- Checks environment variables first
- Recursive searching like DT_RPATH





You can also catch me at tonight's **Tool Time Labs** for one-on-one discussions of your specific issues

Consulting services available

GET IN TOUCH



Questions?





Bonus Material

Ensure Dependencies Are Found

find_package(SomeProj 2.3)

find_dependency(...)

See "Exporting Targets" slide (2 after this one) include(\${CMAKE_CURRENT_LIST_DIR}/SomeProj-Targets.cmake)

Craig Scott

SomeProjConfig.cmake

SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake







Config File Location

include(GNUInstallDirs) set(SomeProj_INSTALL_CMAKEDIR \${CMAKE_INSTALL_LIBDIR}/cmake/SomeProj CACHE STRING "Path to SomeProj cmake files"

install(FILES SomeProjConfig.cmake \${CMAKE_CURRENT_BINARY_DIR}/SomeProjConfigVersion.cmake DESTINATION \${SomeProj_INSTALL_CMAKEDIR}







Exporting Targets

*

install(TARGETS Example EXPORT SomeProj_Targets **INCLUDES DESTINATION** \${CMAKE_INSTALL_INCLUDEDIR}

. # Other lines as discussed in the main part of the talk install(EXPORT SomeProj_Targets DESTINATION \${SomeProj_INSTALL_CMAKEDIR} *# See previous slide* SomeProj:: *# See next slide* NAMESPACE SomeProj-Targets.cmake FILE SomeProj_Development COMPONENT







Alias Library Matching Exported Target

add_library(SomeProj_Example ...)

Exported target has SomeProj:: namespace prepended (see previous # slide), so we drop the project-specific prefix from the exported name set_target_properties(SomeProj_Example PROPERTIES EXPORT_NAME Example)

Create alias to match exported name of target, consuming projects can # use that name whether they use find_package() or add_subdirectory() add_library(SomeProj::Example ALIAS SomeProj_Example)





Useful References

Symbol visibility

- https://gcc.gnu.org/wiki/Visibility





http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2016/p0276r0.html

http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2018/p1283r0.html







Useful References

RPATH

https://gms.tf/ld_library_path-considered-harmful.html

https://developercommunity.visualstudio.com/idea/566616/support-rpath-for-binaries-during-development.html

https://akkadia.org/drepper/dsohowto.pdf



Everything you ever wanted to know about shared libraries (and also things you didn't)



