10 Tips for Simulator Software Configuration Management

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CONFIG CONTROL: WHY?

Performance.

Perception.
MYTH: IT’S MORE WORK

FACT: It saves you time.
Following the correct process should also be the easiest path.
record all the work you do*

* That is, write a work request for every last thing.
define your business rules
FOUR

categorize your work: flexibly

cautions: your categories may change
Always know what software you have
define build sources and targets

"sources" > just models
config control all sources
don’t forget data files
test and release software

don't patch*

* unless is really easy and safe** but still document stuff, okay?

** seriously: don't make a habit of it.
the same sources:
should always run the same
if it doesn't, something's broken
config control one symbolic IC,
generate the rest with scripts

anything else becomes chaos
ELEVEN

have a release process

define your tests, log the results

scan results for errors electronically
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**Work Management**

- Web based system
- Perl
- Developed 1996-
- Custom written
- Easily modified

Diagram:

- Work management
  - Configuration control
    - Software build
      - Software release
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Software Config Management

Perforce (Commercial)
Very robust
Some learning curve
Many free alternatives now!
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"simbuild"
Perl
Iteratively runs Makefiles with progressive targets
“Blank disk builds”
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formal releases
auto-IC generation
data collection
auto result
comparison
release
documentation
Questions?

You are invited to come to Toronto for an industry peer visit.