

Tagging Might Not Be Slower Than Filing in Folders

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tagstore provides a **flexible testing framework** for various aspects of **tagging**.

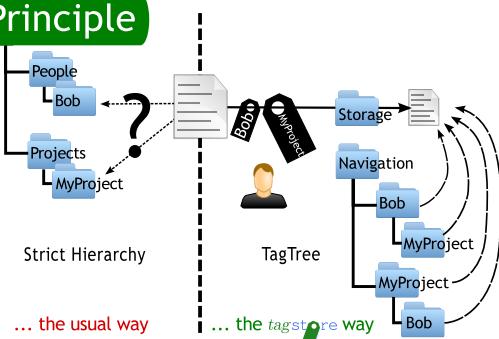
Tags are mapped to subfolders of the navigation folder(s) in every possible permutation: **TagTrees**.

Symbolic links link back to the original item in the central storage folder.

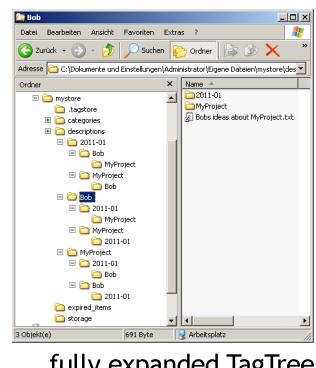
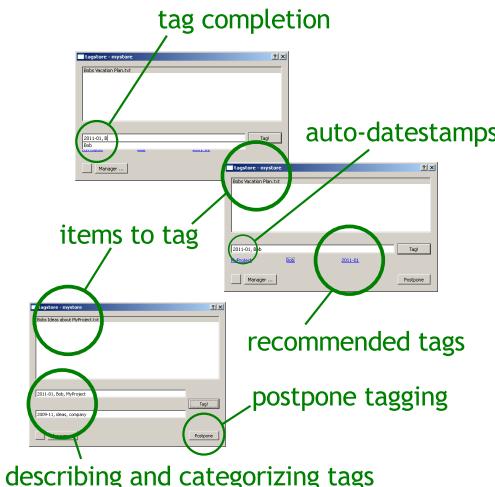
Flexible configuration supports testing different settings such as **multiple taglines** and **controlled vocabularies**.

re-finding
tagging
information.retrieval
information.architecture
folder.hierarchy
multilanguage
expiry_dates
compatibility
controlled.vocabularies
flexible

Principle



Flexible Configuration



fully expanded TagTree

Experiment

18 test persons, repeated measures,
storing 30 test items in folder hierarchy and tagstore,
15 minutes break,
re-finding six items in hierarchy and tagstore

Filing In general: **filing in folders** is **faster**

Within fast performer group:
tagging with tagstore is **faster**

folder hierarchy vs. tags

one tagline, no controlled vocabulary

two taglines, no controlled vocabulary

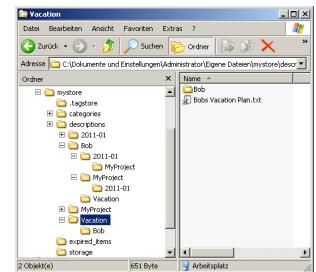
one tagline, controlled vocabulary

two taglines, controlled vocabulary

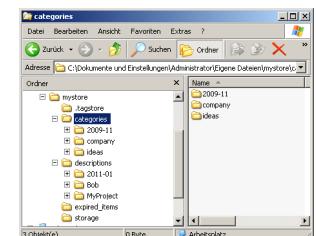
Re-finding No notable speed difference

Much fewer **mouse clicks** when
re-finding **within TagTrees**

Acceptance **78%** of test persons would **prefer tagstore**
to their traditional folder hierarchy



TagTrees of two items



categories and descriptions
in a TagTree

Multi-Platform



License



distribute freely
Open Source (GPL v3)

Multi-Language



Agile Development

Compatibility



any existing
software
no database used

Convenient

tag completion
tag recommendations
auto datestamps
auto expiry dates

Selected References

Voit, Andrews, Slany:
"Why Personal Information Management (PIM) Technologies Are Not Widespread"
PIM09 Workshop, November 2009, Canada, Vancouver

Voit, Andrews, Slany:
"TagTree: Storing and Re-finding Files using Tags"
USAB 2011, November 2011, Graz, Austria

Voit, Andrews, Slany:
"Creating a Comparative Environment for PIM Evaluation"
PIM 2012, February 2012, Seattle, WA, USA

<http://tagstore.org/>

