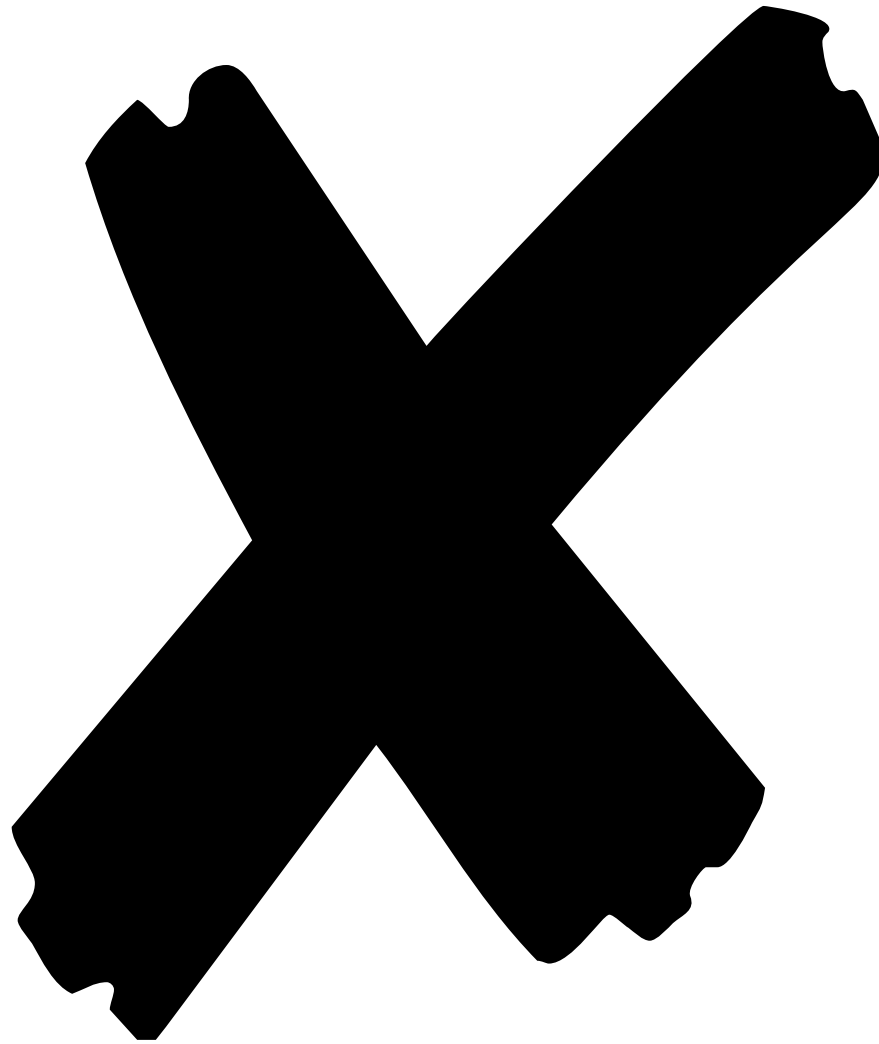


Presentations with PDF::Writer

Austin Ziegler

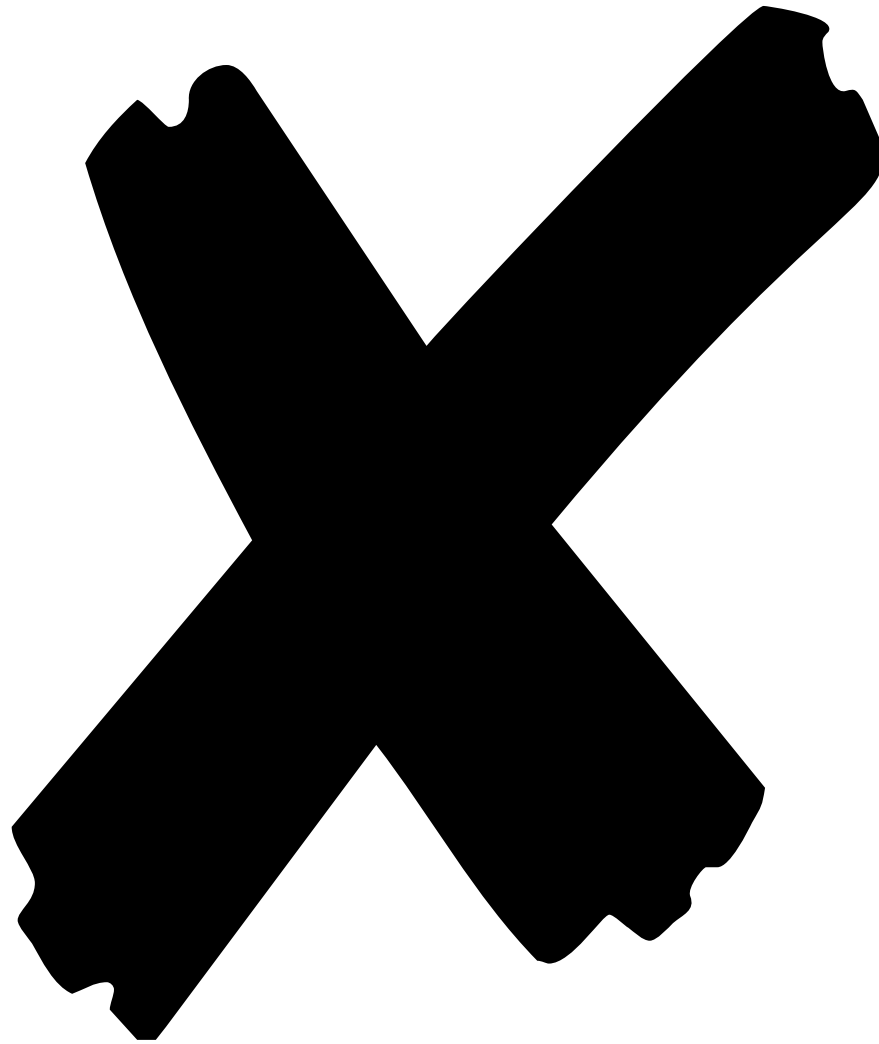
2005.10.15



*This presentation is **NOT**...*

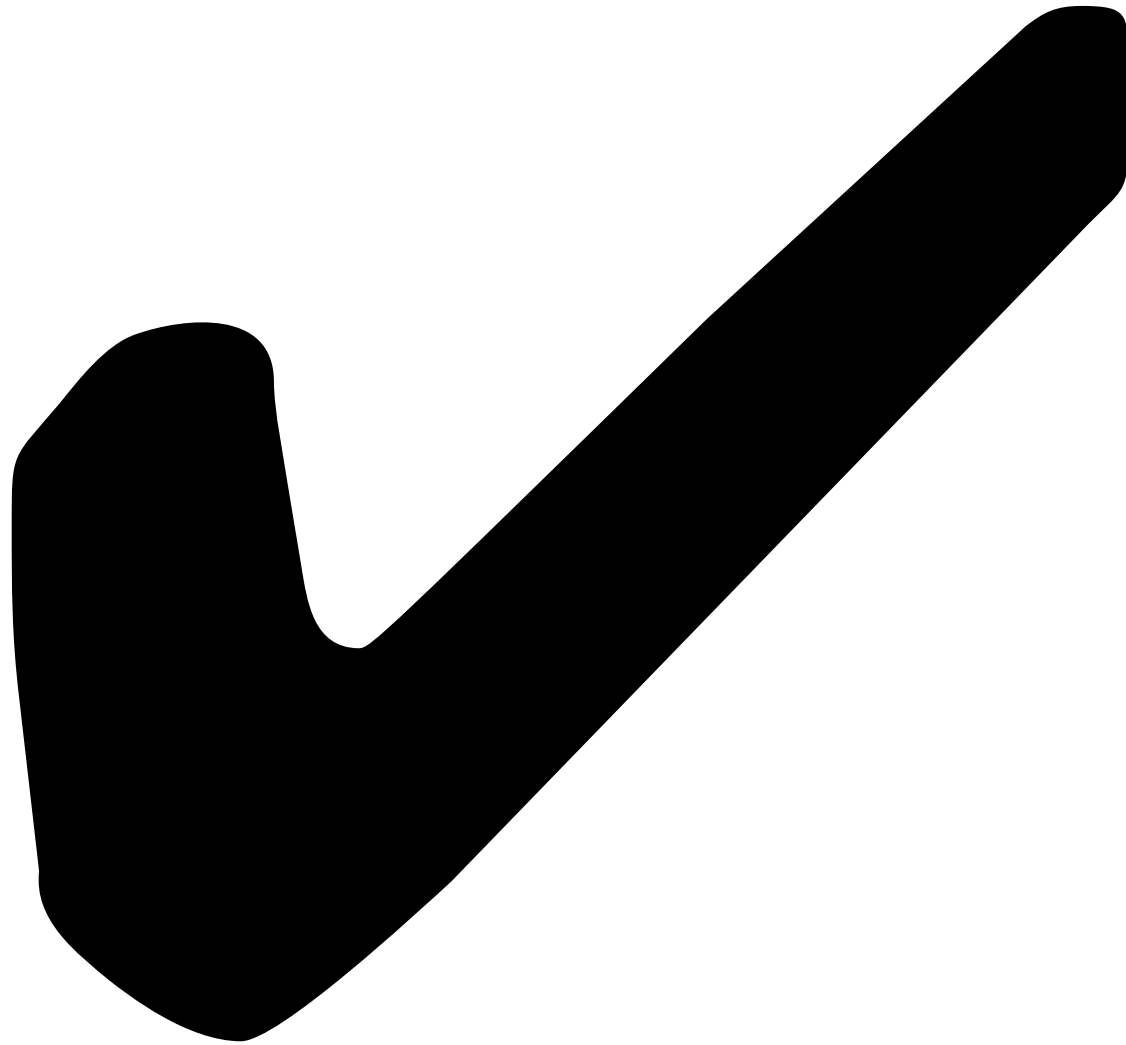
This presentation is *not*...

- ◉ ...an introduction to PDF::Writer
 - ◉ Read *Ruby Code & Style* for that
- ◉ ...an introduction to the PDF::Presentation API:
 - ◉ ...it's not stable anyway.
 - ◉ ...some internal APIs are changed incompatibly, too.



...a rant about packaging or benchmarks. (:

This presentation IS...



This presentation *is*...

- ...an architectural overview of PDF::Writer...
 - Including mistakes made and fixed.
- ...API design and exposure considerations.
- ...an advanced view of this 6,000loc project.
- ...information on future directions.

PDF Overview

- PDF is a well-specified (>1200 page reference) **open** document format.
 - It's a descendant of PostScript™, but *very different*.
- Has several basic types:
 - boolean, number, string, name, array, dictionary, stream
 - any object can be an *indirect* object

PDF Overview

- PDF::Writer currently supports about 50% of the 1.6 specification; the target is about 85% - 90%.
- Current implementation is mostly indirect objects.
- *There is no C except Ruby itself.*

Architectural Evolution

- Technology Preview (September 2003)
 - ◉ Initially ported from cPDF for PHP.
 - ◉ Mostly hand coded, still had a heavy PHP-influenced API.
 - ◉ Buggy. Very buggy.

Architectural Evolution

- ◉ 1.0–1.1.x (June – September 2005)
 - ◉ Heavily refactored API—much more Ruby-like. Broke a number of APIs from the technology preview.
 - ◉ Much less buggy, but still some bugs to be fixed.
- ◉ 1.2 (October/November 2005)
 - ◉ New page numbering scheme.
 - ◉ SVG import!

Architectural Evolution

- ◉ 1.5 (Q1 2006)
 - ◉ Core API changes break some published APIs.
 - ◉ Reduced code overhead, smarter type handling.
 - ◉ PDF::Presentation released.
- ◉ 2.0 (Q3 2006)
 - ◉ Heavy metaprogramming for PDF type handling.
 - ◉ Should enable the existence of PDF::Reader.

Demos

Questions?