uSync - Content Edition

How to use

uSync will create a new tab on the content dashboard.

There is an export and import button.

- Export writes it all to disk
- Import reads it all from disk.

To move between installations copy the /uSync.Content/ folder

You have to copy the _source.xml and _import.xml they have mapping id's in them.

Status: experimental

uSync - Content edition has been developed to compliment uSync the database to disk and back tool for developers. Content edition tries to do for content what uSync does for the other elements of Umbraco.

Content Edition Features

1. Write all your site content out to disk in a folder structure representing the structure of the site.
2. Read from an existing structure and build the content inside Umbraco.

ID Mapping

The biggest issue moving content between Umbraco installations is the mapping of IDs – everything in Umbraco has an ID assigned to it when it's created. If you create the same thing on two Umbraco installations chances are the IDs will be different.

When moving content between Umbraco installations you need to do something about changing IDs.

Content Edition attempts to track the IDs by:

1. Writing ID/GUID pairs out at export time
2. Mapping new IDs/GUID to the source pairs during import
3. Working through imported content properties mapping IDs from old to new as they are found.

This means things like internal links and content picked node values are maintained between sites when you move content.

Known issues

1. Other ID mapping

   Mapping of other ID values (like prevalues in dropdown lists) is not yet in place – so you lose those settings on content between sites.

2. Media

   Content Edition doesn't sync media between installations yet

3. All or nothing

   This version of uSync Content Edition has two buttons, import or export. You can't pick to import or export a bit of the site.

uSync Content Edition Isn't:

1. Courier: it's not designed for publishing or segmented deployment, its main purpose is to enable developers to pull down the content from a site for testing purposes.

2. Something that will work without other tools: Content Edition only copies content, it assumes that you've already got all the same templates, document types, macros, etc. on the source installation, you will need to do that somehow (uSync does this ☺)

3. Finished: again at this stage uSync Content Edition is experimental, I am trying out concepts to see how it works. It has been released to seek feedback, don't put this into production and then blame me.