

# Keeping Track of Changes: Version Control and “Diff” Tools

- No easy way to track changes in Excel
- CVS or SVN version control could work on excel files
- No “diff” or “XXdiff” for excel to compare changes
- Limited search of the internet for low cost add-ins that perform these functions, must have free trial downloads
- Avoided large and costly systems that track all MS office file types
  - This might be useful for project (i.e. contracts)



# Compare Suite

- This tool must convert to text, then make the comparison
  - As such not very useful
- Nothing further to say
- <http://www.comparesuite.com/download.htm>
- [http://www.comparesuite.com/solutions/compare\\_utilities\\_review/compare-files-excel.htm](http://www.comparesuite.com/solutions/compare_utilities_review/compare-files-excel.htm)



# DiffEngineX

- DiffEngineX by Florence software
- Liked this tool
- Exports difference report
- <http://www.floressoft.com/index.html>
- Works on formula or value
- Output report of changes
- Tested on NGAO WFE
- Cost \$89

The screenshot displays the DiffEngineX interface. At the top, two spreadsheets are shown side-by-side: 'original1' and 'modified1'. Below them is a large window titled 'Worksheet Comparison (Formulae): original1!Sheet1 & modified1!Sheet1', which contains a detailed report of differences between the two sheets.

**original1**

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Name	Address		Start Date		
2	Charlie	4 Univ Way		12-Jan-01		
3						
4	John	10 Pike Str		04-Mar-97		
5	Paul	11 Fourth Ave		24-Nov-03		
6	Bob	4 Broadway		08-Oct-96		
7						
8						

**modified1**

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Name	Address	Email	Start Date		
2	Charlie	22 Pine Street	charlie@local	12-Jan-01		
3	Jane	3 E. Madison	jane@acme	29-May-05		
4	John	10 Pyke Street	john@loop	04-Mar-97		
5	Paul	11 Fourth Ave	paul@root			
6						
7						
8						

**Worksheet Comparison (Formulae): original1!Sheet1 & modified1!Sheet1**  
Generated: 12 November 2008 22:02:59 by Floressoft DiffEngineX


Number of cell differences: 14

Range	Cell contents on 1st Sheet	Cell contents on 2nd Sheet
SC\$1		Email
SB\$2	4 Univ Way	22 Pine Street
SA\$3		charlie@local
SB\$3		Jane
SC\$3		3 E. Madison
SD\$3		jane@acme
SB\$4	10 Pike Str	29/05/2005 00:00
SC\$4		10 Pyke Street
SD\$4		john@loop
SC\$5		paul@root
SD\$5	24/11/2003 00:00	
SA\$6	Bob	
SB\$6	4 Broadway	
SD\$6	08/10/1996 00:00	



# Synkronizer

- Synkronizer by XL Consulting
- <http://www.synkronizer.com/>
- Works on excel (value or formula) and VBA
- Most expensive \$100-\$200 euro
- Nice product
- Tested on NGAO WFE

Difference Report			
Comparison type: Values		13.10.2006 20:38	
Data1.xls	Data2.xls		
H:\Data1.xls 13.10.2006 20:36:49	H:\Data2.xls 13.10.2006 20:36:58		
<b>synchronized worksheets</b>		these worksheets were compared	
▼ Controlling	▼ Controlling		
<b>worksheets: controlling / controlling (10)</b>		▲	
<b>deleted / added rows (1/0)</b>		these rows were found in only one of the worksheets	
<u>row 47</u>			
<b>different values (9)</b>		these cells have different values	
<u>F17</u>	691	<u>F17</u>	
<u>D48</u>	-20'505	<u>D47</u>	-20'503
<u>G50</u>	114	<u>G49</u>	115
<u>D51</u>	-47'553	<u>D50</u>	-47'556
<u>E53</u>	37'055	<u>E52</u>	37'056
<u>C58</u>	67'680	<u>C57</u>	67'686
<u>H58</u>	1'860	<u>H57</u>	1'864
<u>C61</u>	68'445	<u>C60</u>	68'444
<u>E61</u>	60'370	<u>E60</u>	60'372



# EasyVersionControl

- Excel version control tool
- <http://www.easyversioncontrol.com/>
- Lock up excel files, password control
- Notify user if using old “version”
- Only need one “master” or “publisher” license (\$100)
- Track if files have changed



# Discussion

- Any questions?

