USD AT REMEDY

How Remedy uses USD in its next generation game development pipelines



REMEDY HISTORY



REMEDY TODAY



REMEDY'S TECHNOLOGY

REMEDY STORYTELLING TECHNOLOGY

PROPRIETARY ENGINE AND TOOLING (NORTHLIGHT)

• World Editor, Game Engine, Data Pipelines, etc.

PROPRIETARY DATA FORMATS

- Level/World data, Markup, Materials, etc.
- Interop with DCCs through import/export

NEW EDITOR

- Built from the ground up
- USD based

THE EDITOR



WHY USD

Scalability

- Growing teams and content
 - Composition arcs
 - Flexible VCS workflows
- DCC interoperability
- Data portability

Consolidation

• Unify similar concepts: levels, prefabs, archetypes, presets

Performance

- Asset loading
- Large worlds

USD + NORTHLIGHT ARCHITECTURE

- Tools framework (OmniTool) in .NET/C#
- Game (runtime engine) in C++
- USD stages synced between processes



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 - Layer diffs applied as live-edits
 - Uses SdfLayerStateDelegate



USD + NORTHLIGHT ARCHITECTURE

- Tools framework (OmniTool) in .NET/C#
- Game (runtime engine) in C++
- USD stages synced between processes
 - Layer diffs applied as live-edits
 - Uses SdfLayerStateDelegate
- USD not included in final build
 - Used only at edit-time



WHY NO RUNTIME USD AT REMEDY

- No support for non-desktop platforms
 - PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X|S, Switch, etc...
- USD should be optimized for content creation on desktop
 - Composition only at edit-time
 - Data transformation/baking for runtime
- Rewriting the runtime was a no-go zone
- Live-editing over import/export/stage reloading workflows
- Flattened "scene" at runtime, no hierarchy is needed (ECS vs Scene Graph)

COMMUNICATION FLOW – LAYER EDITS



COMMUNICATION FLOW - COMMANDS



no

CONTENT - NOW

 Mesh and other "source" data are asset paths in applied schema attributes

▲ MeshComponent		
Is Directional Shadow Caster	\checkmark	
Is Local Shadow Caster	\checkmark	
Is Reflection Object		
Is Visible Object	\checkmark	
Transparent Sort Category	Mesh	
Cutoff Screen Size Override	-1	4 Þ
Lod Scale	-1	4 Þ
Transparent Sort Offset	0	4 10
Mesh Source	👔 sourcedata\objects\characters\humans\shared_male_publish.fbx	×
Material Set	🏦 default	- 🕥
Scale	X 1.00 → Y 1.00 → Z 1.00	4 1-

n^o

CONTENT - NOW

- Mesh and other "source" data are asset paths in applied schema attributes
- Only World/Entity concepts can be composed
 - No opinions on meshes, material attributes, etc.

OPINION	IS 🗙					
				Ŧ		
• •						
▶ ♦						
▲ ♦	playe	r_character.usda				
	🔶 ba		Defined		ا لا	×
►	?	AnimationSystemComponent				
Þ	?	Non-grouped				
►	?	CharacterLookAtComponent				
►	?	FactionComponent				
4	1 ?	MeshComponent				
		P Mesh Source	@sourcedata:objects\characters\humans\shared_male_publish.fbx@			×
		meshComponent:m_strMaterialSet	default			×
4	• ?	InventoryComponent				
		🕈 Weapon bundle	set: /basic_player/basic_pistol_template			×
Þ	?	RagdollControllerComponent				
•	?	scriptPrototypeComponent				

CONTENT - NOW

- Mesh and other "source" data are asset paths in applied schema attributes
- Only World/Entity concepts can be composed
 - No opinions on meshes, material attributes, etc.
- Monolithic Data
 - Character geo & skeletons, environment assets, etc.



CONTENT - MIGRATION

- Existing data via custom plugins
- Data transformation for USD layers
 - Ingests USD and current data
 - Easy to extend



CONTENT - MIGRATION

- Existing data via custom plugins
- Data transformation for USD layers
 - Ingests USD and current data
 - Easy to extend
- Composable source assets*
 - Modular chunks
 - Opinions on source data

```
def EntityNode "SomeAsset" (
 prepend apiSchemas = ["MeshComponentAPI"]
rel meshComponent:mesh = </SomeAsset/mesh root>
def Xform "mesh_root" (
    def "foo" (
        prepend references = @sourcedata:objects/foo.fbx@
        over "foo mesh"
            double3 xformOp:translate = (10, 0, 0)
    def "bar" (
        prepend references = @sourcedata:objects/bar.fbx@
        over "bar_mesh"
            double3 xformOp:translate = (20, 0, 0)
```

• Most data as USD



- Most data as USD
- Reusable assets across projects and engine



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- No filesystem



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- USD and DCC Plugins, Schemas,... installed on demand, per project



- Most data as USD
- Reusable assets across projects and engine
- No filesystem
- USD and DCC Plugins, Schemas,... installed on demand, per project
- Live Editing with DCCs

LIVE EDITING CONTENT



WORKING GROUP TOPICS

- Hierarchy iterative restructuring (deletion, moving, relationships, etc...)
- Schema changes/additions and hotloading
- Variant introspection
- Current Edit Target editable content introspection
- List-editing uniform properties?
 - E.g., composing multiple skeletons into one
- Missing schemas like Cloth/Destruction/Animation Curves



For more details, ask us on slack!

