

POSDA Installation Instructions

Bill Bennett, May 5, 2008

Introduction

POSDA is written in `perl`. As such it has an `include` directory, which contains `perl` modules, and a `bin` directory which contains `perl` programs. It also contains a `psv` directory which contains pipe separated values defining the DICOM data dictionaries of various kinds, an `sql` directory which contains schema for various databases (the `sql` has been tested for `postgresql` only), and a `config` directory which contains some sample configuration files for some of the `perl` programs. Finally, it contains a `doc` directory, which contains documentation (including this very document, `PosdaInstallation.pdf`). You might want to look at some of the other documents in the `doc` directory. You might start with `PosdaOverview.pdf`. Just a suggestion.

To me, installing POSDA seems so simple that it doesn't seem worth my time to write installation scripts. Its basically just a matter of "untar it, copy it, and run it." Some more detailed instructions follow, for UNIX and for Windows. If this scares you, then perhaps POSDA is not for you.

Since I'm basically a UNIX guy, you may have to solve some problems for Windows (If you do, let me know, and I'll try to incorporate any hints you may have into this document.)

Installing POSDA on UNIX or LINUX

You might want to skip to the section labeled “Quick Install” below.

POSDA is packaged in a single tar file, `Posda.tar`. To install POSDA, untar the file at an appropriate location. It will create the entire POSDA directory hierarchy. The `include` directory needs to be in the “perl include” (aka `$PERL5LIB`) path, and the `bin` directory needs to be in the “execution path” (aka `$PATH`).

You can set the “perl include” path in a number of ways:

1. Users often already have a local perl include path in their home directory (mine is called `~/include`, and I already have an entry in my `.profile` which sets it up:
`export PERL5LIB=$HOME/include:$PERL5LIB`
So I just copy the contents of the include file to `~/include`
2. If you don’t already have such an include directory, you can set one up by editing your `.profile` file and adding such a line to point include directory in the directory in which you untar’ed the tar file.
3. If you have root access, you can copy the include file to the ordinary directory for perl includes. The following perl script will reveal this location:
`perl -e 'for $i (@INC) {print "$i\n"}'`
Will print out something like the following:
`/sw/lib/perl5`
`/sw/lib/perl5/darwin`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/5.8.8/darwin-2level`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/5.8.8`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/site_perl/5.8.8/darwin-2level`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/site_perl/5.8.8`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/site_perl`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/vendor_perl/5.8.8/darwin-2level`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/vendor_perl/5.8.8`
`/opt/local/lib/perl5/vendor_perl`
Since POSDA is site related, and its not really related to a particular perl version choose `.../site_perl` and copy the contents of the include folder there.

The files in the `bin` directory aren’t yet marked as executable. Use `chmod` to make them executable:

```
chmod +x bin/*
```

You can set up the “execution path” in a number of ways:

1. If you already have a private `bin` directory, then you can just copy the contents of the untar’ed `bin` directory there
2. You can add a line to your `.profile` file to point to the `bin` directory in the directory into which the tar file was untar’ed.
3. If you have root privileges you can copy the contents of the `bin` directory to any directory in the root path. There are probably conventions on which directory to choose, but you would know better than I what they are.

Quick Install for UNIX/Linux

The easiest way to get POSDA set up for your personal use (using `bash`, not `tcsh`) is to do the following:

```
cd $HOME
mkdir Posda
cd Posda
wget http://posda.com/Posda.tar
tar -xvf Posda.tar
rm Posda.tar
chmod +x bin/*
export PERL5LIB=$HOME/Posda/include:$PERL5LIB
export PATH=$PATH:$HOME/Posda/bin
```

You also need to add the last two lines to your `.profile` to set up the path whenever you login.

If you use `tcsh`, then rather than `export`, use `setenv`:

```
setenv PERL5LIB $HOME/Posda/include:$PERL5LIB
setenv PATH $PATH:$HOME/Posda/bin
```

[However, if you use `tcsh`, then you probably also use `emacs` and are more of a Unix nerd than I (and are probably laughing at these silly instructions). So you can figure it out yourself....]

Installing POSDA on Windows

Must you? (Let me apologize for what appear to be the snide comments of a Mac fan boy. I'm really more of a UNIX fan boy, actually. I've just never had much luck with Windows, so I tend to shy away from it.)

OK, I have installed POSDA under Windows, but only under duress. Here's what I did:

1. First you need `perl`. I downloaded the latest from Active State (www.activestate.com).
2. Installed it, taking all of the defaults (IIRC, it default installs into `C:\Perl`, which is where it is currently residing on my PC).
3. I copied the `Posda.tar` file from a samba mount. However, I have been lead to believe that you can use `wget` from Windows, if you know how (I don't).
4. Untar'ed (using winzip) the `Posda.tar` file.
5. Copied the contents of the include directory to `C:\Perl\site\lib`
6. Copied the contents of the bin directory to `C:\Perl\site\bin`

I seem to remember some bad stuff relating to processing of command line parameters in versions of `perl` prior to 5.8. It didn't have anything to do with POSDA specifically, just didn't pass command line parameters into `perl` programs. (This is an example of the type of bad luck I have Windows. Nobody else seems to have these problems).