

Advanced Cloud Topics


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Cloud Based Events

- Timed gameplay changing events
 - The limited time draws players in
- Used to make your game “evergreen”
 - Retains players longer
 - Adds to the fun 😊

Gears of War



- Gears of War 2
 - Used to make gameplay balancing changes
 - Primarily, to create custom Horde events
- Gears of War 3
 - Added the ability to change standard game modes
 - Restrict weapons or change which ones were present
 - Allowed for custom playlists for matchmaking

Infinity Blade

- Infinity Blade 2
 - Used to support social challenges, ClashMobs
 - Custom INI files detailing the challenges
- Infinity Blade 3
 - Added the ability to patch configuration settings
 - Used to run special helmet events
 - IAP sales
 - The treasure chest in the Hideout

Overview

- Cloud Service to deliver files
- Game support to download files
- Game support to merge files into game

Cloud Service

- System (game) cloud storage
 - Upload of files with start/stop times
 - Listing of files with full meta data
 - Serving of files to game client

Game Downloader

- Reads list of files from the Cloud Service
 - Verifies signatures to detect out of date files
 - Catches tampered with files too
- Downloads any missing files
 - Caches files to device with per device encryption
 - Optimization to reduce server bandwidth costs

Game Merging

- Gets the list of event files
- For each file, determines how to merge
 - INI & loc files get merged into the config cache
 - Content files replace/add to existing

Caveats

- Game must design for this
 - Must make sure that game is data driven via INI or DataTable objects
 - Takes planning from the beginning
- Not everything can be updated
 - E.g. very early engine config values

Questions?

Documentation, Tutorials, and Help at:

- AnswerHub: <http://answers.unrealengine.com>
- Engine Documentation: <http://docs.unrealengine.com>
- Official Forums: <http://forums.unrealengine.com>
- Community Wiki: <http://wiki.unrealengine.com>
- YouTube Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/user/UnrealDevelopmentKit>
- Community IRC: #unrealengine on FreeNode

Unreal Engine 4 Roadmap

- imgtfy.com/?q=Unreal+engine+Trello+