

## BSoft RSS Builder Tutorial

---

Introduction: Downloading and Installing the RSS Builder .....	1
Step 1: Creating a New Feed.....	2
Step 2: Defining Fields for a Feed .....	2
Step 3: Adding Topics to a Feed .....	3
Step 4: Defining Fields for a Topic.....	4
Step 5: Specifying the Topic Location .....	4
Step 6: Saving, Viewing, and Updating Your Feed .....	5

### *Introduction: Downloading and Installing the RSS Builder*

**RSS Builder** is an easy to use program to create RSS news feeds and podcasts. It provides a simple interface that lets you add topics, links, content, and enclosures, then publish the RSS (v2.0) feed to your web server using an FTP client. This tutorial shows you step-by-step how to create an RSS feed and add podcasts to that feed. If you have not done so already, you will need to create a website, possibly using a web development application such as Dreamweaver, and find an online location to host your website. As an instructor or student, you already have some space available on the UIC server. You can use an FTP Client such as Filezilla or SSH Secure Shell to upload web pages, audio files, video files, and the RSS feed file onto your webspace in order to make your feed available to users.

**RSS Builder** is available for free download at the following website: [home.hetnet.nl/~bsoft/rssbuilder/](http://home.hetnet.nl/~bsoft/rssbuilder/)

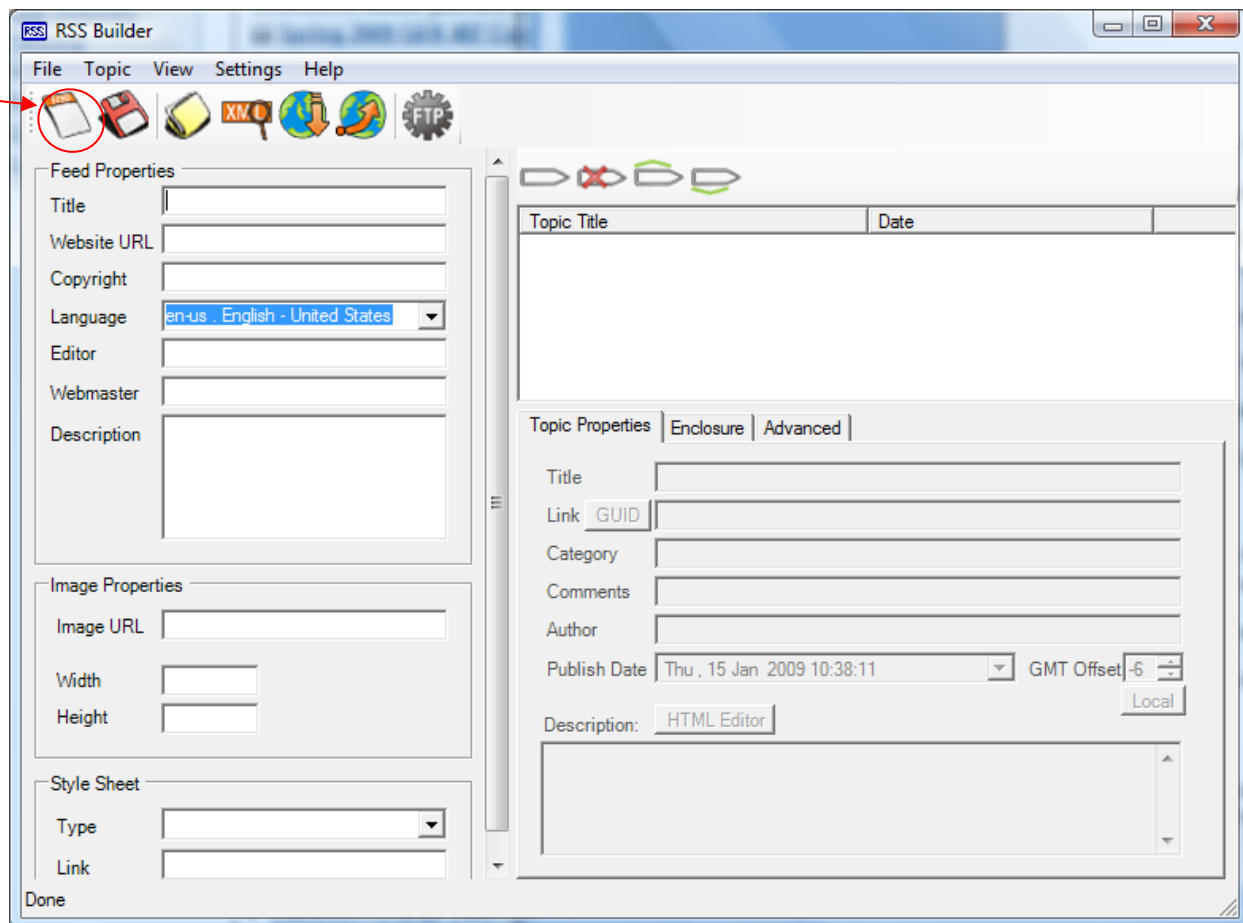
Choose **Download RSS Builder > Download >Download** and follow the directions on how to download and install the RSS Builder.

Double click on the **Setup File** to open it, then choose **RSSBuilderSetup**, which will open the RSS Builder Setup Wizard. Follow the steps to install the program on your computer.

After you have successfully installed the RSS Builder, start the application and begin setting up a feed.

## Step 1: Creating a New Feed

Click **File > New Feed** or the first icon on the left to begin creating a new feed.



## Step 2: Defining Fields for a Feed

Fill in the fields with the following information:

**Title:** Insert a brief description of the channel or just a catchy title for the feed.

**Website URL:** Insert a URL that links to a webpage that provides more information about the feed. You will need to create this webpage and upload it onto the Internet.

**Copyright:** Insert copyright information if applicable (optional).

**Language:** Indicate the language being used in your feed.

**Editor and Webmaster:** Insert email addresses of the Editor and the Webmaster (optional).

**Description:** Insert detailed information about the feed and the publisher of the feed.

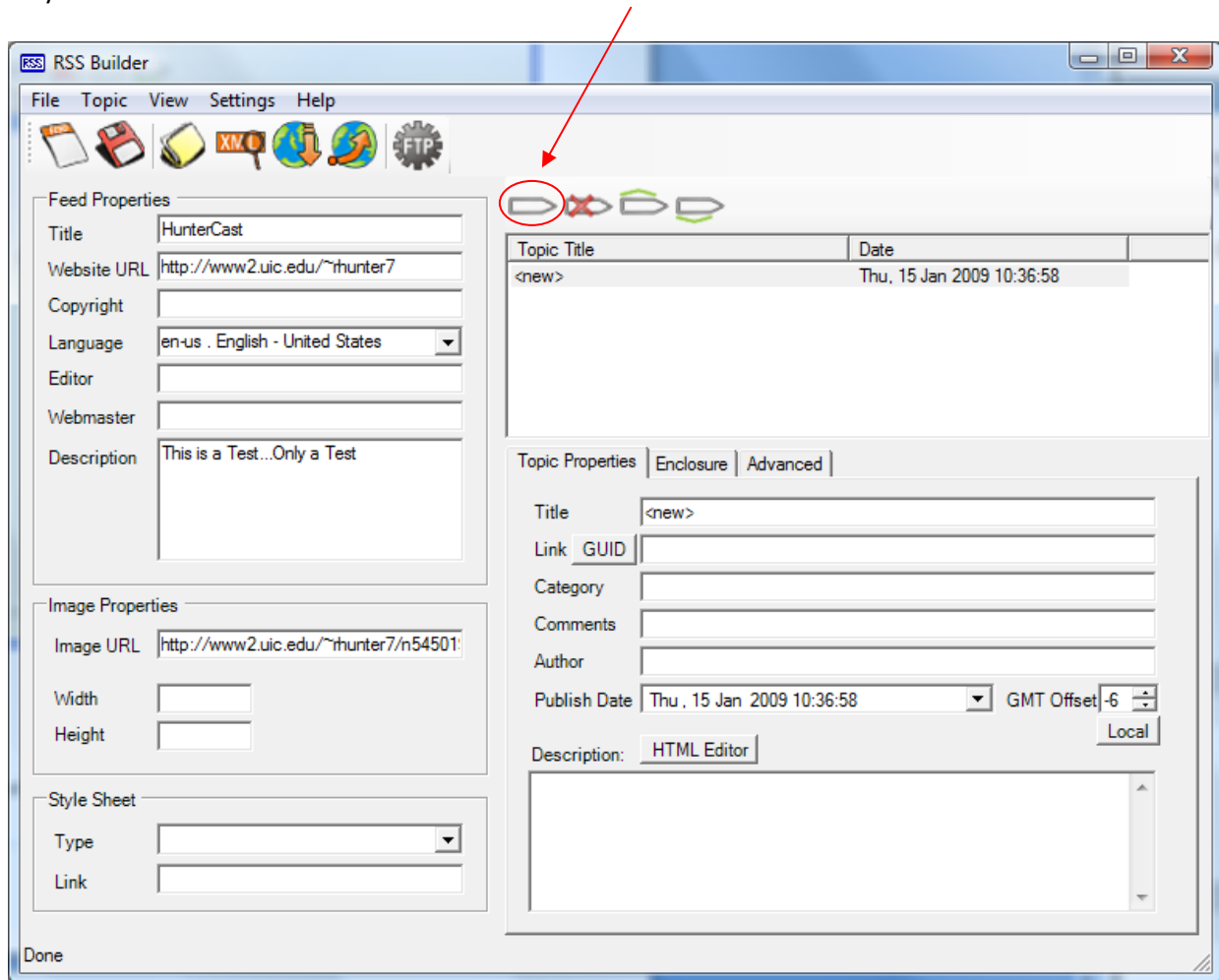
**Image URL:** Insert a URL that links to an image that will appear on your feed. If you are using an image saved on your computer, you will need to upload it onto the Internet.

**Width & Height:** These fields are optional; you can adjust the size of the image by inserting different variables.

**Style Sheet Type and Link:** In this section, you can provide a link to a XLS or CSS style sheet you would like to use for your RSS feed. A few are available for free online or you can create your own and upload them to your webspace (optional).

### Step 3: Adding Topics to a Feed

At the top of the right side of the dialog box, click **the first of the four buttons** to create the first topic or podcast episode on your feed.



## Step 4: Defining Fields for a Topic

Fill in the fields with the following information:

**Title:** Insert a brief description or the title of the podcast episode.

**Link:** Insert a URL that links to an audio or video file you are including in the podcast. This file should already be available online or uploaded onto your webspace.

**Category:** Assign a Category, such as news, sports, or education, to your podcast (optional).

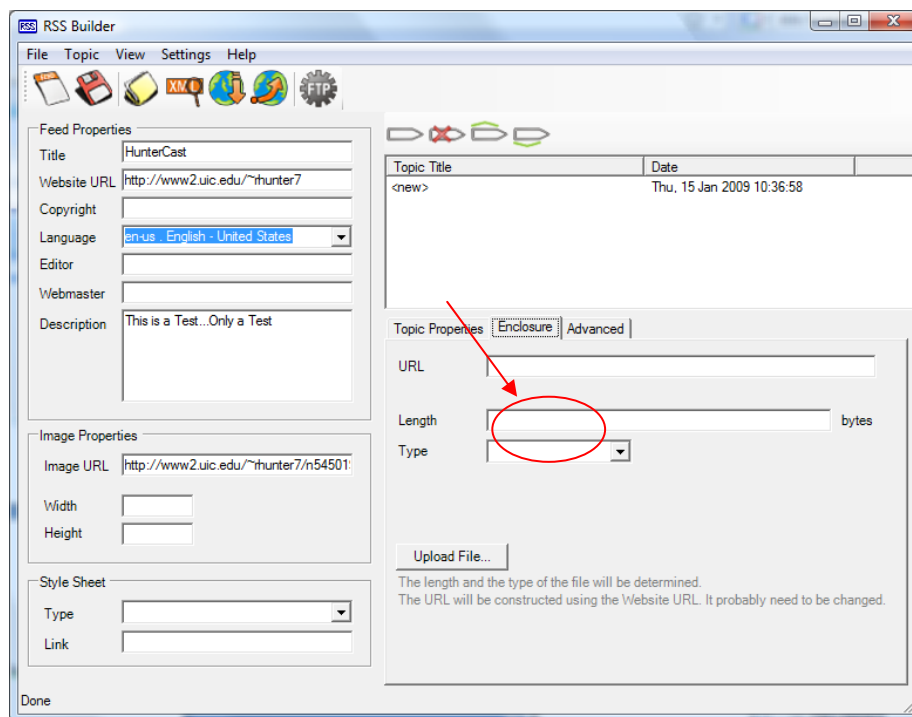
**Comments:** Insert a URL that links to a webpage that provides comments. You will need to create this webpage and upload it onto the Internet.

**Author:** Insert the Author's email address (optional).

**Description:** Insert detailed information about the audio or video podcast. Click on the **HTML Editor** button to see how the text will appear on the webpage and make changes as required.

## Step 5: Specifying the Topic Location

Click on the **Enclosure** tab and fill in the **URL** box with the link to the audio or video file you are including in the podcast. This file should already be available online or uploaded onto your webspace.



Repeat Steps 4 and 5 to upload additional podcasts to your website.

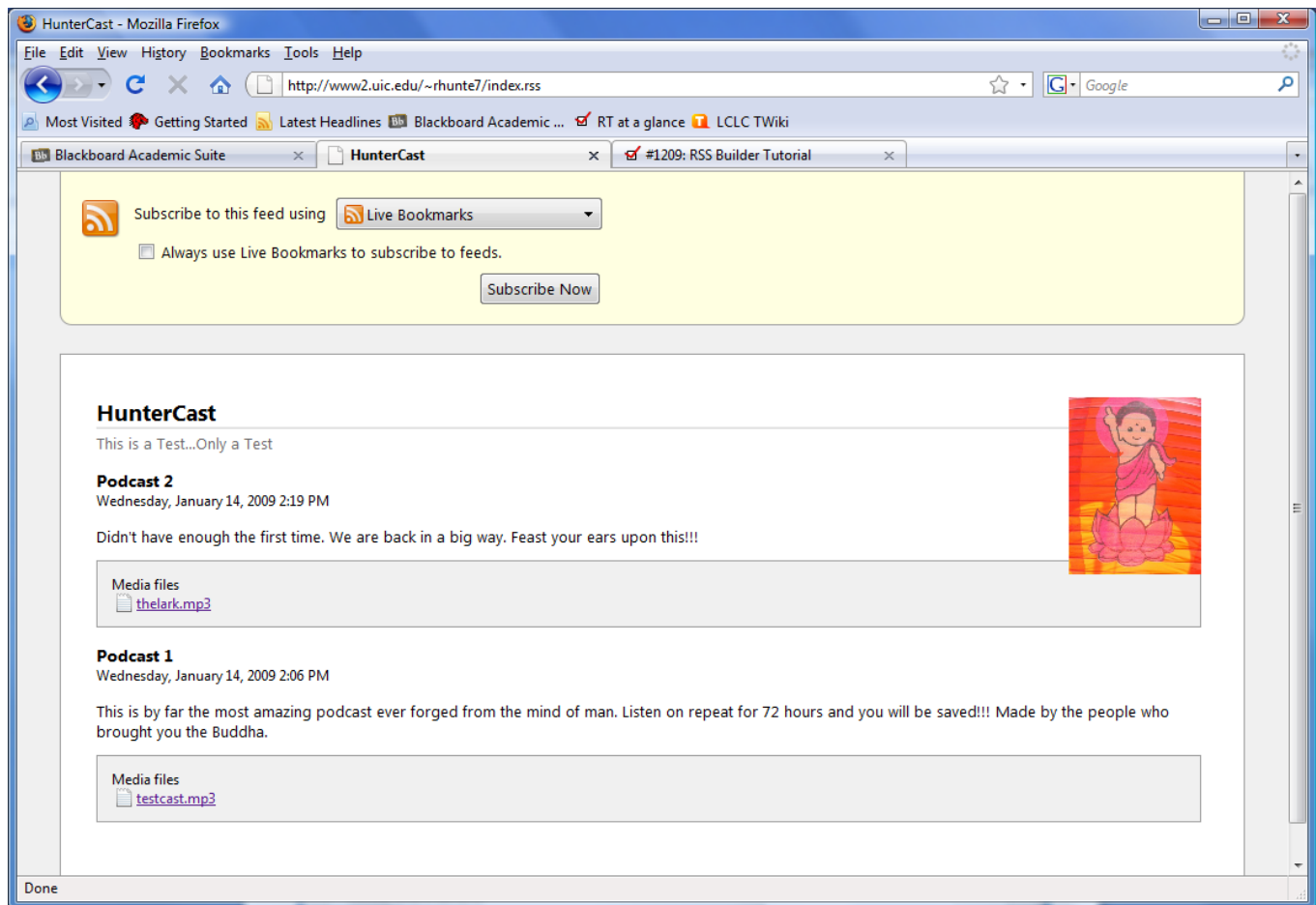
## Step 6: Saving, Viewing, and Updating Your Feed

Click **File > Save Feed As** and save your channel as an RSS feed.

Now you can upload this RSS file onto your webspace and users will be able to access your feed and podcasts.

After creating this basic format for a feed, you can continue to update the feed and add more podcasts with the RSS Builder. After you have updated the feed, simply replace the RSS file stored in your website.

After you upload your feed onto a website, it will look similar to the one below.



Now people can get easy access to your Rss Feed by visiting it and subscribing. They can choose to bookmark and subscribe to your RSS Feed using Live Feeds, RSS Aggregator, iTunes, Juice, or another application. Students will automatically receive updates whenever you add files or modify your feed in the RSS Builder and upload your updated RSS Feed onto your website.