

SEEITA RSS Channel Builder

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Introduction: What is a Channel Builder?

Downloading and Installing the RSS Channel Builder

A Channel Builder is a program that allows you to create a channel to upload onto the Internet in order to distribute your podcasts to users. If someone subscribes to your channel, he or she will be informed about updates and can receive new podcasts. The RSS Channel Builder is available to download with the RSS Aggregator, which is available for free download at the following website:

<http://www.seeita.com/RSSA/>

Choose **Download > Simple Install** and follow the directions on how to download and install the RSS Aggregator.

If this does not work, choose **Download > Manual Install** and follow alternative directions on how to install and download the RSS Aggregator.

After you have successfully installed the RSS Aggregator, open the **RSSBuild** file in the **RSS Aggregator** folder to start the application and begin setting up a channel.

This tutorial shows you step-by-step how to create a channel and add podcasts to that channel.

Step 1: Creating a New Channel

Click **File > New Channel** to begin creating a new channel.

The screenshot shows the 'RSS Channel Builder - New' window. It has a menu bar with 'File', 'Add', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar are two tabs: 'Channel' and 'Item'. The 'Channel' tab is selected. The form contains the following fields and controls:

- Version:** Three radio buttons for '0.91', '0.92', and '2.0'. '0.91' is selected.
- Title:** A text input field.
- Link:** A text input field with a 'Test' button to its right.
- Description:** A large text area with a vertical scrollbar.
- Language:** A dropdown menu with a 'Show description' button to its right.
- Image:** A sub-form with fields for 'URL', 'Width', 'Height', 'Title', and 'Link'. There are 'Test' buttons next to the 'URL' and 'Link' fields.
- Copyright:** A text input field.
- Updated:** A text input field with a 'Now' button to its right.
- Footer:** 'Press F1 for help with building RSS channels' and a 'Validate' button.

Step 2: Defining Fields for a Channel

Fill in the fields with the following information:

Version: Choose **Version 0.91** to make the most basic and accessible channel. You can examine the other versions capabilities in the Help Menu.

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

Link: Insert a URL that links to a webpage that provides more information about the channel. You will need to create this webpage and upload it onto the Internet. Click the **Test** button to see if the website opens properly.

Description: Insert detailed information about the channel and the publisher of the channel. Click the **Show description** Button to see if users will see description as you want it to appear.

Language: Indicate the language being used in your channel.

Image URL: Insert a URL that links to an image that will appear on your channel. If it is your own image on your computer, you will need to upload it onto the Internet. Click the **Test** Button to see if users will see the image as you want it to appear.

Image Width & Height: These fields will be automatically populated when you insert the **Image URL**, but you can adjust the size if needed by inserting different variables.

Image Title: Insert a title will appear in place of the image if users have set their internet browsers to not show images.

Image Link: Insert a URL that links to a website that provides more information about the channel when you click on the picture. This can be the same URL as the other channel **Link**. Click the **Test** button to see if the website opens properly.

Copyright: Insert optional copyright information if applicable.

Updated: Click the **Now** button to create the Updated Date users will see.

RSS Channel Builder - C:\Users\LCLC\Desktop\Hunter LCLC FOLDER\PODCASTING\New Folder\...

File Add Help

Channel Item

Version: 0.91 0.92 2.0

Title: English 101

Link: Test

Description: Learn English through audio and video presentations that explore American culture and day-to-day life. This channel is brought to you from the people at the LCLC.

Language: English (United States): en-us Show description

Image: URL: Test
Width: Height:
Title:
Link: Test

Copyright:

Updated: Now

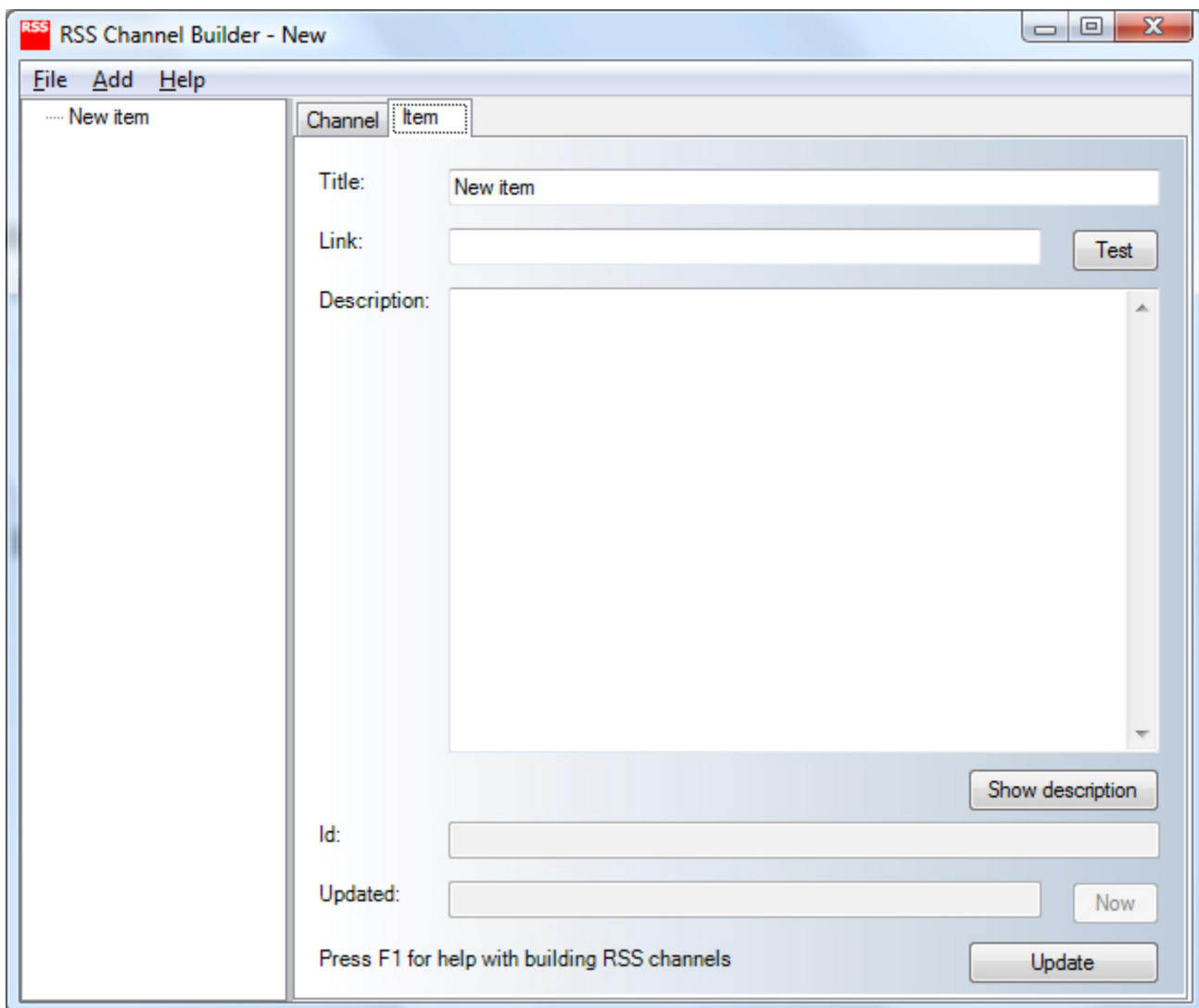
Press F1 for help with building RSS channels Validate

Step 3: Validating Channel Information

Click the **Validate** button to see if all of the fields are filled out properly. If you are missing any information, pop-up boxes will tell you what you need to do. Follow the information in the pop-up boxes until one pop-up box says "Channel details validate OK"

Step 4: Adding Items to a Channel

Click **Add > Item** to create the first entry or podcast episode on your channel.



The screenshot shows the 'RSS Channel Builder - New' application window. The window has a menu bar with 'File', 'Add', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar, there are two tabs: 'Channel' and 'Item', with 'Item' selected. The main area contains several input fields and buttons:

- Title:** A text box containing 'New item'.
- Link:** An empty text box with a 'Test' button to its right.
- Description:** A large text area with a vertical scrollbar. A 'Show description' button is located to the right of the text area.
- Id:** An empty text box.
- Updated:** An empty text box with a 'Now' button to its right.
- At the bottom, there is a text prompt: 'Press F1 for help with building RSS channels' and an 'Update' button.

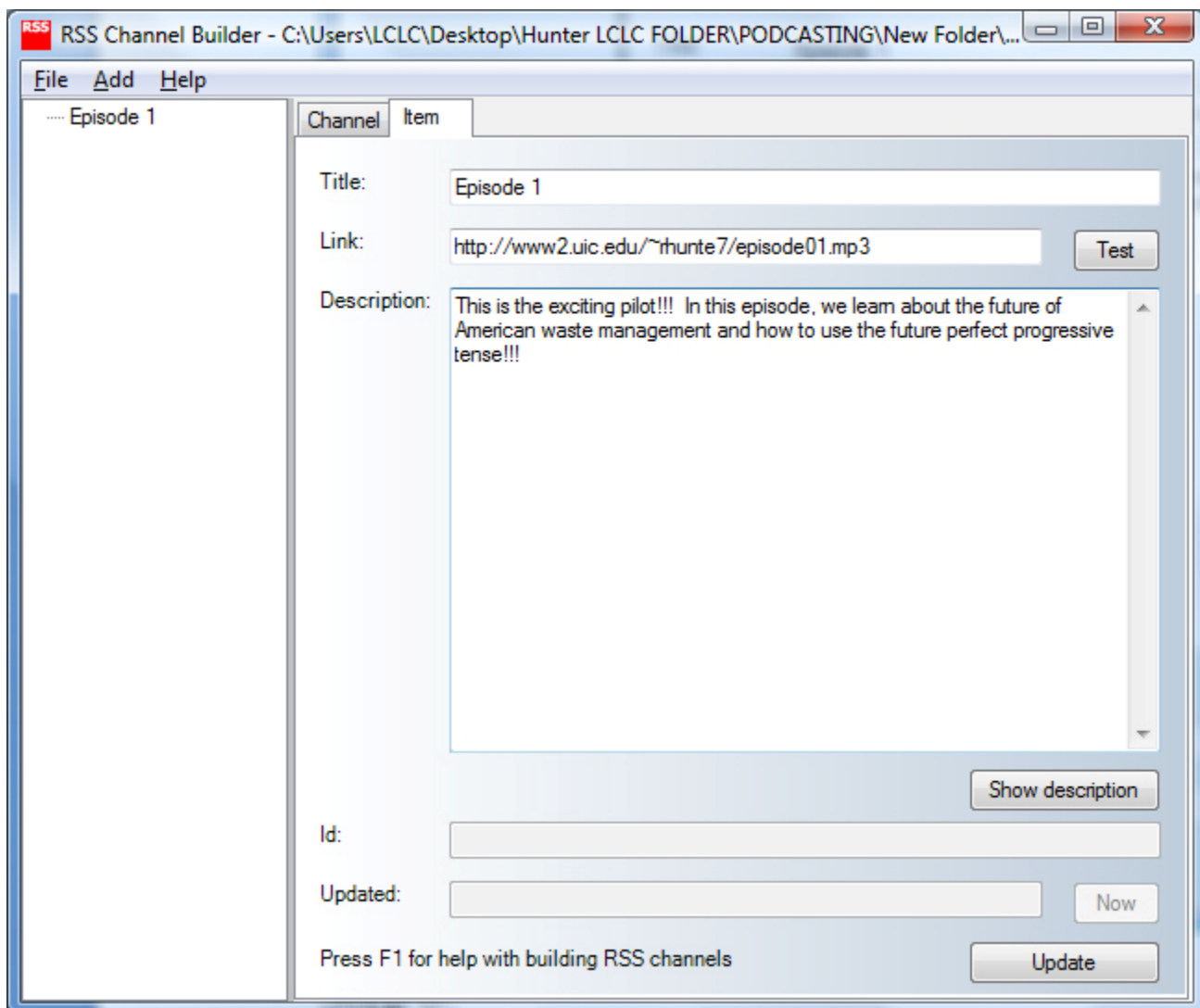
Step 5: Defining Fields for a Channel

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 the audio or video file for the podcast episode. If it is your own audio or video file on your computer, you will need to upload it onto the Internet. Click the **Test** Button to see if users will be able to successfully access the audio or video file.

Description: Insert detailed information about the audio or video podcast. Click the **Show description** Button to see if users will see description as you want it to appear.



The screenshot shows the 'RSS Channel Builder' application window. The title bar reads 'RSS Channel Builder - C:\Users\LCLC\Desktop\Hunter LCLC FOLDER\PODCASTING\New Folder\...'. The menu bar includes 'File', 'Add', and 'Help'. The main window is divided into two tabs: 'Channel' and 'Item'. The 'Item' tab is active, showing the following fields and buttons:

- Title:** Episode 1
- Link:** <http://www2.uic.edu/~rhunte7/episode01.mp3> (with a 'Test' button)
- Description:** This is the exciting pilot!!! In this episode, we learn about the future of American waste management and how to use the future perfect progressive tense!!! (with a 'Show description' button)
- Id:** (empty text box)
- Updated:** (empty text box) (with a 'Now' button)
- Press F1 for help with building RSS channels (with an 'Update' button)

Step 6: Validating Item Information

Click the **Update** button to see if all of the fields are filled out properly. If you are missing any information, pop-up boxes will tell you what you need to do. Follow the information in the pop-up box until it says "Item details validate OK"

To create additional items, repeat from **Step 4**.

Step 7: Saving a Channel and Making it Available on the Web

Click **File > Save As** and save your channel as an XML file.

Now you can upload this XML file onto the Internet and users will be able to access your channel and podcasts. You will need to create website, possibly using a web development application such as Dreamweaver, and find an online location to host your website. Then you can use an FTP Client such as Filezilla to upload web pages, audio files, video files, and the XML channel file in order to make your channel available to users.

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

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

