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Topic: RSS
Subject: RSS
Posted by: Tim Luo

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Some people might have noticed that there are things like RSS, RDF and ATOM on the homepage. They might also find the word RSS appears after each forum name in the forum section and as an icon near the bottom.

Well, RSS stands for Really Simple Syndication to most people. It might stand for Rich Site Summary to others or stand for other things. RSS is basically a way for a site to describe its contents. It's a way to provide "feeds" to those who are interested. The following is the definition from Webopedia ( <a href="http://www.webopedia.com">http://www.webopedia.com</a>).

Quote:

Short for *RDF Site Summary* or *Rich Site Summary*, an XML format for syndicating Web content. A Web site that wants to allow other sites to publish some of its content creates an RSS document and registers the document with an RSS publisher. A user that can read RSS-distributed content can use the content on a different site. Syndicated content includes such data as news feeds, events listings, news stories, headlines, project updates, excerpts from discussion forums or even corporate information.

RSS was originally developed by Netscape.

To put it simply, RSS is a way for you to get updated information from a site automatically without having to check it yourself. All you need to do is get a news reader that supports RSS and subscribe to the RSS feed. For me, I use Thunderbird as the newsreader and subscribe to some RSS feeds. The BBC has a very good explanation of what RSS is and what other news readers you can use at <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/help/3223484.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/help/3223484.stm</a>

Please bear with my laziness now!

So if you want to make use of RSS feeds available on okenglish, just click on any of the RSS icons or strings and then copy the URL to your news reader. After this, you should be able to get updated posts automatically. Hope you can enjoy and have more fun then.

Lastly, RDF and ATOM are just similar to RSS.

Tim