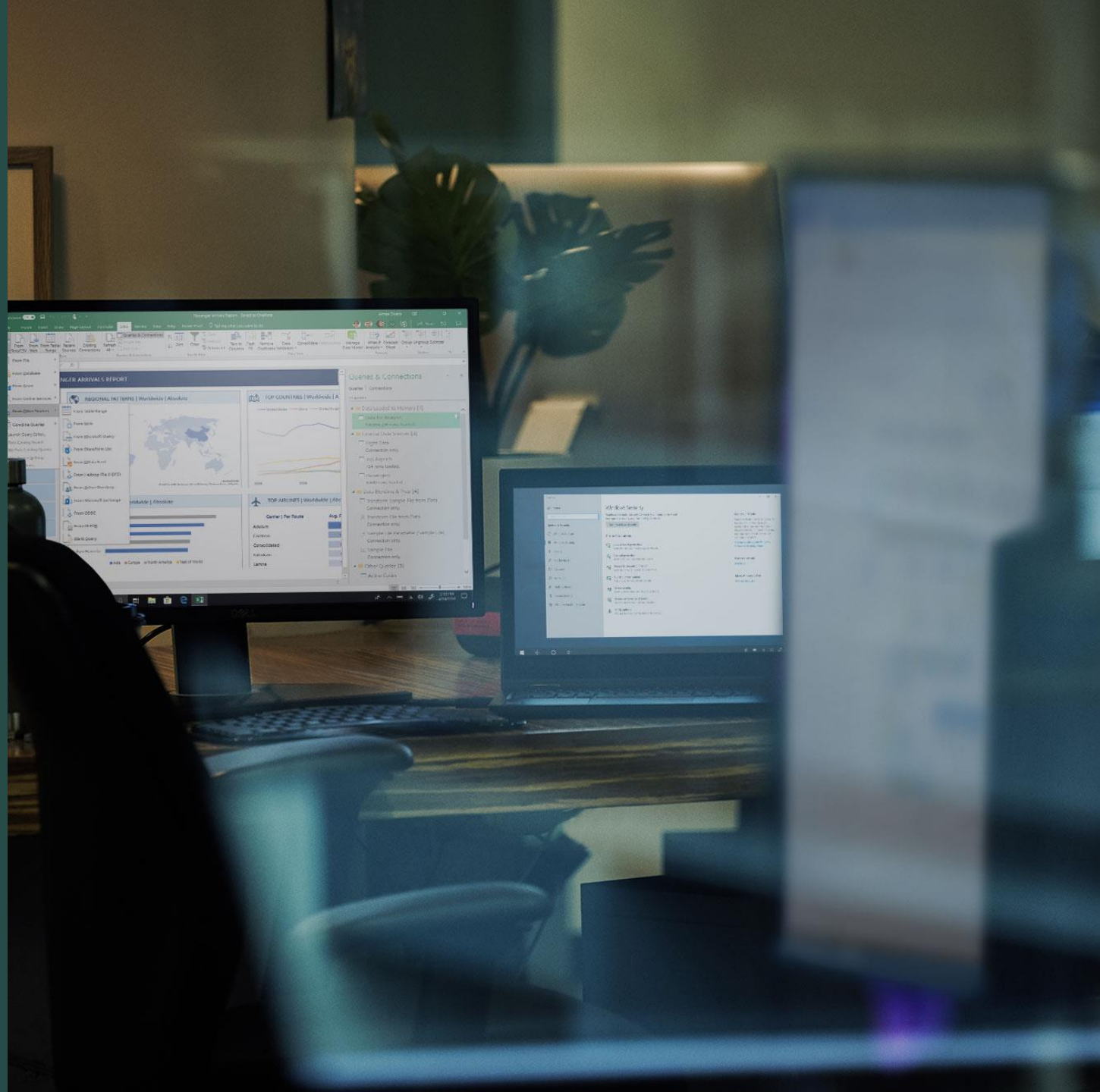




# Using vcpkg at work to manage your C++ libraries

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# What is vcpkg?

Open source C++ library manager for Windows, Linux, and macOS

1300+ popular open source libraries available as recipes (ports):

- Built from source on-demand

- Centralized, tested catalog

<https://github.com/microsoft/vcpkg>

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for `microsoft/vcpkg`. At the top, the repository name is displayed. Below it, navigation tabs include `<> Code`, `Issues 1,025`, `Pull requests 196`, and `Actions`. The repository description is "C++ Library Manager for Windows, Linux, and MacOS". Below the description are tags: `vcpkg`, `visual-studio`, `libraries`, `windows`, `cpp`, and `package-manager`. Statistics show `11,039 commits`, `1 branch`, and `0 packages`. There are buttons for `Branch: master` and `New pull request`. A pull request by `NancyLi1013` is highlighted, titled "Fix build error on Linux (#11440)". Below the pull request is a list of files and folders with their commit messages:

| File/Folder           | Commit Message                       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <code>.github</code>  | [vcpkg github] Update pull request   |
| <code>docs</code>     | [docs] fix CMakeLists example for S  |
| <code>ports</code>    | [usd] Fix build error on Linux (#114 |
| <code>scripts</code>  | [usd] Fix build error on Linux (#114 |
| <code>toolsrc</code>  | [vcpkg] Fix OSX CI by ensuring the   |
| <code>triplets</code> | [vcpkg] add x86-wasm.cmake to cc     |

# vcpkg catalog count

Terminology:

A **port** is a recipe for building a library

A **triplet** describes the build configuration (target architecture, OS, etc)

The triplets on the right are provided by default – but custom ones can also be defined

vcpkg (2020.04.01 - 2020.04.20)

---

Total port count: 1322

Total port count per triplet (tested):

| triplet            | ports available |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| x64-windows        | 1218            |
| x86-windows        | 1202            |
| x64-windows-static | 1130            |
| x64-linux          | 1104            |
| x64-osx            | 1041            |
| arm64-windows      | 842             |
| x64-uwp            | 654             |
| arm-uwp            | 625             |

# Why vcpkg?

1. Automate the process of building your dependencies to save time
2. No need to worry about dependencies of dependencies – vcpkg will acquire them automatically
3. Regardless of which libraries you install, they will work together – vcpkg routinely builds the entire catalog to test it
4. Provides a simple, repeatable way to acquire dependencies across multiple environments (developer machines, CI, containers)

# How to get started

1. `git clone https://github.com/microsoft/vcpkg`
2. `cd vcpkg`
3. Run `bootstrap-vcpkg.bat` (Windows) or `bootstrap-vcpkg.sh` (Linux/macOS)
4. (Optional) If using with Visual Studio or Visual Studio Code  
`vcpkg integrate install`
5. `vcpkg install <lib1> <lib2> <lib3>`

# Demo

Getting started with vcpkg

# Integrating vcpkg with a build system

- MSBuild – run `vcpkg integrate install`
  - Makes vcpkg installed libraries available to MSBuild automatically
  
- CMake – reference vcpkg CMake toolchain file
  - *[vcpkg-install-path]/vcpkg/scripts/buildsystems/vcpkg.cmake*
  - If you run `vcpkg integrate install` and are using Visual Studio, the toolchain file is referenced automatically for you

# Working with triplets – Examples

```
vcpkg install openssl:x64-windows-static
```

*Installs static version of OpenSSL for Windows x64 architectures*

```
vcpkg install sqlite3:x64-linux-dynamic  
--overlay-triplets=custom-triplets
```

*Installs sqlite3 by following a user-defined build recipe located in the custom-triplets subfolder. The triplet file looks like this:*

```
# ~/git/custom-triplets/x64-linux-dynamic.cmake  
set(VCPKG_TARGET_ARCHITECTURE x64)  
set(VCPKG_CRT_LINKAGE dynamic)  
set(VCPKG_LIBRARY_LINKAGE dynamic)  
set(VCPKG_CMAKE_SYSTEM_NAME Linux)
```



# Exporting vcpkg libraries

```
vcpkg export <pkg1> <pkg2> ... --[options]
```

Available options:

- --zip
- --7zip
- --nuget
- --raw [uncompressed folder]

Example: `vcpkg export cpprestsdk zlib -nuget`

*Produces a NuGet package containing cpprestsdk, zlib, and their dependencies that can be used with MSBuild projects/Visual Studio*

Coming next to vcpkg...

# Product roadmap and feature specifications

<https://aka.ms/vcpkg/roadmap>

We want your input!

## Roadmap

Augustin Popa edited this page 3 days ago · 6 revisions

This page describes a prioritized backlog of new vcpkg feature work and completion status. The backlog is prioritized based on feedback from existing vcpkg users and our goal to reach a C/C++ audience.

### Feature Status

- Improved binary caching experience
  - Description: Vcpkg will allow you to cache library binaries to reduce installation times on shared machines.
  - Specification/design document: [Link to draft PR](#)
  - Release date: May 2020 (2020.05)
- Versioning support
  - Description: Vcpkg will give you more flexibility by letting you specify the versions of dependencies to install.
  - Specification/design document: [Link to draft PR](#)
  - Release date: June 2020 (2020.06)
- Manifest file support
  - Description: Vcpkg will support a manifest file that can specify all your dependencies.

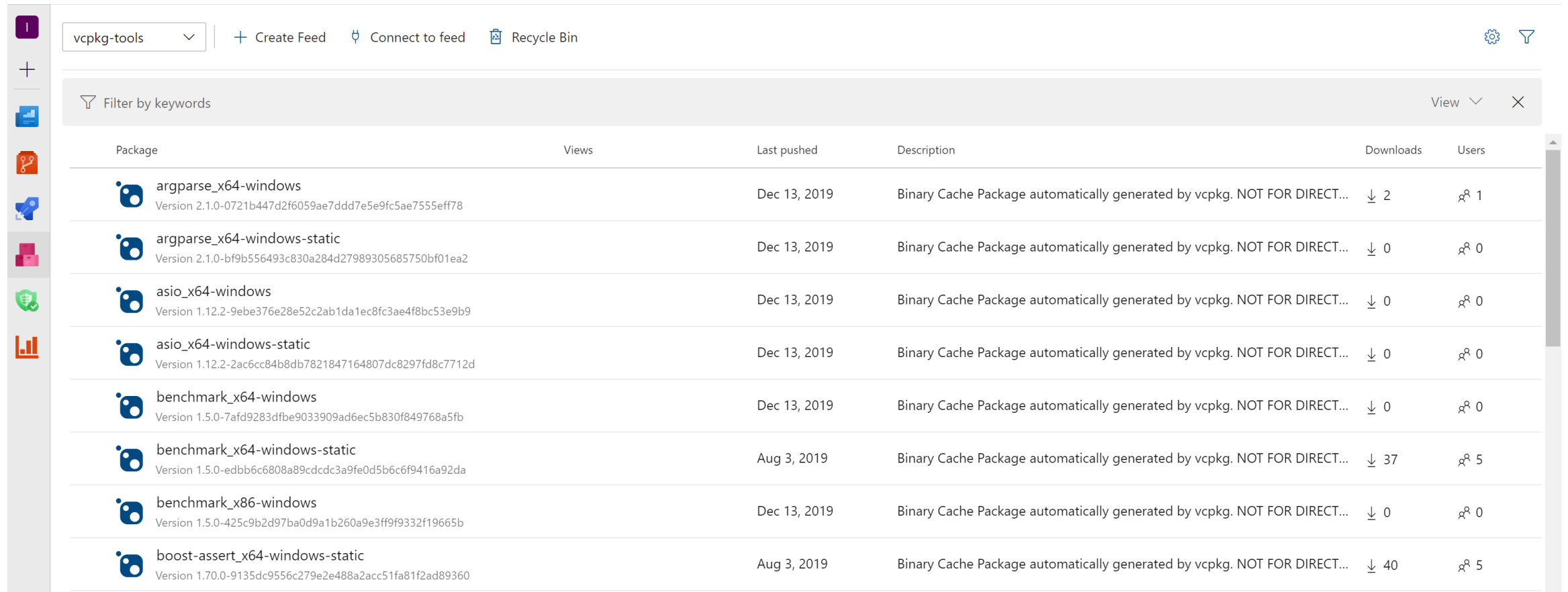
# Binary caching ([learn more](#))

- **The good:** *vcpkg builds from source*, so it can produce tailored, compatible binaries for consumption
- **The bad:** *vcpkg builds from source*, so it takes a while to install packages for the first time on each machine
- **Solution: Binary caching**
- The first time a library is installed, cache binaries in a known location that can be shared across machines/environments
- Basic example: .zip files in a file-based archive









# Binary caching on a NuGet server

Binary caching will also work with existing NuGet servers like Azure Artifact Storage

Note: though storage format is NuGet, packages cannot be consumed directly into MSBuild projects (use `vcpkg export` command instead)



The screenshot shows the vcpkg-tools NuGet feed interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "vcpkg-tools" and a dropdown arrow. To the right of the search bar are three buttons: "+ Create Feed", "Connect to feed", and "Recycle Bin". Below the search bar is a filter bar with the text "Filter by keywords" and a search icon. To the right of the filter bar are two buttons: "View" and "X". Below the filter bar is a table with the following columns: Package, Views, Last pushed, Description, Downloads, and Users. The table contains eight rows of package information.

| Package   | Views | Last pushed  | Description  | Downloads | Users |
|---|-------|--------------|--|-----------|-------|
|  <b>argparse_x64-windows</b><br>Version 2.1.0-0721b447d2f6059ae7ddd7e5e9fc5ae7555eff78               |       | Dec 13, 2019 | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 2       | 👤 1   |
|  <b>argparse_x64-windows-static</b><br>Version 2.1.0-bf9b556493c830a284d27989305685750bf01ea2        |       | Dec 13, 2019 | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 0       | 👤 0   |
|  <b>asio_x64-windows</b><br>Version 1.12.2-9ebe376e28e52c2ab1da1ec8fc3ae4f8bc53e9b9                  |       | Dec 13, 2019 | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 0       | 👤 0   |
|  <b>asio_x64-windows-static</b><br>Version 1.12.2-2ac6cc84b8db7821847164807dc8297fd8c7712d         |       | Dec 13, 2019 | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 0       | 👤 0   |
|  <b>benchmark_x64-windows</b><br>Version 1.5.0-7afd9283dfbe9033909ad6ec5b830f849768a5fb            |       | Dec 13, 2019 | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 0       | 👤 0   |
|  <b>benchmark_x64-windows-static</b><br>Version 1.5.0-edbb6c6808a89cdcdc3a9fe0d5b6c6f9416a92da     |       | Aug 3, 2019  | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 37      | 👤 5   |
|  <b>benchmark_x86-windows</b><br>Version 1.5.0-425c9b2d97ba0d9a1b260a9e3ff9f9332f19665b            |       | Dec 13, 2019 | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 0       | 👤 0   |
|  <b>boost-assert_x64-windows-static</b><br>Version 1.70.0-9135dc9556c279e2e488a2acc51fa81f2ad89360 |       | Aug 3, 2019  | Binary Cache Package automatically generated by vcpkg. NOT FOR DIRECT... | ↓ 40      | 👤 5   |

# Versioning ([learn more](#))

- **The good:** vcpkg gives you a set of libraries that will work together without the user having to know which versions are compatible
  - **The bad:** the user doesn't easily control the version of a library vcpkg gives them
  - **Solution: Versioning support**
    - Allows developers to request specific library versions
- ```
vcpkg install package zlib@1.2.11:x64-windows
```

# Package search by version

```
vcpkg search zlib --show-versions
```

```
zlib      1.2.11      A compression library  
zlib      1.2.10      A compression library  
zlib      1.2.8       A compression library
```

Search feature will be able to show available package versions

# Manifest file: vcpkg.json ([learn more](#))

- **Problem: How to achieve consistency?**
  - Multiple developers on a team need the same dependencies acquired exactly the same way
  - CI builds need to happen exactly the same way as local developer machine builds
  - Consumers of open source software need to rebuild it the same way as the maintainers
- **Solution:** vcpkg will support a manifest file called vcpkg.json
- Allows developers to specify libraries, library metadata, library versions, and more



# vcpkg.json example

```
{
  "name": "pango",
  "version": "1.40.11",
  "port-version": 6,
  "homepage": "https://ftp.gnome.org/pub/GNOME/sources/pango/",
  "description": "Text and font handling library.",
  "dependencies": [
    "glib",
    "gettext",
    "cairo",
    "fontconfig",
    "freetype",
    {
      "name": "harfbuzz",
      "features": [ "glib" ],
      "platform": {
        "and": [
          { "not": { "and": [ "windows", "static" ] } },
          { "not": "osx" } ] } } ]
  }
}
```

# Bring your own libraries to vcpkg – package federation

- Eventually, vcpkg.json will allow the user to specify other libraries not found in the vcpkg catalog
- This can include private/internal libraries and custom forks
- Developers will be able to define their own vcpkg ports for use across their organization

# Visual Studio / Visual Studio Code integration

- We will ship vcpkg inside the **Visual Studio IDE** (if a C++ workload is installed)
- We will ship vcpkg inside the **Visual Studio Code** C++ extension
- More integration with these tools will be considered over time

# Learn more

- vcpkg product roadmap & specs: <https://aka.ms/vcpkg/roadmap>
  - We are looking for feedback!
- Get started with vcpkg: <https://github.com/microsoft/vcpkg>