Subject: Re: All's well
From: Nicholas Bohm <nbohm@ernest.net>
Date: 03/02/2009, 19:14
To: Satoshi Nakamoto <satoshin@gmx.com>

Satoshi Nakamoto wrote:

> I hadn't touched "Change" in case of bungling something. When I did, it
> showed your name against what I took to be my address - some sort of
> default?

> You're the second person to tell me they don't remember labelling their
> address with my name. Surely you must have entered "!Me" at some point
> and then later replaced it with my name. The software doesn't have my
> name coded into it anywhere and has no way to get it other than from the
> user.

No, I truly hadn't clicked the "Change" button until after I got your
payment and read your remarks. As you know, I first found it reading
"!Me"; I then clicked "Change" and found your name against my address; I
then went back to the main screen, and found your name instead of "!Me".
 So something odd is happening.

> I think I know what happened: if you copied the address, thinking it was
> my address, and entered it into your address book, it would have changed
> the label for your address. The entry would have failed to show up in
> the address book. I need to make it check the address when you enter a
> new address in the address book and if it's yours, give an error
> explaining it's one of yours.

No, I'm sure that isn't what I did.

> The address labelling feature is inherently confusing. I've only stuck
> with it because it would be a necessity in advanced scenarios, but as an
> advanced feature it isn't really needed until much later. I'm thinking
> I'll hide it, at least for now. Let it be simple for as long as possible.

Yes, I agree - keep it simple and see what enhancements are demanded.

> I'm still wavering between:
> "Received with address 18cc..."
> and
> "From: unknown, To: 18cc..."
>
> But if "Received with: (something) 18cc..." left 2 out of 2 people
> thinking the address was the sender's address, then "Received with
> address 18cc..." might not be different enough to overpower the natural
> expectation to see the sender's address there. What do you think?
> From/To still better?

To me it does, yes.

> This seems a bit uncertain, though - presumably if I give person A my address for payments, nothing stops them giving it to Person B; and then I'll think payments from Person B are from Person A. Or have I missed something?

> True for e-mail, maybe less so when paying a bill. For instance, "send 9.95 to 18cc... to activate your account" or "please make payment for this invoice to 18cc...".

Yes, I can see the tracking works well there. Perhaps a Bitcoin netiquette will develop in which you treat a payment address I give you as setting up your account with me, which you don't want other people paying into (though perhaps the incentive is the other way, as you potentially benefit if they do).

> Please treat my comments with caution, as my grasp of Bitcoin is pretty superficial, to put it mildly; but I hope naive comments may still be useful.

> No, that's exactly what I need, it's very helpful. I don't know how someone who doesn't already know all about Bitcoin will interpret things. You only get once chance to see how something looks for the first time, and I already spent all of mine.

True; and I think I can remain clueless for quite a while.

> BTW, did you figure out that you could doubleclick on a transaction to open a details window?

No, a nice touch, especially if in due course the details become context-sensitive. I did try right-clicking, to see if that would get me a chance to delete the failed items, which I find mildly irritating.

> but I would have understood at once if it had said "matures in 23 more blocks".)

> Good idea, definitely an improvement.

Perhaps we should try a payment by me to you, if you would let me have an address. I would be interested to see how it works if the payment is not bc50 or a multiple, for example.

Regards,

Nicholas
--
Salkyns, Great Canfield, Takeley,

Bishop's Stortford CM22 6SX, UK

Phone 01279 870285   (+44 1279 870285)
Mobile 07715 419728   (+44 7715 419728)

PGP public key ID: 0x899DD7FF. Fingerprint:
5248 1320 B42E 84FC 1E8B A9E6 0912 AE66 899D D7FF