Kentico – Upgrade to Kentico 9

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highmonkey

smart • human • solutions

about me

- From the great State of Alaska
- User Experience Aficionado
- Been building websites since 1998
- Been working with Kentico since 2005
- Blog: http://www.highmonkey/blog
- Twitter: @vcmonkey

CREDENTIALS

- **TITLE:** CEO / Technology Architect

- **EDUCATION:**
  Instructional Design - M.Ed
  Athletic Trainer - Certification
  Physical Education - BS

- **CAREER 'HATS' WORN:**
  President / CEO
  Motivational Speaker
  Programmer / Developer
  Certified Athletic Trainer
  Adjunct Professor
  Instructional Designer

- **INTERESTS:**
  The Steelers and Star Wars;
  there's no better combo.

about high monkey

- Been around since 1998
- Based in Minnesota
- Clients throughout the US and Canada
- Core Competencies
  - Web and interface design
  - Kentico / CMS consulting
  - User Experience
  - SharePoint

Kentico upgrade considerations

- You can't jump the shark (though maybe in the future)
- There are things that will not upgrade
  - Previous versions in version history
  - Custom code that is compiled (needs to be re-compiled against new Kentico version classes)
- Changes you need to know
  - .NET 4.5 only
  - Enclose your code in regions to avoid false positives
  - Performance improvements are significant

Kentico upgrade considerations

- Upgrade paths
  - LOTS OF CHANGES to learn
  - 8.2 to 9 – pretty painless
  - 7 to 9 – Very painful, but doable
    - 7 -> 8.0 -> 8.1 -> 8.2 > 9.0
  - 6 and below – lets talk
    - There may be hope

Kentico upgrade considerations

- 8.2 -> 9 has some important changes
  - Re-created Tree Join view (could break a lot of implementations)
    - Did away with published flag in SQL, available in DocumentQuery
    - No more page type specific Tree Join Views
  - Removed several old, not well adopted web parts & widgets
    - Articles, some RSS feeds, etc..
  - MVC is different and existing projects will have to be created a new
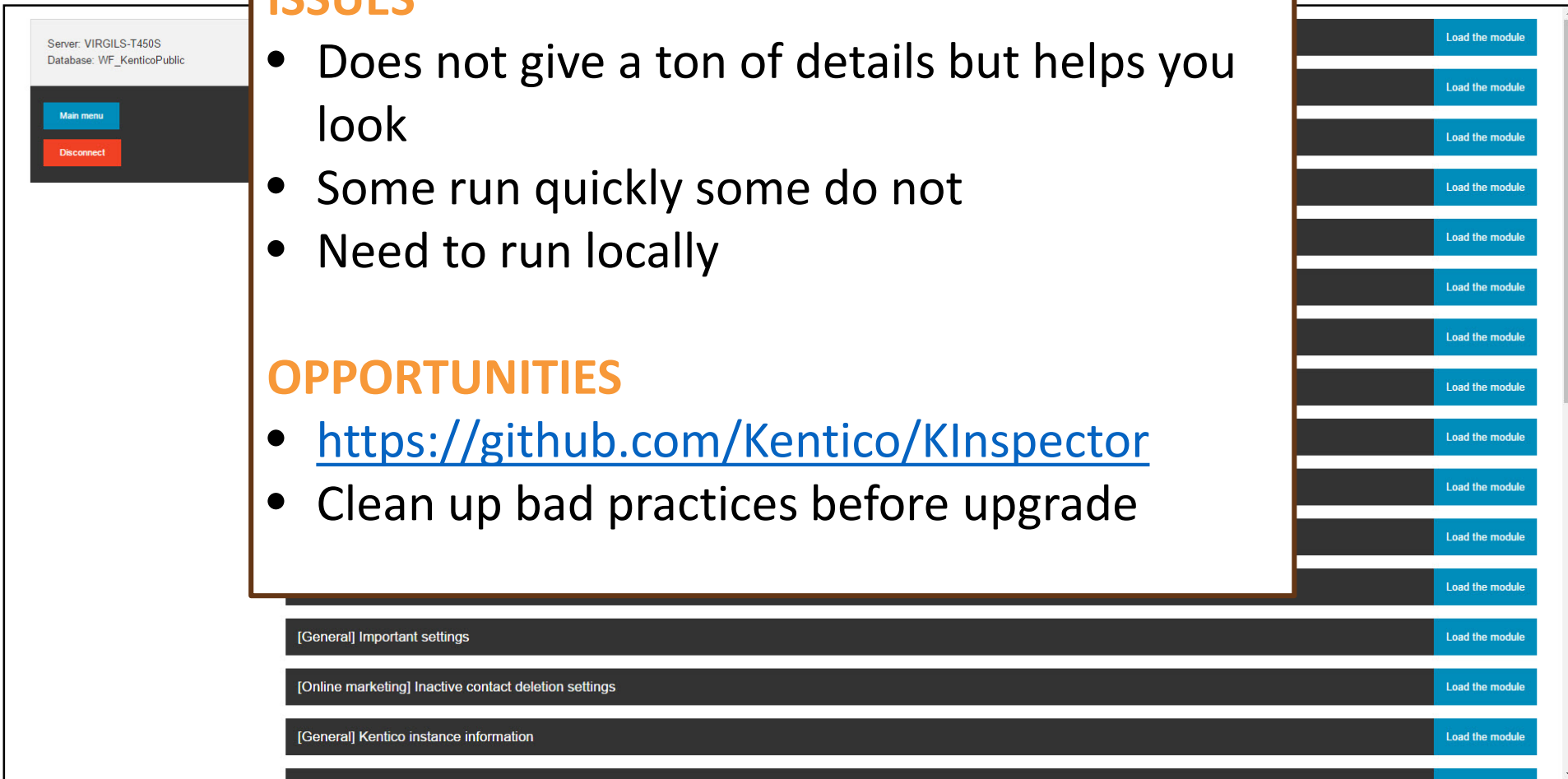
Kentico upgrade considerations

- Design stuff
  - All should carry forward, no real changes
  - Updated script files
- The Cloud – UGHHH
  - Have to plan very well (web apps, VMs are fine)
  - DO NOT UPGRADE IN THE CLOUD
  - Process
    - Pull down a copy of your entire site
    - Upgrade locally
    - Push back to the cloud
    - Want to be totally sure – push to another instance

Kentico upgrade – Steps to Success

- Leave existing in place – but freeze changes
- Test for upgrade issues
  - Upgrade tool
  - Evaluate aspects that might break
  - Did you create custom SQL queries?
- Perform upgrade
- Complete fixes
- Deploy anew

Kentico Upgrade Tool - Prior

ISSUES
- Does not give a ton of details but helps you look
- Some run quickly some do not
- Need to run locally

OPPORTUNITIES
- https://github.com/Kentico/KInspector
- Clean up bad practices before upgrade

Server: VIRGILS-T450S
Database: WF_KenticoPublic

Main menu

Disconnect

Load the module

[General] Important settings

[Online marketing] Inactive contact deletion settings

[General] Kentico instance information

Kentico Upgrade Tool
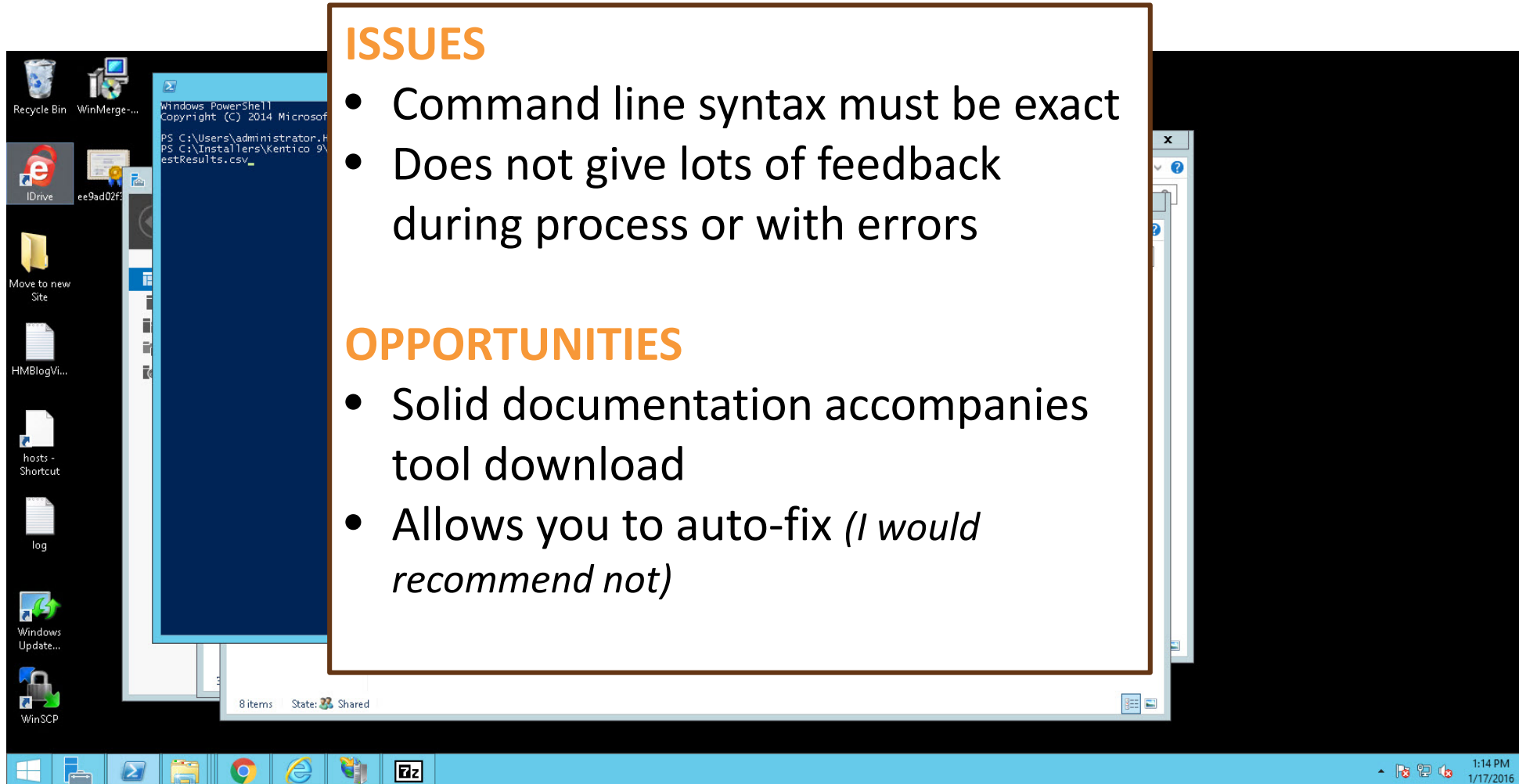
ISSUES
- Can't test upgrades across multiple versions
- Need to be comfortable with command line

OPPORTUNITIES
- Version 8.2 – 9 is not a painful upgrade
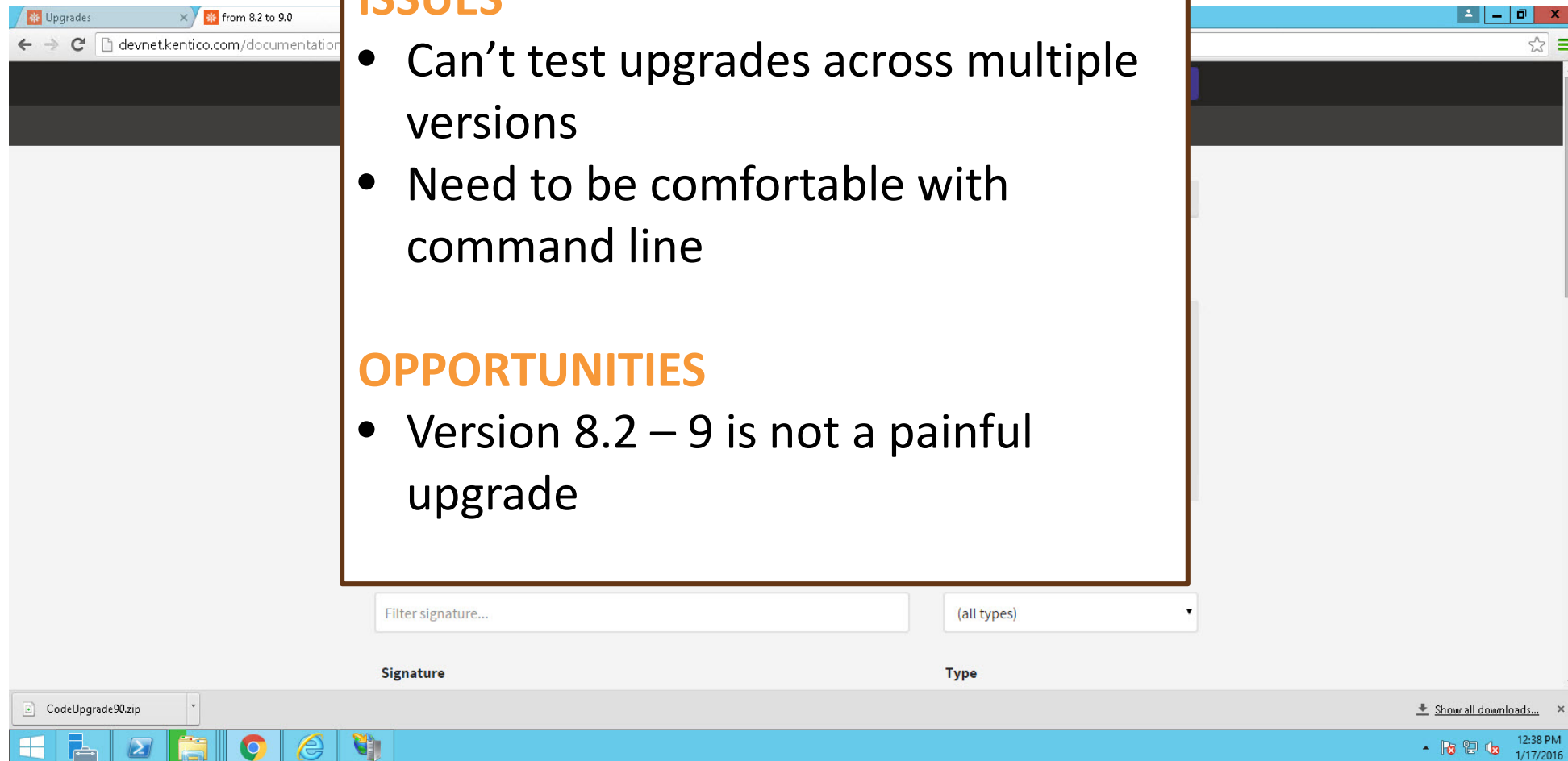
Kentico Upgrade Tool - Start

ISSUES

- Command line syntax must be exact
- Does not give lots of feedback during process or with errors

OPPORTUNITIES

- Solid documentation accompanies tool download
- Allows you to auto-fix *(I would recommend not)*

Kentico Upgrade Tool - Stop
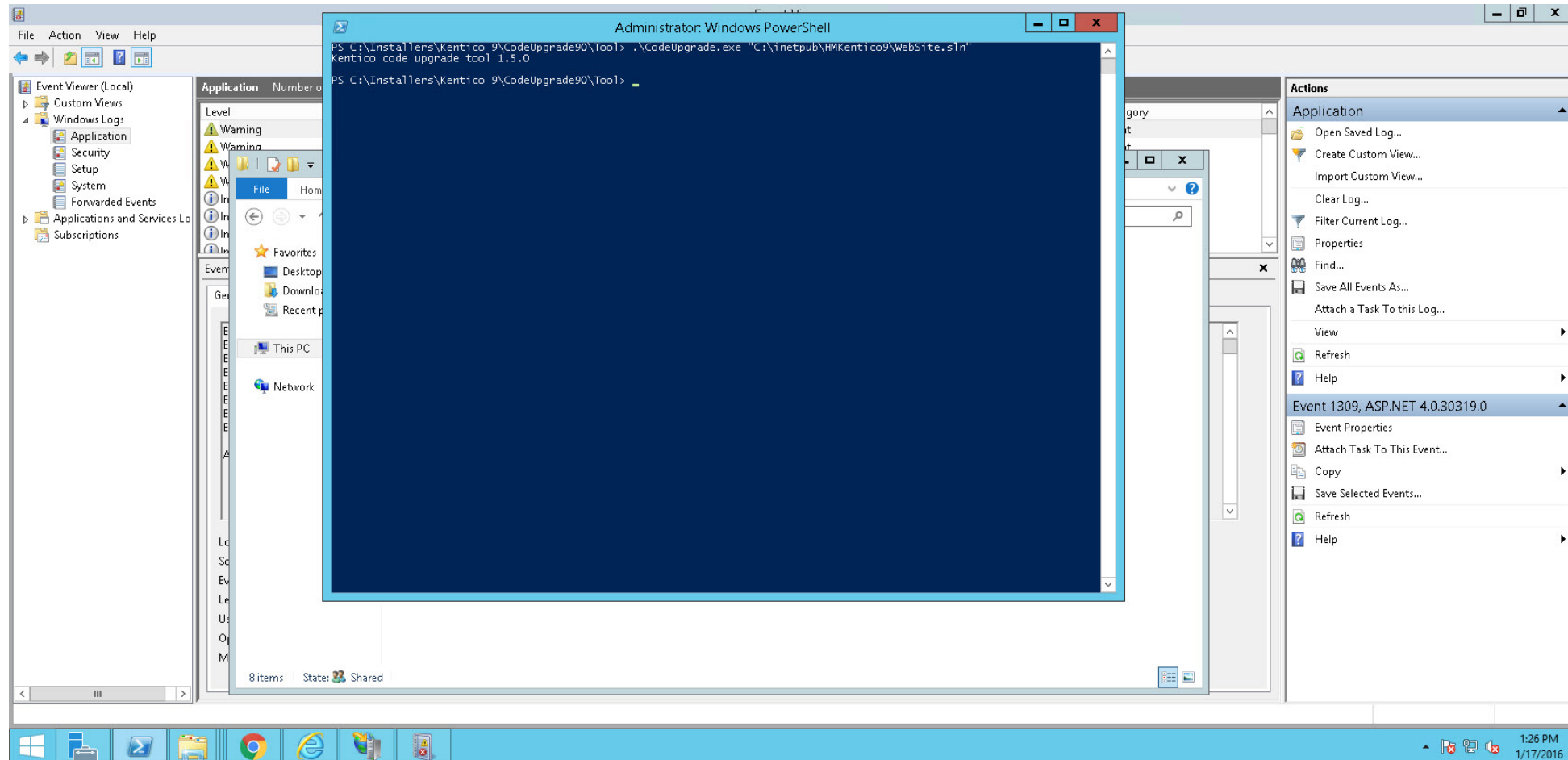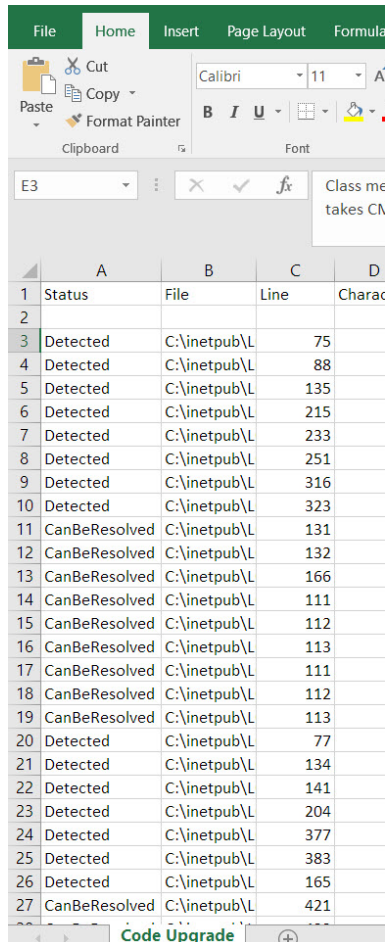
Kentico Upgrade Tool - Report
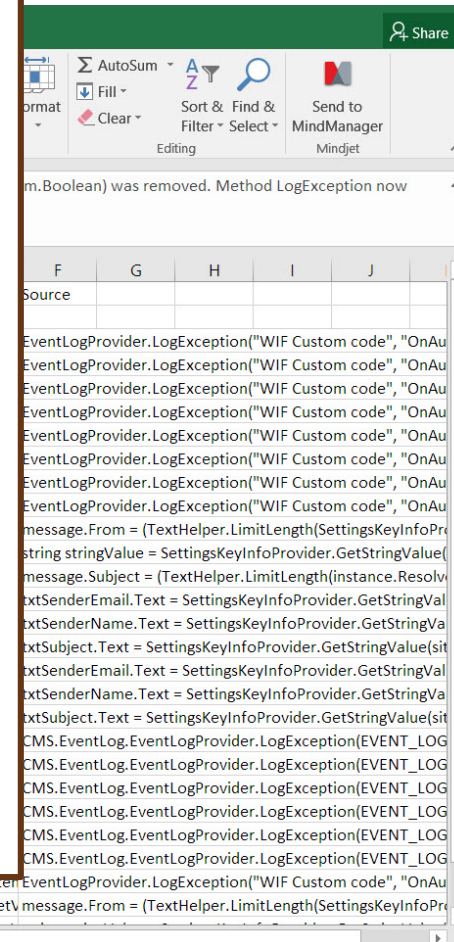
ISSUES
- Have to be a developer to read and understand
- Very manual fix process
  - Keep a backup
  - Comment on your changes

OPPORTUNITIES
- Provides good developer descriptions that takes the guess work out...for the most part

Kentico 9 Upgrade

Kentico 9 Upgrade – Go Custom
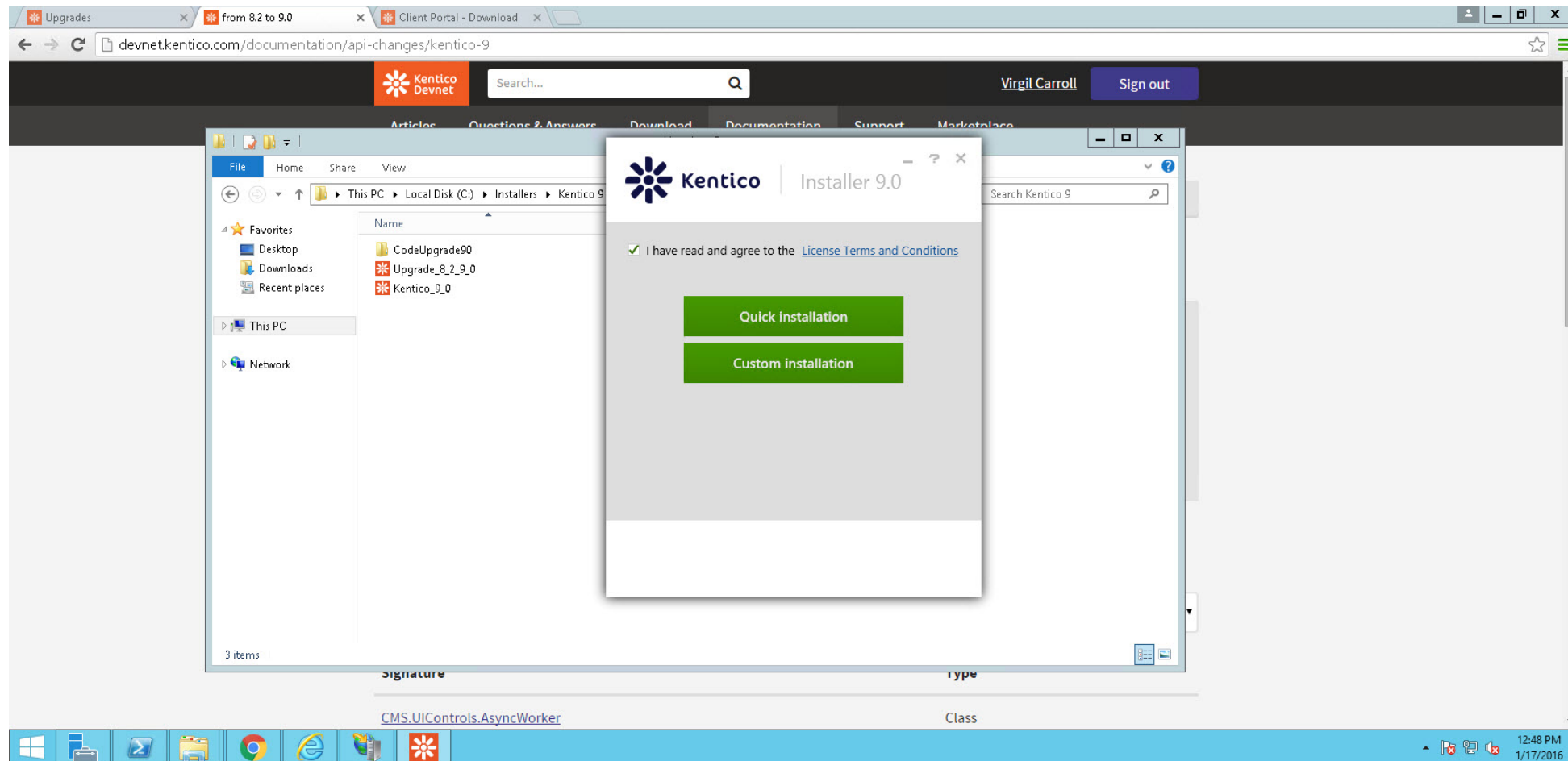
Kentico 9 Upgrade – Backup files

ISSUES
- BACKUP, BACKUP, BACKUP

OPPORTUNITIES
- BACKUP, BACKUP, BACKUP
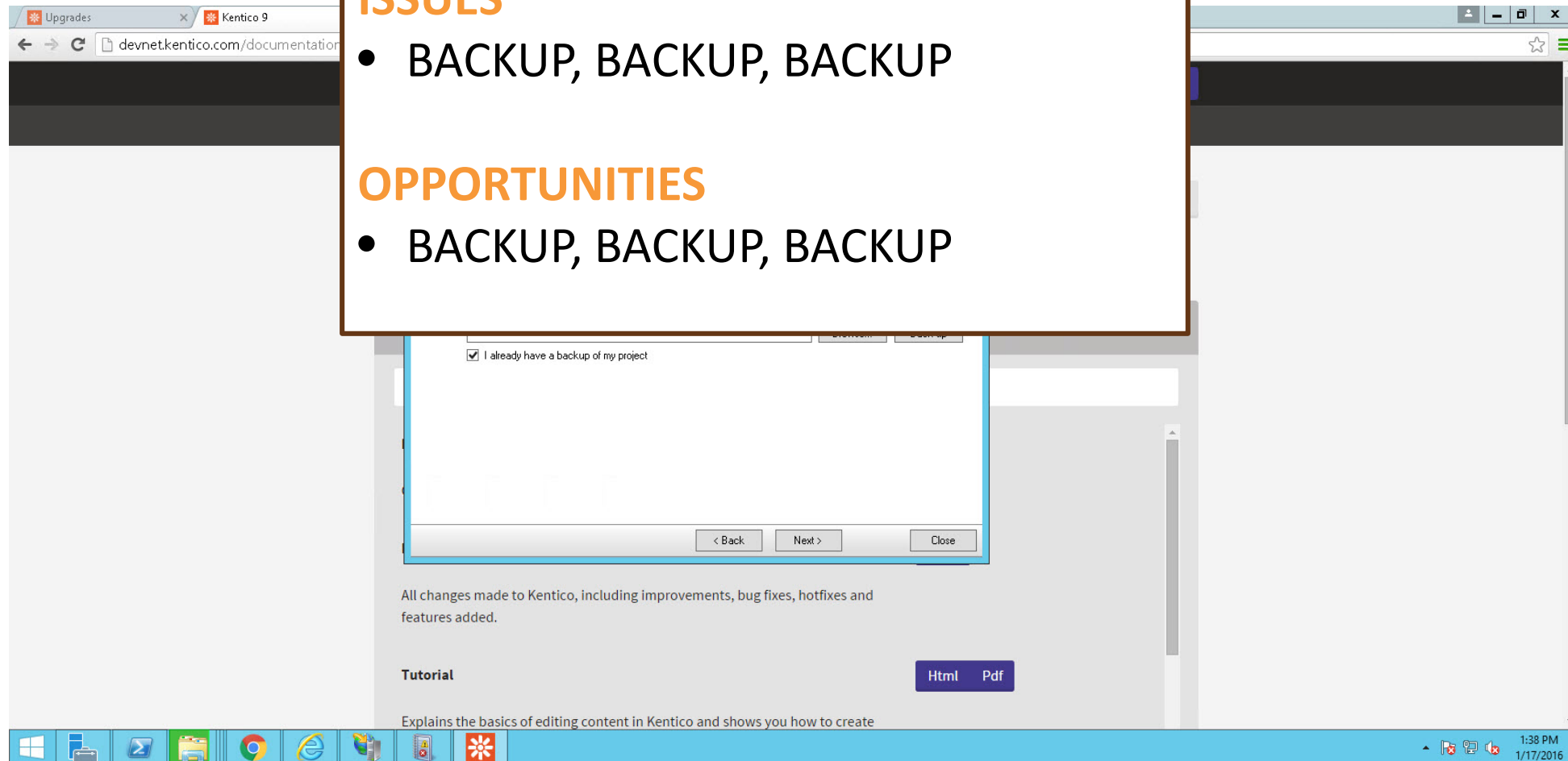
Kentico 9 Upgrade - Final

ISSUES
- Depending on your site, you may have plenty of fixes still to do after upgrade
- If a site that is already been running, may need to reset web server and flush cache

OPPORTUNITIES
- Great time to create and implement a good testing plan
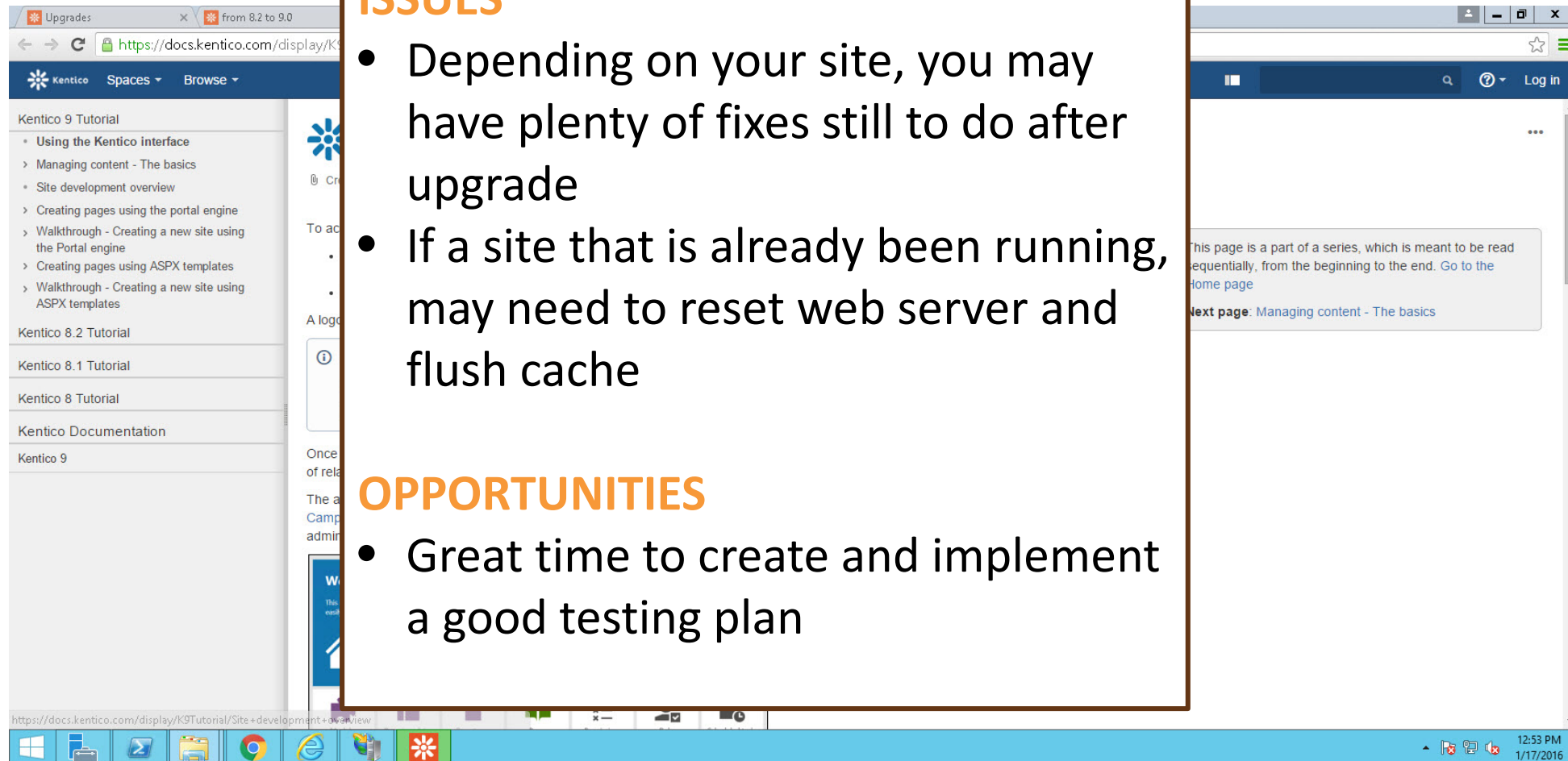
Kentico 9 Upgrade – Not Upgraded

Kentico 9 Upgrade – new file structure

Kentico 9 Upgrade – change license
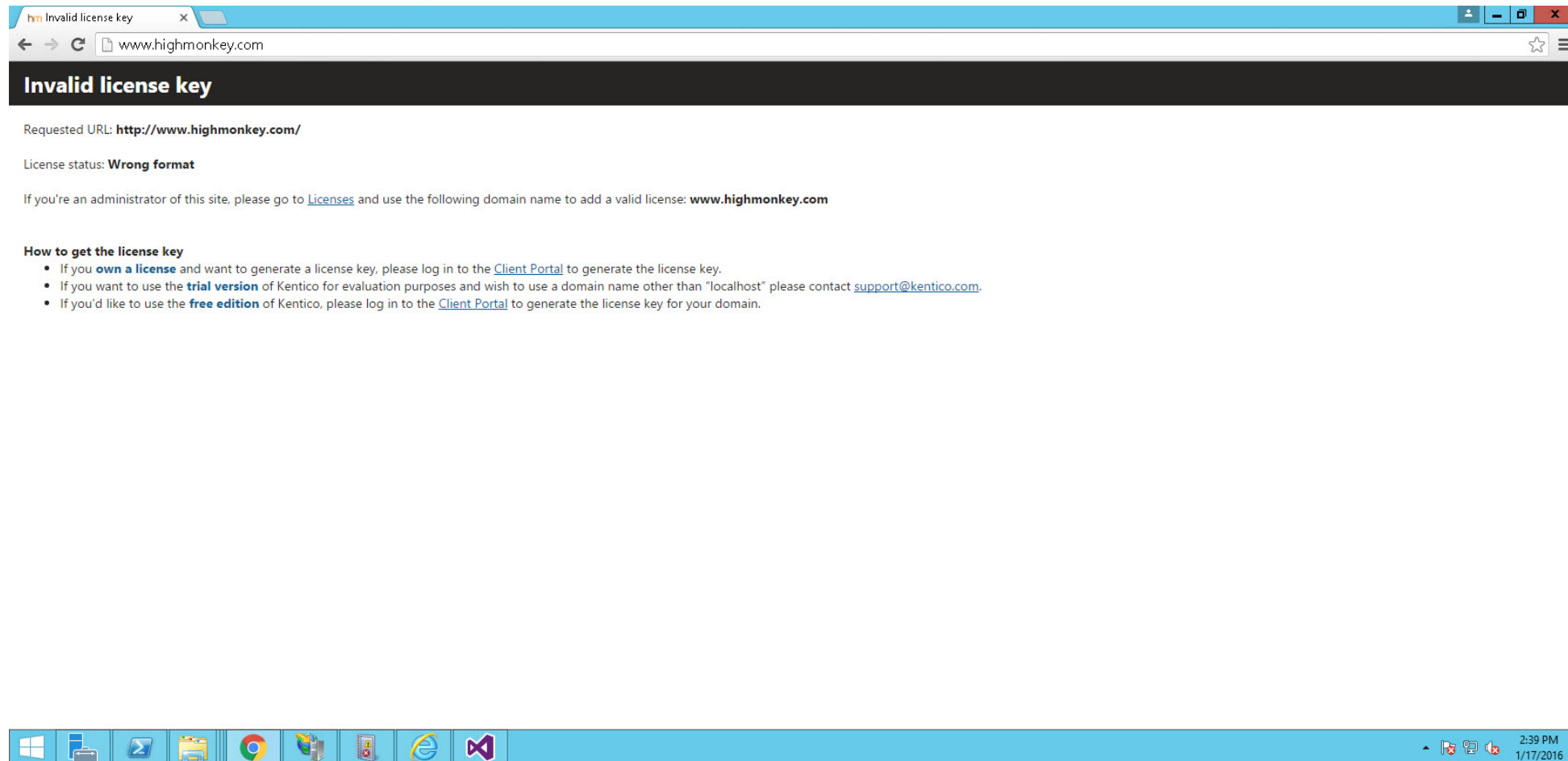
Kentico 9 – Install

ISSUES
- Upgrading does not add server side tools

OPPORTUNITIES
- Install for hotfix, management tool support

Kentico 9 – start install
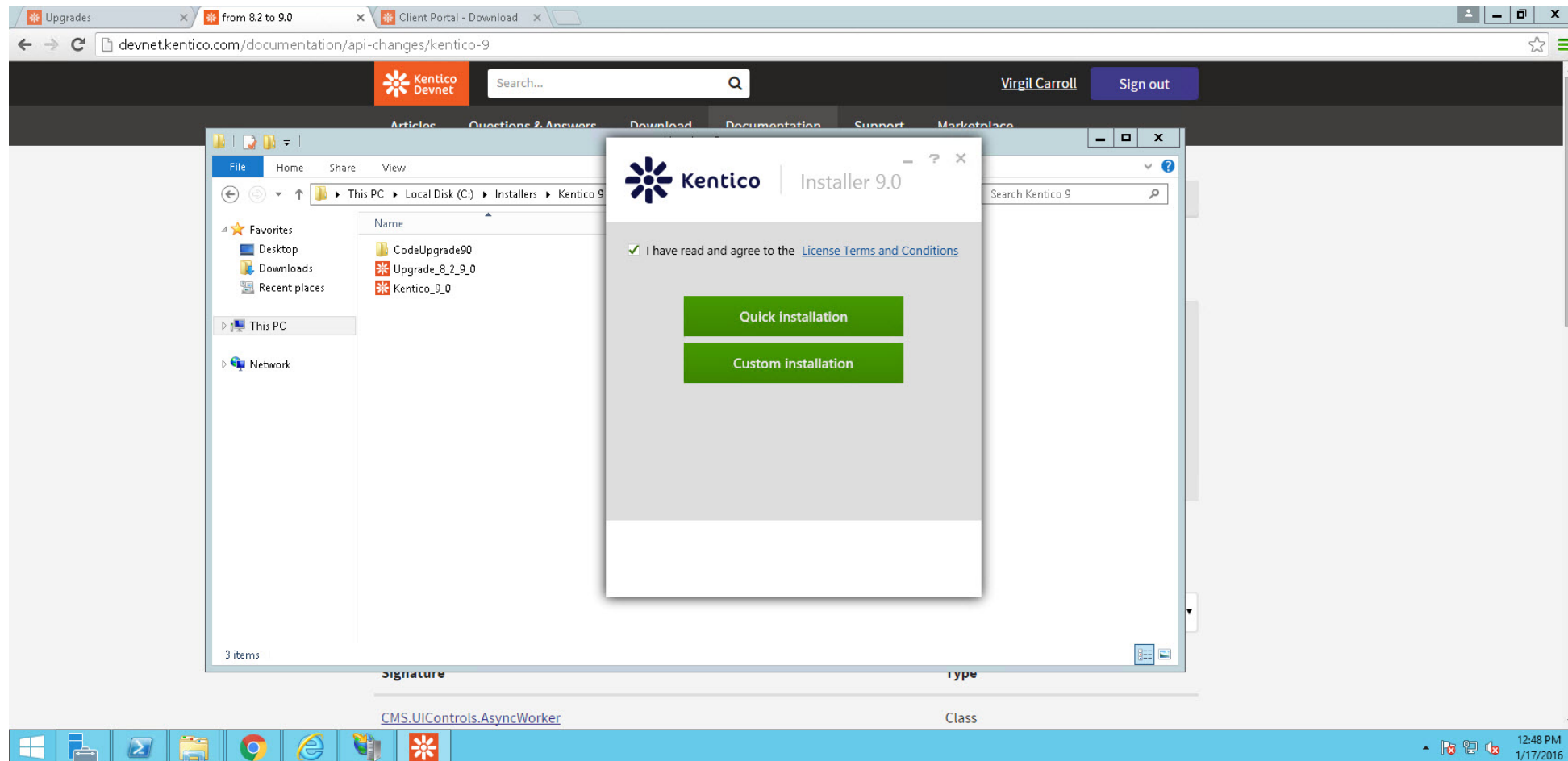
Kentico 9 – Install only program files

Kentico 9 – finish

questions??

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