Dead Coder Society

Agenda topics

ASTAR AND PYTHON   TOM RUSH

DISCUSSION	Please view Tom's attachments for an overview of his discussion. http://www.deadcodersociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/aStarInPython.zip

LETSHATEEVERYTHING   BRIAN O'KEEFE

DISCUSSION	LetsHateEverything.com is basically just a simple example of PHP and MySQL, much in the same format as sites like fmylife.com. Users can submit pet peeves, which must be reviewed by an administrator before being posted. Once posted, users can view, vote on, and comment on peeves. Comments can be reported as spam by users, which will put them into the admin queue for further examination. AJAX is used to allow for a seemless voting process.

X10 HOME AUTOMATION   JASON SCHOLLENBERGER

DISCUSSION	X10 is a communications language which allows products to communicate using the electrical wiring in your home. Since the products use the pre-existing wiring, there is no need for additional wiring and cost. They offer products such as Cameras, Automated Lights, Outlets and Switches, Motion Sensors, Timers, Alarm Systems, Remote Key Fobs, Custom Hardware, and a USB Interface. For the demonstration today we will be looking at the USB Interface. It has the ability to interface with all 256 house and unit codes, has built in memory for storing timers and macros, includes an RF receiver and transmitter, and even has a battery backup. X10's developers were nice enough to release an SDK which works with this USB interface, and has built in commands that we can easily issue. A popular Android application which uses this SDK is called autom8. It allows you to control appliances and even monitor alarm module statuses, right from your phone! In the SDK, the most used command is "sendplc" which allows a user to send a command to a certain device. If you wanted to turn on a device, you could issue "sendplc [deviceID] on". It's pretty simple. If you were there for a presentation, you also saw a live demonstration of x10 where I setup my webcam at a light and controlled it remotely.