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Project proposal

Team setup

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Project idea

Background

There are many home automation solutions and Internet-of-Things (IoT) gadgets on the market, which are all useful on their own. They come with their own way on how to setup and configure devices and are perfect for their intended use cases.



OpenHAB is a software for integrating these different home automation systems and technologies into one single solution that allows over-arching automation rules and that offers uniform user interfaces. OpenHAB is with over 147 contributing developers one of the biggest open source projects in the world. And the community is growing.

OpenHAB consists of the openHAB application itself which provides a web interface for controlling your home. Moreover there is already an Android and an IOS app. But as one can see in the screenshot to the left, the app is not very user friendly.



User story

This is Bob! He has fully automated his home with the newest version of openHAB and controls the system with the standard openHAB app. This app is used by over 10.000 users around the world.

But Bob is not really satisfied with the app, because it's very buggy (random connection aborts, values aren't refreshed periodically, user inputs aren't transmitted to the system). Moreover, the user interface does not apply to modern standards. Also he misses cool features like turning the lights on with NFC or disabling the heating, when he leaves his home.

Therefore Bob asked us if we can create a new fancy app which implements all the missing features and runs smoothly on Android and iOS.



Target platforms

- Android: > 2.3.x (Gingerbread, starting with Android API level 10)
- IOS: > iOS 5.x
- Web: optional

Target technologies

- Apache Cordova

Used mobile sensors

- Location: Geo fencing
- NFC: To switch things

Possible ways of monetisation

- Should be a free Open Source app, maybe a donate function

Possible project risks

The following risk were identified and taken into account:

Technology

As this is the first cross platform app for our project team this is certainly an important risk.

This makes it difficult to estimate the developing effort.

3rd party api

As our project depends on the openhab api, it would be possible that the api changes over time and our app does not work any longer. There is not much we can do about it. Fortunately, openHAB is open source, therefore the api remains public.