Domoticz

Open Source Home Automation System

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Introduction

Domoticz is a Home Automation system design to control various devices and receive input from various sensors. **The Main hardware component is a RF Receiver/Transmitter from RFXCOM**.

For example this system can be used with:

- Light switches
- Door sensors
- Doorbells
- Security devices
- Weather sensors like: UV/Rain/Wind Meters
- Temperature Sensors
- …

System Requirements

This system is designed to run on most common hardware, this includes:

- Raspberry Pi (Model B/2 advised)
- Unix
- Windows

256MB memory recommended, 200MB free hard disk space, Firefox/Chrome/Safari browser.
A screen resolution SXGA = 1200x1024 or higher is recommended.

Internet Explorer is NOT supported at the moment.

Consult the RFXCOM website for supported devices. (http://www.rfxcom.com)

Installation

Unix/Linux/Raspberry Pi/….

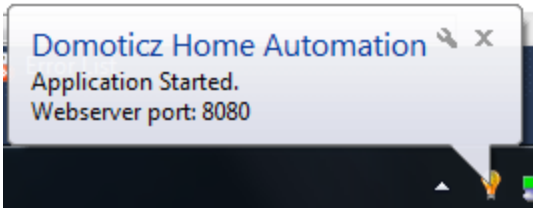
See the Install.txt file for installation/compile instructions.

Windows Users

An installer is provided for easy installation.

When updating the software, do not uninstall, just reinstall, or the central database is deleted!

When the application is started under Windows, a system tray popup message will display the port used to connect to:



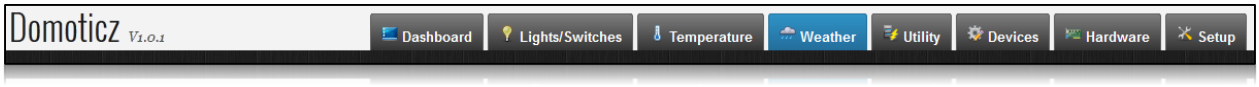
Usage

The core application runs at the background, and has a web-based user interface.

The default port of the web interface is 8080. For a local setup you can connect to http://127.0.0.1:8080

To access the system from a remote location, consult your router manual to forwarding/NAT a port to your system.

Navigation



Navigation is done by pressing the tabs at the top of the webpage.

Most tabs are automatically refreshed every 10 seconds. (Except Devices/Hardware/Setup)

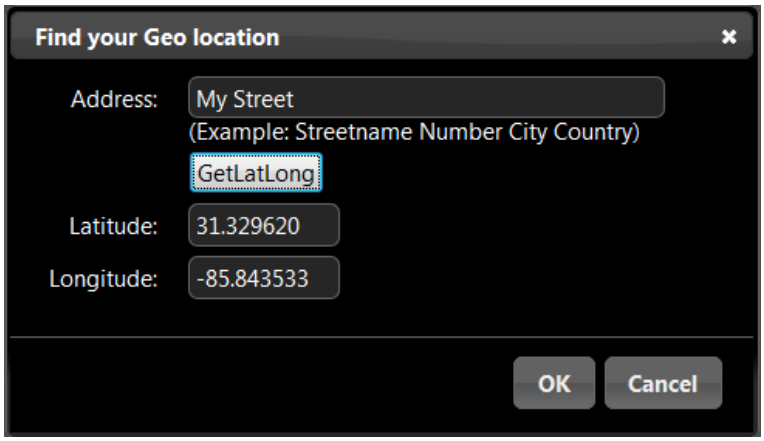
Setup

There are various application settings. For control of Light/Switches based on Sun Set /Sunrise timings, it is important to setup your location.

Location Setup

To setup your location click on the 'Setup' tab, and enter the Latitude/Longitude parameters.

If you do not know these parameters, press the 'Here' link and enter your address:



When pressing OK the parameters are accepted by the application.

Press the SAVE button to store the settings.

Hardware Setup

Before you can use the application to control devices you must setup the communication hardware device(s).

The following devices are supported:

- RFXCOM - RFXtrx315 USB 310Mhz or 315Mhz Transceiver
- RFXCOM - RFXtrx433 USB 433.92Mhz Transceiver
- RFXCOM – RFXtrx connected to a LAN-USB interface
- Domoticz - Remote Server

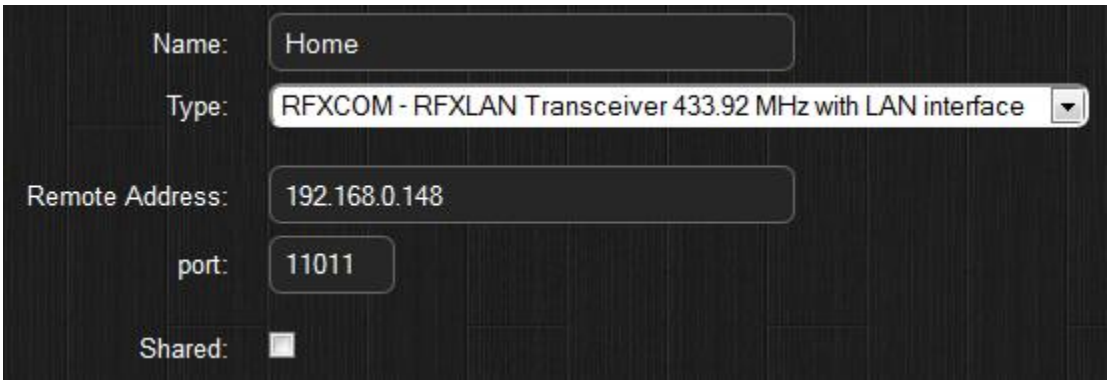
Setting up a USB device

First make sure the device is recognized in the system.

Domoticz automatically detects the USB port.

Setting up a LAN device

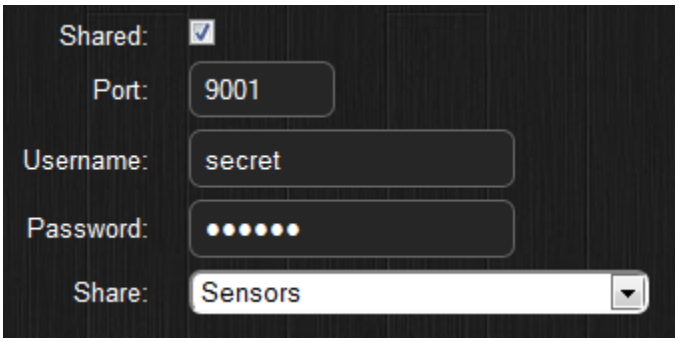
First make sure you know the IP address and port of the device.


Name:
Home
Type:
RFXCOM - RFXLAN Transceiver 433.92 MHz with LAN interface
Remote Address:
192.168.0.148
port:
11011
Shared:

Sharing Devices

It is possible to share your sensors with friends. For instance you can share your Rain Meter.

To do so, check the checkbox next to 'Shared' and enter TCP Port, and (optional) a username/password:



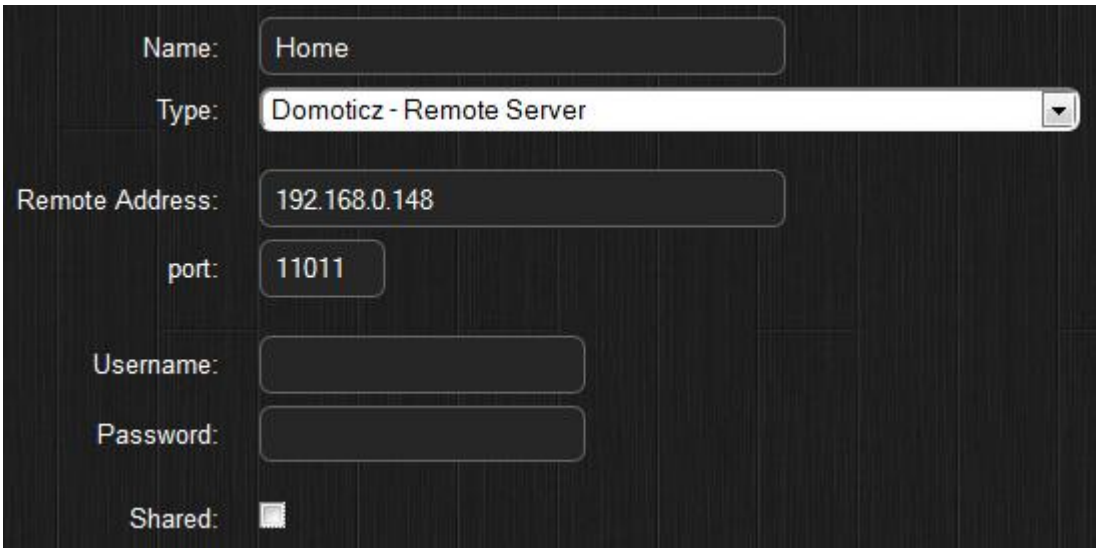
The TCP port has to be a free port, not being used by the system.

To enable this share from outside your home, you will have to add a rule to the firewall/router.

Consult the documentation of the router on how to setup a Firewall/NAT/Forward rule.

Domoticz Remote Server

This device can connect to a Shared Hardware device.



By pressing the ADD button, the hardware is added to the system and will automatically start.

You can see a debug console (windows) by pressing the right mouse button on the Domoticz icon in the system tray.

If you have sensors like Rain/Temperature meters, wait a few minutes and the system has recognized them. This can be seen in the 'Devices' tab.

Devices

Once the application is running it will collect all devices found/received and begin logging the messages.

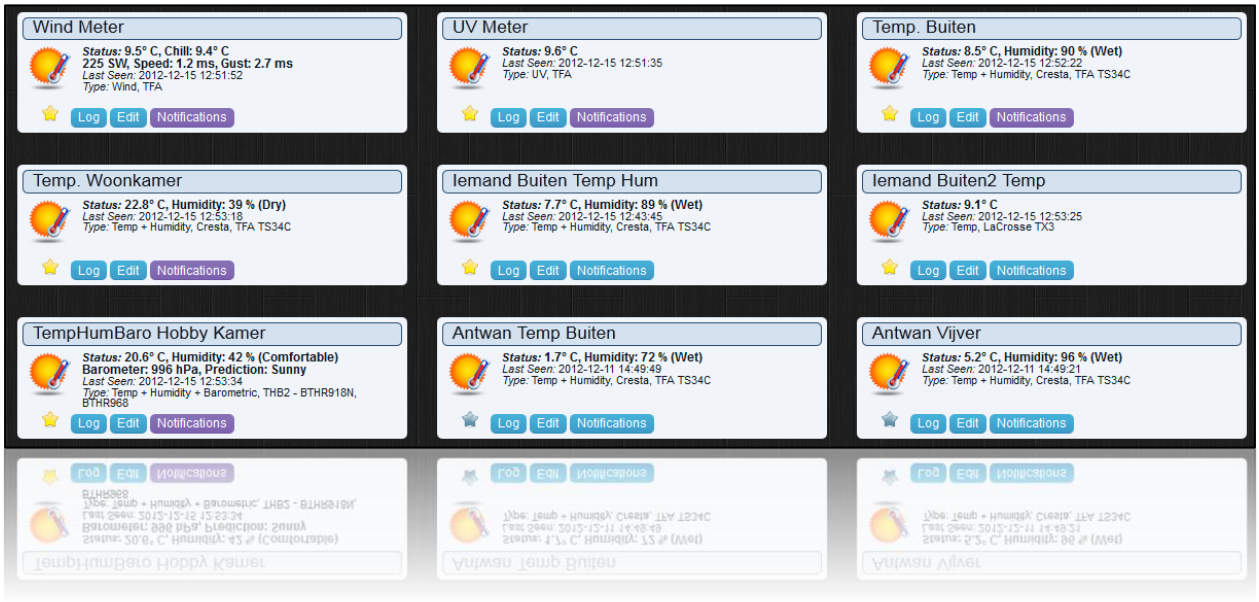
Home	36778	0	Wind Meter	Wind	TFA	0, 202.00;SSW;13;25;8.7;8.3	2012-12-0
Home	12302	1	Temp. Livingroom	Temp + Humidity	Cresta, TFA TS34C	23.5 C, 34 %	2012-12-0
Home	22798	2	Temp. Outside	Temp + Humidity	Cresta, TFA TS34C	4.0 C, 94 %	2012-12-02
Home	32780	0	Rain Meter	Rain	TFA	0, 0;672.7	2012-12-02
Home	0674EE6	10	LightSwitch Hobby Room	Lighting 2	AC	On, Level: 100 %	2012-12-02
Home	36624	0	UV Meter	UV	TFA	0.1 UVI, 7.0° C	2012-12-02
Emma	69	2	not used	Lighting 1	ARC	On	2012-12-02
Home	073E33A	10	Dusk Detector	Lighting 2	AC	Off	2012-12-02
Home	04DDB3E	1	Outside Light	Lighting 2	AC	Off	2012-12-02
Home	79	4	not used	Lighting 1	ARC	Off	2012-12-02
Home	79	2	not used	Lighting 1	ARC	Off	2012-12-02
Home	79	3	not used	Lighting 1	ARC	Off	2012-12-02
Home	79	1	Sunset Switch	Lighting 1	ARC	Off	2012-12-02
Home	049D532	1	Doorbell Side	Lighting 2	AC	Group On, Level: 100 %	2012-12-01
Home	07FDFF	1	not used	Lighting 5	BBSB new	On	2012-12-01
Home	07FFFF	1	not used	Lighting 5	BBSB new	On	2012-12-01

Devices can be Added/Removed from this tab. Light devices can also be added to the system from the ‘Lights/Switches’ tab.

To Add temperature/weather sensors press the add button, and enter a name. You will now find them in their respective tabs.

Temperature

The temperature tab includes all sensors that have a temperature sensor.



A temperature sensor can also include a Humidity sensor.

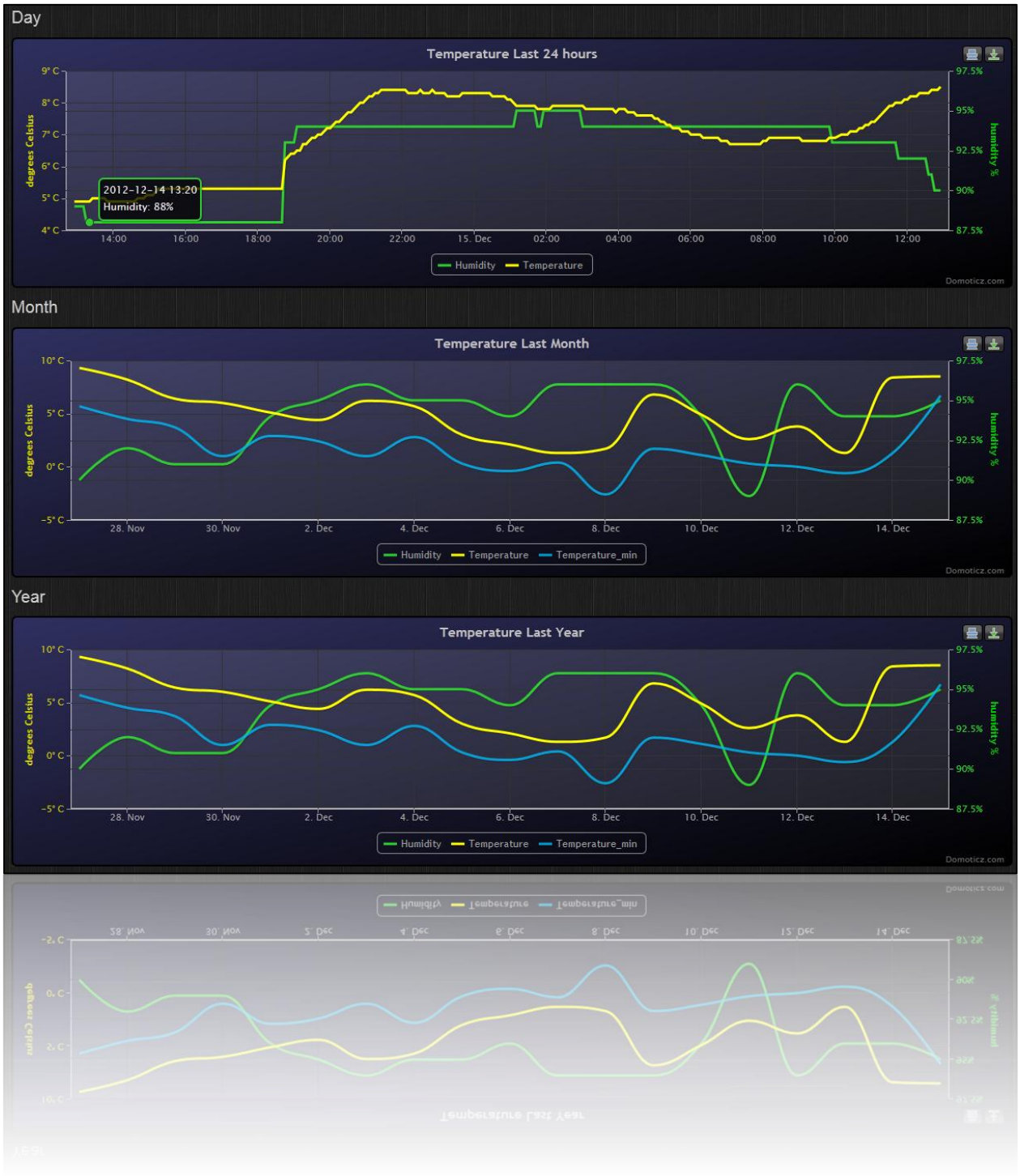
Each item has the following options:

- Favorite push icon (to display this device on the Dashboard tab)
- Log (Displays the log)
- Edit (Edit device parameters)
- Notifications (see Notification chapter)

By Dragging/Dropping the sensor items, you can change the position of the devices in the window.

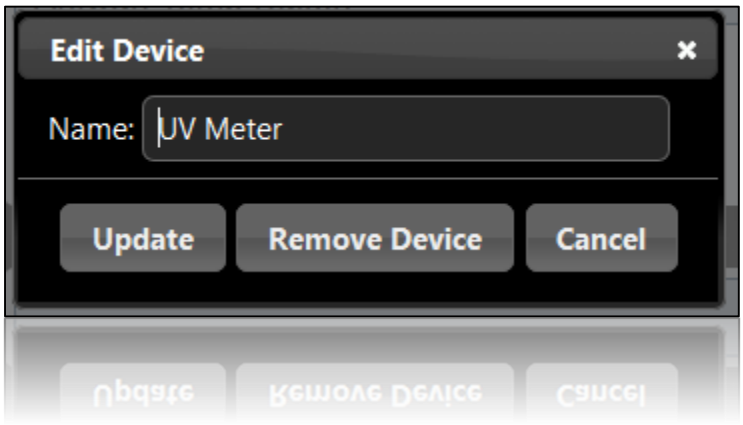
Log

By pressing the log button you can see the log of the sensor. It is possible to zoom in/out.



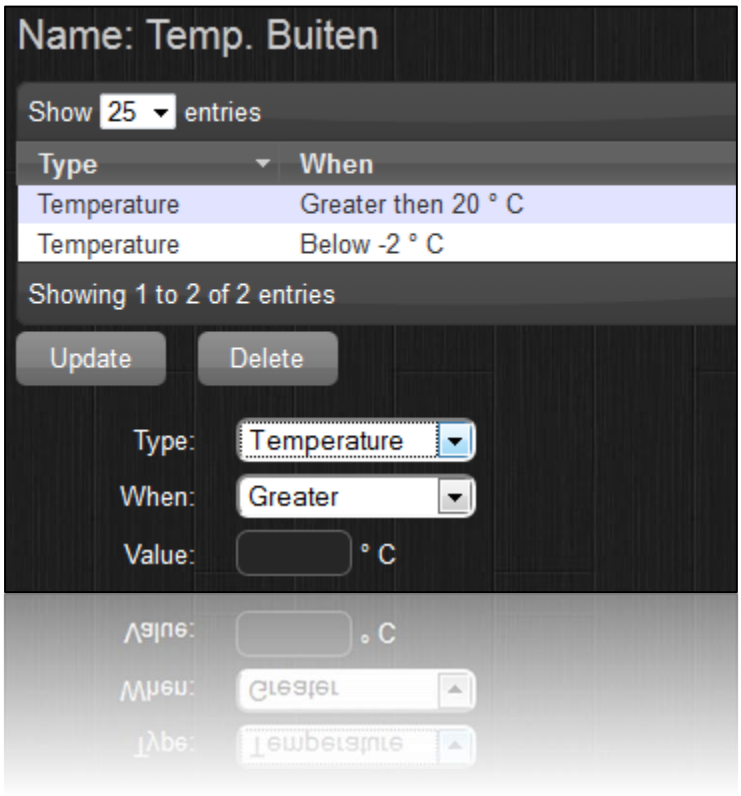
By pressing the BACK button you return to the overview.

Edit



In this dialog you can rename the device, or remove it

Notifications



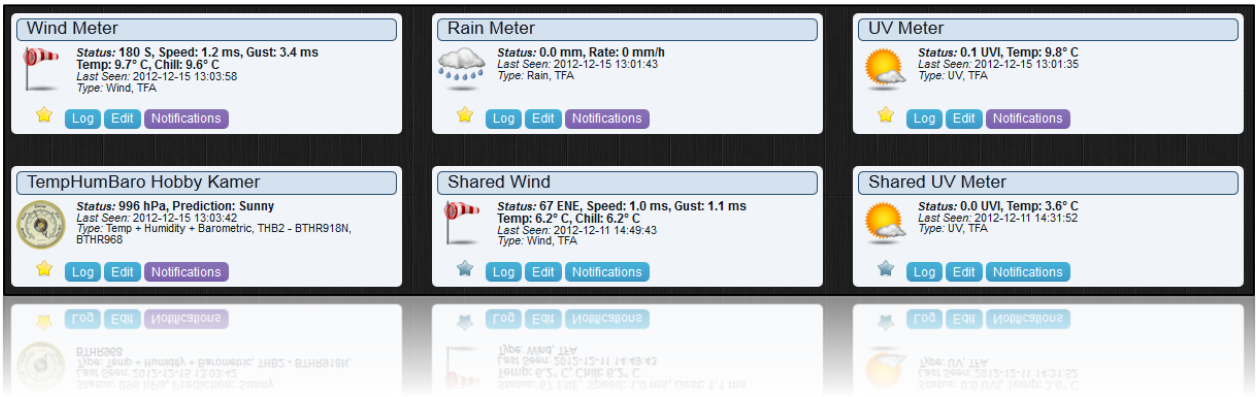
Each device has different notifications (depending on the hardware options).

For example, in the above screenshot, you want to be notified if the temperature drops below -2 degrees.

See the Notification chapter for more details.

Weather

The weather tab includes all sensors that are related to weather...



A weather sensor can be:

- Rain Meter
- Wind Meter
- UV Meter
- Barometer

Each item has the following options:

- Favorite push icon (to display this device on the Dashboard tab)
- Log (Displays the log)
- Edit (Edit device parameters)
- Notifications (see Notification chapter)

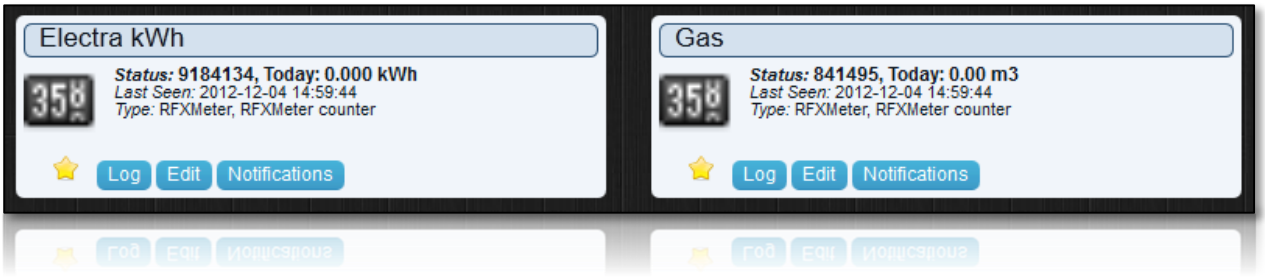
By Dragging/Dropping the sensor items, you can change the position of the devices in the window.

Log


Rainfall Last week
Rainfaill (mm)
25
20
15
10
5
0
19.6
12.6
9.1
0
0.7
0
0
0
Sat
Sun
Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat
Domoticz.com
Month
Rainfall Last Month
Rainfaill (mm)
16. Nov
18. Nov
20. Nov
22. Nov
24. Nov
26. Nov
28. Nov
30. Nov
2. Dec
4. Dec
6. Dec
8. Dec
10. Dec
12. Dec
14. Dec
Domoticz.com
Year
Rainfall Last Year
Rainfaill (mm)
6. Nov
8. Nov
10. Nov
12. Nov
14. Nov
16. Nov
18. Nov
20. Nov
22. Nov
24. Nov
26. Nov
28. Nov
30. Nov
2. Dec
4. Dec
6. Dec
8. Dec
10. Dec
12. Dec
14. Dec
Domoticz.com

Utility

The utility tab includes Meter Sensors (Energy / Gas / P1)



Each item has the following options:

- Favorite push icon (to display this device on the Dashboard tab)
- Log (Displays the log)
- Edit (Edit device parameters)
- Notifications (see Notification chapter)

By Dragging/Dropping the sensor items, you can change the position of the devices in the window.

*to-do: this chapter needs to be updated

Lights/Switches

The lights/switches tab includes devices like:

- Light Switches
- Door sensors
- Blinds
- Doorbells
- Security
- Sirens
- …

This chapter can be the most difficult part to setup. (Depending on your needs)

Each item has the following options:

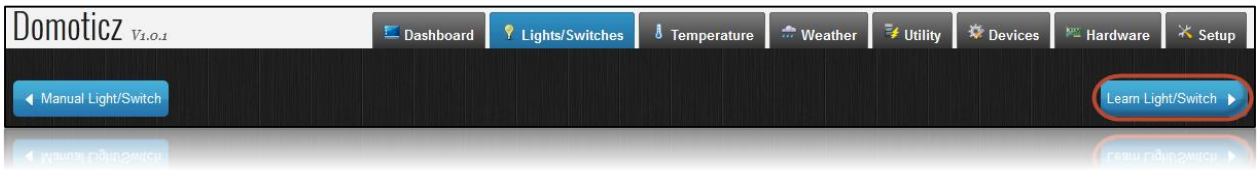
- Status icon that can be push to toggle on/off status (depending on the hardware)
- Favorite push icon (to display this device on the Dashboard tab)
- Log (Displays the log)
- Edit (Edit device parameters)
- Notifications (see Notification chapter)

By Dragging/Dropping the sensor items, you can change the position of the devices in the window.

Lights and Switches can be added by:

- Auto Learning
- Manual Setup
- From the devices tab

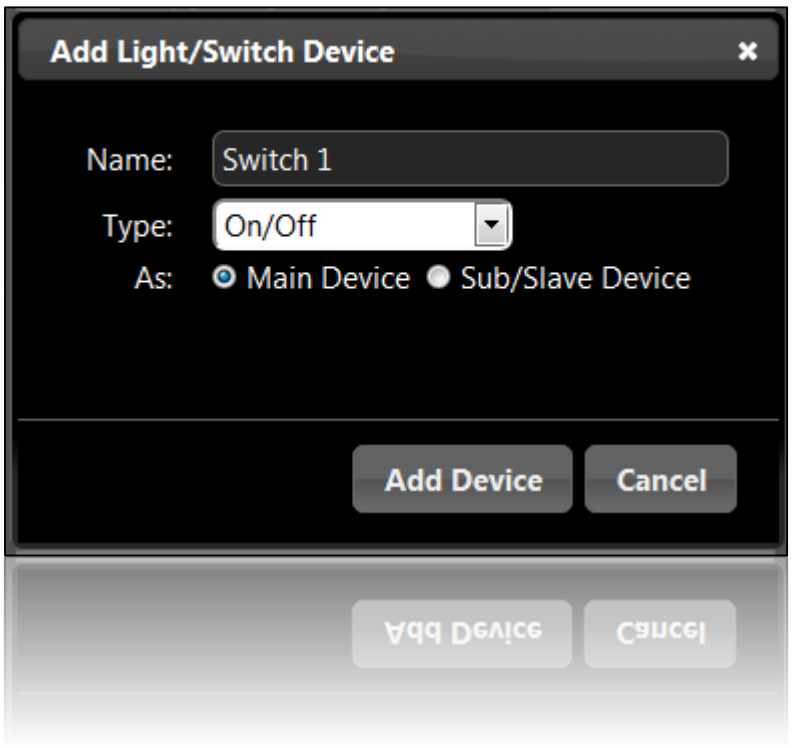
Adding a Light/Switch by Auto Learning



By pressing the 'Learn Light/Switch' button you have 5 seconds to press the remote/switch/sensor.

If this time is too short you should position yourself nearer the remote/switch/sensor by using a portable computer such as Tablet or Smartphone

Once you press the button the following screen is presented:



For the switch type there are various options to choose from:

- On/Off (a normal switch/remote button)
- Doorbell
- Contact (like a door sensor)
- Blinds
- X10 Siren device

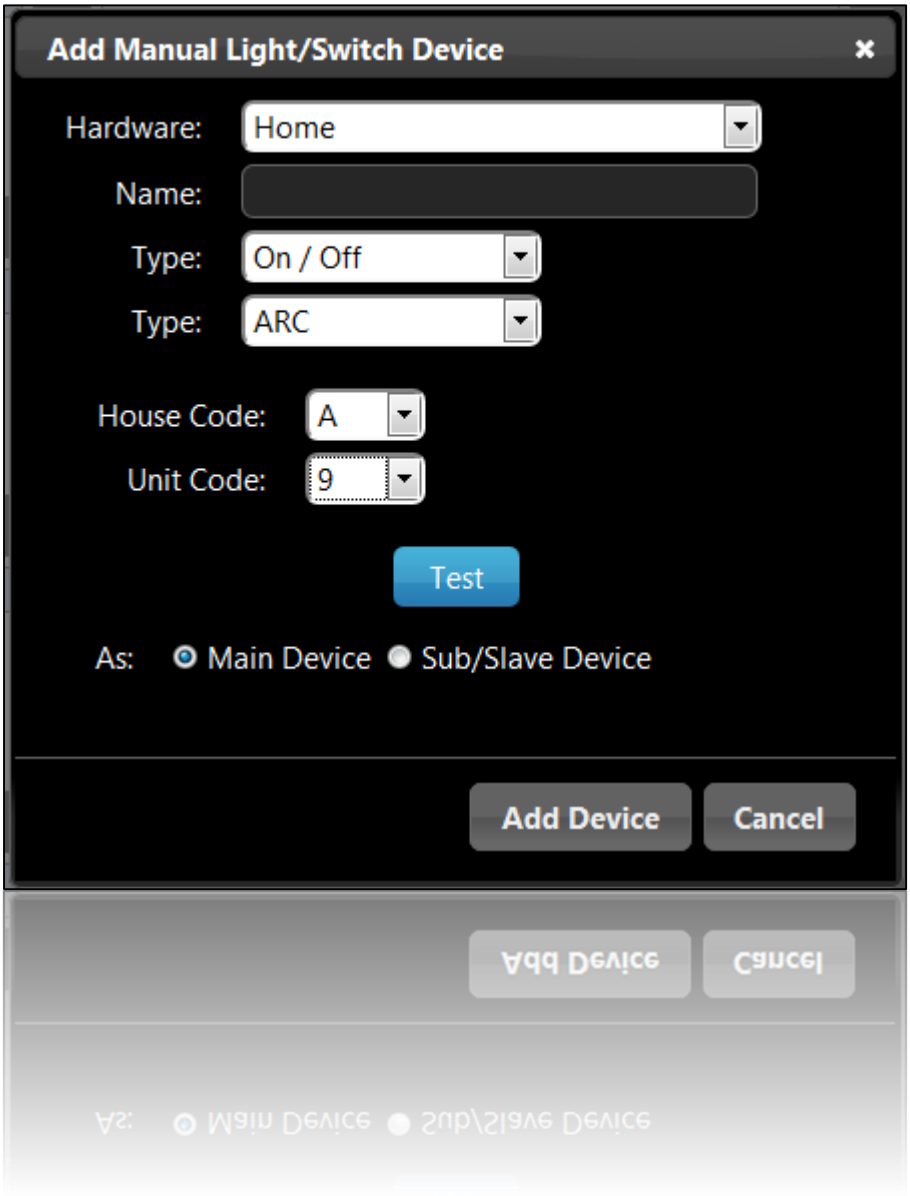
Normally you setup a new light as a 'Main' device, but it can also be a Sub/Slave device.

More about Sub/Slave devices later.

Adding a Light/Switch Manually

If you know the switch brand/type/address it is also possible to enter the parameters by hand.

It is also possible to create a new ‘virtual’ device that can control a light without having to buy a remote/switch.



Sub/Slave Devices

(One of the most difficult chapters)

What is a Sub/Slave Device

Most Lights can be controlled from up to 6 remotes.

See the following two examples:

Example 1 (Outdoor Light)

Imagine you have an outdoor light that is controlled by a switch **(*a)** from inside the house.

It is possible to buy small remote controllers **(*b)** for on a keychain.

When you also want to control the outside light from this small remote, the small remote **(*b)** is a Sub/Slave device from the main switch **(*a)**.

Example 2 (Floor Lights)

Imagine you have a house with two floors, each floor has its own switch **(*a, first floor)** and **(*b, second floor)**.

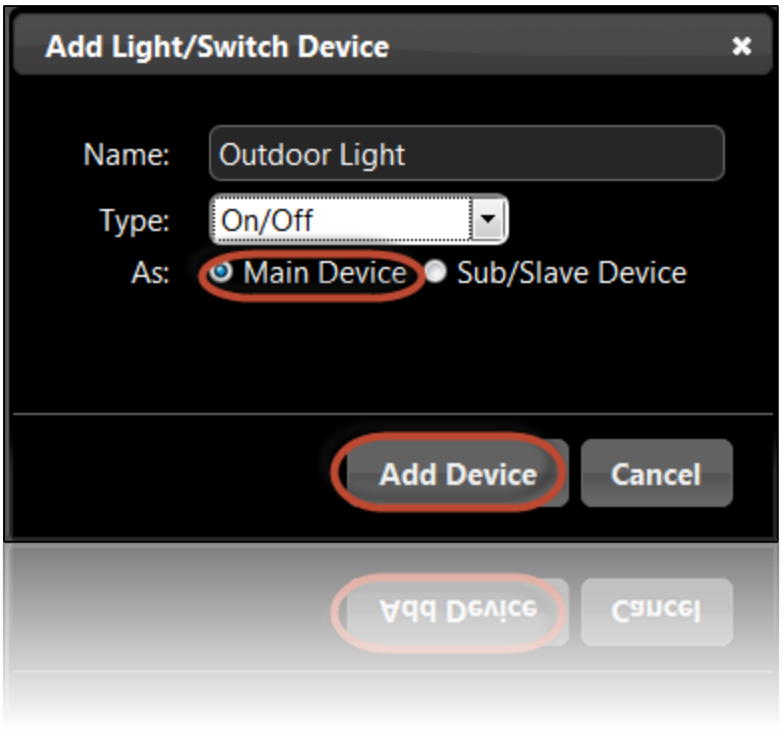
Downstairs next to your exit door you have a switch **(*c)** to turn ON / OFF ALL the lights.

In this case the switch **(*c)** is a Sub/Slave device for switch **(*a, first floor)** and **(*b, second floor)**

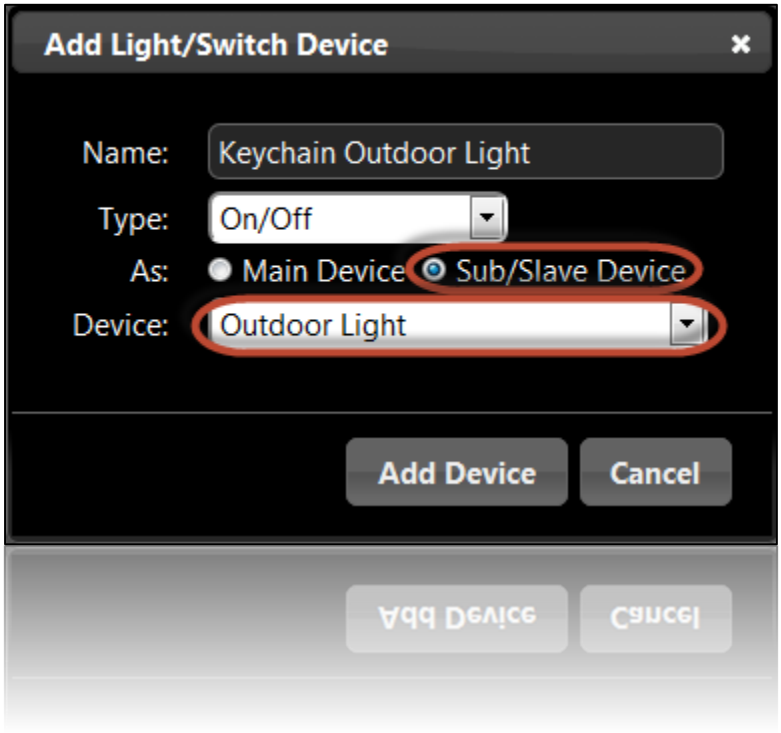
Consult your hardware manual on how to setup two/multiple switches for one light.

Example 1 (Outdoor Light) Setup

First you add the normal in-house switch **(*a)** like adding a normal Main light/switch as shown above:



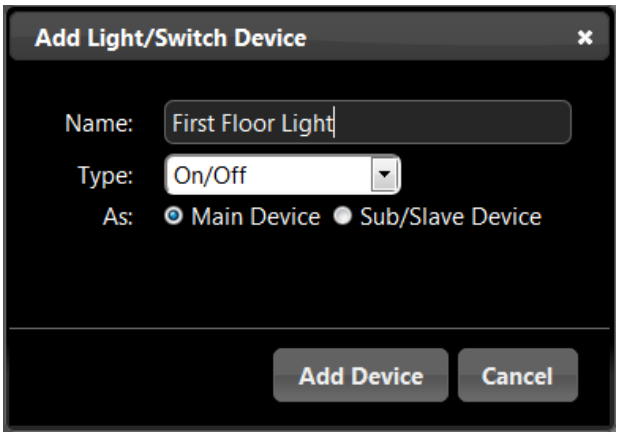
Next we are going to add the keychain remote **(*b)**, but instead of choosing to set it up as Main device, we are selecting 'Sub/Slave' device:

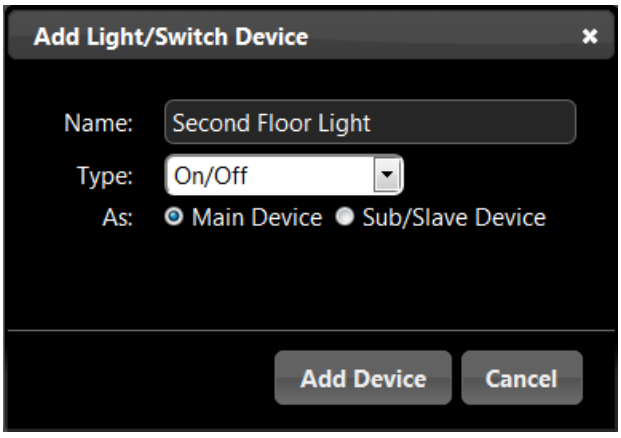


When selecting 'Sub/Slave' Device, a new option will become visible, and here we select the 'Main' device, in this case the 'Outdoor Light'.

Example 2 (Floor Lights) Setup

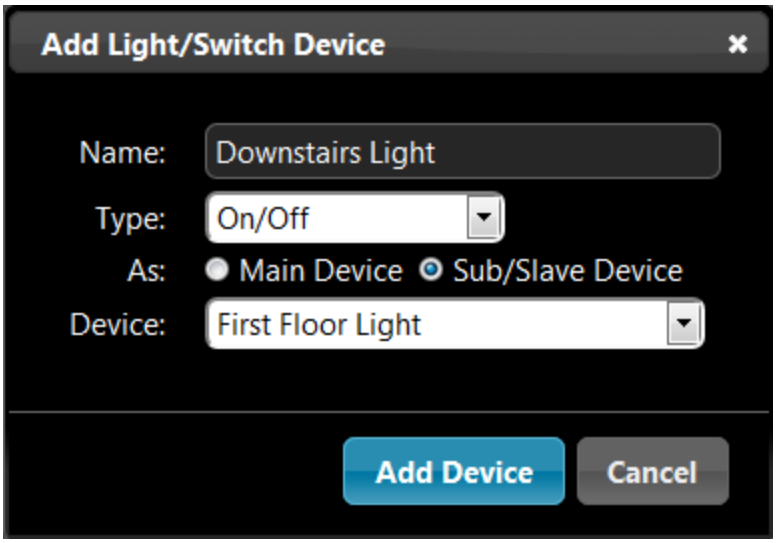
First you add the two floor lights **(*a)** and **(*b)** like adding a normal Main light/switch as shown above:





Next we are going to add the downstairs switch **(*c)** that can turn ON / OFF both floor lights.

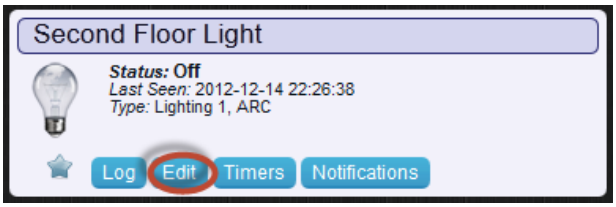
Remember to select Sub/Slave Device:



Select the First Floor Light **(*a)** as the Main device.

Now that we have added the 'Downstairs Light' we can also make this a Sub/Slave device for another Main Device.

To at the 'Downstairs Light' as a Sub/Slave device for the 'Second Floor Light' **(*b)** press the 'Edit' button:



From the Sub/Slave devices select the Downstairs Light **(*c)** and press ADD.

Now this Sub/Slave device is also assigned to this device.

Notifications

What are Notifications?

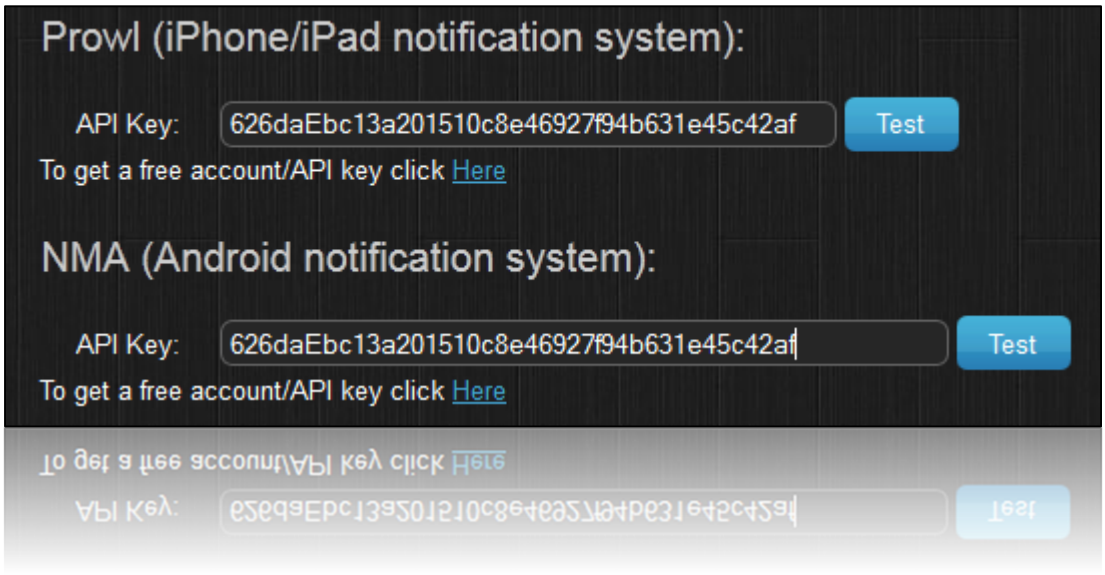
Notifications can be used when you want to know if a switch is pressed (for example a doorbell), or when a temperature is below/above a certain degree, or when you power usage is above xxx Watt, etc.

Each device has different parameters for notifications, a switch might have an On/Off state, a temperature device might have a temperature/humidity and a wind meter might have wind force/speed/chill…

Setting up the Notification System

Notifications are sent via the Prowl (iPhone) or NMA (Android) system.

You need to create a (free) account for one/all of the above systems. Then the API key has to be specified in the Settings tab:



If you use one of the above systems, you need to download the client on your mobile/tablet device.

The price of the client is around 3 dollars. (On most devices, buy one time, use on all your devices)

Receiver improvements

Another antenna is officially not allowed because the RFXtrx is certified with the supplied antenna.

But to increase the receiving range you can connect (for example) a 190073 Conrad 433MHz ground plane, however this will also increase the radiated transmit power which is illegal! (If you are not licensed to it.)

The following adapter can be used for SMA- to BNC:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/BNC-female-SMA-male-plug-coax-connector-adapter-/180454327185?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item2a03ea8391

The location of the sensor and the RFXCOM is also important if the RF signal has to pass through walls. See chapter 2.4 in the RFXtrx User Guide

http://www.rfxcom.com/documents/RFXtrx%20User%20Guide.pdf

It is expected that RF interference is happening if sensor signals disappear for several hours. RF interference will also occur if sensors of the same type are configured to the same channel.

If sensors disappear for a longer period the source of the problem can be another transmitter that is transmitting continuously or with short intervals.

If X10 MS13 sensors are in use check the battery in this sensor because when the battery becomes almost empty the MS13 starts transmitting a weak continuous RF signal but just enough to disturb the sensitive RFXCOM receiving.

Participation

We always welcome talented C++/HTML5/JQuery developers.

If you think you want to help, please contact us at Info@Domoticz.com

Thanks

Thanks go out to all people that have helped during development and testing.