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## PowerShell Conference Europe

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# Automagical Web Documentation for PowerShell Modules

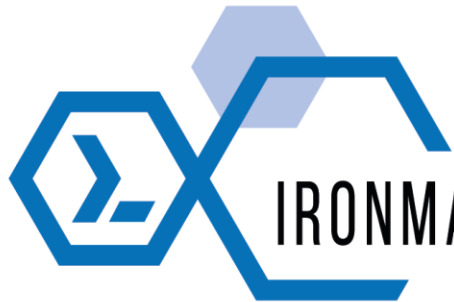
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*Shaun Lawrie*

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# Shaun Lawrie



Studied to be a musician...  
Ended up working in Performance Engineering, Testing, Development, Site Reliability and more with some of the largest web platforms in New Zealand over the last 10 years.



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# What is Automagical Documentation?

- Documentation that automatically generates from your code
- Interactive examples that work
- Available on the web and in Get-Help

## Examples

### Example 1

This example demonstrates a selection prompt with a custom title and choices.

```
...  
  
$color = Read-SpectreSelection -Message "Select your favorite color" -Choices @("Red", "Green", "Blue") -Color "Green"  
# Type "↓", "↑", "↓", "↑", "↓" to wrap around the list and choose green  
Write-SpectreHost "Your chosen color is '$color'"
```

Select your favorite color

```
> Red  
  Green  
  Blue
```



# PwshSpectreConsole Help

## PwshSpectreConsole

A module to help you build pretty scripts with Spectre.Console in PowerShell.

Install →

Command Reference →



```
":face_with_tongue: What's for dinner?" | Format-SpectrePanel -Expand  
Read-SpectreSelection -Choices @("Sushi", "Pizza", "Burgers", "Tacos")
```

👤 What's for dinner?

Sushi  
> Pizza  
Burgers

(Move up and down to reveal more choices)

# Help Generation Steps

- UpdateDocs.ps1
  1. Dump Comment Based Help to Markdown
  2. Record all the Examples
  3. Embed everything in a Website

# 1. Dump Help to Markdown

- Microsoft.PowerShell.PlatyPS
  - Create an object model of the help file that we can manipulate in memory
  - Modify example data for recorded examples
  - Export to Markdown



## 2. Record the Examples

- Charmbracelet.VHS
  - Record a terminal session via a “tape” file to gif/video
  - Convert example comments into interactions e.g., “# INPUT: Type 'Hello'”



# 3. Embed Everything in a Website

- Astro Starlight
  - Starlight is a document site template like Docusaurus, for Astro.
  - Ensure Images and Markdown are in the correct place, and we should be good!



# Demos

We love Demos!



# Q&A

15 minutes

