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Software ▸ **Developer**

Are you an Olympian of software, a titan of tech? Prove it in our coding competition

Alienware and Oculus Rift kit up for grabs

28 Jun 2016 at 10:03, David Gordon

7   10

Compo If you've been itching for a chance to go head to head with your fellow *Reg* readers to demonstrate your coding chops, and grab yourself a spanking set of gaming hardware into the bargain, we may have just the thing…

We've gotten together with the folks at IBM to set a coding challenge that will see the lucky winner walking away with an Alienware gaming system. What, no monitor? No, the winner will also be strapping on a set of Oculus Rift goggles.

Now, of course, we're not just giving the stuff away. As the bumf puts it, "The competition is designed to encourage efficient software development according to principles that have in many cases been abandoned in favour of lashing together something that just about works after a few user complaints and iteration."

Entries should favour proper design over brute force, be open to objective testing, and focus on the engineering task at hand - input and output are textual, so GUIs don't come into it.

The problem itself revolves around producing a league table for a sporting event. Easy, you say? It's the decathalon: 10 events with different scoring mechanisms. And multiple competitors. Feeling lucky now? You can get the full SP on the challenge below.

You can use Java, VB, Swift, C'Dent, Node, PHP or Python. And you've got until August 28 to get your entry in. Full rules are here.

So, if you want to get ready for an Autumn of high-end gaming and VR whatever you want, get coding NOW.

Tips and corrections

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