

TechTalk



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Galaxy Launches 'EventGym' - A Platform That Enables Businesses to Create Their Own Customized Event Apps



Galaxy launched its first of a series of branded offerings 'EventGym', under its GalaxY Mobility (GYM) brand. It is developed in response to the rising demand for a convenient and customizable mobile event app for businesses and event management companies. This platform allows businesses to create their own branded event and conference apps to connect with their attendees before, during and after an event.

With the unique features that enable peer collaboration, digital business card exchange, app customization, survey, and feedback analysis, EventGym can help marketers to maximize RoI from their events. It improves efficiency, keeps the cost under control while providing flexibility and visibility to the event sponsors.

The free EventGym app is now available for download on Android, iOS and mobile web version. EventGym offers a free single trial event with limited branding for the users. Also, it offers a range of comprehensive plans for all the business needs with special customization plans suited to the requirements. For more information or to request a demo, please visit www.eventgym.com.

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MD Speaks



"Dear Readers,

On behalf of all at Galaxy, I would like to wish all readers a very happy Diwali and prosperous new year.

I am proud to announce that October also saw the launch of EventGym - our mobility platform for events and conferences. This is an initiative on our mobility division and enables our customers to create mobile apps for their events on Android and iOS very quickly and without any programming whatsoever. Please visit Eventgym.com to know more about this exciting platform.

Last month also saw some boardroom turmoil at one of India's oldest and largest business houses which also is among our most important customers. I am sure that the group will only emerge stronger from this turmoil and continue to lead in all their ventures.

It's also that time of the year when you need to take stock of your software assets and re-evaluate their actual need and optimal usage. We will be happy to help you optimize your assets and assure you healthy savings on this account. Do reach out to any of our executives to learn more about these offerings.

Happy Reading."

AP Dhingra

The Future is Now

Germany Has the World's First Hydrogen-Powered Passenger Train

Not all groundbreaking changes are about speed.



When it comes to rail innovations, it's usually the fastest, longest and most expensive new connections or rolling stock that grab people's attention. Next year, however, Germany will buck that trend with something that's both ground-breaking and singularly modest. German rail's most innovative project for 2017 won't go, especially fast, and you've probably never heard of the cities it will link. It will still revolutionize rail travel, quite possibly across the world, with one dramatic change. In December 2017, Germany will launch the first ever passenger rail service powered by hydrogen.

Unveiled by French manufacturers Alstom this month, the new Coradia iLint will feature a motor that gains its power from a hydrogen tank and a fuel cell. Stored in a tank large enough to fuel a 497-mile journey, the hydrogen's chemical energy will be converted into electricity by the fuel cell, propelling the train at up to 87 miles per hour. Any energy not used immediately is stored in Lithium batteries attached to the car bottom. Producing nothing but steam as a by-product, the motor will run far more quietly and cleanly than a diesel engine. What's more, the train's new fuel source will effectively make it carbon-neutral, albeit in a roundabout sort of way.

That's because the hydrogen it will use is already created as a waste product by the chemical industry, among other manufacturers. Typically, this hydrogen is simply burned, so using it to power trains would not place any new, additional burden on the environment. Admittedly, the production of such chemicals is itself not always carbon-neutral, but given that these substances are already being manufactured, the train project will at least ensure that this process is more productive. This new technology would be truly revolutionary were it not for a simple fact: trains powered by conventional electric sources are not inherently dirty. Their environmental impact essentially depends on how the electricity they generate is used. It's thus arguably more important to focus on green energy generation, rather than changes to the actual trains themselves.

Still, that's only the case for railway lines that are already electrified. Across the world many are not, and currently rely on far more heavily polluting diesel engines. Electrifying minor routes with low passenger numbers might not always be cost effective, and with rail in competition with other modes it can be hard to make the argument for investment. This new hydrogen train is thus perfect for shorter, quieter stretches of the network that electrification hasn't yet reached. Germany's first Coradia iLint models are thus being tried out first on an internationally obscure 60-mile link between Buxtehude, a city lying just beyond Hamburg's southern suburbs, and the small port and beach town of Cuxhaven. Outside this region, three other German states signed letters of intent in 2014 expressing a serious interest in adopting the model, and so the trains could soon be a fixture across many of Germany's smaller lines.

Also helping with orders is the fact that the new train isn't an entirely unknown quantity. Beyond the hydrogen tank and fuel cell, the train's design is no different from a successful Alstom train already in service that can transport 150 sitting and 300 standing. Meanwhile, some existing small light rail systems already run on hydrogen power and fuel cells. The tiny Oranjestad Streetcar on the Caribbean island of Aruba started running in winter 2012, while the larger Dubai Trolley began partial service last year. Neither of these, however, are on anything like the scale of Germany's new train.

UAE's First 3D Printed Unmanned Car "Wigo"



UAE has emerged as one of the world's most significant incubators for invention through its vigor and constant steps towards constituting the future and creating a milestone in the history of technologies.

Recently, GITEX Technology hosted an event at the World Trade Center that was focused on tech innovations within the Middle East. UAE-based company DigiRobotics took this opportunity to unveil the country's first 3D printed self-driving vehicle. This autonomous vehicle is known as Wigo and it has been created, assembled and programmed in the UAE.

Wigo, the unmanned vehicle was unveiled at the 36th edition of GITEX. During this ceremony, this vehicle was utilized to bring the visitors and guests from the DWTC metro station to the main gate of the exhibition. Manufactured with eco-friendliness, this powerful autonomous vehicle incorporates hi-tech GPS tracking system and robust sensor system that enables the vehicle to detect obstacles in its way so that it can opt for

another route. The developers of Wigo stated that the vehicle is completely safe for the passengers. The interior of this 3D printed unmanned vehicle combines two pairs of seats, both facing each other and four iPads for the travelers to locate the direction; however, it can also be used for the entertainment purposes. This autonomous vehicle also includes a large screen for the passengers.

The technical innovative vehicle "Wigo" has developed by DigiRobotics in acknowledgement to the automotive initiatory put out by Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. He wishes to make 25% of the country's vehicles autonomous by the end of 2030. However, it has not yet been confirmed that this autonomous vehicle will be available for commercial purpose. With this invention, the Middle East has once again proved that it may become world leader in technologies development. This innovation will surely be remembered as a remarkable milestone in the history of UAE's automation.

Technology Focus

Wi-Fi AP Vendors Getting Creative to Stand Out in the Market

Vendors Extreme Networks and Mist are promoting Wi-Fi APs that include services delivered today by other devices on the wireless network. The new products are unique in the market, but experts expect that to change



To stand out in the market, wireless LAN vendors are combining their latest Wi-Fi access points with other devices, pitching the unified systems as less expensive than separate hardware.

Recent examples of the trend include Extreme Networks Inc.'s introduction of an integrated video camera and access point (AP) and Mist's launch of an AP with a virtual beacon for providing location-based services. Both APs deliver the latest Wi-Fi standard, 802.11ac Wave 2, which has a theoretical speed of 7 Gbps on the 5 GHz band.

Most WLAN vendors have Wi-Fi APs with specialty antennas that communicate with internet-enabled lighting, environmental controls and security devices. As a result, such features have become commodities, forcing vendors to get more creative to stand out. Setting itself apart from the competition was behind Extreme's combined camera and Wi-Fi AP, called the 3916. The company said it believes the product will attract new business, while keeping existing customers interested, said Mike Leibovitz, product strategy director at Extreme, based in San Jose, Calif.

"We thought that the camera AP was almost an obvious convergence point -- something new and hopefully attractive," he said. The camera-sporting AP is unique in the market today, said Nolan Greene, an analyst at IDC. "To my knowledge, Extreme is the only one to achieve that level of integration."

University 'intrigued' with camera AP: Anupam Singh, director of network operations at Suffolk University in Boston, said he was "definitely intrigued by the idea" of a camera-AP combo. The university could reduce costs by using one device for Wi-Fi and for recording lectures in classrooms, Singh said.

The 3916's 2-megapixel camera might not provide the picture clarity the university needs, Singh said. Nevertheless, such products are worth following.

"I will keep an eye on this product category and evaluate it when it matures a bit more," he said. "It has the potential for some cost savings."

Suffolk is a WLAN customer of Extreme and Hewlett Packard Enterprise. The school uses Extreme for wired access and HPE Aruba APs.

Besides schools, Extreme said it believes hospitals, medical clinics, government offices and enterprise campuses would also find the 3916 useful, Leibovitz said. How the product evolves will depend on how customers use it.

Today, the stationary camera provides a wide-view angle of an area. It can feed video to any digital recorder compliant with standards set by the Open Network Video Interface Forum. For security, companies can use Extreme's on-premises or cloud-based management tools to set policies that separate the video stream from other traffic on the wireless network.

Extreme plans to release the 3916 in the first quarter of next year and has not disclosed pricing.

Mist vBLE AP a rare offering -- for now: While Extreme is testing the market for camera APs, Mist has its eye on retailers, sports venues and conference centers that want to deploy wayfinding, promotional and informational services. The vendor's Wave 2 AP with a virtualized Bluetooth Low Energy (vBLE) beacon is meant to eliminate the need for a separate, battery-powered device to anchor indoor services. The vBLE AP, introduced in June, is capable of locational accuracy within 1 to 3 meters.

Tech News

Samsung to Introspect Post Galaxy Note 7 Debacle: CEO



It is now well documented, that Samsung landed in plenty of soup with the rather inflammable Galaxy Note 7 phablet, which it expected to perform well with its features. But with the explosions taking place ever so frequently on a worldwide scale, it spelt doom for the company, and it currently has gone into an introspection mood. Samsung CEO Kwon Oh-Hyun conveyed in a speech delivered at an event held to celebrate Samsung Electronics' 47th anniversary that the company will now focus on more internal monitoring in order to improve its crisis management operations.

The CEO's speech was meant to urge executives to make systematic changes on Samsung's traditional way of doing business, and managing the organization. He said, "We have a long history of overcoming crises. Let us use this crisis as a chance to make another leap by re-examining and thoroughly improving how we work, how we think about innovation and our perspective of our customers." While subjective, his words could well point towards serious corporate correction

measures in order to ensure, that all those linked to the Note 7 debacle, will indeed be pushed out of the Samsung eco-system.

Samsung loss in terms of brand value and consumer trust is practically immense. Branding Brand surveys indicated that out of 1,000 surveyed consumers, post the Note 7 fiasco, nearly one-third or around 34% said that they would not buy any other product from the brand. This is outlined by the fact that a World Economic Forum and survey showed at 3/5th of CEOs believed that brand reputation represented as much as 40% of their entire market capitalization, which implies how sensitive a zone Samsung has been hit with the Note 7 disaster.

Tech News

Wipro to Strengthen Cloud Business from Appirio Buyout



In a big ticket purchase, tech giant Wipro is buying Appirio for USD 500 million, in order to consolidate its position in the cloud services segment, and work on getting a stronger market presence around Salesforce and Workday. The acquisition is slated to be closed around the end of the year, and the new venture will have the Appirio CEO, Chris Barbin heading the new business initiatives of the company.

Appirio is known for its services towards entities like Salesforce.com, Google Apps, Workday, Amazon Web Services, and Concur, operating on a subscription based model. This development would also allow Wipro to consolidate its existing cloud applications practices of Salesforce and Workday under the Appirio brand and structure. Post the deal, the new entity will become the largest cloud transformation company in the world, which will enable the clients to choose them over competitors, with an aim to modernize the processes and platforms for the next generation applications. Wipro on the other hand, stands to gain an elite set of customers, including Coca-Cola, eBay, Facebook, and Home Depot, Johnson Controls, Cardinal Health, Sony

PlayStation, and Stryker, which Appirio has worked with, in the past.

Chris Barbin spoke about the deal and the aim of the process, saying "When you combine Wipro's global scale and deep digital focus with Appirio's transformative worker and customer experience expertise, and best in class team, brand and partners, you create a formidable force in the industry. Our aim is to dominate the market and claim the top spots in industry Net Promoter Score, market share, and best places to work."

Appirio also happens to be an early partner of Google, and has considerable expertise in the crowdsourcing space, ever since their creation called Topcoder, which is a platform for connecting millions of designers, data scientists, and developers to create solutions for customers.

Abidali Neemuchwala, the CEO of Wipro, spoke about his assessment and rationale of the deal, saying "In an increasingly digital world, companies are recognizing that they need to transform how they engage with customers and employees by leverage the power of cloud. Appirio and Wipro are coming together to unlock transformational synergies in the applications space and help enterprises create new business models." The sign of Wipro's faith can have traced back to the fact that Appirio, which was once housed inside Salesforce' San Francisco headquarters, now has independent offices across Indianapolis, San Francisco, Dublin, London, Tokyo, and Jaipur.

India's 1st Start-up Incubation at B'lore Metro Rail Station



Candor Management Services, a provider of human capital transformation services signed a definitive agreement with Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation to setup a new business incubation center at the "Namma Metro" Trinity Station, Bangalore augmenting the Karnataka government's efforts to position Bengaluru as one of the top startup ecosystems in the world.

"candorHUB's single point agenda is to transform societal value to make a significant impact in our society, "said S. Srikrishna, Director-Finance Candor Management Services and Lead Principal, candorHUB," We are industry agnostic and will not reject any startup application for reasons that it doesn't fit a pre-conceived vertical. Having said this, initially candorHUB will foster technology centered digitization initiatives across key sectors like healthcare, education, financial verticals," he added.

Appropriately branded "candorHUB", the state-of-the-art incubation ecosystem, will nurture startups in bringing their innovations to market efficiently; providing them with an array of startup advisory, business support, co-working space, structured training programs in addition to extending much needed linkages with industry sponsors, mentors, investors, and accelerators.

During such events, startups will also get to meet a variety of successful startup founders, sponsor customers, investors, and benefit from their valuable advice and host a pitch day event where each startup will present their offerings to an invite only seed-stage investors, sponsor customers and mentors.

"We will extend full support to Candor in setting up their new business incubation center at Trinity metro station, "said U A Vasanth Rao General Manager Finance (Taxation & Resources), & Chief Public Relation Officer Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited, "Beyond providing the physical space for this initiative they have an excellent opportunity to connect with other startup eco-system stakeholders within the government and its various startup initiatives, "he added.

As a vibrant new business incubation ecosystem, candorHUB will invite startup entrepreneurs to apply for incubation program, shortlist promising startups and incubate them on a case to case basis, identify, connect and engage a suitable mentor to nurture each startup. It will also offer a state-of-art work environment and other support services, at the candorHUB centre, for startups to bring their ideas to life. The program will conduct special events, during the program period, to update startup founders with a variety of skills necessary to run their outfits.

Special Focus

How to Buy the Best Application Delivery Controller for Your Firm

From Amazon to Zillow, and anywhere in the alphabet in between, name your favorite website and think about how many web servers sit behind the name ready to handle your transaction. Dozens? Hundreds? The reason that you don't need to know? Because an application delivery controller (ADC) sits between you and the web server farm to manage the traffic between you and any number of back-end servers. In a nutshell, the ADC controls the delivery of the web application to you -- hence the name.

In the early days of application delivery controllers, the processing demand on these devices was so great that most vendors developed custom ASICs to do the job. This generally translated into high costs, making these devices too costly for smaller organizations. Today, however, processing power has advanced so much that app delivery controllers with sophisticated functionality can be implemented in software and run on cost-effective general-purpose processors. Taken one step further, this allows IT staff to implement today's ADCs not only as standalone hardware devices but quite effectively as virtual appliances or as a hosted service. This can further reduce deployment cost without compromising functionality. Where a network switch has always been called a network or LAN switch, the same cannot be said of ADCs. In fact, the nomenclature morphed as the functionality increased -- from load balancer, to a Layer 4-7 switch, to ADC.

How it works: In its initial incarnation as a load balancer, an application delivery controller did just that. The device provided a single, front-end IP address that users would interact with. In fact, an ADC would often only handle the inbound request, allowing the web server to respond directly to the client for a more efficient use of resources. On the back end, the ADC used a variety of algorithms to distribute the incoming users to any number of back-end web servers. That back-end interaction would eventually include some kind of "heartbeat" message between balancer and server. This allowed the load balancer to be sure that it was not shipping off client traffic to a server that had hung or become otherwise unresponsive or unavailable.

Over the years, ADC vendors have leveraged the positioning of the device between "outside" clients and "inside" servers to improve both security and performance. Given how long ADCs and predecessor technologies have been around, you can comfortably assume a solid core of functionality. In fact, even relatively low-end ADCs are equipped with lots of features. Higher-end ADCs -- those tailored to carriers or data centers with exceptional data demands -- are cloaked with additional features such as IP reputation, application caching and federated identity services. Yet because virtually every feature implemented by an ADC is proprietary, comparing competing ADC products isn't easy. While the traffic that transits the ADC -- HTTP, FTP, DNS -- is all standardized, there are no standards in place to determine how that traffic is processed. So, shopping by checklist just doesn't work with ADCs. As a result, it's important to test the ADC you're evaluating before you make the decision to buy. Fortunately, most vendors now provide virtual appliances that can be used for this purpose. This makes the feature/function "bake-off" practical for both vendor and prospective customer alike. Read on to see which ADC features belong on your "must-have" list and which are simply "nice to have."

Your application and internet protocol: While it's likely you'll be covered; you still want to be certain that the ADC supports your company's particular set of application needs. While all will support HTTP, perhaps not all will support XML. Similarly, your company might be planning a migration to IPv6 during the lifetime of this ADC, so be certain that IPv6 support is available. SSL offload: Ideally, resources on back-end servers should be devoted to providing application services rather than networking housekeeping. Decrypting and encrypting secure socket layer (SSL) sessions can consume significant resources. Many ADCs will let you offload the SSL burden from individual servers to the ADC. SSL (HTTPS) traffic terminates at the server, while unencrypted HTTP traffic is fed to the back-end servers.

Scalable performance: You don't want to find out that you need to pull and replace an entire device just to get higher performance. Fortunately, many vendors handle performance upgrades through simple license upgrades. They will sell you a box capable of handling more throughput than you need at the onset and price the license accordingly. If and when you need more throughput, you can upgrade your license without changing or replacing any hardware. Alternatively, if you are implementing your ADC as a virtual appliance or a hosted service (which is also likely to be a virtual appliance), you can likely "spin up" additional ADC resources to meet either spikes in demand or to handle growth in user traffic. DDoS protection: Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks can effectively bring down a server just by hitting it with so many bogus requests that it doesn't have resources remaining to handle valid requests. This same DDoS attack can take down your ADC, making your entire server farm inaccessible. Thus, you will want to be sure that your ADC can fend off DDoS.

Global load balancing: Depending upon your organization and its needs, global capability may be on your must-have list. While this feature can become fairly complex, its goal is to allow your back-end server farm to consist not just of servers collocated with the ADC but also to servers that might be located elsewhere across WAN links.

Virtual appliance: While not a must-have feature, it is always nice to have the option simply to instantiate your ADC as a virtual appliance. Even if you don't intend to deploy the ADC in this manner, having a virtual appliance for testing purposes can facilitate your upgrades and maintenance of your ADC by making it easy to try out new code without it affecting your production ADC.

Data loss prevention: Some ADCs now offer a data loss prevention (DLP) function wherein they inspect outgoing data, compare that data to company policies and either flag or block outgoing data that violates that policy. It is important to remember that DLP can be a very complex function in and of itself and it might not be something that can just be "tacked on" to an ADC.

The bottom line: In the past, application delivery controllers weren't deployed widely but that isn't the case today. If you have even a few application servers -- even if they serve only internal clients -- you should consider deploying an app delivery controller. The costs for entry-level systems are sufficiently low and the benefits to be gained with respect to both improved end-user response time and system availability make ADCs a smart infrastructure investment.

Galaxy Showcases Hyper-Convergence Solutions at DELL EMC Forum 2016



Galaxy participated in the 7th edition of Dell EMC's flagship event - Dell EMC Forum 2016 in Mumbai. This is the second year in a row that Galaxy has participated in this Forum. Binding with the theme of digital transformation, Galaxy demonstrated VCE VxRail, a hyper-converged infrastructure appliance and other solutions to help support and simplify IT operations. The Galaxy pavilion was abuzz with activity and received an impressive response from industry experts.

The two-day forum addresses the demands for digital transformation and showcases advanced solutions to overcome the new challenges and elevate IT to the next level. This year, the forum focuses on the big 4 technologies namely Hybrid Cloud, Flash, Big Data and Converged Infrastructure.

Galaxy displayed its strength around hyper convergent infrastructure and demonstrated the benefits it can bring to the IT shops. Along with this, Galaxy also manifested its services and capabilities around storage assessment, software-defined data center, backup, and virtualization.



About Galaxy

- ✦ One of the most respected Information Technology integrator of the best of breed products and solutions for Enterprise Computing, Storage, Networking, Security, Automation, Application Delivery, ERP and Business Intelligence.
- ✦ An ISO 9001:2008 organization, founded in 1987.
- ✦ Committed team of over 200 skilled professionals.
- ✦ PAN India presence.
- ✦ Trusted IT services provider to more than a 1000 companies.
- ✦ Experienced consultants certified on a wide spectrum of technologies.
- ✦ The Galaxy Technology Innovation Centre, a state-of-the-art integrated hardware and software laboratory, allows customers a hands-on look at the latest storage, backup, security, application delivery and virtualization technologies.
- ✦ Customer list includes many of India's leading corporations, banks and government agencies.
- ✦ Four business units collaborate to provide a full spectrum of services and ensure smooth projects. Together, they provide our customers with truly end to end professional IT Services.

Galaxy Business Solutions

System integrators of best of breed technologies to deliver solutions to the problems and challenges that confront enterprises

Galaxy Technology Services

Skilled pool of resources consistently maintains and delivers enterprise class service levels

Galaxy Network Solutions

One of India's most trusted active and passive networking specialists

Galaxy BI Consulting Services

Helps organizations to deliver and leverage business intelligence to create substantial business impact

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VISION

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"Total customer satisfaction; through innovative insights, quality service and excellence in technology deployment."

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"We understand the need of a common vendor for all your IT needs. Hence, we are committed to long-term partnerships by delivering on our commitments."