

# Where's all the data?

Paul Hammond  
[paul@paulhammond.org](mailto:paul@paulhammond.org)

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## Radio 1's Big Weekend

Relive the weekend

Watch full live sets of the music festival's acts and find out what happened behind the scenes.

- View full live sets online
- Photos from the event
- Podcasts: Interviews and news
- Colin and Edith's Scotland tour
- This summer's other festivals

## Today

Monday 15th May 2006

## News

Watch/Listen to BBC News



- NI politicians return to Stormont
- Defiant Saddam refuses to plead

News in 33 languages فارسی | عربي

RSS | What is RSS?

## Sport

Watch/Listen to BBC Sport



- Live: England v Sri Lanka
- Chelsea confirm Ballack capture

## Where I Live

London, Central



Change location

## Local weather:

Monday

max 18°C  
min 10°C

Tuesday

max 20°C  
min 11°C

- Local 5-day forecast
- Weather for UK & world

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## Build what *you* want using BBC content

backstage.bbc.co.uk is the BBC's developer network to encourage innovation and support new talent. Content feeds are available for people to **build with** on a **non-commercial basis**.

Join the **email discussion list** to tell us how we could improve the service and converse with others about backstage.bbc.co.uk

## BACKSTAGE BLOG

### CHI2006 Presentation + Reboot

This morning I gave a presentation to the **CHI2006 Conference** as part of the session panel I was on *"Add a dash of interface: taking mash-ups to the next level"*.

## Get Involved

- [+ Submit your Prototype](#)
- [+ Submit your Idea](#)
- [✉ Subscribe to the email discussion group](#)

## Latest Prototypes

### XML Feeds

02 May 2006 | [Comments \(0\)](#)

### BlueGhost TV

11 Apr 2006 | [Comments \(0\)](#)

### mtraffic

11 Apr 2006 | [Comments \(0\)](#)

## Latest Ideas

# YAHOO! DEVELOPER NETWORK

## Yahoo! Developer Network Home - Welcome!

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*Share photos with your friends*

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*Create rich embedded map applications and overlays*

#### [Merchant Solutions](#)

*Build, host, manage and promote your online store*

#### [Music](#)

*Customize the Yahoo! Music Engine*

## Innovate.



**You bring the skills. We bring the ingredients.**

Welcome to the **Yahoo! Developer Network**. We help software developers integrate their Web sites and applications with Yahoo! using standard technologies such as XML and RSS. Click on a link at left to learn more about our products and how we can help you.

### **New! - More Sweetness from YUI and YPatterns**

You asked for more, and we listened. This is the second in ongoing releases for the incredibly popular [Yahoo! User Interface](#) and [Yahoo! Design Patterns](#) Libraries, and we've made improvements and given you new goodies to play with. Check it out:

- New YUI controls for desktop-like user interface elements including menus, modules, panels, dialogs and tooltips.
- A new hugely-configurable AutoComplete control.
- A passel of CSS libraries to help with cross-browser normalization, layout and design.
- Over a dozen new patterns in the [Design Pattern Library](#), including transitions and invitations

### Featured Applications

#### [Yahoo! Application Gallery](#)

Find applications, web sites, mashups, and other tools built with Yahoo! technology.

#### [Maps Application Gallery](#)

Check out cool apps built with the Yahoo! Maps API

#### [Widget Gallery](#)

Download more cool and beautiful Widgets for the [Yahoo! Widgets](#) runtime

#### [Flickr Application Gallery](#)

See the web applications and tools built using the Flickr APIs

#### [Yahoo! Music Engine Plugin Gallery](#)

Enhance your Yahoo! Music Engine and Yahoo! Music Unlimited experience with these fun plugins and skins



(I'm not speaking on behalf  
of Yahoo! or the BBC)

# Open Data!



"The BBC will support social innovation by encouraging users' efforts to build sites and projects that meet their needs and those of their communities ... The BBC will also be committed to using open standards that will enable users to find and repurpose BBC content in more flexible ways"





# programmableweb

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## Web 2.0 API Listing

You can subscribe to the  **API RSS Feed** and get automatic updates to this list.

[By Name](#)
[By Date](#)
[By Category](#)
[By Mashup Count](#)

API	Description	Category	Updated
23	Photo sharing service	Photos	2006-02-13
2ndSite	Online billing software	Other	2006-03-13
30 Boxes	Calendar service	Calendar	2006-02-24
411Sync	SMS messaging	Messaging	2006-02-08
43Things	Social goal setting	Other	2005-10-30
activeRenderer	Outline publishing for Radio UserLand	Other	2005-09-04
Amazon	Online retailer	Retail	2006-04-04
Amazon A9 OpenSearch	Search services	Web Search	2005-09-04
Amazon Alexa	Search	Other Search	2006-04-04
Amazon Mechanical Turk	Request services of humans	Other	2006-01-22
Amazon Queue Service	Internet-based queuing service	Other	2005-09-06
Amazon S3	Online storage services	Storage	2006-03-14

### Subscribe

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### Share

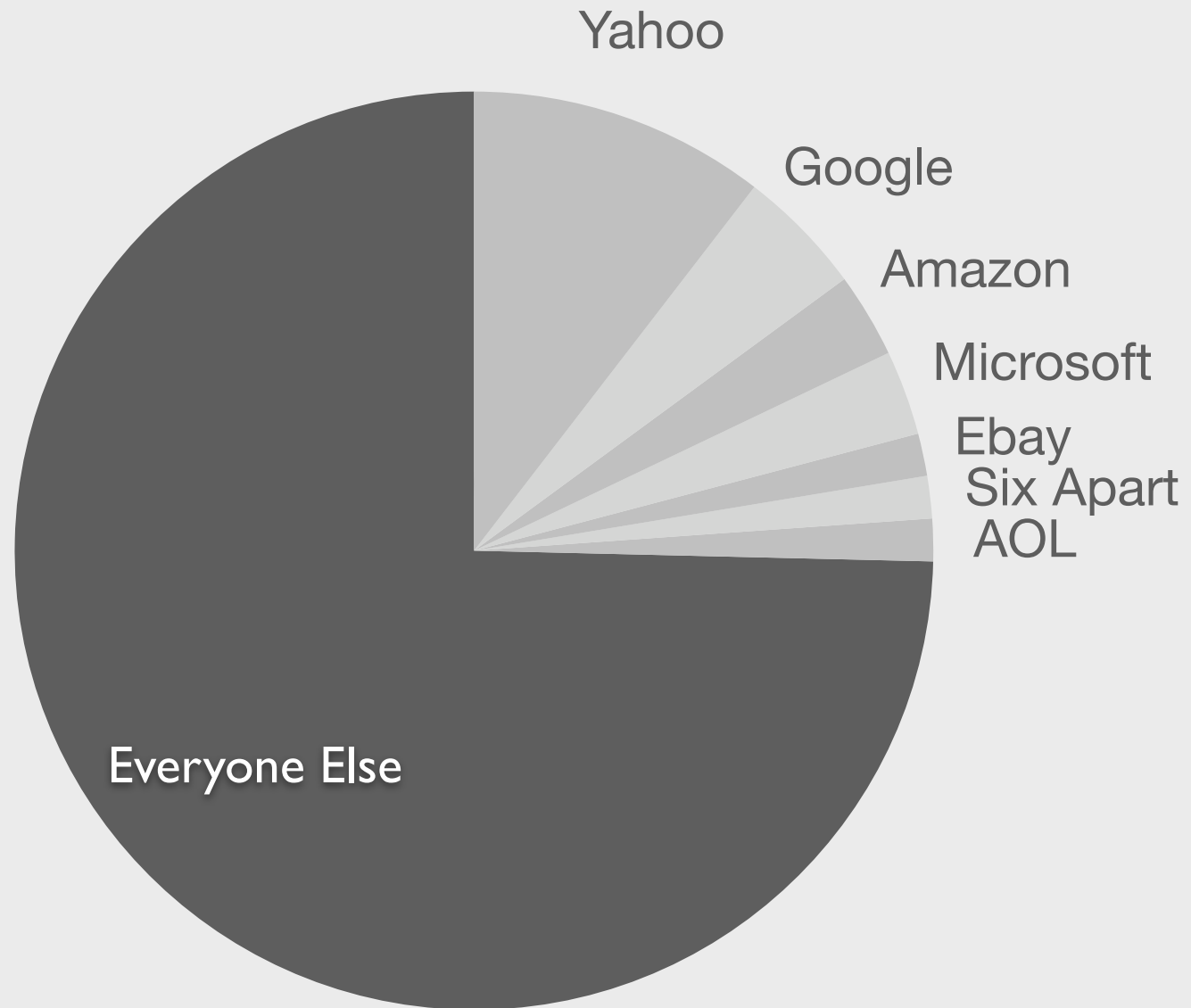
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### O2 Shop

For a wide range of mobile phones & accessories visit O2 Online.  
[www.o2.co.uk/shop](http://www.o2.co.uk/shop)

# APIs



# Age of companies



(old means more than 20 years)

If open data is such a good idea  
why isn't there more of it?







The technology and standards  
need to be better?

The technology and standards  
are good enough

?



Organisations don't do anything  
unless they think it is  
in their best interests

They're right?  
They're wrong?



“An Eh Pee WHAT?”



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## RSS Feed (Really Simple Syndication)

### Help?

- ▼ [What is RSS?](#)
- ▼ [How can I use RSS?](#)
- ▼ [How do I get a news reader?](#)
- ▼ [Can I use these feeds on my site?](#)
- ▼ [Are there any feeds from other BBC websites?](#)



### What is RSS?

In a world heaving under the weight of billions of web pages, keeping up to date with the information you want can be a drag.

Wouldn't it be better to have the latest news and features delivered directly to you, rather than clicking from site to site?

RSS allows you to see when sites from all over the internet have added new content. You can get the latest headlines and articles (or even audio files, photographs or video) in one place, as soon as they are published, without having to remember to visit each site every day.

### SELECTION OF RSS FEEDS

- [RSS News Front Page](#)
- [RSS World](#)
- [RSS UK](#)
- [RSS England](#)
- [RSS Northern Ireland](#)
- [RSS Scotland](#)
- [RSS Wales](#)
- [RSS Business](#)
- [RSS Politics](#)
- [RSS Health](#)
- [RSS Education](#)
- [RSS Science/Nature](#)
- [RSS Technology](#)
- [RSS Entertainment](#)
- [RSS Have Your Say](#)
- [RSS Magazine](#)
- [RSS Week At a Glance](#)
- [RSS Programmes](#)
- [RSS Latest Published Stories](#)

### SELECTION OF VIDEO RSS FEEDS

- [RSS Headlines](#)
- [RSS UK](#)



“We already make money  
from selling the data.  
Why would we give it away?”





“We’re  
not  
allowed  
to”



“The lawyers say No”



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### Focus on:

#### ▶ MiFID

Register here to access a paper that discusses our view of the implications of MiFID.



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STAY TO THE LEFT OF EXIT LANE

*with our superior map  
database, we're*

**CHANGING THE WAY  
THE WORLD TURNS**

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15 May, 2006

[Sabre Holdings and Continental Airlines Sign New Five-Year, Full Content Agreements](#)

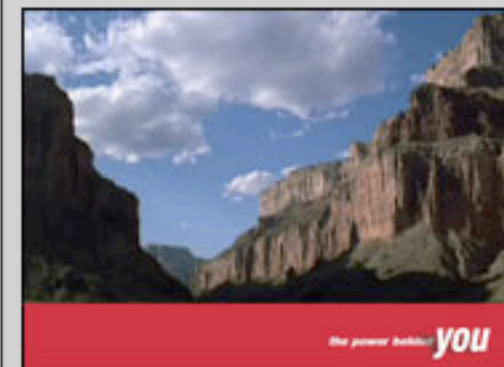
08 May, 2005

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04 May, 2006

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Search

Search the map

[Find businesses](#)[Get Directions](#)

e.g., "hotels near lax" or "10 market st, san francisco"

[Print](#) [Email](#) [Link to this page](#)

## Maps

### Example searches:

#### Go to a location

[kansas city](#)[10 market st, san francisco](#)

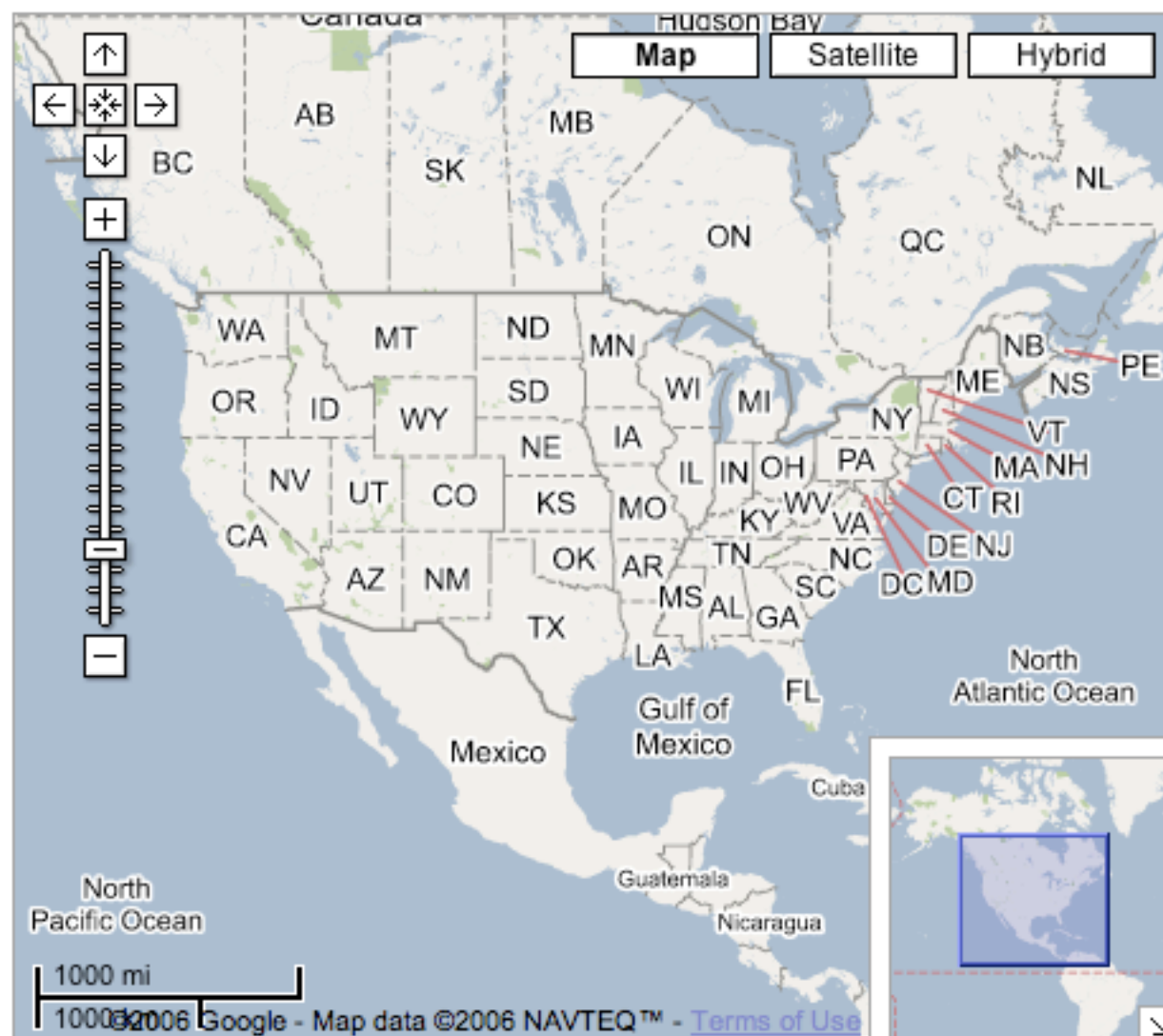
#### Find a business

[hotels near lax](#)[pizza](#)

#### Get directions

[jfk to 350 5th ave, new york](#)[seattle to 98109](#)

Drag the map with your mouse, or double-click to center. [Take a tour »](#)



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City: \*\*\* Choose a city \*\*\*





Price: \$1500 - \$2000

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Drag the map with your mouse, or double-click to center.

Click on an  icon to select a city.

In each city, click on the  and  icons to see listings. You can also click the  and  icons next to each listing.

Yellow icons have pictures.

Set the price range using the drop-down menu above.





“The government won’t let us”



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# WELCOME

to the BBC Governors' website, designed to help you find out more about who we are and what we do, and how, on your behalf, we try to bring out the best from your BBC.

Michael Grade, Chairman

## Who are the Governors?



Michael Grade,  
Chairman



Anthony Salz,  
Vice-Chairman



Deborah Bull



Andrew Burns



Ruth Deech



Dermot  
Gleeson



Merfyn Jones



Fabian Monds



Jeremy Peat



Angela Sarkis



Ranjit Sondhi



Richard Tait

## What we do

Set objectives for the BBC

Safeguard the BBC's independence

Monitor its performance

Act as Trustees of the public interest

Undertake independent reviews

Find out more



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**Business**[Products](#)[OS MasterMap](#)[Markets](#)[Partnerships](#)[Case studies](#)[How to buy](#)[Copyright](#)[OS Insight](#)[PAI Programme](#)[Printing services](#)[OS Net Commercial Services](#)[GPS](#)**Creating a new standard in geographic information**

Ordinance Survey work with businesses spanning a broad variety of sectors including local and central government, insurance, mobile location services, and property and retail. We supply our business customers with a range of geographic information which underpins key tasks such as performance analysis, asset management, customer profiling, routing and supply chain management. The accessibility and flexibility of our digital data presents new and exciting possibilities for both direct customers and partners, whether niche entrepreneurs or multinational businesses.

routing and supply chain management. The accessibility and flexibility of our digital data presents new and exciting possibilities for both direct customers and partners, whether niche entrepreneurs or multinational businesses.



**Partnership underpins everything we do and we collaborate with a wide range of licensed partners and publishers who develop**

**products and services based on our geographic information to deliver creative solutions - from complex digital information to traditional maps.**

**Our partners...****Geographic information for your business...**

**Emergency services** – making information relevant with location based services.

[Emergency services](#)



**Government** – deliver e-government targets, integrate with other databases.

[Local government](#) | [Central government](#)



**Health** – supporting the health sector through the greater use of geographic information.

[Health](#)



**Insurance** – making information relevant with location based services.

[Insurance](#)





# Free Our Data: Make taxpayers' data available to them

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## What's it all about?

On March 9 2006 the [Guardian's Technology supplement](#) carried an article called "Give us back our crown jewels". The argument is simple: government-funded and approved agencies such as the Ordnance Survey and UK Hydrographic Office and Highways Agency collect data using our funds, but then charge users and companies for access to it.

That restricts innovation and artificially restricts the number and variety of organisations that can offer services based on that most useful data - which our taxes have helped to collect.

Making that data available for free - rather as commercial companies such as Amazon and Google do with their catalog and maps data - would vastly expand the range of services available. It cannot make any sense that Google, an American organisation, is presently more popular with people aiming to create new map applications.

More questions? Why not read the [frequently asked questions](#).

## What can you do?

In the first place, lobby your MP; lobby your MEP about the iniquitous Inspire plan (you could join the Public Geodata campaign too). You could subscribe to the blog; and add your own comments too.

[Campaign blog](#)



“The general public  
wouldn't let us”





# [rdfweb-dev] Plink

Dom Ramsey [dom at dynamite.co.uk](mailto:dom@dynamite.co.uk)

Wed Oct 6 17:50:31 BST 2004

- Previous message: [\[rdfweb-dev\] E-mailbox term in FOAF](#)
- Next message: [\[rdfweb-dev\] Plink](#)
- Messages sorted by: [\[ date \]](#) [\[ thread \]](#) [\[ subject \]](#) [\[ author \]](#)

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Just to let you all know that I'll shortly be taking down plink.org.

It was fun to do, but I'm now getting way too many complaints from people who have appeared without permission in other people's FOAF files and have found themselves via Google.

Trying to explain FOAF to these people generally doesn't work, and more often than not, they're too irate to care. So the easiest thing for me to do is just take the site down.

However... I've no doubt that I'll be doing lots of RDF type tricks (and possibly stupid FOAF tricks) on my new project - <http://www.fotothing.com/> - at some point.

It seems it's fine to publish FOAF data, just as long as you don't write anything that actually uses the data.. :)

--

Dom Ramsey

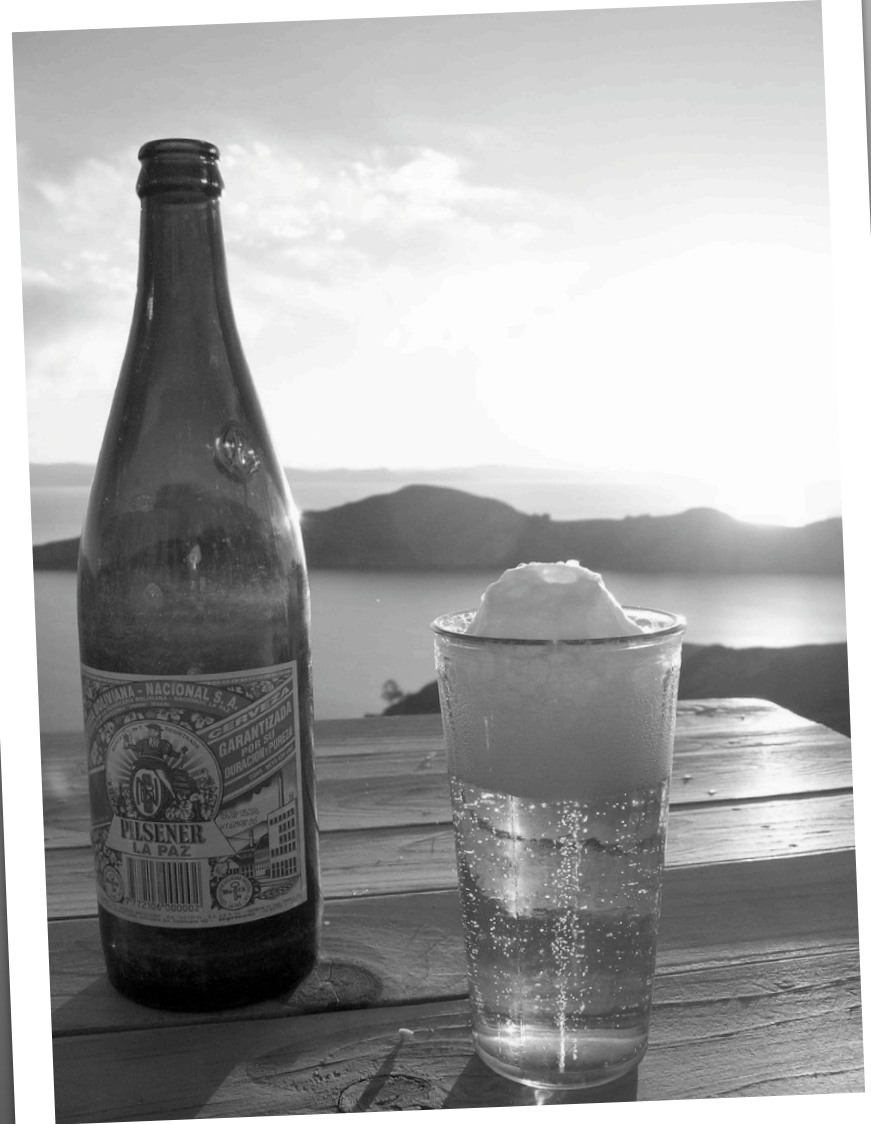
<http://www.domramsey.com/>

- 
- Previous message: [\[rdfweb-dev\] E-mailbox term in FOAF](#)
  - Next message: [\[rdfweb-dev\] Plink](#)

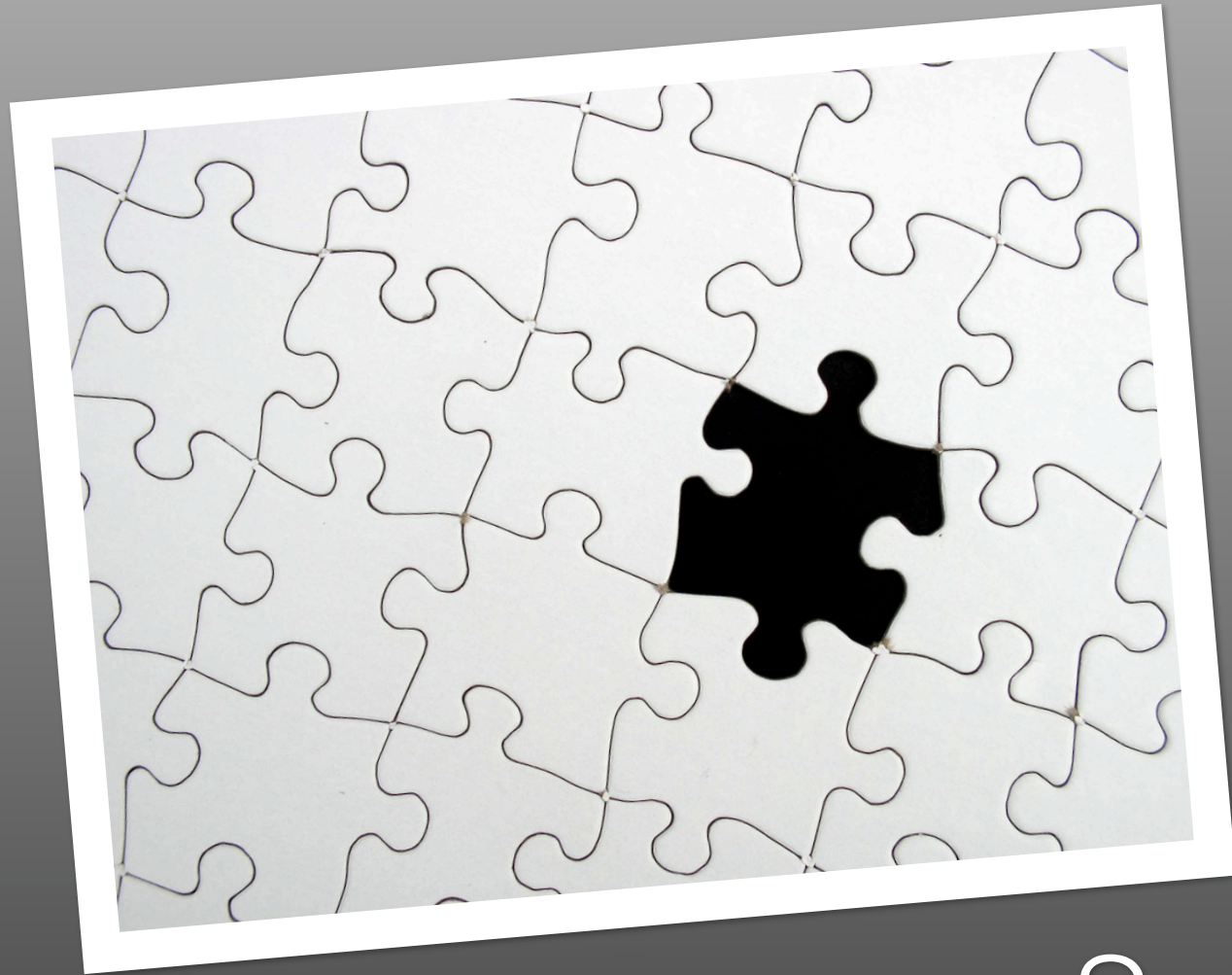




“It’s a  
nice  
to  
have”



“We have an API, but  
it doesn't do that.



Sorry!”



API

Send Attach Address Fonts Colors Save As Draft Rich Text Plain Text

To: Awesome Website

Cc:

Subject: API

Account: Paul Hammond <paul@paulhammond.org>

Hi,

I need an API for your website. I need it next week for a project I'm working on.

Making APIs is easy, there's a guide on how to do it in PHP at [www.phpnewbies.net](http://www.phpnewbies.net). I have a website at [www.mynottrafficworthlessite.com](http://www.mynottrafficworthlessite.com) and I made an API for that. I did it in an evening. You obviously suck if you can't make an API for your site.

Oh, and it needs to be creative commons licensed because copyright is evil.

If you don't do this, I'll never use your site again.

KTNXBYE,

Paul

API

Send Attach Address Fonts Colors Save As Draft Rich Text Plain Text

To: Awesome Website

Cc:

Subject: API

Account: Paul Hammond <paul@paulhammond.org>

Hi,

I am a moron who doesn't understand anything about your business. Please ignore this email

Paul

So what does work?

I don't know.



1. Be aware of the problems
2. Demonstrate usefulness
3. Don't assume it's a technology problem
4. Target the right people
5. Talk about benefits to the provider, not the consumer
6. Have patience

Over to you



<http://paulhammond.org/2006/xtech>