What will IA be in an Internet of Things?

The IA Summit is no stranger to the Internet of Things (IoT) discussion, and recent Summits have had talks and keynotes by the likes of- Jethro Greenfield, Peter Merklein, Claire Rowland, Scott Jordan, Andrea Reitman & Lissa Kosah, and many others. As microprocessors get smaller and even what we use to collect data, what once felt like a far-off future is slowly becoming our current reality.

This poster attempts to provide a literature review of over 25 years of research, defining what we mean today by "Internet of Things," presenting axioms for IoT design, and pointing out where and how information architecture fits in an IoT world...

**WHAT DO WE MEAN WHEN WE SAY "INTERNET OF THINGS"?**

- **Smart Things** aren't smart--they need a lot of help.
- **Smart Things** need to be connected and understand the data they're getting.
- **Smart Things** need to be secure.
- **Smart Things** need to be adaptable to change.
- **Smart Things** need to be maintainable.
- **Smart Things** need to be sustainable.

**AXIOMS**

1. **Metaphor is important.**
   - Not just for explaining but for negotiating the problem space.
   - In a world where multiple metaphors coexist, we need to understand the interaction of these metaphors.

2. **Sensors & actuators**
   - There are different types of sensors and actuators.
   - Sensors and actuators are not just devices, but they are part of the system.
   - Understanding the interaction between sensors and actuators is crucial.

3. **Data is chunked into information.**
   - Understanding how data is chunked into information is important.
   - Information is not always obvious.

4. **Scale matters.**
   - Different scales of data require different approaches.
   - Understanding the scale of data is crucial.

5. **Understand the tradeoffs.**
   - Understanding the tradeoffs between different technologies is essential.
   - Different technologies have different tradeoffs.

6. **We need more disciplines.**
   - The Internet of Things requires a multidisciplinary approach.
   - Understanding the different disciplines involved is crucial.

**WHERE DOES IA FIT?**

- **Open Standards & Frameworks**
  - For all these levels.
  - How devices work together across multiple domains?

- **Definition of Rules**
  - How should things behave?
  - Do users get to define it?

- **Consistency**
  - Across domains, physical channels, etc.

**WE NEED:**

- **Integration Architecture**
  - Includes different levels.
  - Different domains.

- **Detailed Architecture**
  - Info flow.
  - Flow visualizations.

- **Change Management**
  - Understanding how changes are managed.

- **Community Vocabularies**
  - Across different domains.

**SOURCES:**

IF YOU ONLY READ ONE BOOK, PICK UP A COPY OF *SMART THINGS* BY MIKE KUBOVSKY

IF YOU ONLY WATCH ONE VIDEO,

Thank you! -Art & design by ThinkLab

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