



OpenPrinting

Documentation

Michael Sweet, Lakeside Robotics
September 14, 2022

Documentation



- Three main kinds of documentation:
 - User
 - Administrator
 - Developer
- User and administrator documentation is generally written by hand
- Developer documentation is generally a combination of handwritten introductory and example text combined with automatically generated reference text

Goals



- Write software that needs little documentation
 - Auto-configuration when possible
 - Manual configuration only when necessary
 - Intuitive design/operation
- Write documentation that is easy to access and read
- Limit the amount of software and documentation that needs to be handwritten

Examples



- Avahi (<https://avahi.org>)
 - Handwritten man pages for user and administrative commands
 - Doxygen-generated developer documentation with some introductory and example text
- CUPS (<https://github.com/OpenPrinting/cups>)
 - Markdown, man pages, and HTML user and administrative documentation is handwritten
 - Developer documentation (including CUPS Programming Manual) contains handwritten introductions and examples along with reference documentation extracted from source code using Codedoc

References



- (Source) Formats:
 - AsciiDoc: <https://asciidoc.org/>
 - Github-flavored markdown: <https://github.github.com/gfm/>
 - Original markdown: <https://daringfireball.net/projects/markdown/>
 - reStructuredText: <https://docutils.sourceforge.io/rst.html>
- Tools:
 - Codedoc: <https://www.msweet.org/codedoc>
 - Doxygen: <https://www.doxygen.nl/>
 - mmdutil: <https://www.msweet.org/mmd>
 - Sphinx: <https://www.sphinx-doc.org/en/master/>