

# Revisiting the Idea of our own Jabber Server

Presented by Ian Kluff  
at SBAY Pizza #160  
San Jose, California  
January 20, 2007  
<http://www.sbay.org/>

# Current Instant Messaging at FreeNode.Net

- connect IRC client to `chat.us.freenode.net`
- `#sbay.org`, `#svwux`, `#linuxpicnic`, `#radioexam`
- works fine - this is not a complaint
- intended only for Open Source software topics

# Why revisit our own Instant Messaging server?

- we have some topics which don't fit FreeNode's policy
- examples: Ham Radio, aerospace interests
- we could also use some private chat rooms
- Support the idea of members creating new chat areas as needed, even on a whim
- It's a bit of a stretch on what FreeNode is for

# Technical Reasons Pointing There

- We've established the initial sbay.org membership
- Stratofox and SVWUX have membership lists
- A DBI back-end for Slauth is already needed for web site access (such as the wikis)
- The same user base can be used to authenticate instant messaging in private discussion areas

# Why Jabber?

- We had considered this before, but weren't ready at the time – went with FreeNode instead
- XML based protocol
- XML can carry any data we define
- Example: votes in online meetings
- Example: emergency message forms for SVWUX's Emergency Wireless Network

# Possible Implementation

- Jabberd from Jabber.org has some plug-in authentication capability, not first choice since others report problems with it
- New DJabberd server in Perl has plug-ins for everything - should integrate well with our Slauth authentication which is also in Perl  
<http://danga.com/djabberd/>  
Open Source written for use by  
LiveJournal.com

# Why Not Just Get Started?

- Our participants are encouraged to start interesting new technical projects
- But this is a change in how we support projects and organizations under sbay.org's umbrella
- The effort is only worthwhile if it'll get used
- Feedback and discussion should be valuable
- Let me know if you want to participate in this!