Jolla Code Camp 2014 Report

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Idea

The first idea was to make app similar to www.tilannehuone.fi. Tilannehuone shows you real time information about rescue services tasks in finland. It lists what has happened and where. Unfortunately this did not fulfill open data requirements which happened to be the theme of the code camp. So after presenting the idea and causing a few facepalms we went back to the drawing board. We wanted to do something with Finnish open data and looked for ideas from data.suomi.fi. No luck there and after smalltalk decided to do a weather app.

Motivation

We wanted to create a simple, good-looking but practical weather app since we found the ones already available a bit clunky to use. We wanted to make it so simple that anyone could use it. We also wanted to try to use the finnish meteorological institutes open data since we found a bit hard to understand, so we took a personal challenge at the same time.

Although those were the main motivational factors for the app our main motivation and goal was to learn something new. None of us had used QML before so we thought it could be a great learning experience to make a simple app and learn a new programming language at the same time.

Jolla is completely new platform to develop apps and it was great opportunity to be among the first ones to develop apps for it.

Features

User can get the current weather and forecast for all finnish cities. User can either scroll down a list or grid view to select a location or search for a specific city with the search option. User can also view average temperature for the day and precipitation.The application also shows the state of the wind. On the application cover is shown the selected city's temperature and by swiping the cover to the left user gets the next days forecast. Also by swiping right it the view gets back to the current day.
The name "Glow" comes from a glowing effect that changes color according to the temperature. The color changes from -30 to +30 degrees Celsius.
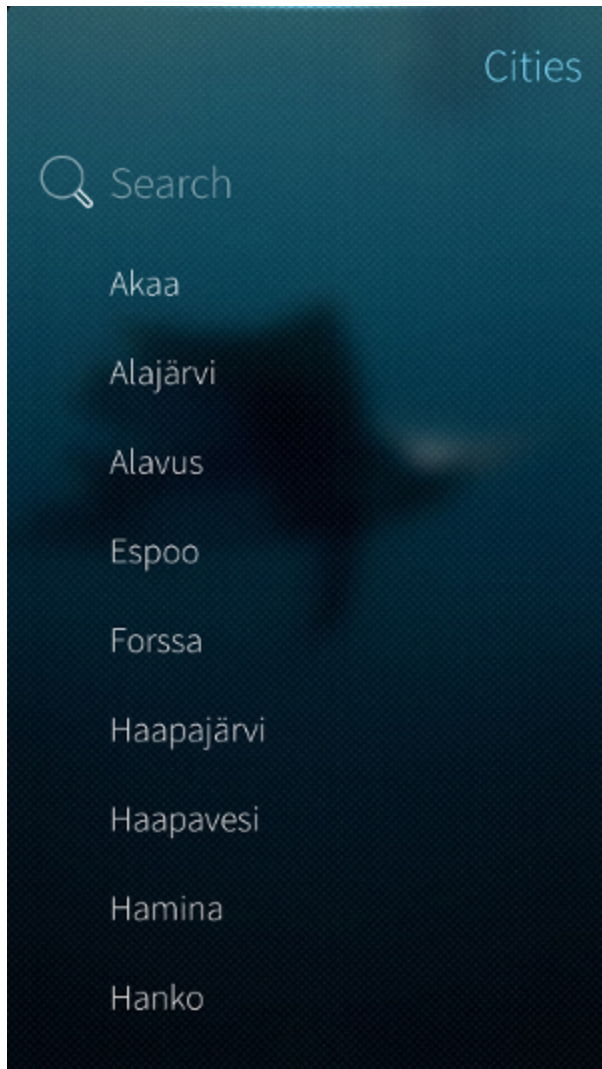
Tech

We used various different technologies during the development of the app. We had Windows machine, a linux computer and a Macbook. Our team member who used Windows failed to get the development environment to work on his computer so migrated to Ubuntu linux.
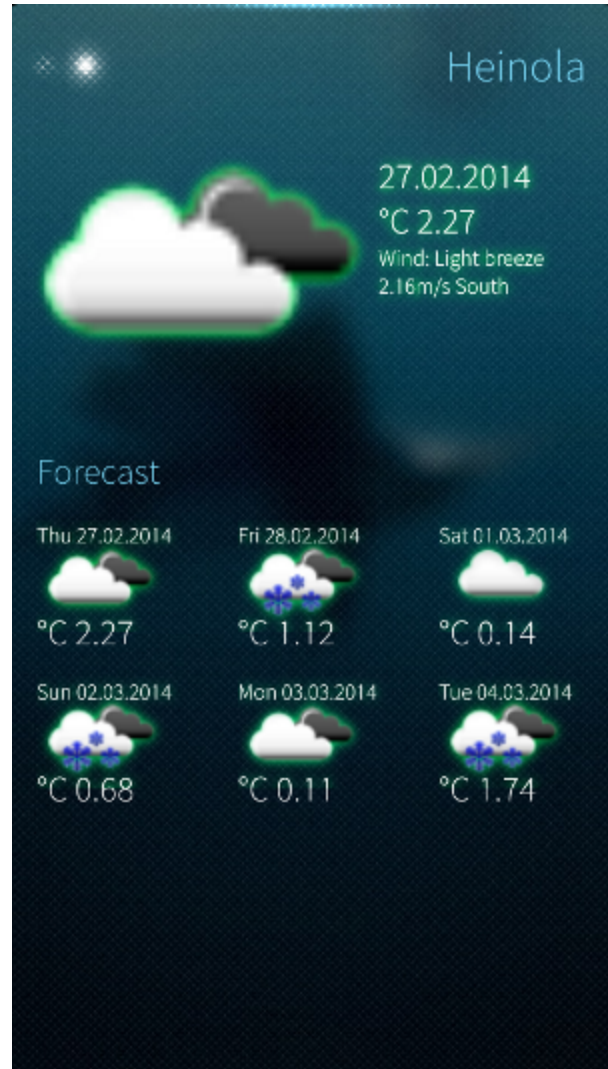
For virtualization that was necessary Oracle Virtual Box was used. The development itself was done with Sailfish SDK alpha. Programming languages used include QML, javascript and XML. Although some c++ and python was used for parsing information.

One of the team members had purchased a Jolla phone so were able to debug and test the application on it before the actual development phones arrived. Although the hats we received can't be seen as technologies they were a huge boost for motivation. Last but not least a Windows phone was used to record the demo video.

Screenshots

| Search page | Main page |

Drawer for maps

Heinola

27.02.2014
°C 2.27
Wind: Light breeze
2.16m/s South

Forecast

Thu 27.02.2014   Fri 28.02.2014   Sat 01.03.2014

Temperature

-3.5 °C
-5.7 °C   -1.3 °C
-4.6 °C   -0.5 °C
-2.2 °C
-0.6 °C   -1.3 °C
-0.1 °C
0.3 °C   -0.3 °C
-0.3 °C -0.5 °C
-0.7 °C
0.4 °C
1.3 °C
-0.6 °C
0.9 °C 1.0 °C 0.0 °C
1.0 °C 0.1 °C   0.2 °C
0.4 °C -0.2 °C -0.1 °C 0.1 °C
-1.4 °C   -0.6 °C
0.3 °C   -1.0 °C
-1.1 °C
-0.2 °C   -0.6 °C
0.3 °C   -1.1 °C -1.0 °C
0.5 °C
-1.5 °C -0.7 °C
1.3 °C   0.0 °C
0.2 °C

Precipitation

0 mm
0.2 mm   0 mm 0 mm
0.1 mm
1.7 mm
0.4 mm   0.7 mm
0 mm
0.0 mm   0 mm
0 mm
0 mm
0 mm
0 mm
0 mm
0 mm 0 mm 0 mm
0 mm
0 mm   0 mm
0 mm   0 mm   0 mm   0 mm
0 mm 0 mm
0 mm
0 mm   0 mm
0.1 mm   0 mm   0 mm
0 mm
0 mm   0 mm
0 mm
0 mm   0 mm
0 mm

Cover page

Heinola
27.02.2014
°C 2.27