

Dynamic AJAX Image Slideshow - Liteshow

Abstract

AJAX is the new hype and a lot of recent web applications are decorated with Javascript. There are also many Javascript slideshows available, but almost all of them feel still static and unintuitive in comparison to slideshows produced by desktop applications like iPhoto. For my student project I thought of designing a javascript slideshow framework with different views, dynamic preloading of images. The idea was inspired through the AJAX developer Greg Hill [1] as well as the Lightbox project [2].

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Key Features of Liteshow

- Pure object-oriented and open-source JavaScript
- Attachable to various server-side compartments (PHP, JSP or even static XML) since it only reads valid XML and the referenced image files
- Variety of views for displaying images including title, description, comments etc.
- Dynamic preloading of next images with AJAX technology
- Ease of use interface for the visitor (navigating with keyboard or mouse)
- Complete and comprehensive documentation
- Builds on top of the famous javascript library prototype
- Takes care of typical AJAX errors like the back-button-problem or the bookmarking feature

Nice-to-Have Features

- Dynamic commenting system for all visitors
- Another view: Shearing of images (maybe only possible with a flash-based view)
- Accessible for disabled people and browsers without Javascript
- Watermarking for images
- TYPO3 Extension as output that uses the DAM media extension
- Gallery style view to display all thumbnails and start the slideshow at a certain position
- Background music as a flash plugin that reacts on user input

Resources

- [1] Webpage of Rachel Amanda Hill
<http://www.rachelamandahill.com/>
- [2] Lightbox v2
<http://www.huddletogether.com/projects/lightbox2/>