Newsletter 16 November 2021

Files

Dropbox Woes

After a week of frustration, I decided to put work on the new Dropbox API on hold, and press ahead instead with the development of a direct replacement. I can understand why Dropbox offers such poor support for developers, and I do not think that is likely to change anytime soon. Using Google Drive could also be problematic, because of the way it is monetized.

Replacement

The replacement uses standard Android and PHP methods. It is a client/server solution, with changes to both the Android client and the hosting service. It leverages existing procedures in the Sales Manager, and is tightly integrated with them. In the first instance, it only supports the download of product images. Saving and restoring the database will be tackled separately.

The replacement solution is described in detail in [an article on the Sales Manager website](#), both in the news category and in my blog. The server side changes are already active. The client side changes are implemented in version 7.4.0, which was released yesterday. So far it has only been tested with the sample company, but any bugs that arise should be easy to fix.

Other Issues

SSL Errors

Some users reported [SSL errors](#) on certain poorly provisioned devices. My response was to change the URL used for the server, to avoid using the temporary certificates created by CPanel. There is little else I can do, but I do now have a way to recreate these errors.

Device Ids

As of Android 12, [Device Ids](#) are now the only way that Google allows developers to identify individual devices. EMI/IIE numbers MAC addresses are no longer available. This means that some self hosting licences may have to be reissued.