

Re: python interfaces

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- *From:* Peter Maas <peter.maas@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 05 Jan 2008 21:42:38 +0100
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Sion Arrowsmith wrote:

hyperboreean <hyperboreean@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Why doesn't python provide interfaces trough its standard library?

Because they're pointless.

Wrong. I'm using Eclipse with the Java Development Tools (JDT) who do a wonderful job using interfaces to perform lots of checking, warning and code generation *nearly in real time while I am editing my code*. Because JDT knows interfaces it knows what to do and to suggest.

Java interfaces are a hack around the complexities of multiple inheritance.

A hack is something applied subsequently to solve a software problem while avoiding large changes. Java interfaces originate from careful language design. You are free to dislike Java interfaces but calling them a hack is just plain wrong.

Once software becomes really big interfaces are very useful to handle complexity. Ever wondered why the Zope people introduced interfaces in their Python code?

Interfaces used purely with the idea of type safety provide precious little gain for the added clutter and inconvenience.

An interface is a software specification allowing you to use a software package without extensive code studies. This is a good thing. Interfaces have nothing to do with multiple inheritance and are not about type safety in the first place. They just tell you how to connect, how to plug in.

Re: python interfaces

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Regards/Gruesse,

Peter Maas, Aachen

E-mail 'cGV0ZXIubWFhc0B1dGlsb2cuZGU=\n'.decode('base64')

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