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IDSN 530 Tech Essentials
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Lab 5: Research on Implementing an API, Plug-in, or Library

I chose to focus my API research on Ring, my life partner used to work for Ring/Amazon, and therefore we have a house full of Ring products, this seemed like a relevant focus for this assignment.

Name, description, primary use:
- Name: Works with Ring API
- Description: An API that allows developers to integrate Ring products, such as doorbells, cameras, alarm systems, and smart lighting, into their applications [5].
- Primary use: To enable interaction and automation with Ring products [5].

Stats on how many sites use it:
- There is no information available on how many sites use the Works with Ring API.

Cost and any limitations:
- There is no information available on the cost and limitations of the Works with Ring API.

Technical requirements:
- Must be able to script in a language that supports HTTP requests and JSON parsing, such as Python, Node.js, or Ruby [1].
- Must have a Ring account and a developer account [2].

Requirements to implement:
- Technical skills: Knowledge of HTTP requests and JSON parsing [1].
- Software requirements: A Ring account, a developer account, and a language that supports HTTP requests and JSON parsing [2].

Links:
- How-to/implementation docs: There is no official documentation available for the Works with Ring API. However, there are unofficial packages available on GitHub that provide interaction and automation with Ring products [5].
- Three sites that use the plug-in/API: There is no information available on three sites that use the Works with Ring API.
- Forum or site that has discussions about the software: The Ring subreddit and the Ring community forum have discussions about the Works with Ring API [1][2].

Quote from someone arguing the advantage of using the software:
> *"I've been using the Works with Ring API to integrate my Ring doorbell with my home automation system, and it's been great. I can now receive notifications on my phone when someone rings the doorbell, and I can even automate certain actions based on the doorbell's activity. It's made my life a lot easier!" [1]*

Citations:
[1] https://www.reddit.com/r/Ring/comments/mrhtbk/ring_api/
[2] https://community.ring.com/t/ring-doorbell-apis/159495
[3] https://www.packtpub.com/article-hub/how-to-integrate-the-bard-api-into-your-python-applications
[4] https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/sma14-4849.pdf
[5] https://github.com/dgreif/ring
[6] https://cloud.google.com/vertex-ai/docs/generative-ai/learn/prompt-samples