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zeevious: Good evening, thanks for coming to tonight's chat with Brian from Tiger Toys. The chat format is pretty simple, send all messages the Mycybie, who is tonight's moderator of our chat. I'll be able to ask them one at a time and everyone can see the answers in the room. Please do not use a color or style like bold, italic, etc for your text, as Brian will be highlighted in a color and style to make his comments easier to read. Please don't disrupt the chat, send all messages to me, and they will be asked as soon as possible! Thanks again for participating!

mycybie: Welcome Brian, thanks for taking your time out to join the group for this chat! I know we're all anxious to hear about I-Cybie and actually getting the real thing to play with! Is there anything you would like to say to start the chat out?

icybiebrian: Ok.. first of all I am going to try something a little bit different tonight

icybiebrian: Something I have never done here.

mycybie: ok great!

icybiebrian: I am going to give some stuff away..

mycybie: ALRIGHT!

dew_presidente: yay

newsdroid2001: yahoo!

icybie5: shhhhhh

tenorsaxgirl2004: like an i-cybie?

bectile: ha...

icybiebrian: Now of course, some of you may not want it, and I do not have enough for everyone, but some might think it is cool.

mycybie: Ok everyone else is kicked out of the chat...and here's my home address

icybiebrian: So I should probably show you what it is first.

icybiebrian: I have in my grubby little hands a LIMITED EDITION....

icybiebrian: ONE OF ONLY VERY FEW.....

icybiebrian: AUTOGRAPHED.....

icybiebrian: FULL SIZE...

icybiebrian: i-Cybie PROMOTIONAL POSTER

mycybie: Cool!

icybie5: mine -

dew_presidente: me

icybiebrian: NOT FOR SALE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

icybiebrian: Now, if you want to see it..

icybiebrian: The URL is: <http://www.tigertoys.com/cybieposter.jpg>

bectile: What the heck kind of dog is that supposed to be, a pit bull??

mycybie: Very cool

newsdroid2001: awesome! I want one (please. thank you)!

dew_presidente: to very cool..

icybiebrian: So this is a full 36" poster

icybiebrian: forgive the pic, since I didn't even have a JPG of it

icybiebrian: Ok, and it CAN be autographed if you like LOL

icybiebrian: These posters were created exclusively for our Tiger Office..

icybiebrian: Ok. for the FIRST i-Cybie poster, who designed the i-cybie.com website?????

icybiebrian: mycybie can not answer this.

icybiebrian: The current site.

icybiebrian: What you see now..

icybiebrian: The one everyone was a bit critical about..

bectile: Andrea something

xr2indc: Andrea Bash

dew_presidente: yah her

icybiebrian: Ok. I am going to give it to bectile

icybiebrian: She was very close

mycybie: Congratulations!

mycybie cheers

icybiebrian: Can anyone tell me who Andrea is?

dew_presidente: a website designer?

xr2indc: Your wife

icybiebrian: Ok.. I am giving one to XR2 as well.. Yes she is my wife..

xr2indc: Cool!

mycybie stands up and applauds

icybiebrian: Ok.. lets have some questions before we give any more away

mycybie: Sure...here is the first one

mycybie: The Ever Annoying -Z- Asks: When you say "Very very close" for the release date...do you in fact mean Very VERY very close, or just very close?

icybiebrian: We are looking at.. RIGHT NOW, according to all shipping info, and method of shipments from the orient (By SHIP) around the 1st week of August.

icybiebrian: And you should remember to have your animated desktop i-cybie up, so you will know exactly...

gorilliagr5: !

mycybie: Great! We are 1 week away!!

icybiebrian: NOW, please understand that they will arrive in the US, and then it depends on how fast toy stores etc ship them to their individual stores

icybiebrian: So not all stores will get it as quickly, and it depends on the retail chain on which stores they actually ship to.. which is out of our control.

mycybie: So August 1 into the US, then 1-2 weeks to various outlets...approximately

icybiebrian: Around 1st week in August and then they go to the retailers..

icybiebrian: So yes, we are very very close

mycybie: -Z- fires up the Rude-O-tron and sez: So that mean you expect it in stores within 2 weeks, 3 weeks,? Great! We where about to all go Tekno on you! LOL

mycybie: Whzup Wants to know: When the commercial will be aired on television?

icybiebrian: Commercial will probably run mid-late august, then possibly through the holidays.. Not totally sure. Another commercial may also be made.

mycybie: Ei8hteen wonders: From the manual, the voice recognition/commands seem to be quite rudimentary and limited. Will they be improved in the production i-Cybies?

icybiebrian: Ok.. Here is the answer that the head of i-Cybie production gave me: You can make the commands anything you want as it is responding to your voice. You for example could tell i-Cybie "banana" to get him to sit.

mycybie: But it is limited to 8 commands?

icybiebrian: I do not have anything more technical to give you.

icybiebrian: Probably, but I do not know for sure.

mycybie: Mycybie's -Z- wonders what you think of it, how long have you had to play with it?

icybiebrian: I have not played with one for a long period of time.. I was involved when we were doing some video shot work of it, but have not really had a chance..

mycybie: What did you think of the one you played with...Was it the final version?

icybiebrian: It moved a lot faster than I expected

icybiebrian: Its nice that it worked on a conference room table as well as carpet

mycybie: Dew Presidenta sez: Any new general info on I-Cybie

icybiebrian: Gosh, not sure what general info you really want to know.. Or what you don't already know.

mycybie: Dew also wants to know: Would the noise of the motors bother you...how loud are they

icybiebrian: They don't bother me, but they are not servo motors so they are louder than a product such as AIBO

mycybie: Ei8teen also wants to know: Edge detection is not emphasized in the manual at all, with only a brief mention on how to activate it. Is i-Cybies' edge detection working effectively? I am worried that some i-Cybies may fall off the table!

icybiebrian: Ok, again I spoke with Cybie head of production, and this is what he had to say: i-Cybie uses state of the art detection however it is dependent on conditions. generally i-Cybie will stay on the table. if he falls though, he will certainly be OK!

icybiebrian: For instance, when he was on the conference room table, if you are sitting at the table, and he is walking toward you, he does not detect the edge, since he sees you

mycybie: Icybie5 wonders: When will I-Cybie's automatic charging station and PC Programming Kit be available?

icybiebrian: Programming kit.. well I have some semi bad news..

icybiebrian: The product does exist, and has not been canceled, but it will not see the store shelves till either last quarter or 1st quarter next year.. But we are hoping to better that if we can

mycybie: Is it a USB gable or some direct interface, or you program a cartridge then plug it in and have to do that back and forth to program it?

icybiebrian: It will probably be USB to a base with a removable chip

mycybie: Bectile wants to know: Do you now why it is delayed, if it already exists? What prevents it from being released?

icybiebrian: I have no other info on the programming kit

mycybie: BlaqueLioness growls: Did the original Silverlit Gen-1 I-Cybie ever go into production? (some Aibo owners in Japan claim to have 1 or more and an Aibo)

icybiebrian: No.. not even 1 piece was ever made or sold.

mycybie: Do you know when the walk-up charger will be released? I remember you mention saying it was tested, and works...any release date?

icybiebrian: I do not have a date on the charger as of yet. I know it is being worked on, but do not have an exact enough date to give yet.

icybiebrian: But no final decisions

mycybie: Abe - antz16_1999 isn't here, but from his last message, I'm sure he wants to know if I-Cybie will bring him another beer

icybiebrian: I am not sure cybie is old enough to do that..

mycybie: LOL

mycybie: Dan - Gorilla5 (an extra between 4 and 6 by Dian Fossy) wants to know: Does I-Cybie have any ability to chase after or recognize toys (mycybie add's: as mentioned in the New York Times article, about chasing shiny objects or detecting a toy, like a bone, as Poo-Chi does?)

icybiebrian: The shiny object thing was a rumor, and i-Cybie does not recognize shiny objects. I also do not think it detects toys, and does not come with any toys as well.

icybiebrian: WHOA.. Hold on.. back up my last comment regarding toys....

icybiebrian: Sorry about my earlier answer..

icybiebrian: I just asked the Product manager, and he knows the product better than I do..he said I-Cybie CAN and DOES detect objects with a special coating on them.

icybiebrian: And I am not sure what that covering is..

icybiebrian: But now you know for sure.. It CAN recognize items

mycybie: VERY VERY COOL! I wondered about this, because the quote was from one of the I-Cybie Designers, but never repeated by any other article

icybiebrian: Well then right now, whatever that special coating or color or whatever it is is top secret..

mycybie: Will there be an option to buy a Lithium Ion battery without the memory effect.

icybiebrian: We are considering that option..

icybiebrian: Forgive me if some of these answers seem like 1 liners, but some of these answers I am getting are coming direct from the product manager

mycybie: Bidsw has a question: The manual states that if you are not playing with I-Cybie you should remove the battery to make it last longer. Do we have to remove it everytime we stop playing with it?

icybiebrian: If you are playing with cybie normally, the battery can stay in. If you plan on storing your cybie for long periods of time, you should remove the battery.

mycybie: MiDNIGHTKNIGH19 fumbles for a light switch and asks: Will there be an opening party at FAO Schwartz in New York? If so When? (and Mycybie adds...is there a contest for anyone to be there, like with Shelby?)

icybiebrian: Its something a little different, and a bit unusual...I don't have a specific date or place yet.

mycybie: Ei8teen looks on the calendar and wonders: What is the latest launch schedule for Europe and Asia?

icybiebrian: I only know about the US dates right now.

mycybie: Bidsw wants to know what the phases of I-Cybie growth and development are
icybiebrian: Sorry can not answer that question, I do not know enough about the phases, however if you post the question, I can probably find out.

mycybie: DanReid wants to know if Tiger Told Wishbook.com I-Cybie was cancelled, they claimed that's what happened and cancelled all I-Cybie orders, including his

icybiebrian: I actually do not work in the sales department, and do not have an answer to that question. I can ask, and see what sales says though.

icybiebrian: There are various sounds, both dog-like, and robotic as well as sound effects. I have not heard them all, and there are a lot that are hidden, so it's really hard to say.

mycybie: Bectile wants to know about the sounds. She's heard it makes a musical sound when "tinkling" are there any other sounds, and how many are like regular dog sounds, musical, or other noises?

icybiebrian: I can say I have heard panting, barking, growling, and when he lifts his leg..

icybiebrian: We are currently working on a video manual that will be able to be downloaded from our website in MPG format hopefully shortly

mycybie: Did you get to use the voice commands? Newsdroid wants to know how close you have to be to use them, and how accurate they are

icybiebrian: I have seen the voice commands being used. They are pretty accurate, and they have been used at different distances and angles and seem to work fairly well

icybiebrian: Sometimes noise around cybie can mess it up though.

icybiebrian: Plus it distracts poor Cybie

mycybie: I'm sure we all want to thank Brian for releasing the manual...and want to know if there have been any changes to it since the release, like new features, or an addition?

icybiebrian: None that I know of, but sometimes I am the last to know..

mycybie: Bidsw wonders about the poster, it says I-Cybie learns, but the FAQ says it doesn't...do you know if it does?

icybiebrian: Well it does learn. Such as voice commands

mycybie: Dan Reid wants to know about how many will be available on initial release? I.E. will it sell out quickly..also based on pre-sales is it already a hot product like poo-chi?

icybiebrian: We are hoping it will be a hot product, but unlike Poo-Chi or Furby, it is a higher price item, and it's not really a fair comparison..

icybiebrian: Only time will tell if it becomes really hot

mycybie: DanReid wants to know if the source code for programming I-Cybie will be available or not.

icybiebrian: Well it's getting late by me, so I have to cut this short.. I would like to give 1 more poster away.. and save some for another chat session..

icybiebrian: I do not know about the source code. It would be great if it does end up being open source though

mycybie: Icybie5 wonders when I-Cybie is sick, like mentioned in the manual, what do you have to do to get it feeling better...

icybiebrian: Play with it, and make it happy..

mycybie: So Ok everyone we have ONE more poster to give away

icybiebrian: Ok. let's try this.. May not work, but we will see.. A Poster goes to the person who can tell me MY FULL REAL NAME

mycybie: (mums the word)

icybiebrian: Don't have to include my middle name.

icybie5: Brian
mycybie: Close...

icybiebrian: Last name also..
dew_presidente: brian bash
mycybie: Very close Dew

benzmantoledo: Brian shouldgivemeaposter
mycybie: Thats it!
markobates2000: Brian Withtiger

icybiebrian: LOL
icybiebrian: Ill give you a hint how to find my real name.. Think DOMAIN NAMES
icybiebrian: Ok. maybe this question was too hard..
mycybie: It's a signed limited edition napkin...c'mon people..what what? . . . Oh sorry a poster!

icybiebrian: Alrighty.. Is this one too tough?
benzmantoledo: I'm looking... but no luck
mycybie: I think they're stumped

icybiebrian: Think of our domain names.. Furby, etc
dew_presidente: brian bashy
mycybie: and the poster goes tooo.....
benzmantoledo: Rubash, Brian Rubash.
icybiebrian: Ok.. Benz, you get a poster..
benzmantoledo: WOO HOO

icybiebrian: Let me give 1 more, just make it a easier question..
benzmantoledo: good ol whois

icybiebrian: Ok. ONE LAST POSTER
icybiebrian: Who owns Tiger Electronics?
newsdroid2001: Hasbro
icybiebrian: Ok.. newsdroid gets a poster
newsdroid2001: yahoo!
icybiebrian: since he chimed it first.
newsdroid2001: thankyouthankyou!
benzmantoledo: good work

icybiebrian: We will have more stuff to give away next time.. We can chat again soon.
mycybie: Great! thanks for joining us tonight!

benzmantoledo: Thanks for coming tonight!
mycybie: Great chat!
bectile: Yeah maybe in two weeks we can tell stories about what our i-Cybies are doing
icybie5: lets hope

icybiebrian: Well all.. thanks for chatting.. Hopefully I will have new information for you soon,
and new stuff
mycybie: Great! thanks for joining us tonight!

benzmantoledo: Thanks for coming tonight!
mycybie: Great chat!

bectile: Yeah maybe in two weeks we can tell stories about what our i-Cybies are doing

icybie5: lets hope

icybiebrian: Well all.. thanks for chatting.. Hopefully I will have new information for you soon, and new stuff

benzmantoledo: Thanks Brian

dew_presidente: yah, and thank you

xr2indc: Thank you!

mycybie: have a great night, thanks again for joining us!

icybiebrian: For those who won posters, I will email you tomorrow for more information

icybiebrian: Tell mycybie how to contact you and he will let me know

mycybie: Thanks everyone for participating, that was alot of fun.

icybiebrian: Sure thing.. Nite all