

Realization Overview

INTERNSHIP TELENET

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Α

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Contents

Terminology	2
Introduction	3
What?	
Who?	
Where?	7
When?	8
Why?	
How?	
Conclusion	12

Terminology

NC: Netcracker Technology Corportation. An American-based multinationial telecommunications technology company. The company specializes in software products and professional services for communications service providers.

OSS: Computer systems used by telecommunication service providers to manage their networks.

BSS: The components that a telecommunication service provider uses to run its business operations towards customers.

AWS: A subsidiary of Amazon that provides on-demand cloud computing platforms to individuals, companies and governments on a metered pay-as-you-go basis.

Number Porting: The process of transferring a phone number from one operator to another.

FNP: Fixed Number Porting. Number porting for fixed phone numbers.

MNP: Mobile Number Porting. Number porting for mobile phone numbers.

TOF: Technical Order Fulfillment tribe. Currently responsible for the Number Porting project at Telenet.

Introduction

During my internship at Telenet, I had the opportunity to contribute to a significant modernization project within the TOF Squad, a team within the Number Porting Tribe. This project aimed to replace the outdated number porting system for both mobile and fixed lines with a more robust and scalable solution leveraging Amazon Web Services (AWS).

The project involved extensive collaboration among developers, testers, analysts, and a product owner, operating within an Agile framework

The opportunity to learn from the talented individuals who work at Telenet and witness their unique problem-solving approaches was an honor. I worked very hard to enhance my technical abilities, critical thinking skills and improving my communication.

This thesis outlines the purpose, participants, process, and outcomes of my internship, structured around the key questions of what, who, where, when, why, and how.

Further supporting documentation and evidence can be found in the Realizationautomatization and Realization-development documents.

What?

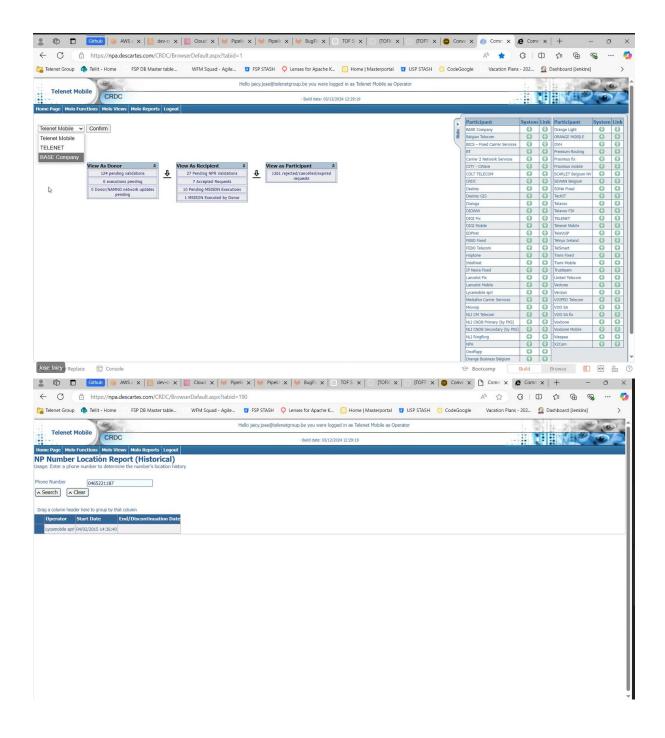
Number porting is the process of transferring a phone number from one telecom operator to another without altering the number itself. The original system for number porting at Telenet was outdated, prone to failures, and difficult to maintain. To address these issues, the TOF Squad embarked on a project to rebuild the system from scratch using modern technologies, with AWS as the backbone for scalability and reliability.

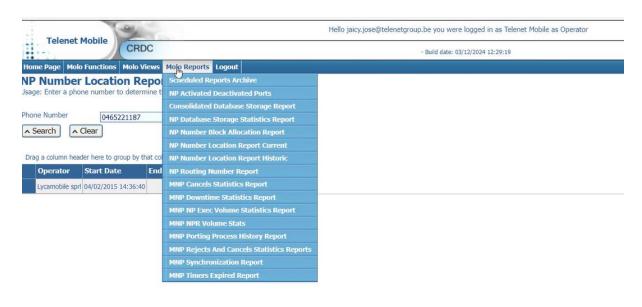
The project involved two distinct phases:

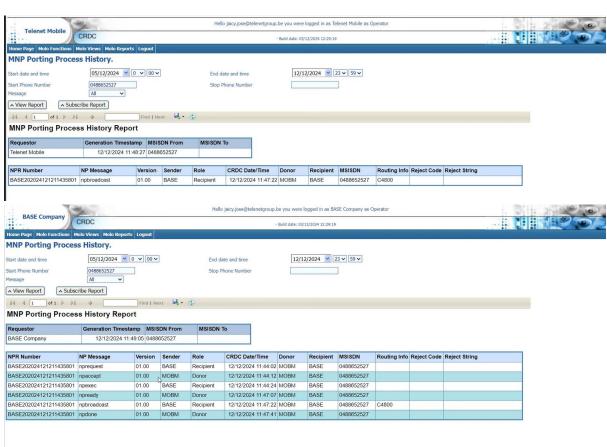
- 1. **Mobile Number Porting:** This phase focused on creating a system for transferring mobile numbers. By the time I joined, this phase was nearing completion.
- 2. **Fixed Number Porting:** This phase aimed to revamp the process for transferring fixed-line numbers. I was actively involved in this phase, contributing to backend and front-end development as well as automation testing.

My tasks included analyzing existing code, writing automated tests, solving bugs, and developing new features. I also worked on improving code quality by addressing technical debt and creating tools like message transformers for converting data formats.

The following images can help visualize the number porting process.





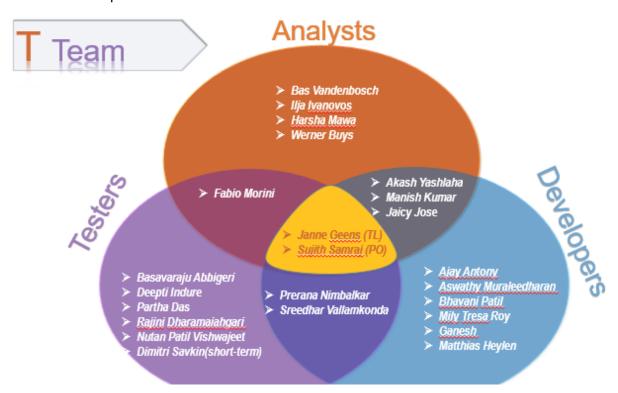


Who?

The TOF Squad comprised a diverse and collaborative team:

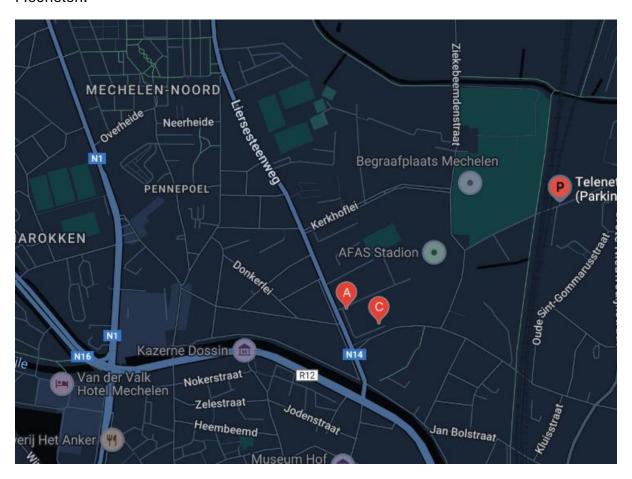
- **Product Owner:** Responsible for setting priorities, defining requirements, and ensuring alignment with business goals.
- **Developers:** Focused on coding, system architecture, and technical implementation. I was part of this group.
- **Testers:** Ensured the quality and reliability of the system through rigorous testing.
- **Analysts:** Worked on translating business requirements into technical specifications and supported the team with domain knowledge.

This cross-functional team operated in an Agile environment, with daily stand-ups, sprint planning, code reviews, and retrospectives fostering collaboration and continuous improvement.



Where?

The internship was based at Telenet's headquarters in Mechelen, Belgium. This location served as the central hub for the Number Porting Tribe, where team members could collaborate closely. While some tasks were performed remotely, much of the work involved face-to-face meetings, brainstorming sessions, and technical workshops in Mechelen.



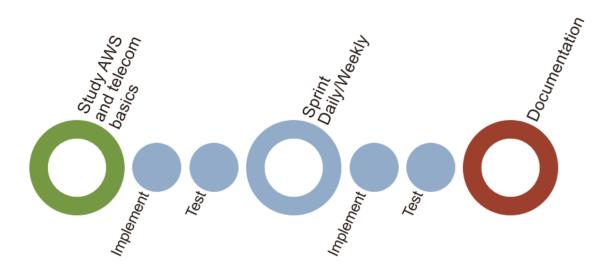
When?

My internship took place during the final stages of the mobile number porting project and the early-to-mid stages of the fixed number porting project. These efforts were part of a broader modernization initiative that had been ongoing for over a year and a half prior to my arrival. Agile sprints structured the workflow, with two-week cycles focusing on delivering incremental improvements.

Regular sprint reviews and retrospectives ensured that progress aligned with project goals and that any challenges were promptly addressed.

This internship is unique in the sense that you are not individually working on a 13 week long project like most other internships, but are rather a part of that team.

Development was an iterative process.



Why?

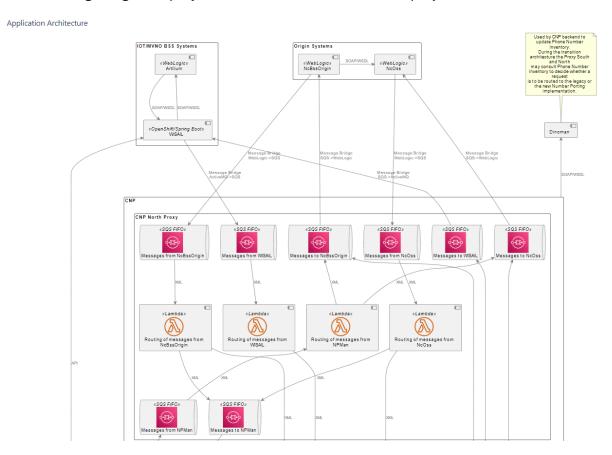
The decision to modernize the number porting system stemmed from several critical issues with the legacy system:

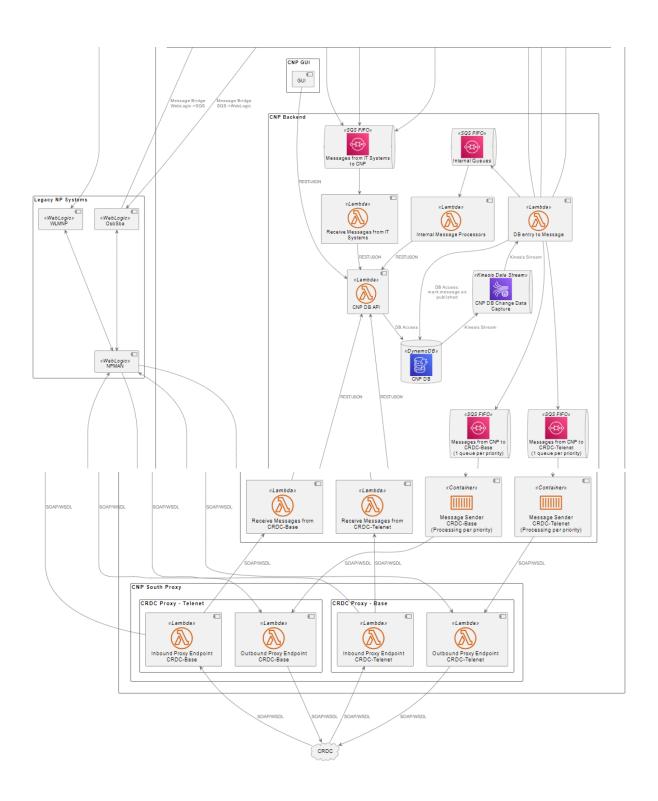
- 1. **Reliability:** The old system experienced frequent failures, leading to operational disruptions and customer dissatisfaction.
- 2. **Maintainability:** Legacy code was difficult to update and debug, hindering the ability to introduce new features or adapt to changing requirements.
- 3. **Scalability:** As Telenet's customer base grew, the system struggled to handle the increasing load.

By transitioning to AWS, the new system aimed to:

- Enhance reliability with cloud-based infrastructure.
- Improve scalability to accommodate future growth.
- Streamline maintenance through modern coding practices and better documentation.

The following images display the current architecture of the project.

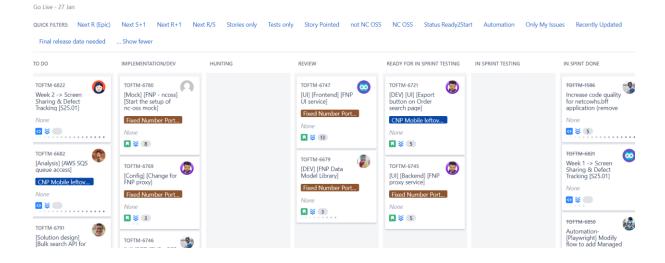




How?

The project followed an Agile methodology, emphasizing iterative development and collaboration. Key aspects of the workflow included:

- 1. **Sprints:** Two-week cycles focused on delivering specific features or resolving high-priority issues.
- 2. **Code Reviews:** Peer reviews ensured high-quality code, shared knowledge among team members, and adherence to best practices.
- 3. **Automation Testing:** I contributed by writing JUnit and Selenium tests to ensure system reliability and identify bugs early in the development process.
- 4. **AWS Integration:** Serverless technologies like AWS Lambda were employed for tasks such as message transformation and data processing. I worked on developing XSL files and deploying them using Terraform.
- 5. **Front-End Development:** I implemented new features, such as a button for exporting orders to CSV format, using frameworks like Vue.js and React.
- 6. **Collaboration Tools:** Daily stand-ups and tools like Jira facilitated effective communication and task management within the team.



Conclusion

My internship at Telenet provided a comprehensive learning experience, combining technical development with teamwork and problem-solving. By participating in the modernization of the number porting system, I gained hands-on experience in:

- Cloud computing with AWS, including serverless technologies and deployment using Terraform.
- Automation testing, which strengthened my understanding of software quality assurance.
- Agile development practices, including sprints, code reviews, and crossfunctional collaboration.

The project's success underscored the importance of updating legacy systems to meet modern standards of reliability, scalability, and maintainability. Working within the TOF Squad allowed me to contribute meaningfully while developing skills that will undoubtedly benefit my future career as a software developer. This experience highlighted the value of teamwork, effective communication, and adaptability in achieving shared goals in a professional setting.