AWS Connect - IVR Guide

What is AWS Connect?

Amazon Connect is a cloud-based contact center service that helps organizations manage customer interactions. It provides automated call distribution, IVR (Interactive Voice Response), real-time analytics, and integrations with other AWS services.

Key Features:

- Automated Call Distribution: Example if 100 calls come per day, they can be distributed among different agents.
- Interactive Voice Response (IVR): Example Press 1 for Sales, Press 2 for Support, Press 3 for Agent.
- Real-time Metrics & Analytics: Track call origin, duration, and handling efficiency.
- Integrations: Can integrate with AWS Lex for chatbots, S3 for recordings, and other AWS services.

What is IVR (Interactive Voice Response)?

IVR allows customers to interact with your company via automated menus.

Example:

- Press 1 for Sales
- Press 2 for Support
- Press 3 to talk to an Agent

Users & Teams:

Each agent is created as a separate user. Example:

- 2 agents for Sales Team
- 4 agents for Support Team

Phone Number:

You need a claimed phone number that customers can call to connect with your company.

Queues

Queues manage incoming calls when multiple customers are trying to reach limited agents.

Example: If 100 customers call the sales line but only 2 agents are available, the rest wait in the Sales Queue until agents are free.

Hours of Operation:

Define working hours when agents are available to take calls (e.g., 9 AM - 6 PM).

Flows:

Flows define the customer journey when they call.

Example Flow:

 $\mathsf{ENTRY} \to \mathsf{Play} \; \mathsf{Prompt} \to \mathsf{Get} \; \mathsf{Customer} \; \mathsf{Input} \to \mathsf{Set} \; \mathsf{Working} \; \mathsf{Queue} \to \mathsf{Assign} \; \mathsf{to} \; \mathsf{Agent} \to \mathsf{Disconnect}$

Real-life Example – Best Buy:

- John works in Sales Team, Tom works in Support Team.
- Customer calls Best Buy's number.
- IVR says: "Thank you for calling Best Buy. Press 1 for Sales, Press 2 for Support."
- If no input, it repeats. On timeout, the call disconnects.
- Error Handling: If service error, respond with "We are experiencing issues, please call later."

AWS Connect Portals:

- Admin Portal: Used to manage users, agents, and design call flows.
- Agent Portal: Used by agents to receive and handle calls.

Steps to Create IVR:

- 1. Claim a Phone Number
- 2. Create Users/Agents
- 3. Create a Flow
- Play PromptGet Customer Input
- Set Working Queue
- Assign to AgentDisconnect

