# EE579 Group 4 Documentation

This site provides documentation to allow integration with our API and MQTT Broker.

If you would like to learn the web interface and functionality provided by the system you can start by Creating an Account. Then you can get started adding Devices and Rules

If you would like information on how to develop your own IoT device and integrate with our system, start by reading the Register a Device page.

# System Overview

### Admin Interface

Our admin interface is available here: https://www.ee579-group4.net. This site enables users to login and configure rules, devices, and device groups.

Our system is multi-tenant, with users able to create multiple tenants and invite other users. Rules and devices are then scoped to these tenants, meaning users only have permission to access and edit resources belonging one of their tenants.

### API

Our API is written in C# using ASP.NET Core. Full Swagger OpenAPI documentation is available here: https://ee579-dev-api.azurewebsites.net

### **MQTT** Broker

We are using Azure IoT Hub as our MQTT Broker. Information on connecting and recieving/publishing messages can be found here

# GitHub Repos

- ee579-api C# API repository
- ee579-web React web interface repository
- ee579-msp430 Repository containing msp430 and ESP8266 code
- ee579-docs Repository containing the markdown files used to create these docs

# **Getting Started**

# Registering a device

In order for your device to connect to IoT Hub, it must first retreive credentials. This can be done by sending a POST request to https://ee579-dev-api.azurewebsites.net/devices/register. This will register your device with our system and return credentials to allow connection over MQTT. The device should make this request when first powered on, but the same endpoint can be used even if a device is already registered in the system. This accounts for situations where the device may have lost it's credentials, and allows the device to make the request every time it powers on, if desired.

### **Request Format**

**Example Body** 

```
{
    "deviceId": "<string>"
}
```

**Parameters** 

• **deviceId**: This should be a unique identifier. A MAC adress is recommended, but it can take any form - guid, uuid, etc.

### **Response Format**

**Example Body** 

```
{
    "connectionString": "HostName=IFTTT-Iot-Hub.azure-
devices.net;DeviceId={deviceId};SharedAccessKey=E150EkQ/S/9qp5dd/
V3VpsizIvSv+SA8TVF3QiGc93A=",
    "host": "IFTTT-Iot-Hub.azure-devices.net",
    "port": 8883,
    "topic": "devices/{deviceId}/messages/devicebound/#",
    "password": "SharedAccessSignature sr=IFTTT-Iot-Hub.azure-
devices.net%2Fdevices%2F{deviceId}
&sig=KOYS9LgCJ9eH7TT1MIGvedxIVI3cXmha7uU6yB4Bs6M%3D&se=88018657115"
}
```

### **Parameters**

- **connectionString**: The connection string the broker. {deviceId} should be replace with a unique identifier. A MAC adress is recommended, but it can take any form guid, uuid, etc.
- host: The MOTT broker url.

- topic: The topic that the device should subscribe to, to receive cloud-to-device messages.
- password: The password that should be used when connecting to the broker, in the form of a SAS token.

# Debugging

It may be neccessary to make this request on a computer, rather than IoT device when debugging. The API Swagger Docs can be used to make this request and provides a prefilled request body. Any other method of making HTTP requests can also be used - cURL, Postman, etc.

# **Next Steps**

• Connecting to the broker

# **MQTT** Broker

# Connecting

To connect to IoTHub there are multiple different protocols that can be used, you can either directly connect to these protocols or prefferably use one of the IoTHub device SDKs.

### Connecting using the lotHub SDKs

Connecting to IoTHub using one of Microsoft's SDKs use a connection string to connect. The connection string can be garnered from the response from our API's register request. Using the SDKs is the recommended way of connecting for its ease of use, especially regarding certificate handling as IoTHub forces TLS/SSL.

Some of the available SDKs include:

- · C SDK
- Python SDK
- · Node.js SDK
- Java SDK
- .NET SDK

### Using our Example Code for an ESP8266

We have provided some example code for registering a device with the API and sending/ receiving messages from IoTHub. This example code is for the ESP8266 Wifi Module, but the methods will be similar on alternative devices. The code can be pulled from this repository. Cd into the esp\_iothub\_client directory for the example code. By following the instructions here, you can setup the Arduino IDE with functionality for flashing our example code to the ESP8266.

### Connecting directly to the protocols

As MQTT is usually implemented on memory restricted devices, it is possible that the memory required to implement broker connection/interaction using an SDK is unavailable. For this reason, directly connecting to the protocol might be required. Below is a mosquitto subscribe command showing the parameters required to manually connect to the cloud device topic.

```
mosquitto_sub \
  -h IFTTT-Iot-Hub.azure-devices.net \
  -p 8883 \
  -t "devices/00:0a:95:9d:68:16/messages/devicebound/#" \
  -i 00:0a:95:9d:68:16 \
```

```
-u "IFTTT-Iot-Hub.azure-devices.net/00:0a:95:9d:68:16" \
   -P "SharedAccessSignature sr=IFTTT-Iot-Hub.azure-
devices.net%2Fdevices%2F00%3A0a%3A95%3A9d%3A68%3A16&sig=ulc08e%2FYp%2FMLJdyMLxsV
   --cafile C:\Users\Fraser\GitHub\ee579-
api\EE579\EE579.Core\Slices\Devices\Simulate\iotHubCert.pem
   -V mqttv311 \
   -q 1
```

- · -h: The host name for the broker.
- -p: The port number of the broker.
- -t: The topic the cloud to device messages will be received on.
- -i: The unique identifier for the device. Recommended as the device MAC address.
- -u: The MQTT username which here is just set to the hostname/deviceld.
- -P: The password for the broker. Can be retrieved from the register API response.
- --cafile: Path to the IotHub Certificate.
- -V: The MQTT version. IotHub only supports MQTT version 3.1.1.
- -q: This is for the quality of service. IoTHub only supports a quality service of 1.

# MQTT Messaging Schema

This page shows schema for messages between device and cloud. All message parameters should be sent in the message body, in JSON format as detailed below. It should be noted that the JSON is case-sensitive so all JSON key and values must be formatted as shown in the 'Message Body' schema.

# Device to Cloud Messages

Device-to-cloud messages should be sent when an input has been triggered. These messages will be used to trigger rules if the conditions are met.

### **Button Pushed**

This message is sent to the broker whenever a button is pushed on the microcontroller.

### **Message Body**

```
{
   "InputType": enum, // [Button1, Button2]
   "Value": int // The length the button is held in ms
}
```

### Potentiometer Input

This message is sent every time the analogue value from the potentiometer is read. The value is sent with this message.

### Message Body:

```
{
   "InputType": "Potentiometer",
   "Value": int // (0 - 1023) - the analogue value of the potentiometer
}
```

### Temperature Input

This message is sent every time the analogue value from the temperature sensor is read. The value is sent with this message.

```
{
   "InputType": "Temperature",
   "Value": int // (-50 to 100) - the temperature in degrees celsius
}
```

# Cloud to Device Messages

Cloud-to-device messages are used to perform outputs on the device as a result of a rule being triggered. There is also a message used to configure the device's inputs to reduce the number of messages sent.

### **LED Output**

This message is sent to notify the microcontroller to turn an LED on/off and with the specified colour.

### Message Body:

```
"OutputType": "LedOutput",
   "Peripheral": enum, // [Led1, Led2, Led3]
   "Value": boolean, // the desired state of the LED.
   "Colour" enum // (Led3 only) [Red/Green/Blue/Purple/Yellow/White]
}
```

### **Breath LED**

This message is sent to notify the microcontroller to breathe an LED at a specified speed and colour.

### Message Body:

```
{
   "OutputType": "LedBreathe",
   "Peripheral": enum, // [Led1, Led2, Led3]
   "Period": int, // how long the period of the breathing should be in ms.
   "Colour": enum // (Led3 only) [Red/Green/Blue/Purple/Yellow/White]
}
```

### Blink LED

This message is sent to notify the microcontroller to blink an LED at a specified speed and colour.

```
{
   "OutputType": "LedBlink",
   "Peripheral": enum, // [Led1, Led2, Led3]
   "Period": int, // how long the period of the blinking should be in ms.
   "Colour": enum // (Led3 only) [Red/Green/Blue/Purple/Yellow/White]
}
```

### Fade LED

This message is sent to notify the microcontroller to fade an LED to a desired state at a specified speed and colour.

### Message Body:

```
"OutputType": "LedFade",
   "Peripheral": enum, // [Led1, Led2, Led3]
   "Value": boolean, // the desired state of the LED.
   "Duration": int, // the duration the fade should take in ms.
   "Colour": enum // (Led3 only): [Red/Green/Blue/Purple/Yellow/White]
}
```

### Cycle LED 3

This message is sent to notify the microcontroller to cycle the LED colour in the specified direction.

### Message Body:

```
{
   "OutputType": "LedCycle",
   "Direction": boolean, // cycle forwards or backwards - [true/false]
respectively
   "Period": int // how long the period of the cycle should be in ms
}
```

### Buzzer On

This message is sent to notify the microcontroller to turn the piezo buzzer on for the specified length of time.

```
{
   "OutputType": "BuzzerOn",
   "Duration": int, // the duration the buzzer should be on in ms
}
```

### Beep Buzzer

This message is sent to make the microcontroller toggle a buzzer at the desired rate.

### Message Body:

```
{
   "OutputType": "BuzzerBeep",
   "OnDuration": int, // the duration the buzzer should be on in ms
   "OffDuration": int // the duration the buzzer should be off in ms
}
```

### **Configure Device**

This message is sent to notify the microcontroller which input devices are involved in rules. This is used to limit the number of messages sent by devices - if an input device is not involved in any rules, messages should not be sent to the broker when its value changes.

This message is sent whenever a device connects to the broker, or if a rule is created, updated, or deleted involving the device.

```
"MessageType": "DeviceConfig",
    "Button1": boolean,
    "Button2": boolean,
    "Potentiometer": boolean,
    "Temperature": boolean
}
```

# Web Hooks

### What is a Web Hook

Web hooks allow one application to integrate with another over HTTP. This is commonly done by the external application making a post request to an endpoint provided by the application in which the functionality is performed.

# Using Web Hooks in our System

In the context of our system, web hooks can be used for both inputs to rules, and outputs from rules.

### Inputs

Using a web hook as a rule input allows a 3rd party application to trigger the web hook rule input by making an HTTP request to our API. When a rule is created with a web hook input, a unique URL is generated. In order to trigger the rule, a post request must be made to this URL. Inherently, the logic that determines when the web hook URL should be invoked must be implemented by the 3rd party developer. For example, if a 3rd party wanted to trigger a rule using a moisture sensor, the 3rd party must implement their own low level code to handle the desired analogue thresholds for the sensor and then send the HTTP request to the web hook URL, which will trigger the rule.

An example URL is shown below:

http://ee579-dev-api.azurewebsites.net/webhooks/trigger/{unique\_code}

This is a callback URL to our API where {unique\_code} is the code used to identify the specific rule input.

### Outputs

Using a web hook as a rule output allows our system to trigger events on a 3rd party application. This works by our API sending an HTTP post request to your specified URL upon the rule's inputs being triggered. The URL must be public facing and have an appropriate CORS policy to allow the receival of our request. That is, POST request should be allowed and the cross origin policy should allow for requests from our API.

# Why use Web Hooks?

Our web hook implementation allows our system to be controlled by, or control, a completely different system, assuming that the different system is capable of sending or receiving HTTP post requests. For a web hook as a rule input it means a rule from any connected device on our system, can be triggered by invoking the web hook URL (that we generate for you) by sending a post request to it. This gives almost limitless potential for input interoperability thereby making our system not subject to the hardware or input implementation limitations on certain microncontrollers such as the MSP430. That is, any complex inputs that we do not support can be still be used where their HIGH event on the 3rd party application, can then invoke the web hook URL, thus triggering a rule where our system need not know of the complex input that might have caused it, only that the web hook has been invoked. Likewise, with using a web hook as a rule output, it can trigger functionality on a different system where the triggered functionality is controlled by the rule logic in our own system.

### **Examples and Use Cases**

### **IFTTT**

IFTTT (If This Then That) is a popular software platform that connects apps, devices and services from different developers in order to trigger one or more automations involving those apps, devices and services. IFTTT offers web hooks as both logic inputs and outputs. On our system, by specifying the web hook output URL as your IFTTT web hook input URL, you have potential to control hundreds of different services and devices all from our own system. An example of this could be using a device on our system with a rule setup with a button pressed input event, then with a web hook output from the rule that points to a web hook input on IFTTT, you could automatically order a Dominoes, send an SMS for you, turn your heating up, post a tweet and hundreds more options. Likewise, this system interaction can work in reverse, with devices on our system being influenced by your logic on IFTTT such as sounding a buzzer on oone of our devices and a specific time of day. The possibilities are endless.

### **Azure Logic Apps**

The corporate equivalent to IFTTT, is Logic Apps. A Logic App allows for automation of business workflow tasks and can be controlled with input triggers and produce some output such as sending an email. In a similar fashion to how our system might interact with IFTTT, there is vast potential for controlling your business logic using devices on our system.

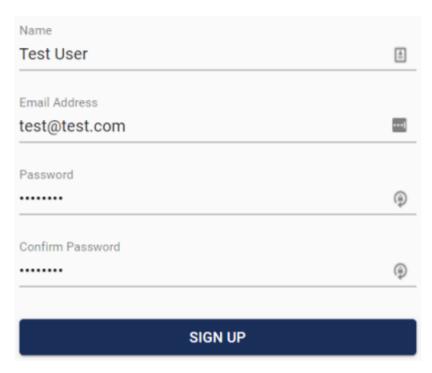
# Create an Account

Visit https://www.ee579-group4.net/signup to get started.

There are several methods available for signing in:

### **Username and Password**

To create an account with a username and password, fill out the form on the sign up page.



You will then be sent an email to verify that you have access to the email address. You must then click the link in the email before you can sign in.

### **External Providers**

Logging in with an external provider allows you to reduce the number of passwords and accounts you have to manage. This site allows you to sign in with your Google or Microsoft account. Click the respective button to start the external sign in process. You will then be redirected to the external providers site where you can sign in.

After signing in to the external providers account, you will be redirected back to this site and signed in. Verifying your email is not required when using external sign in as signing into the account verifies that you have access to the email.

# Next Steps

• Learn about how Multi-Tenancy works in this application

# Multi-Tenancy

# What is Multi-Tenancy?

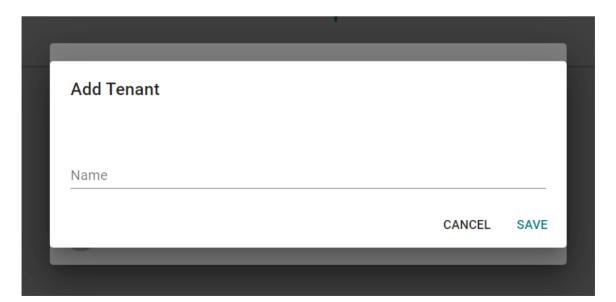
Multi-tenancy is an architecture that allows a single application to be used by multiple customers. This means that data in the application is scoped to the current customer and not visible to other customers of the application. An example of this is the university's use of Microsoft's suite of applications. In this case, the university has their own tenant. This tenant then contains all of the data specific to the university, like users, sharepoint data, email, etc and some services can be accessed by a tenant-specific URL - e.g., strath.sharepoint.com.

# Multi-Tenancy in this application

Multi-tenancy in this application involves scoping rules, devices, and device groups to tenants. This allows multiple customers to use the application without other customers seeing their data. Users can then belong to multiple tenants, allowing them to view and manage their data.

### Creating a Tenant

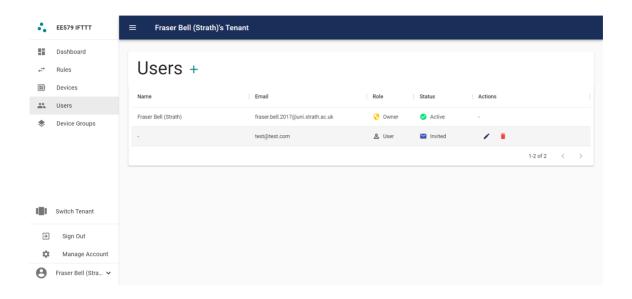
When first creating an account a new tenant is created for you, allowing you to get started creating rules and adding devices. You may want to add another tenant in order to keep unrelated data separate - e.g., keeping rules and devices for each building in their own tenant. This can be done by clicking the 'Switch Tenant' button in the left drawer and then selecting 'Create a new tenant'.



# Next Steps

- Learn how to manage users within tenants
- Find out how to add and manage devices

# Users

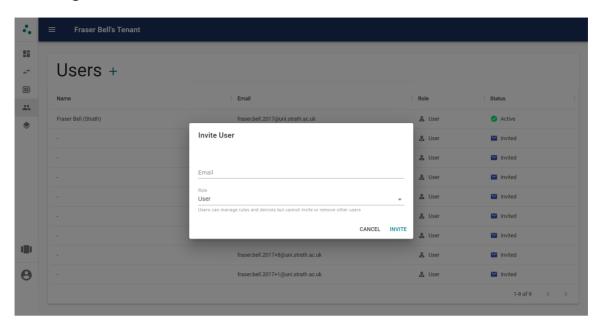


# Roles

Users can have one of two roles within a tenant:

- **User** Users with this role can manage devices, rules, and device groups. However, they cannot manage users belonging to the tenant or edit the tenant itself.
- Owner This user has full control over the tenant. They can manage everything a user can, along with inviting and removing users and editing the tenant.

# **Inviting Users**



Users can be invited to tenants by their email address. If the user already has an account, they will have immediate access to the tenant and receive an email telling them that they have been invited to your tenant. If they have not yet created an account they will receive an email informing them they have been invited to your tenant, including a link to sign up.

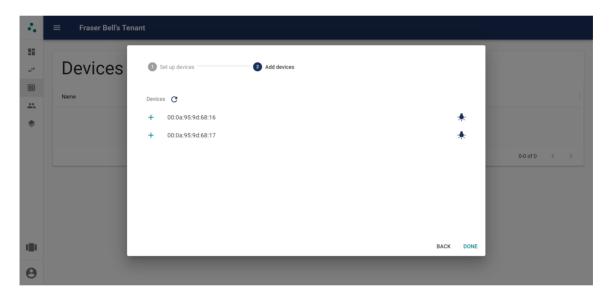
# Devices

Devices are the devices that will be used in rules. They send inputs to the API and receive messages to perform outputs.

# **Adding Devices**

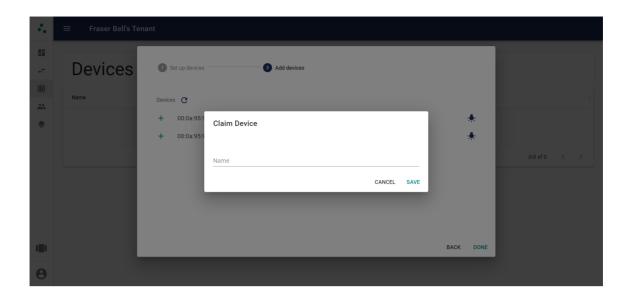
Before devices can be used to create rules, they must be claimed by a tenant. The first step is to power the device on. When powered on for the first time, the device will register itself with the system, making it possible to claim it in the web interface.

After the device has been powered on, navigatet to the devices page and click the add button above the table. This shows the modal below.



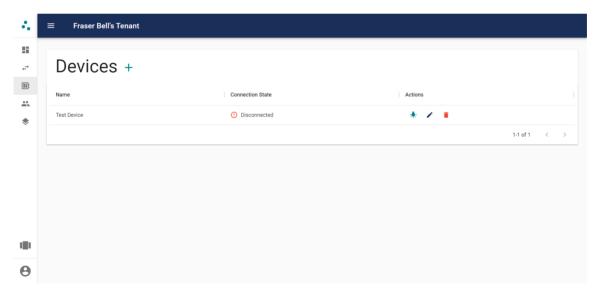
This shows the devices available for you to claim. You must be on the same network as a device in order to claim it. This prevents other users from claiming devices that do not belong to them. The devices are listed by their MAC address which you may use to identify specific devices when multiple are available. If you do not know the MAC address of your device you can press the lightbulb button. This will flash an LED on the device for 5 seconds, allwoing you to identify which device the list item corresponds to.

To claim a device press the add button next to its MAC address. This will bring up a form allowing you to give the device a user friendly name before claiming it.



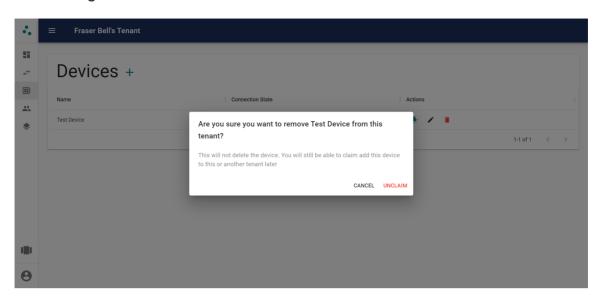
# Managing Existing Devices

After devices have been added, they will be visible on the devices page as shown below.



This page allows you to view all of your devices and their current state. The 'Connection State' column shows whether the device is currently connected to the MQTT broker and able to send and receive inputs and outputs. It also allows you to preform some actions on the device. Here you may identify a device in the same way as when claiming it, by pressing the LED button. You can also change the device's name and unclaim it from the current tenant.

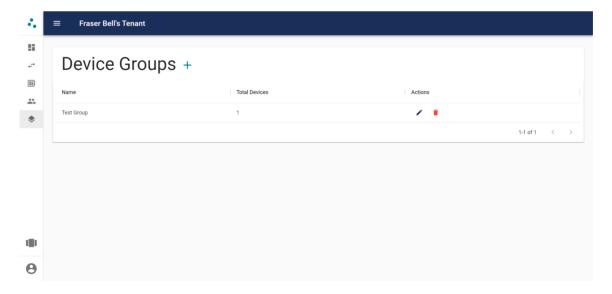
### Unclaiming a Device



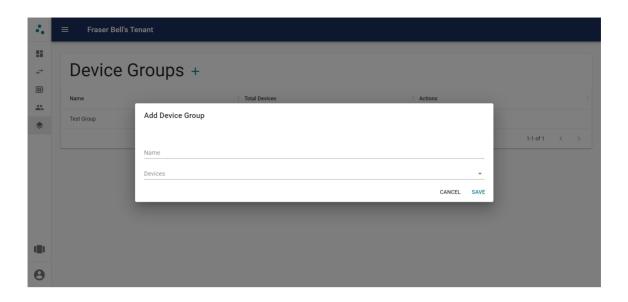
You may wish to unclaim a device from a tenant. This removes the device from its current tenant, and removes it from any rules it may have been involved in. This does not delete the device completely, only resets it, allowing it to be claimed by another tenant. If you want to move a device from one tenant to another this would be the way of doing that.

# **Device Groups**

Device groups provide a method of grouping devices with similar functions to improve the process of adding and managing rules.



Device groups can be added by specifying a name, and list of devices that should be long to the group. The name and devices can also be edited later.



# Next Steps

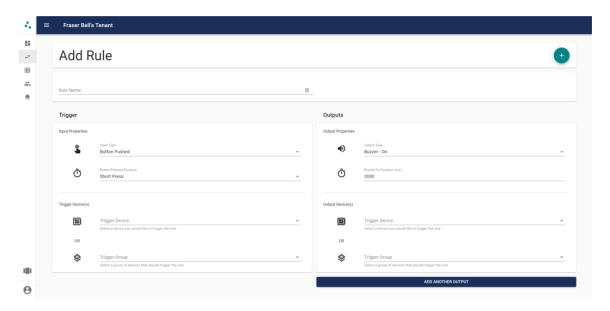
• Find out how Rules work

# Rules

Rules are the core functionality of the system, allowing inputs from devices to trigger outputs.

# Creating Rules

Navigate to the rules page and press the add button to create a new rule. The rule form is shown below:



The form is composed of 3 sections: Name, Trigger, and Outputs.

# Trigger

The Rule trigger is the device input that will trigger the rule and cause the outputs to be performed. This is composed of the input type and parameters desired, and the device or device group the input will come from. If a device group is chosen, an input matching the desired type and parameters from any of the groups devices will trigger the rule.

There are several input types that can be chosen:

### **Input Types**

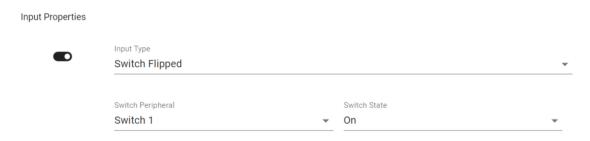
### **Button Pushed**



This input is sent when the button is pushed on a device. The duration desired to trigger the rule can be set to one of three values:

- Short Press 0s < 2s
- Medium Press 2s < 10s
- · Long Press > 10s

### **Switch Flipped**



This input allows rules to be triggered when one of the 2 switches on the device are flipped. The peripheral (switch 1 or 2) can be chosen and the switch state. The switch state is used to specify whether the switch should be triggered when the switch is flipped to an on or off state.

### **Potentiometer**



This input allows you to specify a range of potentiometer values that will trigger the rule. The default configuration is a range between two values but this can also be inverted to allow for

specifying a range of values less than the lower value *or* greater than the higher value. This can be done by pressing the button between the values, or manually setting the greater than value to be higher than the less than.



When using a potentiometer value as an input it should be noted that the rule will not be triggered every time the potentiometer value changes if it is within the trigger range. Instead, the system keeps track of the last potentiometer value sent by the device and only triggers the rule if the last value was outwith the range and the new value is within it.

# Temperature Input Properties Input Type Temperature Greater Than -9 Less Than 50

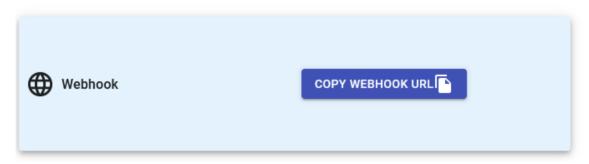
This input allows you to use the temperature sensor on your device as a trigger for the rule. It functions in a similar way to the potentiometer trigger, with a range picker. Again this range can be inverted, and the rule is only triggered when the last value did not satisfy the conditions.



This is an input that can be triggered via the invocation of a generated URL, commonly known as a web hook. It works similar to a physical input such as a button press, but instead of being triggered upon the button being pressed, the trigger happens upon invocation of the URL. After adding a rule with a web hook as an input, from the rules page on the website, find the added rule

from which the invoke URL can be garnered. Below is an example of what this looks like. For more information for developers and using web hooks for interoperability please see here.

Inputs



# Outputs

These are the outputs that will be performed when a rule is triggered. Multiple outputs can be performed for each rule.

**OUTPUTTYPES** 

### Buzzer - On

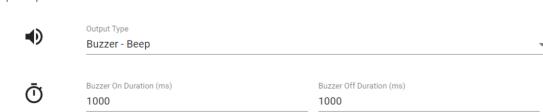
Output Properties



This output is used to sound a continuous buzzer tone for the specified duration.

### Buzzer - Beep

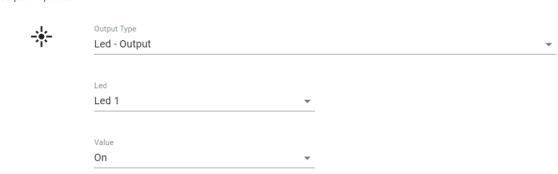
**Output Properties** 



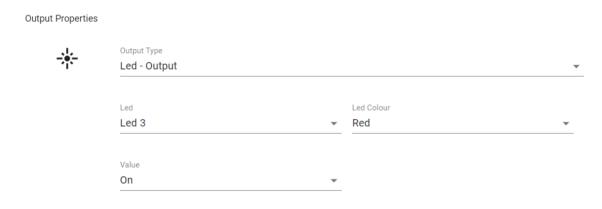
This output beeps the buzzer with the duty cycle specified. The minimum values for the on and off duration are 200ms.

### LED - Output

**Output Properties** 



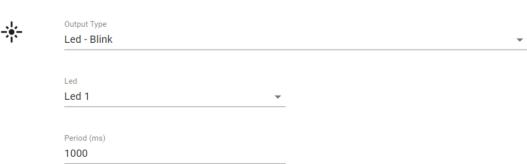
This output can be used to turn an LED on or off. There are 3 LEDs that can be selected, corresponding to the LEDs on the MSP430G2553. As such, LEDs 1 and 2 are single colour, but a colour - *Red, Green, Blue, Purple, Yellow, White* - can be chosen when LED 3 is selected.



This choice of colour also applies to the other output types involving LED 3.

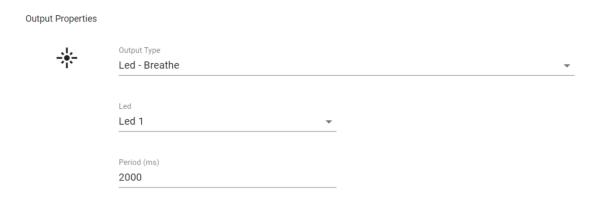
### LED - Blink

Output Properties



This output blinks the LED with the specified period.

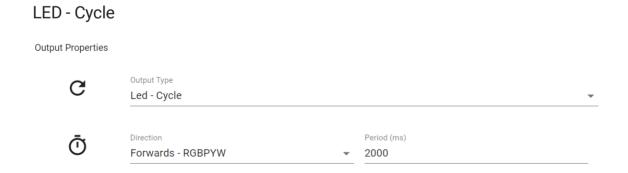
### LED - Breathe



This output makes the LED 'breathe' by smoothly changing the brightness from zero to full brightness and back again, and then repeats. The period of this breathing can be configured.

# Output Properties Output Type Led - Fade Led Led 1 Period (ms) 2000

This output fades the LED off over a given period of time.



This output applies only to LED 3 as it cycles through all possible colours. The direction of the cycle can be chosen along with the period - the total amount of time it will take to cycle through all colours

## Web Hooks

**Output Properties** 



This ouput sends an HTTP post request to the specified URL. The Forward Message option allows for the message body of the input on this rule to be forwarded to the specified URL. For example, if the input was also a web hook that posted some payload in the body, this will be retained and posted to the specified URL. If it was a button press as the input, the MQTT JSON message also gets forwarded. For more information for developers and using web hooks for interoperability please see here.

Outputs



# API

# Framework and Language

The API was built using the framework ASP.NET Core, built on top of Microsoft's increasingly trending language, C#. ASP.NET Core is an web API specific framework that extends .NET Core. We are using .NET 5.

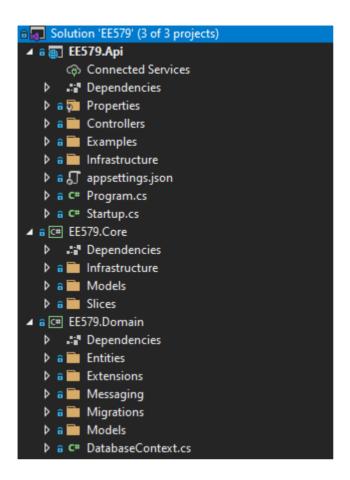
As we have followed industry level design and architectural patterns for ASP.NET Core web APIs, anyone with any ASP.NET Core experience should be able to pick up our API without knowing detailed knowledge of the component level logic. To learn more about ASP.NET Core, see here.

# Running the API

- 1. First install Visual Studio from here
- 2. Pull our API with git clone https://github.com/fraserb99/ee579-api.git
- 3. Navigate into the EE579 directory
- 4. Open EE579.sln with Visual Studio. Visual Studio should automatically install all the necessary dependencies
- 5. Press the green play button on the top toolbar to run the API. This starts the API on localhost:5001

# Understanding the API's Architecture and Directory Structure

The API is organised into three modules: Api, Core and Domain. The root directory structure for each module is shown below:



- The API module contains functionality related to basic input/output in the API as well as launch configurations and application settings.
- The Core module contains all the API logic for handling requests.
- The Domain module contains all the mapped database entity objects. An object representation of the database is also stored at the root level in DatabaseContext.cs.

### **API Module**

```
▲ 🗈 👜 EE579.Api
     Connected Services
  Dependencies
  ▶ a m Properties

▲ a  Controllers

     ▶ a C* DeviceGroupsController.cs
     DevicesController.cs
     ▶ a C# LoginController.cs
     ▶ a C# RulesController.cs
     ▶ a C# TenantsController.cs
     ▶ a C# UsersController.cs
     ▶ a  Examples

▲ a  Infrastructure

     ▶ a  Attributes
     ▶ a  Exceptions
     ▶ a  Middleware
     ▶ a  Swagger
  ▶ a   appsettings.json
  ▶ a C# Startup.cs
```

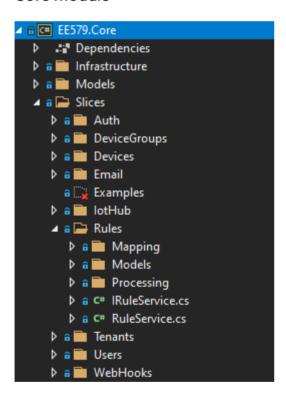
Above, is the API Module with some of its main directories expanded. Within the Controllers directory, lies all the controllers for the API. A controller is a class that contains methods for the entry points for all our different endpoints. Controllers are split into their category. For example, all endpoints to do with users, such as getting a list of all users in the tennant, lie within the UsersController class. This get all endpoint within the UsersController can be seen below:

```
/// <remarks>
/// Gets all users that have access to the current tenant
/// </remarks>
[ProducesResponseType(StatusCodes.Status2000K)]
[ProducesResponseType(typeof(FormErrorResponse), StatusCodes.Status400BadRequest)]
[RequiresTenant]
[HttpGet]
Oreferences | Fraser Bell, 29 days ago | 1 author, 2 changes
public async Task<IActionResult> GetAll()
{
    var users = await _userService.GetAll();
    return Ok(new ApiList<UserDto>(users));
}
```

We can see that there are various "attributes" above the method definition. Attributes can be used for various attribution related configuration to do with a particular method. In this case, there is the <code>[HttpGet]</code> attribute that defines this method as a GET request. You can find out more about attributes here. Within the methody body, a call to the method <code>GetAll()</code> is invoked upon the user service. This returns a list of user objects. More about services and dependency injection will be covered later. On the last line of this controller method, the list of users is returned to the front end. ASP.NET Core automatically serialises the list of user objects to JSON behind the scenes.

Moving back up one directory from the Controllers directory, is the Infrastructure directory. Within this directory contains definitions for custom attributes, exceptions, middleware that handles status codes, and as well as the swagger documentation configurations. In the route directory of the API module, lies two important classes: Program and Startup. Program launches the API and boostraps the Startup class. Within Startup contains many API configurations, service registering and authorization handling. Things such as CORS policies and bearer token authentication go in here.

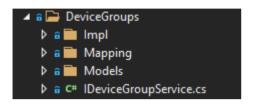
#### Core Module



Above, is the Core Module with some of its main directories expanded. At the highest directory level, is Infrastructure, Models and Slices. Similar to the Infrastructure directory in the API module, this directory contains classes that provide functionality to the system as a whole. Such as general utility method overrides and extensions etc.

Models, is a directory for data objects. The classes typically should only contain properties and not give any functionality around them. A Models directory, can be seen in multiple different places and levels within the API. This is for organisational purposes, for example, all models associated with users will be within a Models directory within the Slices/Users directory.

Within the Slices directory, contains the bulk of the API logic. In the context of the API, a slice, is a grouped section (or slice) of the API, where the grouping is organised by entity relation, such as users, rules, devices etc. That is, all logic handling with regards to that entity, is contained in its own slice.



We can see above the <code>DeviceGroups</code> slice directory expanded. This shows a typical architecture for a slice. Within contains:

- A Mapping directory containing mapping profiles that define behaviour for mapping one object to another (with regards to this slice).
- Another Models directory containg all data objects associated with this slice.
- An Impl directory (short for implementation) that contains the service class for this slice that implements the respective service interface.
- The respective service interface with regards to this slice.

### Services

So what actually *is* a service? A service is a logic component used by the API. It is good practice to create a service for every slice in the API. In simple terms, the service will provide functionality and methods for interacting and manipulating the respective entity in that slice. So for example, the user service will have methods for getting a user from the database, creating a new user in the database, updating a user and so forth. The key thing that differentiates a service from a conventional class, is that services get registered in the aforementioned Startup class and can thereby be **dependency injected** into other classes such as controllers or even injected into other services.

**DEPENDENCY INJECTING SERVICES** 

**Dependency injection** is when an object receives additional objects it depends on. For example, the <code>UsersController</code> needs access to the <code>UsersService</code> so that when a request to get a user is received, it can call this method on the user service which will return the user. For this to be possible, two steps are required:

 Register the class as a service in Startup.cs - This is done like so within the ConfigureServices method in Startup.cs: This tells the API that the interface IUserService is parent to the UserService implementation. AddTransient means that upon every request to the API, ASP.NET Core will inject an instance of UserService with type IUserService into all objects that depend on it. AddTransient is so called named due to the transient lifecycle of the injected object. That is, after the request has finished execution, .NET will perform clean up and garbage collection to free up memory. It is injected with type IUserService rather than the UserService type itself because programming to the interface gives greater code decoupling and abstraction providing a well architectured and maintainable design.

2. **Receive the injection within an object** - Receiving a dependency happens within the constructor of the class. This is shown below:

```
private readonly IUserService _userService;
private readonly IMapper _mapper;
private readonly AppSettings _settings;

Oreferences | Fraser Bell, 30 days ago | 1 author, 1 change
public UsersController(IUserService userService, IMapper mapper, IOptions<AppSettings> appSettings)
{
    _userService = userService;
    _mapper = mapper;
    _settings = appSettings.Value;
}
```

You can see above, that the constructor for the UsersController takes an IUserService as one of its parameters. What gets passed in for this type, is then set as an instance variable. This is the user service dependency. But then where does the IUserService get passed in from? Because of the AddTransient method call made in Startup.cs in step 1, ASP.NET Core knows to look for all contructors that take the type IUserService as a parameter and will pass in an instance of UserService whenever a request to the API is made. This is seamless to the programmer, one of the benefits of such a design pattern. The dependency can then be interacted with using the instance variable, in this case the \_userService reference.

### Domain Module

```
▲ G C # EE579.Domain

  Dependencies
  🗸 a 🔚 Entities
    ▶ a 🛅 Inputs
    ▶ a  Output
    Device.cs
    DeviceGroup.cs
    ▶ a C# Entity.cs
    ▶ a C# EntityWithGuid.cs
    ▶ a C# EntityWithTenant.cs
    ▶ a C# RuleInput.cs
    ▶ a C# RuleOutput.cs
    ▶ a C# TenantUser.cs
    ▶ a C# User.cs
  ▶ a  Extensions
  ▶ a  Messaging
  ▶ a  Migrations
  ▶ a  Models
  ▶ a C# DatabaseContext.cs
```

Above is the directory structure of the domain module with the Entities directory expanded. The Entities directory contains object representations of database entities. These entity classes are mapped from the database and vice versa. This is achieved by the use of Entity Framework Core or EF Core for short.

### **EF Core**

Entity Framework Core is an object relational mapper. This means that it can map database tables to lists of objects where an object is an entry in the table. For example, a users table with 3 columns: id, username and password would get mapped to a list of User objects. Where a User object would have propeties of id: int, username: string and password: string. By interacting with these objects within the API in a conventional object orientated fashion, EF Core will update the database seamlessly behind the scenes. For example, to update the password of a user with id 1, you would search through the list of User objects until you find a User with its id property value equal to 1 and then updating the password on this selected object. EF Core will then update the database to reflect this change. For creating a User it is as simple as adding a new User object to the list of users.

### **Migrations**

But then how does the database schema stay in sync with the object representation in the API? Keeping the two domains in sync is inherently simple using the Code First design approach with EF Core Migrations. Code First means that the database schema is reflective of the API domain

entities rather than the API domain entities updating to match the database schema. For example, to add a new column/propert to the User domain object (and thus the database) the following steps are required:

- 1. Open the User domain object in Entities/User.
- 2. Add a new field to the class. E.g email: string.
- 3. In the terminal in Visual Studio, run the command Add-Migration AddedAnEmailColumn . ..\* This will generate some simple code that will add an email column to the database. It is worth quickly reviewing this to make sure it is what you want to do.
- 4. Run Update-Database this will execute the migration code and add the column to the database.

When the API starts up, it will automatically check to make sure it has applied all the latest migrations. This ensures that the database always matches the object representation in the code.

# React Front End

# Language and Framework

The web interface (or front end) for this system is written in React. React is a javascript framework that enables developers to easily build responsive front ends with its component-based architecture. It is created and maintained by Facebook. Detailed React documentation can be found here.

## Single Page Applications

Single Page Applications (SPAs) are a type of web application, along with server-rendered (or multi-page) applications. Traditional websites use server side rendering to load a new page every time the user navigates to a different URL - this page will consist of HTML and any other related files (css, javascript, etc.). In contrast, SPAs use client side languages to dynamically change the web page content without a request to the server. Instead, the client side scripts (most commonly in the form of javascript) are loaded on the first page load and the required data is then loaded from an external API. React supports both server-side rendering and SPAs. THe SPA approach is used in this project as it allows for a more responsive site as the user does not have to wait for a request to be made on every navigation. It is important to understand how SPAs work in order to understand how they can be hosted on the cloud

# Running the Site

## **Prerequisites**

• NodeJS > v10

First, clone the github repository:

```
git clone https://github.com/fraserb99/ee579-web.git
```

Change directory to the cloned repo:

```
cd ee579-web
```

Then install the required npm packages:

```
npm i
```

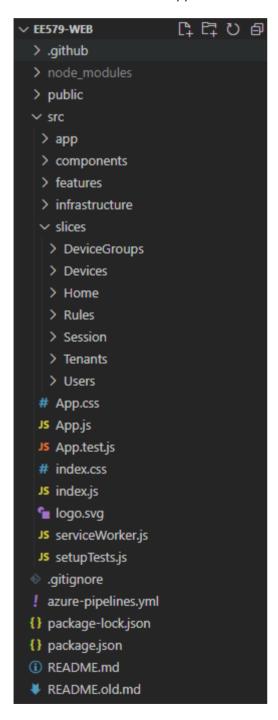
Then run the application:

npm start

Your browser should now open at http://localhost:3000, displaying the site. Run the API alongside this in order for all functionality to work

# **Application Structure**

The folder structure of the application is shown below:

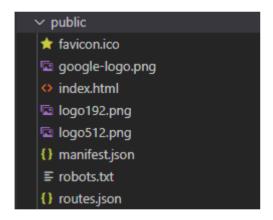


## package.json

The package.json file is automatically generated and stores information about the installed npm packages and their versions. Wen a new package is installed via <code>npm i</code>, this file is updated. React-specific script references are also stored in the scripts section

This allows the project to be built and run with npm start

## /public



This folder contains the <code>index.html</code> used by the React DOM to render the React app, along with various meta files such as the <code>favicon.ico</code>. <code>routes.json</code> is an important file used to configure the Azure Static App Settings.

#### /src

This folder contains the majority of the code for the site. The most important files and subdirectories and their functions are as follows:

- App.js This is the entry point to the React application
- /slices This folder contains most of the code for the site, split into sections with similar functionality

- /infrastructure This folder contains code used for general configuration of libraries and integration with other services (e.g. API integration, middleware, React-Redux config, routing config)
- /components This folder contains components shared across multiple slices of the application

## Patterns and Libraries Used

This section introduces some of the common patterns and libraries used in the application.

## Components

React uses a component-based architecture. This allows the UI to be split into reusable pieces and each piece can be tested individually. This project primarily uses functional components, consisting of an input and output value:

- **Props** this is the components input. This allows parent components to pass different values to the component to change its behaviour.
- **Return value** the data components return is what is used to display content. This takes the form of JSX which allows UI to be written in the style of HTML while enabling inline javascript to be used.

A simple example component definition is shown below:

```
function HelloWorld(props) {
  return <h1>Hello, {props.name}</h1>;
}
```

This component can then be used:

```
<HelloWorld name='World' >
```

More information about React components can be found here.

# React-Router

This application uses React-Router to provide routing. This is done by wrapping the app in the <ConnectedRouter> component and then using Route components as shown below.

```
<Route path='/signin' component={SignInPage} />
```

The offic

### React-Redux

React-Redux is a state management library for React, and an alternative to React's Context API. It provides an API that can be used to store and access data from a central location. This allows data to be shared efficiently across components without passing it as props.

This application most commonly uses it to store data retrieved from the REST API. The Redux store is used to store and organise the response data returned from API requests. Middleware can also be used in conjunction with Redux to perform some actions on every request. For example, the <code>injectAuthMiddleware</code> middleware adds the current user's JWT to the <code>Authorization</code> header for every request. This means it does not have to be manually added.

```
export const injectAuthMiddleware = store => next => action => {
   const callApi = action[RSAA];
   if (isRSAA(action)) {
      const state = store.getState();
      callApi.headers = Object.assign({}, callApi.headers, {
          Authorization: `Bearer ${state.session.get('token')}`,
      });
   }
   return next(action);
};
```

# Cloud Architecture

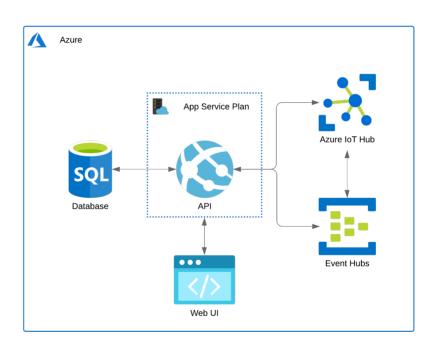
# Cloud Provider

The majority of the cloud components of this system are currently hosted on the Microsoft Azure platform. The cloud provider is not tightly coupled to the application for the most part, so you are free to use the provider of your choice. The only exception to this is for IoT Hub and consequently Event Hubs, for which more information can be found here. It should also be noted that this docs site is hosted using GitHub Pages - more detail about how this works can be found in the Docs Site Section.

The Azure Portal is available at portal azure.com and can be used to create and manage cloud resources.

## **Architecture Overview**





This diagram shows how the cloud services integrate with each other. This section will detail how each of these services is hosted to allow you to replicate the hosting setup on the provider of your choice.

## API

The API is hosted as an Azure App Service. This is a Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) offering from Azure that enables applications to be run without having to configure the underlying server as everything like the web server config is handled behind-the-scenes by Azure. Before an App Service can be created, an App Service Plan must be created. App Service Plans can contain multiple App Services, with the scale being configured at the App Service Plan level.

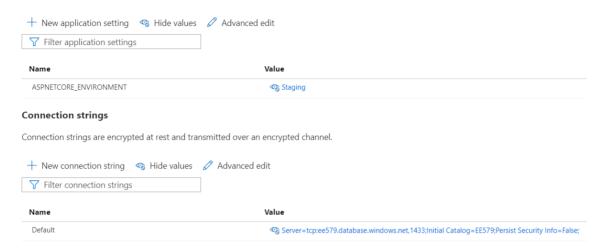
The following screenshot shows an example configuration for an App Service Plan.

Basics Deployment (Preview) M	onitoring	Tags Review + create
	scalability, s	nd scale enterprise-grade web, mobile, and API apps running on ecurity and compliance requirements while using a fully managed more $oxdot{\square}$
Project Details		
Select a subscription to manage deployed all your resources.	resources ar	nd costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage
Subscription * ①	Azure for	Students
Resource Group * ①	EE579-IF1	TT
	Create new	
Instance Details		
Name *	ee579-ex	ample
		.azurewebsites.net
Publish *	<ul><li>Code</li></ul>	O Docker Container
Runtime stack *	.NET 5	<b>V</b>
Operating System *	<ul><li>Linux</li></ul>	Windows
Region *	North Eu	оре
	1 Not find	ling your App Service Plan? Try a different region.
App Service Plan		
App Service plan pricing tier determines the Learn more $\square$	he location, f	eatures, cost and compute resources associated with your app.
Linux Plan (North Europe) * 🛈	EE579-IF1	T (B1)
	Create new	
Sku and size *	Basic B1 100 total	ACU, 1.75 GB memory
Review + create < Previous	Next	: Deployment (Preview) >

The only options that must be set as shown in the screenshot are the Publish: Code and Runtime Stack: .NET 5 options. All of the rest are up to you. Our API has cross-platform

support and can run on Windows or Linux. We cannot provide any direct instructions as we have not done it, but the API can be hosted on other providers like AWS, or alternatively can be run on a local server running IIS, Kestrel, or another web server.

There are several environment variables that must be set for the API to function correctly. If you are hosting the app on an App Service, it is as simple as setting 2 values in the configuration section of the App Service:



If you are hosting on another service then the environment variables should be set directly with the following names:

- ASPNETCORE\_ENVIRONMENT This should be set to Staging
- · ConnectionStrings\_\_Default This should be the connection string for your database

You may also need to edit some values in appsettings. Staging. json. The values from this file get loaded as configuration options.

```
13
         "AppSettings": {
             "AdminUrl": "https://www.ee579-group4.net",
14
            "ApiUrl": "http://ee579-dev-
15
16 api.azurewebsites.net",
            "SmtpSettings": {
17
                "EmailEnabled": true,
18
19
                "Host": "smtp.gmail.com",
                "Port": 587,
20
                "Email": "ee579.ifttt@gmail.com",
21
                "Password": "******
22
23
           }
        }
```

For example, if you are hosting the API on another URL, you should change the "ApiUrl" value to reflect this. You can also change the Smtp server used for sending email here.

### Database

We are using Azure SQL to host our database, a cloud database service using Microsoft's SQLServer. You are in no means tied to this SQL variation, however. One of the benefits of using EF Core is that it abstracts the database itself from the code. This means that you are free to use any of the supported database providers.

To use a different database provider, you should first set the connection string as described in the previous section. You then must also change the following line in <a href="Startup.cs">Startup.cs</a> where the database connection is configured.

Change this to use the corresponding function, e.g., UseSqlite if you are using a Sqlite database.

## Web Interface

The web interface is hosted as an Azure Static Web App. Azure Static Web Apps allow static sites to be hosted without using a web server. This is especially useful when the site is an SPA - as described here. SPAs don't require any processing to be performed on the server to serve the response, the server only needs to return the file containing the client-side code. Static Web Apps allow these files to be served through the use of a CDN, providing users with extremely fast page load times.

The site can also be hosted on a traditional server as well. Running <code>npm build</code> will generate a production-ready, minified build containing an <code>index.html</code> with references to the minified javascript files. This build can then be deployed to the wwwroot folder of any web server and served.

There is an additional piece of configuration required when configuring the web server running the site. Because the React app is an SPA, the web server only sees a single <code>index.html</code> file so assumes that the only root is the default <code>/</code>. This means that if someone navigates to <code>/sign-up</code> for example, the web server will not find a <code>sign-up.html</code> file, so will return a 404. To fix this we must route all requests to <code>/</code>. If hosting using a Static Web App, this can be done using a routes.json file in the <code>/public</code> folder.

#### routes.json

The method for doing this may vary between web servers. to take IIS as an example, a web.config file can be used to configure the routing.

#### web.config

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<configuration>
    <system.webServer>
        <rewrite>
            <rules>
                <remove name="pushState" />
                <rule name="pushState" stopProcessing="true">
                     <match url=".*" />
                         <conditions logicalGrouping="MatchAll">
                         <add input="{REQUEST_FILENAME}" matchType="IsFile"</pre>
negate="true" />
                         <add input="{REQUEST_FILENAME}"</pre>
matchType="IsDirectory" negate="true" />
                        </conditions>
                        <action type="Rewrite" url="/" />
                     </rule>
            </rules>
        </rewrite>
    </system.webServer>
</configuration>
```

### IoT Hub and Event Hubs



#### Note

The IoT Hub setup is somewhat involved and requires more setup than the other components. If you are looking to replicate our cloud architecture we recommend that you continue to use our IoT Hub to simplify setup on both devices and the server.

IoT Hub implements a publish-subscribe pattern, used in this system to facilitate communication between the IoT devices and server.

IoT Hub is not a traditional MQTT broker, so to read messages sent from devices the server cannot just subscribe to their topics. Instead, IoT Hub exposes these messages through an Event Hub built-in-endpoint. The API then reads the messages from this Event Hub endpoint and processes them asynchronously.

A Blob Storage Account is also required to read messages from the built-in-endpoint. This is used to store checkpoint files which allow the API to keep its place in the message queue, like a bookmark. This prevents messages from being read twice. The storage account was omitted from the architecture diagram for brevity.

IoT Hub also allows you to expose device connection state events by routing them through an Event Hub. This means that when a device connects to the IoT Hub, a connection state message is routed to the corresponding Event Hub. Our application then reads the messages from this endpoint and updates the corresponding device's connection state in the database. This connection state is then displayed in the UI as shown here.

If you do create your own IoT Hub, Event Hub, and storage account, simply change the connection strings in IotHubWorkerService.cs and IotMessagingService.cs to point to your resources.

#### **Docs Site**

The docs site is the site this documentation is currently available from - docs.ee579-group4.net. This site is created using MkDocs, a static site generator that converts Markdown files into a static site composed of html, css, and javascript.

Unlike the other components, this site is not hosted on Azure. Instead, GitHub pages is used. MkDocs provides easy integration with GitHub pages through their CLI. The following commands show how you can contribute to the documentation and deploy it.

```
    pip install mkdocs && pip install mkdocs-material
    git clone https://github.com/fraserb99/ee579-docs.git
    cd ee579-docs
    mkdocs serve
```

5. Make any changes you would like at this point

```
6. mkdocs gh-deploy
```