B2G OS

Transition Project Kickoff

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https://public.etherpad-mozilla.org/p/b2gostransition-kickoff

Transition Project Goals

1. Modernise the B2G platform (replace legacy mozApps-only APIs with new web standards)
2. Create a leaner platform on which to build Smart TV and other connected devices products (reduced complexity and maintenance cost)
3. Move towards an architecture closer to that of the Firefox browser (just chrome and web content)
4. Transition smartphone modules to new owners and peers in the community
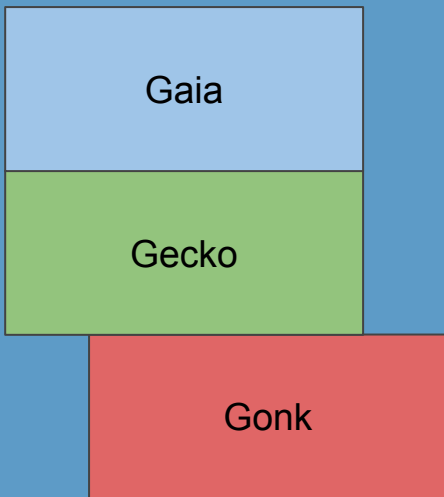5. Build a more active open source community around the project

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B2G Architecture

Gaia

Collection of mozApps which make up the user interface

Gecko

Rendering engine and app runtime

Gonk

Linux kernel and a userspace hardware abstraction layer

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# Gonk Changes

Gaia

Gecko

Gonk

- Merge the B2G process model with the Firefox process model

- APIs needed for TV will be maintained by staff on the TV team

- Smartphone-specific APIs will need to be maintained by the wider community

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Gecko Changes

Gaia

Gecko

Gonk
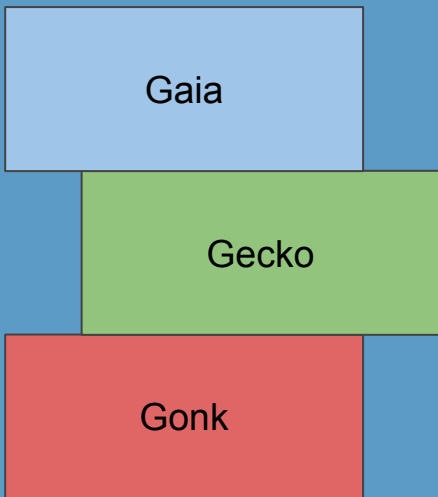
- Replace mozApps with standard web apps (Service Workers, Manifest and Push)
- Find an alternative solution to legacy mozApps-only APIs
  - IAC
  - DataStore
  - System Messages
  - Web Activities
- Remove themes and langpacks and add support for Web Extensions

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Gaia Changes

Gaia

Gecko

Gonk
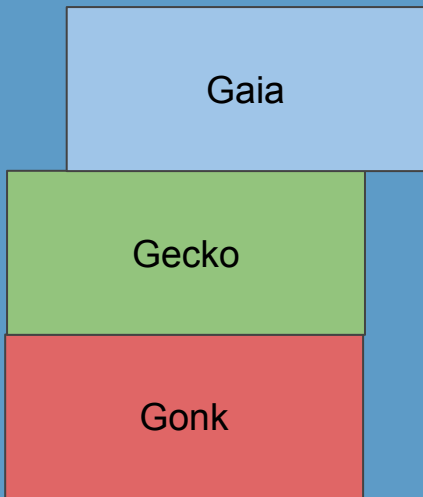
- No longer built as mozApps   ~~app://~~
- Turn system UI into chrome
  - System app
  - Home screen
  - Search   chrome://
  - Keyboard
  - Settings?
- Turn everything else into web
  content where possible   http://
  - Hosted on localhost
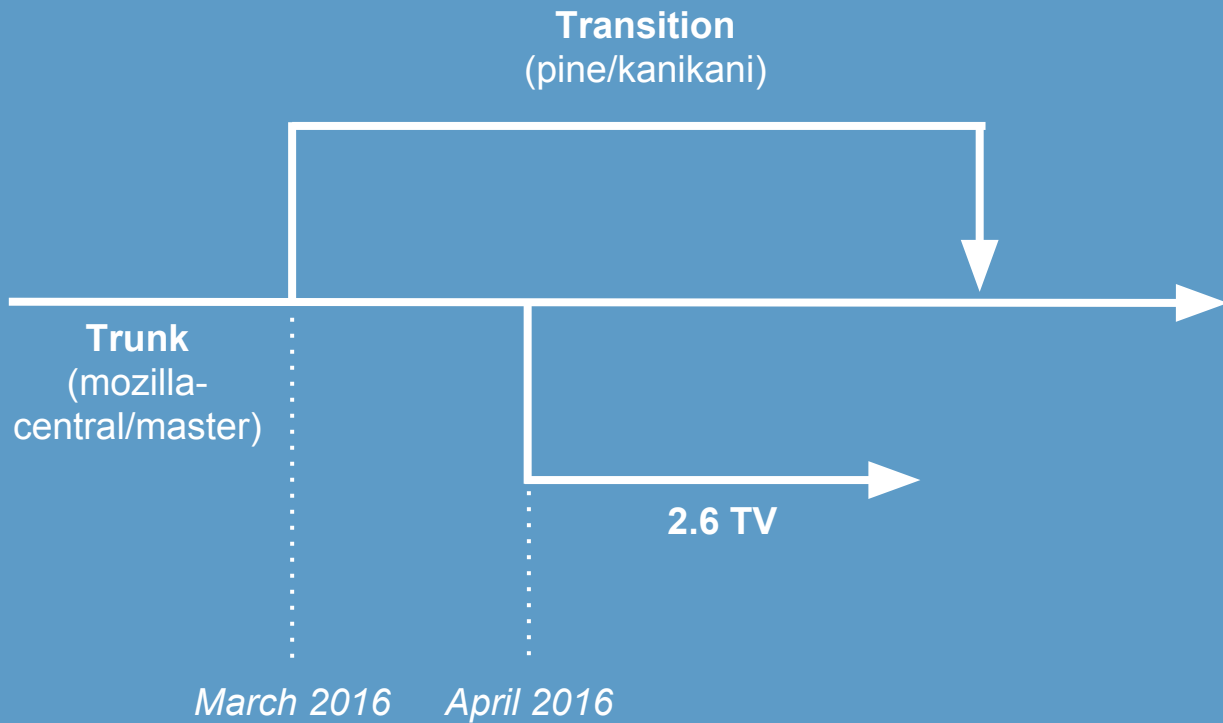 - Hosted on the web

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Deliverables

Things we expect to be working in 3-5 months:
- System
- Homescreen
- TV Browser
- Media Apps

Things that might be broken:
- Everything else (we need your help!)

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Branching

Transition
(pine/kanikani)

Trunk
(mozilla-central/master)

2.6 TV

March 2016   *April 2016*

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Build & Test

Builds
- Aries device builds
- No emulator builds to begin with
- Mulet builds

Tests
- We expect some tests to break for a while
- Need to get them green again before merging (particularly system, homescreen, settings, keyboard)

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Meet the Staff

Gregor Wagner
Engineering Manager

Fabrice Desré
Architect

Dylan Oliver
Build & Test Infrastructure

Paul Theriault
Security Manager

Gabriele Svelto
Platform Engineer
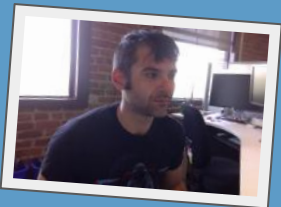
Ben Francis
Front End Engineer

Chris Lord
Front End Engineer

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Platform Engineer

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Build & Test Infrastructure

Alexandre Lissy
Platform Engineer

Thomas Zimmermann
Platform Engineer

Al Tsai
QA

Frederik Braun
Security

Stéphanie Ouillon
Security

Jonathan Kingston
Security

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How You Can Help

- Test the transition branch
  - File bugs
  - Fix bugs
- Help us fix failing tests
- Port an app
  - Pick a smartphone app
  - Figure out ways to get it working as a web app (or turn it into chrome)
  - Report back your findings
- Help us maintain a device port
- (Eventually) propose/implement new smartphone features

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Module Ownership

- Current module owners and peers will continue to begin with
- Module ownership and peers will transition over time (particularly for smartphone pieces)
- Some modules may become orphaned and removed

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Keeping in Touch

- Mailing list (dev-fxos)
- IRC (irc.mozilla.org #fxos)
- Discourse

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Meetings

- 4-weekly Transition Project Meeting
- B2G Weekly Meeting for engineering status updates
  (Was Gaia Weekly Meeting)
- Other meetings TBD

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Find out More

wiki.mozilla.org/B2G/Transition_Project

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Questions?

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