

To KAZOO or not to KAZOO?

The question is the BILLING...

... for in that Erlang code what dreams may come ...

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A Bit of Nostalgia

- 2011 -> 201? The golden era of Kazoo open source
- KazooUI as an example of how to build your very own UI
- waiting for a Monster or miracle is somewhere around the corner.

Those Were the Days...





Cruel Reality?

Open core era disappointment

- MonsterUI everything you need, but rarely open-sourced
- Vendor OPEN CORE lock?
- Apocalypsis... and OTF WAS BORN!
- Is there any other open source project to run away?



Is there really any difference?

A feature seems vital to you might not be priorities for the community (== PR wont be accepted) VS

Feature you need badly could be out of open core spot (== PR wont be accepted)

No difference in case you are able to code on your own a bit...

Some bonuses of open core as a plus:

- you can compete with closed features
- you can opensource your "closed feature competotor" ... and say hello to 2600hz
- Kazoo got more reasons to have stable future..
- more to be understood...



By the way...

What is Kazoo for you?

- Just another FreePBX?
- The most powerful and open VoIP platform available? (2600hz.org)
- Mega glue for Kamailio and FreeSwitch?
- Cloud communications platform?



Why not?

applications

KAZOO == Cloud communications platform?

- distributed
- horizontally scalable
- database backend
- RESTful API
- etc.
- I wanna sell potatoes online!
 - Try KAZOO!



Did I miss something?

Selling potatoes online is a promising idea!

VoIP services is not that bad too...

... but how will I bill my customers?

They say:

- use third-party billing;
- billing is a very complex "thing";
- understanding of billing differs from one person/company/country to another;
- better not even start thinking about billing kazoo_app.

Which means:

- use/serve additional technology stack;
- spend more money;
- have another single point of failure.

I've got the problem

I Want To Break Free

- get rid of third-party billing/rating system;
- more familiar to customers payment gateways needed;
- dirty hacks before they evolve to PRs should have a place to live somewhere too :)
- don't want to look like other tens?/hundreds? of VoIP websites;
- don't want to hire an army of admins to manage the Zoo.

A plan to escape

- dare to run your billing tasks in Kazoo;
- create your very own UI;
- use the same stack as used for Kazoo development to save time and money.



Do more with less tools

The same technology stack

Backend

- Kazoo app:
 - Erlang
 - o ErlyDTL
 - Cowboy
 - Websockets

Frontend

- Erlang web framework (Zotonic for now)
 - Server side rendering
 - Erlang
 - o ErlyDTL
 - Cowboy
 - WebSockets and Comet
- Kazoo app soon
 - Zotonic libs Hex packages
 - What if we omit crossbar just for fun?



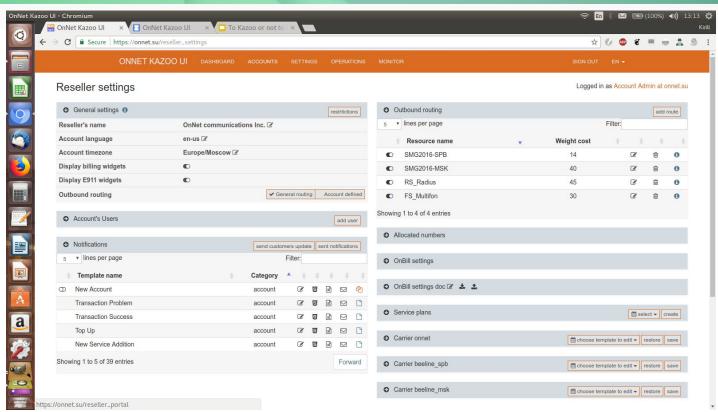
A bit about OKUI

OnNet Kazoo Ul

- Inspired by KazooUI, therefore:
 - a kind of frontend just to expose features provided by crossbar;
 - o probably should be rewritten or at least design should be improved.
- Kazoo administration
 - accounts management
 - routing
 - notifications
- Kazoo monitoring
 - system-wide registrations
 - system-wide current calls (live)
- Customer portal
 - user portal
 - callflow builder
 - conference manager
 - etc.

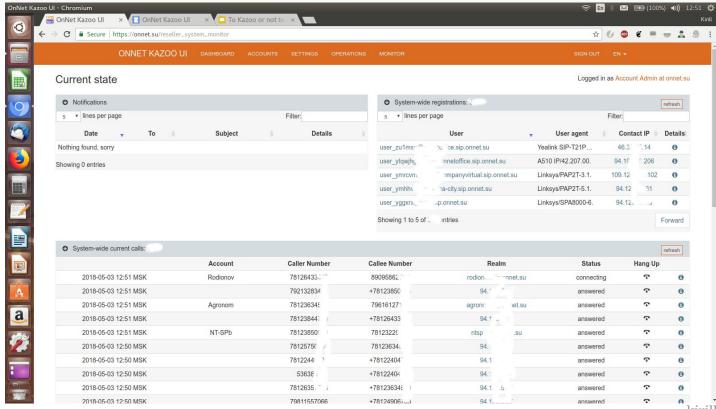


OKUI: Kazoo administration





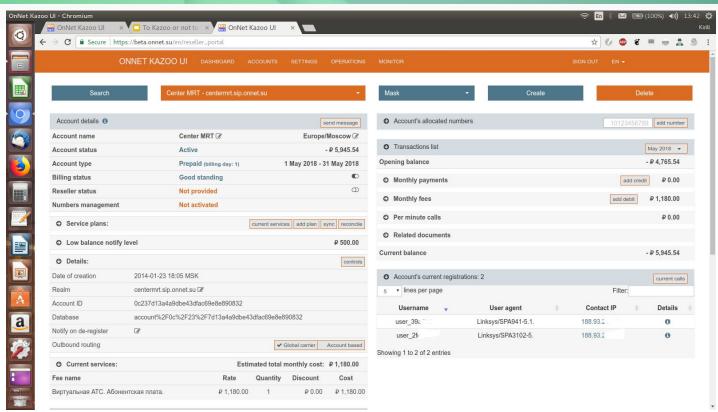
OKUI: monitoring



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OKUI: accounts management



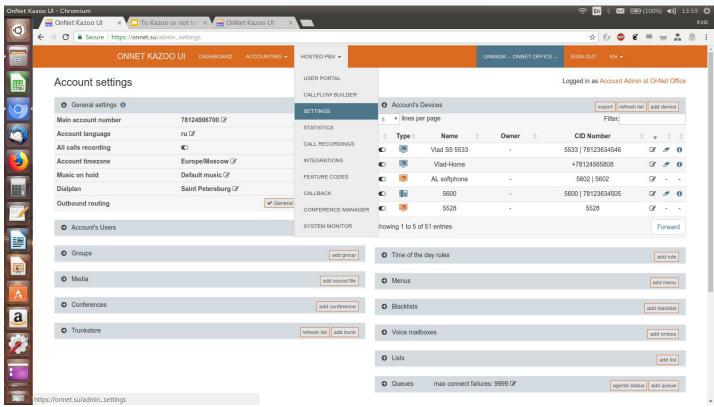


OKUI: Callflow Builder





OKUI: account settings





OnNet Kazoo UI

Results:

- Just another Kazoo UI Frontend boring, huh?
- But big fun is around the corner ...
 - UI as kazoo_app?
 - just git clone, make and run
 - why use crossbar if we are that close to kazoo core libs (beware dirty hack) :)
 - o etc.



Behind the scenes

Dare to put all the eggs in one distributed and scalable basket?

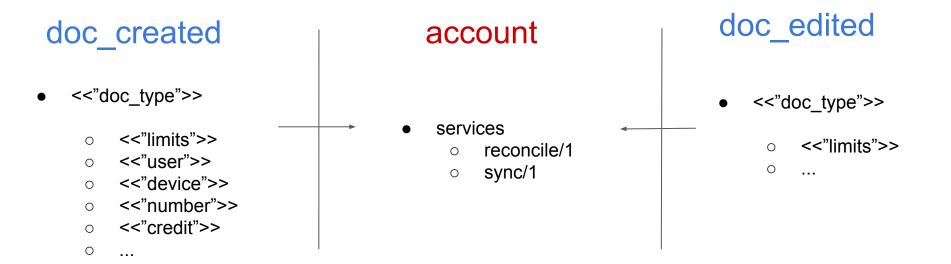
Goals wanted!

- real time billing;
- each reseller at each level should be able to run it's billing tasks independently (currency, balances, etc.);
- additional payment gateways like Paypal, Yandex. Money, etc should be connected;
- all charges are made against Kazoo account balance, no hooks to customer's pocket;
- Braintree top-up is an exception;
- funds could be added manually in case of customers wire transfer;
- different charging schemes support: monthly recurring / daily basis fee;
- documents should be generated automatically at the end of each billing period.



Want to get close to real time?

Just listen to your docs...





A place where all the logic lives

Bookkeeper - the module intended to determine the logic of billing process

Wasn't that hard - just a reworked kz_bookkeeper_braintree.erl

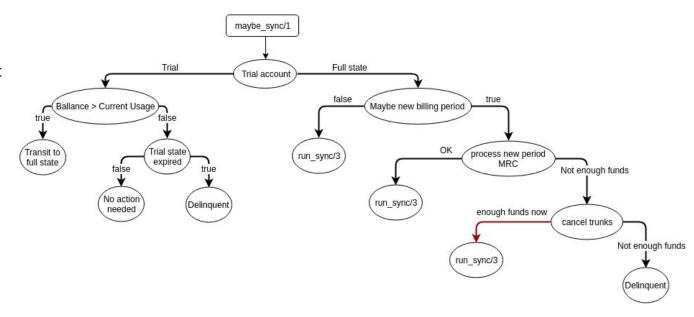
- rely on our own data, not Braintree;
- keep all the transactions' information in CouchDB;
- implement Prorated/MRC functionality on your own.



Bookkeeper tasks

Run checks against account:

- trial or full state
- good standing or delinquent
- whether new period starts
- if sync needed





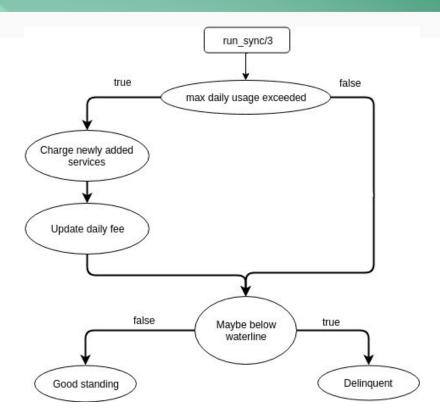
Bookkeeper tasks

To charge or not to charge:

- newly added services;
- daily fees in case applicable.

Handle transactions

- list transactions nothing to do it's already local
- save transactions local





How to charge?

Monthly Recurring Charge

- MRC / Prorated MRC;
- In case account lacks of funds for new billing period flat rate services could be automatically cancelled.

Daily fees

- account charged on daily basis;
- fraction of monthly fee extracted day by day
- if account goes negative it could be blocked until top-up;
- some services (flat rate trunks) could be excluded from this scheme to be charged on monthly basis.



Payment gateways

Braintree pros & cons:

works out of the box;

but:

- not all countries supported;
- customers don't like to share its credit cards info;
- they say Braintree don't like VoIP businesses :).

Which payment gateway to choose?

- it depends:
 - o country;
 - customer type.
- .. you need more than one for failover anyway.



Payment gateways how to

Good news!

Add payment gateway as easy as create crossbar module:

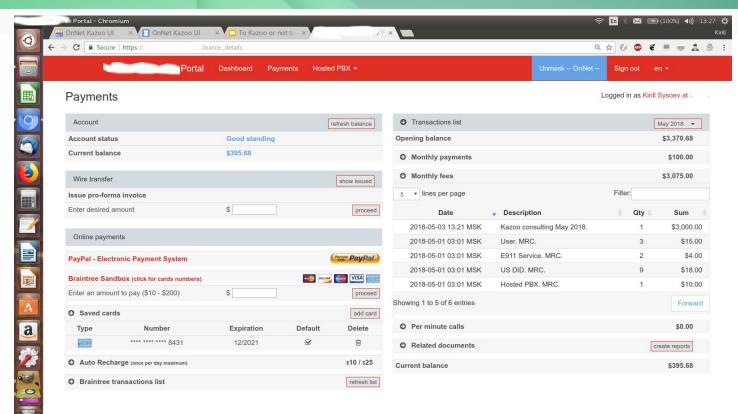
- 1. Use inbound hook for payment approval to avoid standard auth process
 - (https://{SERVER}:8443/hooks/paymentgw/5c36900d63069782e4e0b0ad2f131e45)
- 2. Validate request as payment gateway recommends
- Add transaction to an account

A couple of examples:

- Paypal https://github.com/onnet/zzapp/blob/master/src/crossbar/cb_paypal.erl
- Yandex.Money https://github.com/onnet/zzapp/blob/master/src/crossbar/cb_yandex_money.erl



Payment gateways

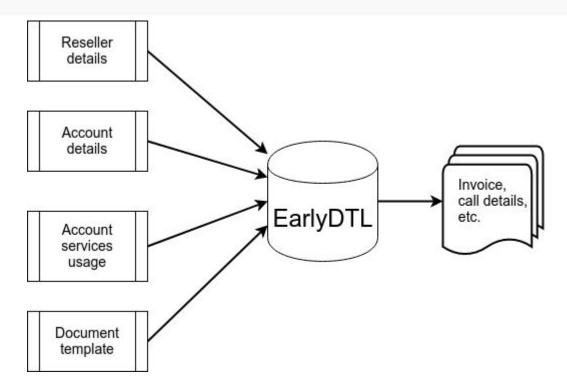




Docs as easy as a pie

Documents generation:

- automatically;
- on demand;
- mail to account admins optionally.



Ready to sell potatoes online now? :)

Enjoy!