

Manne has been working with pipeline design and workflow engineering in games and film production for the past 14 years at companies such as Electronic Arts, Sony Computer Entertainment, and Framestore Feature Animation. He joined Shotgun in 2006, Autodesk in 2014 and is the technical lead for Shotgun's integration platform.

Let me start by introducing myself!  
My name is Manne. I have been designing pipelines and tools for vfx, feature animation and games companies for the past 15 years.  
I am the tech lead for the Shotgun platform integrations.

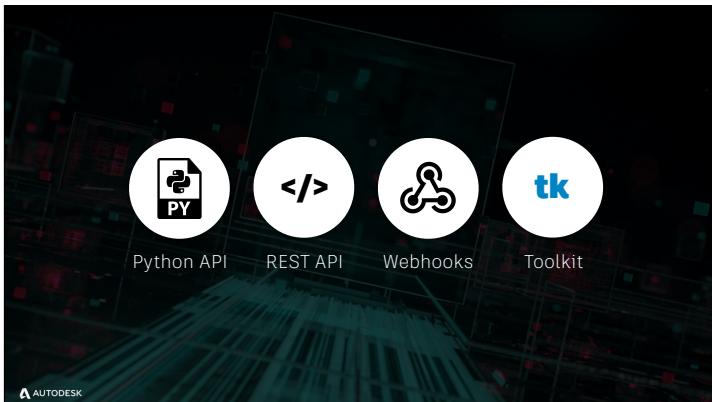
It's great to see so many people here today! very exciting and hopefully you'll find this session useful.



So a quick note before we begin - all the code that I will be showing, as well as the notes of this deck, is in github, so no need to snap pictures of the slides!

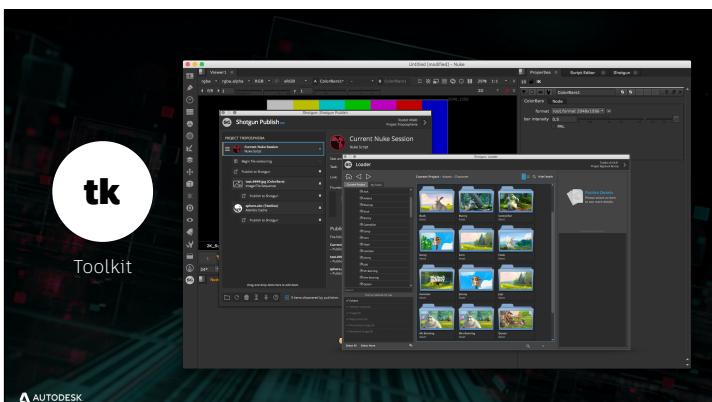


So this session is about Shotgun Toolkit. How many of you know what Shotgun Toolkit is?



Shotgun has a whole bunch of different tech and integration points. It can sometimes be confusing

- The python API is a generic way to read and write shotgun data
- The rest API mirrors the python API but is useful if you are using other languages, for example javascript.
- Webhooks and the shotgun event deamon can be used to react to things that happen inside of Shotgun
- Which leaves us with the Shotgun Toolkit.



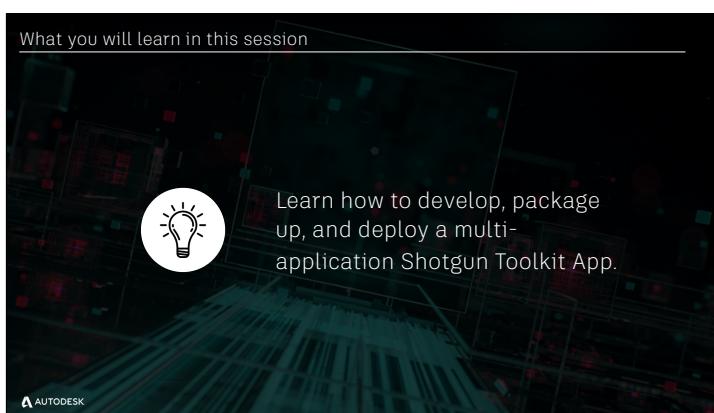
Toolkit is a platform that lets you rapidly develop tools and user experiences that run inside of artist applications like Maya. It's a system that lets you quickly build UIs, panels and other tools. It uses python and QT. It's got a series of API frameworks of reusable functionality to further accelerate development. It helps streamline things like authentication and other common things that most tools need.

We use toolkit to write all Shotgun in-

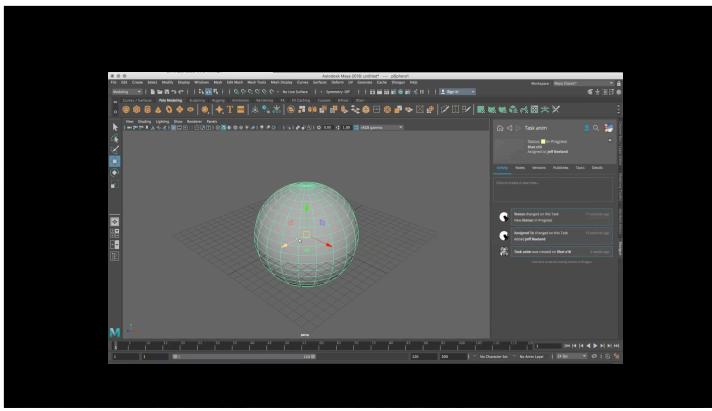
application integration tools. If you have used our publisher or loader, then you have used Toolkit.



One of the great things about of Toolkit is that once you have written a tool for maya, it's very easy to get it to run in a wide range of applications.



So for the next 30 minutes we will be learning about this - how to develop a toolkit app and how to deploy it to production.



There's a story to tell, which is that an artist has found something wrong while they're working:

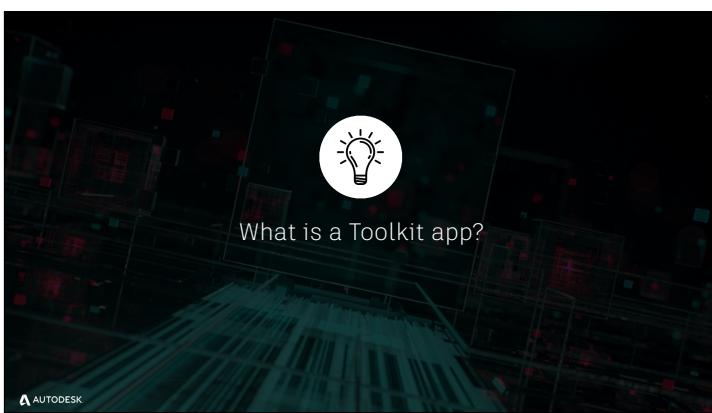
- \* They report the issue using the Bug Reporter app
- \* Mister Support was on the CC list, so they get an email notification
- \* Mister Support goes to Shotgun and assigns the ticket to himself, and gives it a quick reply



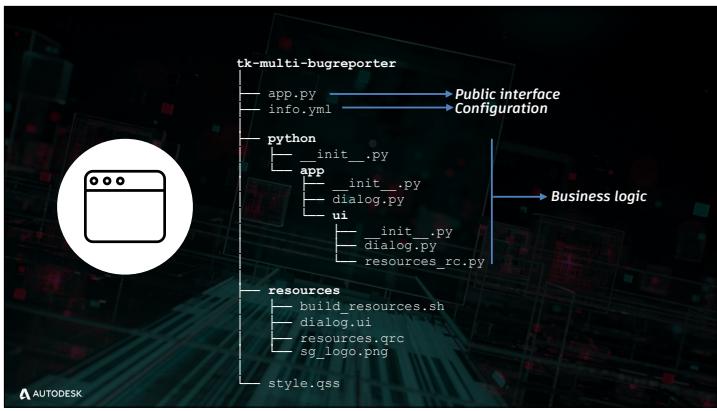
So first we'll look at what an app is exactly

Next, we'll take a look at toolkit's reusable frameworks

After that bit of quick theory, we'll dive in and set up our dev environment  
We'll write the actual app code  
And finally we'll deploy it back to production.



So let's begin with a very short intro - what is a shotgun toolkit app exactly?



There are three primary components to an App that we're going to look at:

- \* The app.py contains the public interface (from a code standpoint) and fulfills the contract that any Toolkit App is responsible for

- \* The info.yml file contains a description of the configuration of the App
- \* The python module within the App bundle contains the “business logic”, where user interface and features are coded

```

from sgtk.platform import Application
class BugReporter(Application):
    """
    An App that can be used to submit a bug ticket to support team in Shotgun.
    """

    def __init__(self):
        """
        Called as the application is being initialized
        """
        # first, we use the special import_module command to access the app module
        # that resides inside the python folder in the app. This is where the actual UI
        # and business logic of the app is kept. By using the import_module command,
        # toolkit's code reload mechanism will work properly.
        app_payload = self.import_module('app')

        # now register a *command*, which is normally a menu entry of some kind on a Shotgun
        # menu (but it depends on the engine). The engine will manage this command and
        # whenever the user requests the command, it will call out to the callback.
        menu_callback = lambda : app_payload.dialog.show_dialog(self)

        # now register the command with the engine
        self.engine.register_command("Report Bugs!", menu_callback)

```

The bare minimum:

- \* A class subclassing sgtk.platform.Application
- \* An init\_app method

```

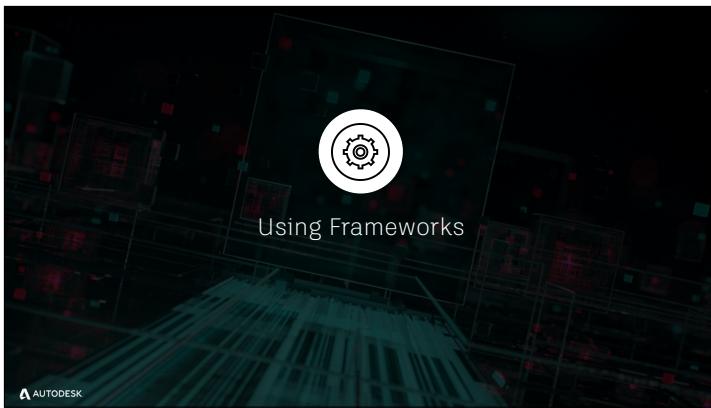
# expected fields in the configuration file for this engine
configuration:
  cc:
    type: str
    default_value: ""
    description: A comma-separated list of Shotgun user names to CC by default.

# More verbose description of this item
display_name: "Shotgun Toolkit Bug Reporter"
description: "An App that can be used to quickly submit a new bug ticket to the support team."

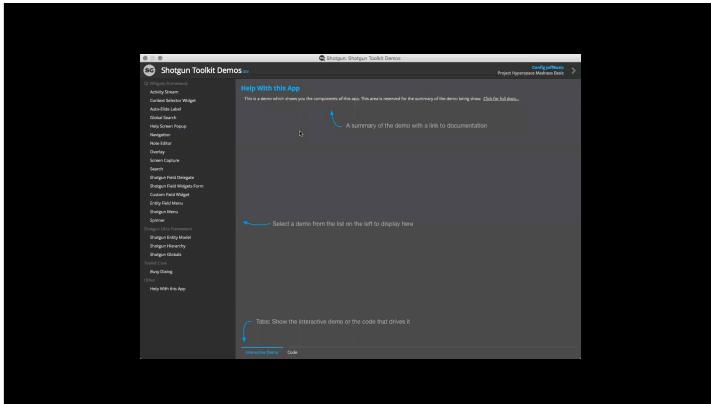
# the frameworks required to run this app
frameworks:
  - {"name": "tk-framework-qtwidgets", "version": "v2.x.x", "minimum_version": "v2.7.0"}

```

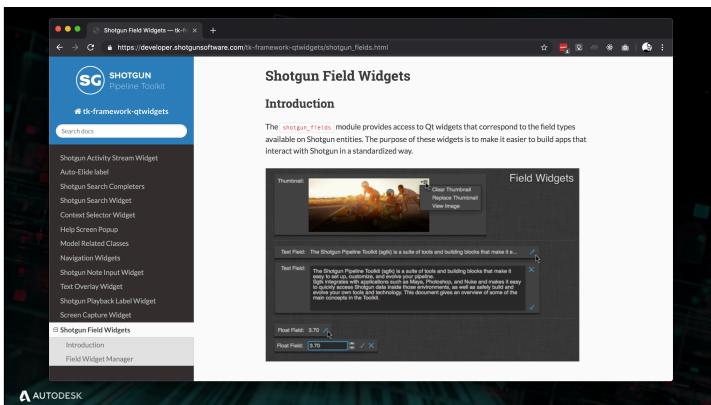
- \* Configuration: contains the definition of any config settings for the app
- \* Name/Desc: Pretty name and description for users
- \* Frameworks: The app's required frameworks (more later)



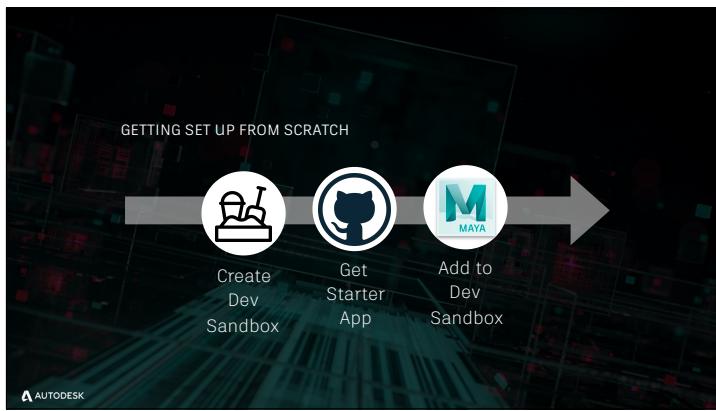
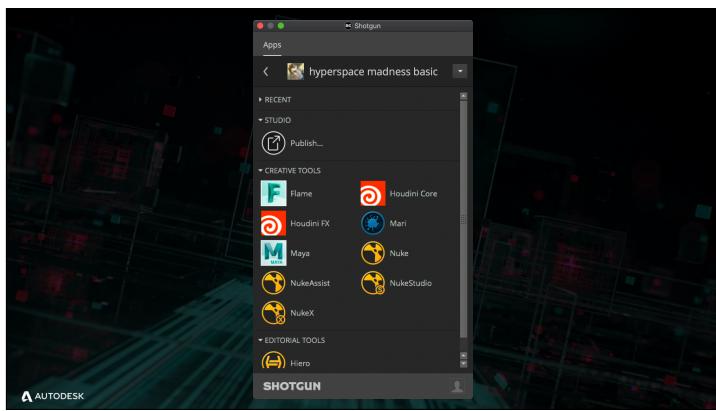
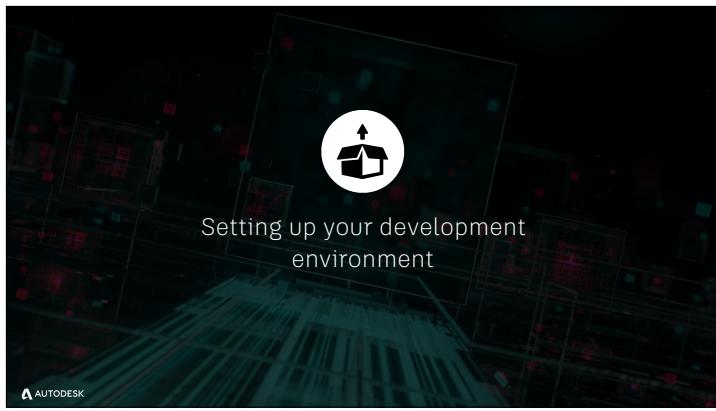
Frameworks play a key part in Shotgun Toolkit as they help reuse functionality and widgets.

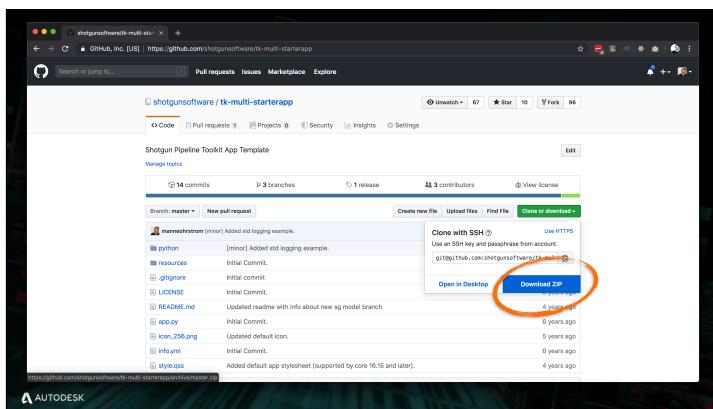
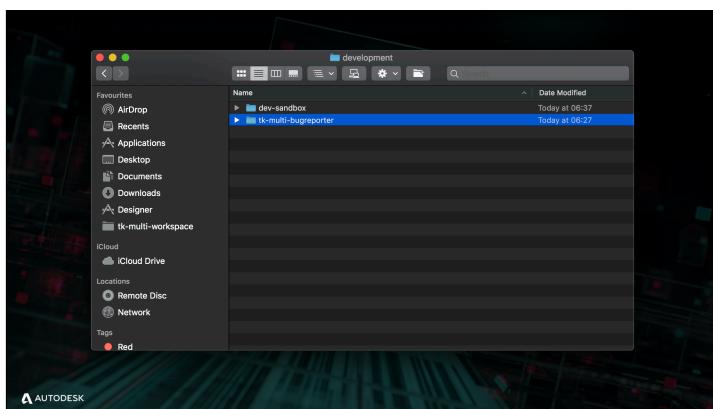
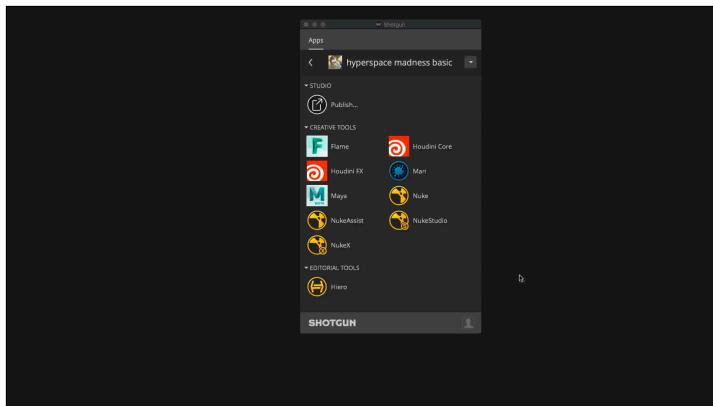


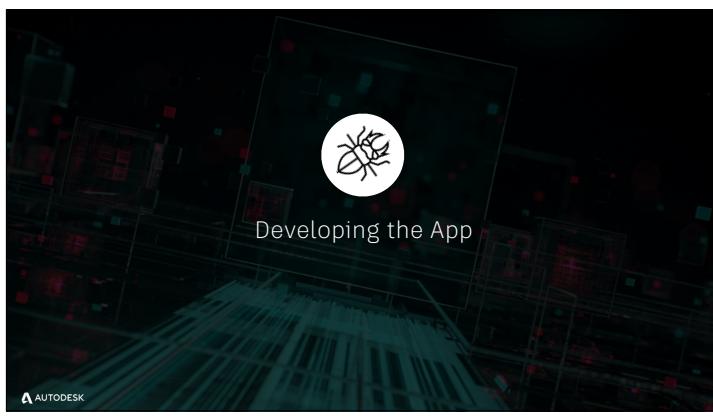
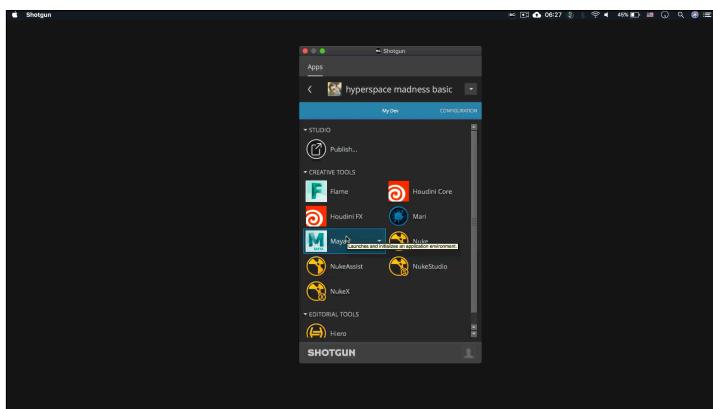
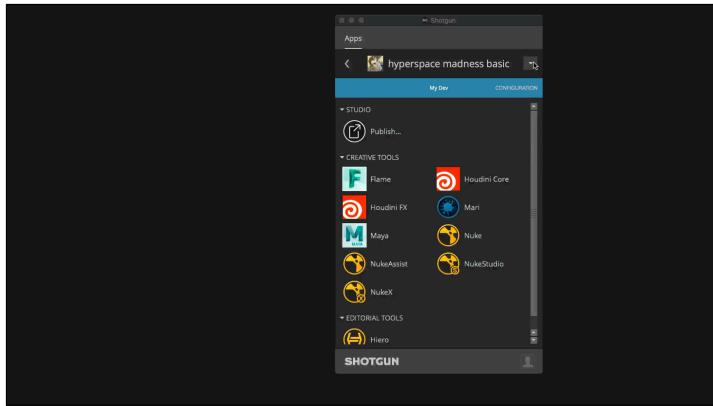
- \* We provide a BUNCH of stuff out of the box, and the demo app is a good place to start
- \* We're going to be focusing the QtWidgets framework for this app
- \* 10x speed with widgets
- \* We are showing you one use case, here's how you discover all the other things!
- \* Shotgun widgets.
- \* This is how all the integrations are built.



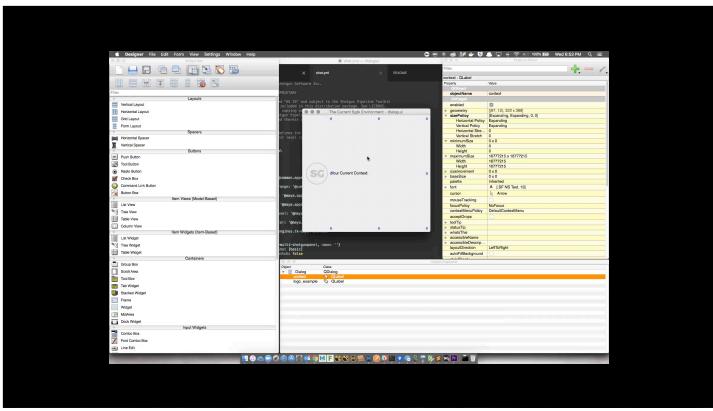
There is also extensive API documentation on our dev site. And all the source code is available in github.



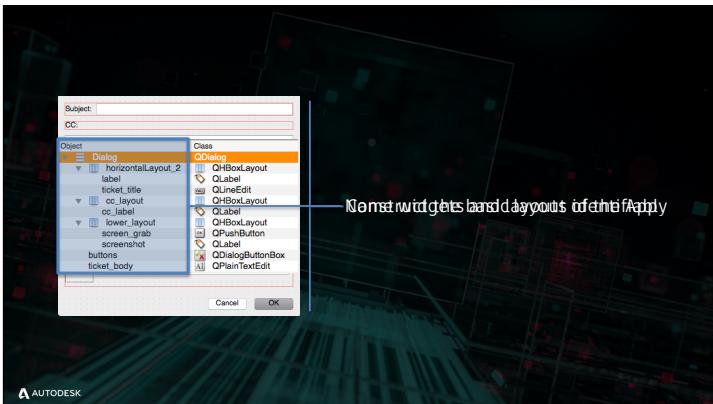




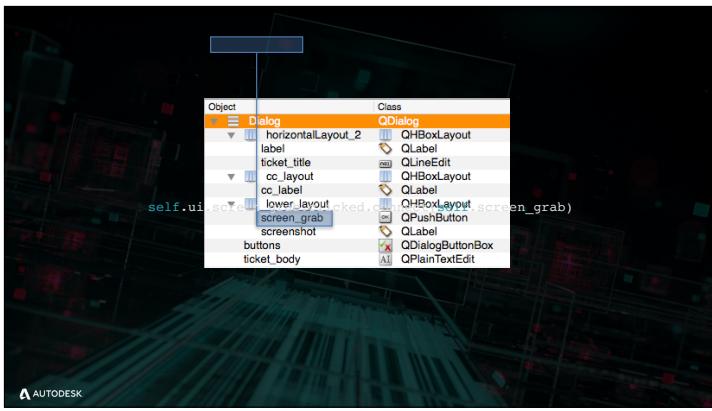
Sweet! So we have the starter app added to our config



- \* The starter app gives us a very basic .ui file that can be used in Qt Designer as a starting place
- \* It provides the basic scaffolding required of a Toolkit App, which can be extended to do what you want your app to do



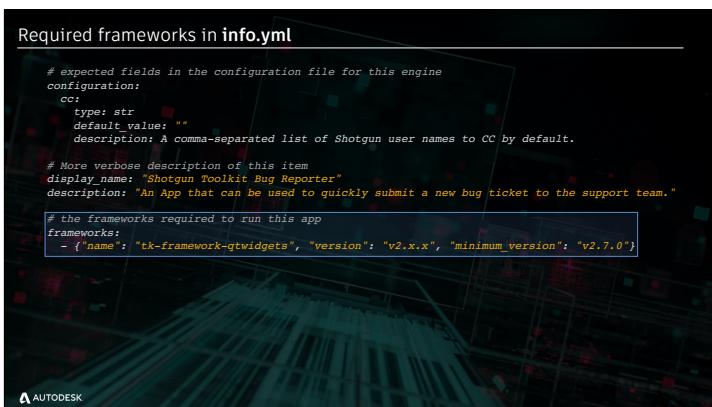
- \* We won't be going into detail about how to use Qt Designer
  - \* It's not required: if you prefer to code all of your UI layout, then go for it, but we find Designer to be a faster workflow
  - \* Qt Designer is bundled with Shotgun Desktop, so if you look in the install location for that, you can find what you need without installing any additional software
  - \* Constructing the layout is largely a drag-and-drop affair
  - \* Naming the widgets/layouts you add makes them easy to reference from code later — this is KEY, as we'll discuss further as we continue



Accessing the widgets created in Qt Designer is done via the ui submodule and by the name specified in Designer.



- \* build\_resources.sh converts the work you did in Qt Designer into Python
- \* That python that is generated goes into the app's ui submodule



- \* For the app's business logic to have access to a framework, it must be included in the frameworks structure in info.yml
  - \* The name of the framework
  - \* The required version: we allow for wildcards for non-major version components
  - \* Optionally a bare minimum version requirement

### What's happening in `dialog.py`?

```
# by importing QT from sgtk rather than directly, we ensure that
# the code will be compatible with both PySide and PyQt.
from sgtk.platform import QtCore, QtGui
from .ui.dialog import Ui_Dialog

screen_grab = sgtk.platform.import_framework("tk-framework-qtwidgets", "screen_grab")
shotgun_fields = sgtk.platform.import_framework("tk-framework-qtwidgets", "shotgun_fields")

def show_dialog(app_instance):
    """
    Shows the main dialog window.
    """

    # in order to handle UIs seamlessly, each toolkit engine has methods for launching
    # different types of windows. By using these methods, your windows will be correctly
    # decorated and handled in a consistent fashion by the system.

    # we pass the dialog class to this method and leave the actual construction
    # to be carried out by toolkit.
    app_instance.engine.show_dialog("Report_Bugs!", app_instance, AppDialog)
```

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- \* this is the business logic of the UI
- \* Import Qt stuff from `sgtk.platform.qt` because of the shim
- \* Import the auto-gen dialog from `ui` for future use (more to come)
- \* Import frameworks (already explained earlier)
- \* `show_dialog` implementation, which makes use of `AppDialog` (more to come)

### What's happening in `AppDialog`?

```
class AppDialog(QtGui.QWidget):
    Main application dialog window
    """
    def __init__(self):
        """
        Constructor
        """

    def __get_shotgun_fields(self):
        Populates the CC list Shotgun field widget.

    def screen_grab(self):
        Triggers a screen grab to be initiated.

    def create_ticket(self):
        """
        Creates a new Ticket entity in Shotgun from the contents of the dialog.
    """

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```

- \* It's a `QWidget`!
- \* four methods, we'll go through each one by one

```
def __init__(self):
    """
    Constructor
    """
    QtGui.QWidget.__init__(self)

    # now load in the UI that was created in the UI designer
    self.ui = Ui_Dialog()
    self.ui.setupUi(self)

    self._app = sgtk.platform.current_bundle()

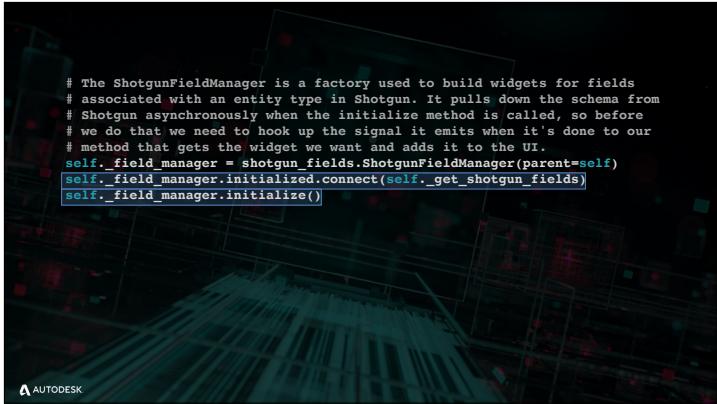
    self.ui.buttons.accepted.connect(self.create_ticket)
    self.ui.buttons.rejected.connect(self.close)

    self._screenshot = None
    self._cc_widget = None

    # The ShotgunFieldManager is a factory used to build widgets for fields
    # associated with an entity type in Shotgun. It pulls down the schema from
    # Shotgun, asynchronously, so it's not available until the method is called, so before
    # we do that, we need to hook up the signal it emits when it's done to our
    # method that gets the widget we want and adds it to the UI.
    self._field_manager = shotgun_fields.ShotgunFieldManager(parent=self)
    self._field_manager.initialized.connect(self._get_shotgun_fields)
    self._field_manager.initialize()
```

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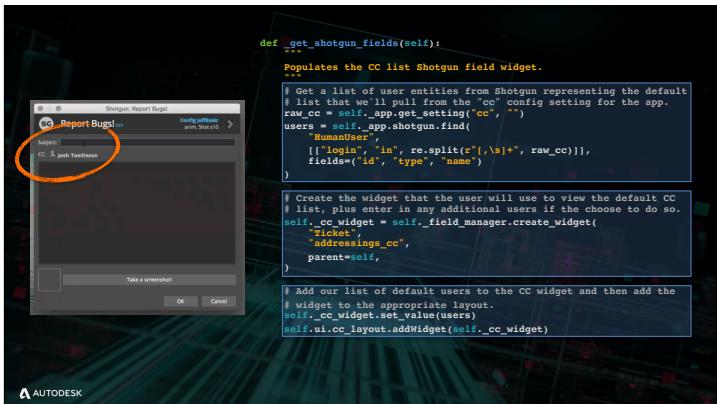
- \* we're using the auto-gen dialog from Designer and calling its `setupUi` method to populate everything
- \* We can then reference any of the widgets/layouts we created in Designer via `self.ui`
- \* The fields manager will require some explanation, so we'll look at it on its own now



```
# The ShotgunFieldManager is a factory used to build widgets for fields
# associated with an entity type in Shotgun. It pulls down the schema from
# Shotgun asynchronously when the initialize method is called, so before
# we do that we need to hook up the signal it emits when it's done to our
# method that gets the widget we want and adds it to the UI.
self._field_manager = shotgun_fields.ShotgunFieldManager(parent=self)
self._field_manager.initialized.connect(self._get_shotgun_fields)
self._field_manager.initialize()
```

- \* the initialize call will trigger loading the schema from Shotgun, which can take some time if the data isn't already cached

- \* When it's done, it emits the initialized signal, which we'll use to trigger some logic (more to come)



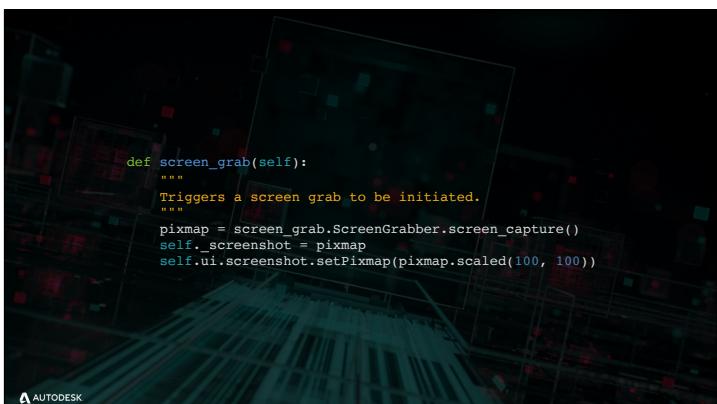
```
def _get_shotgun_fields(self):
    """
    Populates the CC list Shotgun field widget.
    """
    # Get a list of user entities from Shotgun representing the default
    # list that we'll pull from the "cc" config setting for the app.
    raw_cc = self.app.get_setting("cc", [])
    users = self.app.shotgun.find(
        "HumanUser",
        [
            ("login", "in", re.split("[, ]+", raw_cc)),
            ("type", "is", "name")
        ]
    )

    # Create the widget that the user will use to view the default CC
    # list, plus enter in any additional users if they choose to do so.
    self._cc_widget = self._field_manager.create_widget(
        "Ticket",
        "addressings_cc",
        parent=self,
        fields=(("id", "type"), "name")
    )

    # Add our list of default users to the CC widget and then add the
    # widget to the appropriate layout.
    self._cc_widget.set_value(users)
    self.ui.cc_layout.addWidget(self._cc_widget)
```

- \* Accessing our “cc” setting from the config to get the default set of users to CC from SG

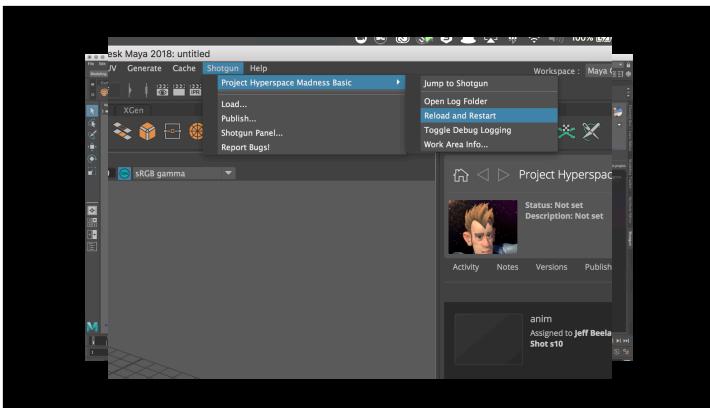
- \* Creating the field widget for the “addressings\_cc” field that is on the Ticket entity in SG
- \* Setting the value of that widget to the list of users we want to CC by default
- \* Add the cc widget to the layout we previously built in Designer where we wanted it to go



```
def screen_grab(self):
    """
    Triggers a screen grab to be initiated.
    """
    pixmap = screen_grab.ScreenGrabber.screen_capture()
    self._screenshot = pixmap
    self.ui.screenshot.setPixmap(pixmap.scaled(100, 100))
```

- \* This one is simple: we call the screen\_capture static method from ScreenGrabber, which gives us a pixmap object

- \* We keep track of the pixmap because we'll need it later to create a png we can upload to Shotgun
- \* We set our screenshot QLabel that we created in Qt Designer as the label's pixmap at the correct resolution

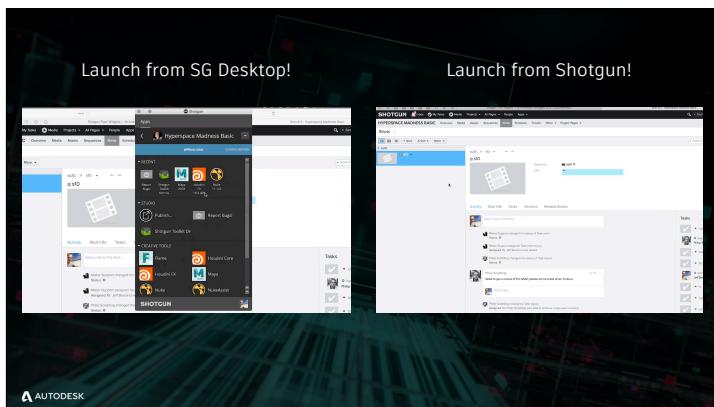


- \* We'll take a moment to step away from explaining code and look at the development workflow
- \* An important and super-useful aspect of developing apps and integrations with Toolkit is the reload and restart menu action.
- \* We try our app without the screen\_grab slot hooked up to the button and it doesn't do anything, as expected
- \* We make the code change, save the file, and use the reload and restart menu action in Maya — now the button triggers a screen grab!
- \* This highlights how quickly a developer can iterate when writing an app or modifying existing code



- \* First: create the new Ticket entity:
  - \* We get the project entity from the current context
  - \* Title and description from the widgets we added for those in Qt Designer
  - \* The cc widget we got from the shotgun fields manager from the QtWidgets framework will give us back a value that's a list of entities that we can use directly, no modification required!
- \* If we had a screenshot taken, then

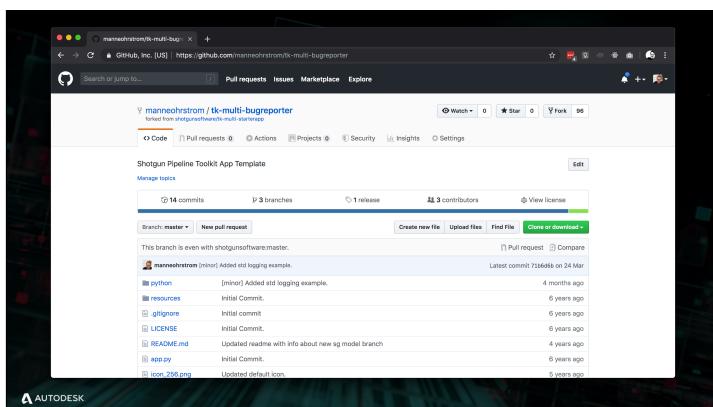
we need to write that out as a png  
to a temp file and then upload it as  
an attachment to our Ticket



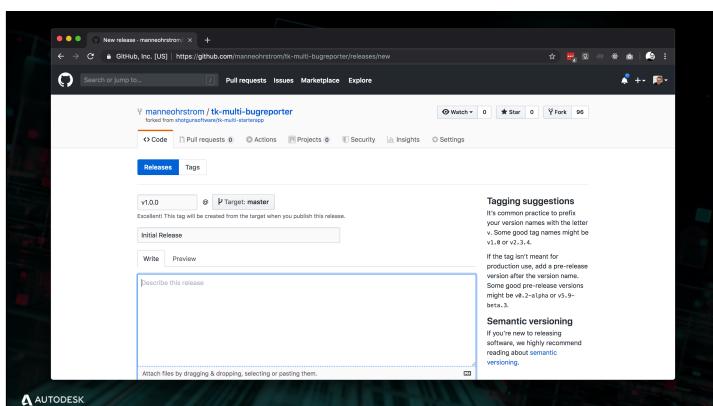
So now all we need to do is to push  
this back from our dev sandbox into  
the rest of production



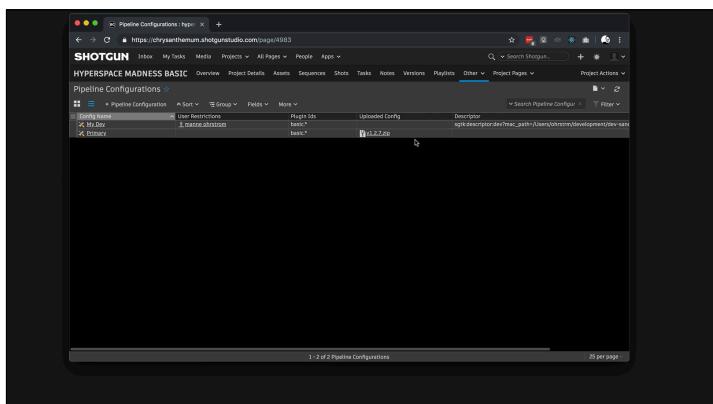
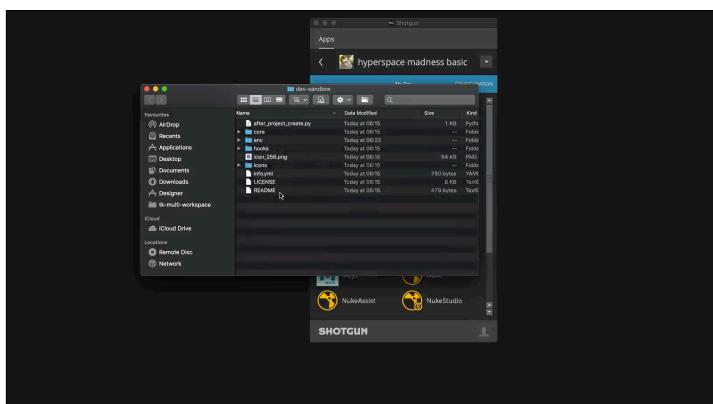
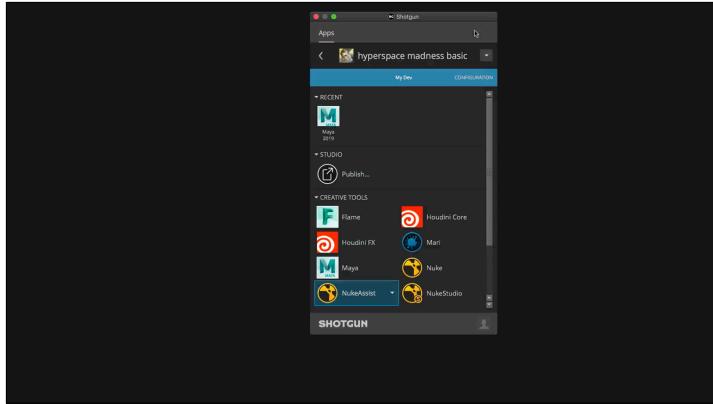
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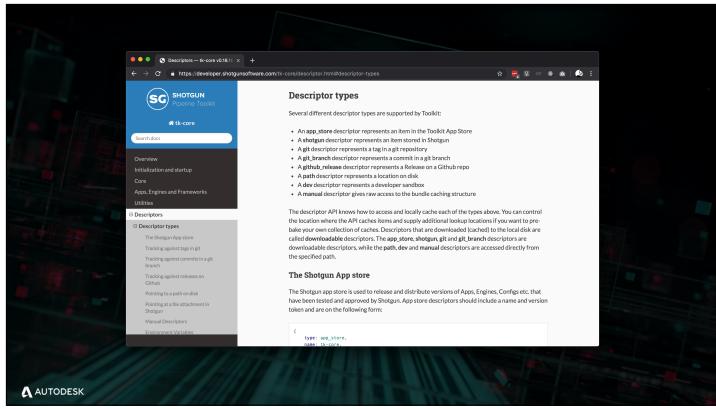


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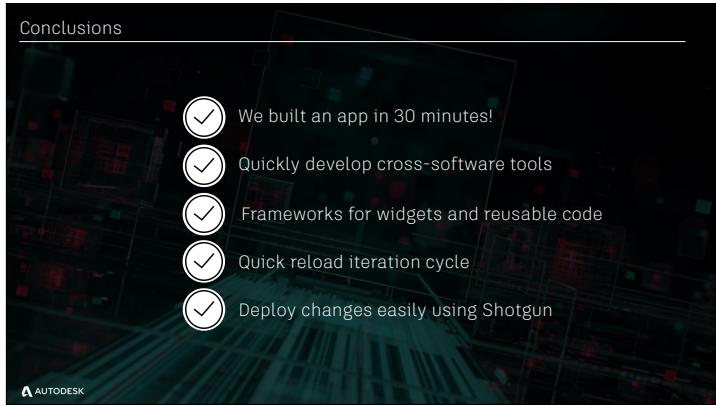


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Lastly, here's a QR code to the GitHub repository.

