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Intelligently Handling Call Traffic Between Premise & Cloud Contact Center

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Cisco Webex App

Questions?

Use Cisco Webex App to chat with the speaker after the session

How

- **1** Find this session in the Cisco Live Mobile App
- 2 Click "Join the Discussion"
- 3 Install the Webex App or go directly to the Webex space
- 4 Enter messages/questions in the Webex space

Webex spaces will be moderated by the speaker until June 17, 2022.



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Agenda

- Examine the use case and understand the challenge
- How to insert active routing decisions
- See it working
- Taking hybrid call flows further
- Try it for yourself





The Use Case

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Premise and Cloud Contact Center in Parallel



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When Is This Required?

- Integrating a new location
- Expanding existing operation
- Traffic overflow handling
- Starting migration from premise to cloud
- Bring Your Own PSTN to cloud CC, call rejection and fallback

Why Not Just Throw The Switch?

- Controlled at CUBE, local gateway dial-peer level
- Could distribute calls using dial-peer configuration
- Can use max-conn per dial-peer to apply limits
- Manage using static changes on local CUBE/gateway
- Get's ugly across multiple ingress devices
- Cannot intelligently route using current state of contact centres

Active Routing Decisions

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The End Goals

- Route to premise or cloud based on current state
 - Could be queue size, agents signed-on/available, wait times, open hours
 - All the typical parameters that you use to make CC routing decisions
- Preferred routing for different services
- Not send to cloud at all, reject calls or play announcements locally
 - Avoid Webex CC surge protection rejecting calls
 - Apply your own traffic level controls

Deconstruct The Problem

Four main areas for consideration

- 1. The data that feeds decision making
- 2. Intercepting calls on premise and triggering the decision
- 3. Where to consume data and make routing/treatment decisions
- 4. Controlling the call and implementing the decision

Getting Real-Time Data From Webex Contact Center

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Data Input To Routing Decisions

- On-premise CC real-time state accessible to routing scripts
- But, what about cloud?

webex Contact Center for Developers

Webex Contact Center Developer Portal

OVERVIEW

Getting Started

Authentication

Common API Errors

Integrations

Introduction to APIs

Getting Started

The Webex Contact Center open platform and APIs enable you to access the Webex Contact Center platform programmatically to customize, fine tune and build complimenting integrations. Developers can build, enhance and customize their Customer Experience solution with the rich set of APIs, that includes Contact Center, AI, Journey, Orchestration and Experience Management. Getting started with the APIs is easy. We provide detailed API reference docs as well as the Try Out functionality which help to familiarize you with our APIs and get started quickly.

https://devportal.wxcc-us1.cisco.com/

https://devportal.wxcc-eu1.cisco.com/

Routing Decisions Need Real-Time State Info

- API to retrieve EWT
 by Queue ID
- Sounds right for the job
- But is it?

\equiv webex Contact Center for Developers						
Dial Number Dial Plan Entry Point	Estimated Wait Time Version 1 Get Estimated Wait Time Version 1					
Estimated Wait Time Multimedia Profile Outdial ANI Queues	GET /v1/ewt Retrieve Estimated Wait Time information for a specified look back interval for a specific orgld and queueld combination, with ability to customomize maxCV and minValidSamples (See description above).					

Retrieve Estimated Wait Time information for a specified look back interval for a specific orgld and queueld combination, with ability to customomize maxCV and minValidSamples (See description above).



Use EWT API? Not For This Use Case

Why not?

- EWT value returned is statistical value derived from recent history
- No guarantee you will get a value returned
- Still have to make a decision, but on some other basis
- Sub-optimal approach for call-by-call requests due to throttling

Use EWT API? Not For This Use Case

]
Our APIs are protected	Rate Limiting	
application responsibly The token generated by the the Authentication guide to	Our APIs are protected with rate limiting. You are application responsibly so as to not create too n	e responsible for architecting and coding your nuch traffic.
Response Format		
Every rate limited request	will have a 429 response with a retry-after header included. This means your	
Response Every rate lim request has r else you will	Format ited request will have a 429 response with a retry-a ot been processed. Do not try again until after the ret receive another 429 response. For example, a 4 secon	after header included. This means your ry-after duration (in seconds) has passed, nd wait time will look like so:
Architectural	find changes, consider subscribing to webhooks instead.	
If you are polling on a reg different times in the inter Consider putting your owr	lar interval (hourly, every 15m, etc.), ral, perhaps using a hash. Iimits to prevent 1 customer from si	
Consider aggregating req	lests and using batch or bulk ers. If you are polling an API to t	find changes, consider subscribing to webhook
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Let's Consider Webhooks

- An HTTP endpoint to listen for and receive asynchronous events
- Allows a custom application to track Webex CC state in real-time

\equiv webex Contact Center for Developers				
Multimedia Profile Outdial ANI Queues Search	Using Webhooks Webhooks enable you to receive notifications and react to events occurring within Webex Contact Center.			
Site Skill Skill Profile Subscriptions	Use Cases Webhooks form a great system for working with near-real-time data, and for reacting to Contact Center events using custom logic. If you want to stay on top of a busy contact center, or have an application which can't wait for slow batch reports or expensive API polling-and-diffing solutions, then you're in the right place.			

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Using Webhooks To Track State

- 1. Authenticate API user to get access token and refresh token
 - Follow instructions on Developer Portal
 - Save refresh token for use by application later
 - Need access token in Authorization header on every API request
- 2. Subscribe to agent and task notifications
 - Tell Webex CC what events we want
 - Can do subscription using the Developer Portal
 - Persistent, set and forget, until you need to update or delete later
 - Be aware, there is a limit on the number of concurrent subscriptions

Using Webhooks To Track State

- Authenticate AP 1.
 - Follow instruction •
 - Save refresh to •
 - Need access to •
- 2. Subscribe to age
 - Tell Webex CC •

Authenticate API u	Webex Contact C	enter for Developers					
Follow instruction	Multimedia Profile	Subscriptions > Register Subscription	Version 1				
Save refresh toke	Outdial ANI						
 Nood access take 	Queues	Register Subscription					
Neeu access loke	Search						
Subscribe to agen	Site	Post /v1/subscriptions					
	Skill	Create a subscription which would allow consumers to listen	to events. If creating				
Tell Webex CC wl	Skill Profile	a subscription causes the org-level limit to be exceeded, the subscription registration will be denied. Requires cjp:config_write scope.					
Can do subscripti	Subscriptions						
Create a subscription which would allow consumers to listen to events. If creating							
a subscription causes the org-level limit to be exceeded, the subscription							
cription							
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Agent & Task Event Subscriptions



Consuming State Change Notifications

Three questions ...

- 1. How do we expose the receiving webhooks?
- 2. How do we process the notifications when they arrive?
- 3. Where does all this happen architecturally?

Answer: In a custom web application

Don't Panic!

- Sample for you to download
- It's a Node-RED flow
- Deploy easily and quickly
- Exposes webhooks
- Processes real-time events
- Collates and maintains data you can query with web requests
- Even provides a dashboard to monitor activity



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Node-RED, What Is It?

- One of the most useful tools you'll ever put in your toolbox
- Runs anywhere you can run Node.js
- It's free, it's open
- Developer community add-ons
- Graphical flow with embedded JS if needed
- Perfect for integrations and prototyping
- Import the sample, configure and go



Node-RED is a flow-based development tool for visual programming developed originally by IBM for wiring together hardware devices, APIs and online services as part of the Internet of Things. Node-RED provides a web browser-based flow editor, which can be used to create JavaScript functions. Wikipedia

Developer(s): JS Foundation License: Apache License 2.0 Platform: Node.js Stable release: 2.2.0 / January 27, 2022; 3 months ago Original author(s): IBM Emerging Technology; • Nick O'Leary; • Dave Conway-Jones

Written in: JavaScript

Webhooks Receiving Event Notifications



- Web application listening for incoming HTTP(S) requests
- Must be reachable from Webex Contact Center
- IANA-listed top-level domain name
- Notifications will fail if web app is using self-signed certificates

Example: Agent State Change Notification



Handle event with 2 main actions:

- 1. Update the agent object to reflect current state
- Issue API calls to resolve other references of interest such as Queue and Team (if we don't already have them from previous events)
 Friendlier to expose names rather than internal hex IDs

We Get The Notifications, What Next?

Maintain data that can easily be consumed in routing decisions

- Build and update objects for agents, tasks, queues, teams
- Collect and cache real-time state for the cloud contact centre
- Expose web APIs for simple queries, for example -
 - Queue length
 - Longest waiting time in queue
 - Summary agent state by team
 - Calls in progress
- Could also overlay rate-limited requests for EWT in background

Essential Upfront Processing



Prepopulate Teams & Agents



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Real-Time Event Handling





Real-Time Event Handling





Real-Time Event Handling



Using The Data

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Before We Can Use The Data, One Last Thing ... Expose Endpoints To Query Current State





Intercepting Calls & Making Routing Decisions



Intercepting Calls & Making Routing Decisions Two questions – Cisco Webex Where is the call intercepted on premise? **Contact Center** 2. Where is the decision logic located? WxCC AP Depends on – The premise platform: CCX, CCE, CVP, CUCM, CUBE Integration preferences: out-the-box only or custom use of APIs ۲ Call diversion mechanism: transfer, refer, redirect pre-answer type": "INBOUND", "channel": "TELEPHONY", "length": 1. "total wait secs": 25. Real-Time "longest wait secs": 25 Data

Contact Center Express





Contact Center Express (CCX)



Contact Center Express (CCX)



Contact Center Express (CCX)



Contact Center Enterprise









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CVP Standalone





CVP Standalone



CVP Standalone









CUBE Method 1 – TCL Application



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CUBE Method 1 – TCL Application



CUBE Method 2 – Gateway Services XCC API



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CUBE Method 2 – Gateway Services XCC API



Communications Manager



Communications Manager (CUCM)



Communications Manager (CUCM)



Optionally Merge Connector With Data Server



Time To See It In Action

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What We'll Do

- See real-time state changes generated by Webex CC
- Make calls to CCX from PSTN
- Call diverted to cloud if the cloud queue is EMPTY
- Else, call handled on CCX if cloud queue length > 0
- Hear IVR message to confirm where the call landed

Taking Hybrid Call Flows Further

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Nice-To-Have Hybrid Scenarios

- Call control and media operations at the ingress gateway under Webex CC control – routing flow or desktop
- Things it makes possible:
 - Local media forking for recording or analysis
 - Queuing treatment at the edge
 - Call transfers at the ingress gateway
 - Temporary IVR handoff
 - DTMF interception
- The missing link is call correlation between premise and cloud
- Need a call ID such as Cisco-Guid SIP header and a gateway ID

Cloud Invoking Local Call Actions At Gateway



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Cloud Invoking GSAPI Actions At Gateway



Try It Yourself

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Getting Started Links

- Things from the Tindall workbench
 - Materials related to this session <u>Samples Download</u>
 - Twitter <u>@tindallpaul</u> to catch anything that's new / updated
- Node-RED <u>https://nodered.org/</u>
- Webex Contact Center Developer Portal
 - <u>https://devportal.wxcc-us1.cisco.com/</u>
 - <u>https://devportal.wxcc-eu1.cisco.com/</u>



Technical Session Surveys

- Attendees who fill out a minimum of four session surveys and the overall event survey will get Cisco Live branded socks!
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- These points help you get on the leaderboard and increase your chances of winning daily and grand prizes.



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- Book your one-on-one Meet the Engineer meeting
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