Software Best Practices for Networkers

"Look Mum, No Unit Tests!"

James Bensley 03.04.2023



inter.link



Background

Problem Statement Data Modelling Tech Stack Coding Testing Debugging

Questions



Background

- First sustainable connectivity provider in the world
- Fully automated connectivity services
- Fully transparent services (pricing, operation, status)
- Are we playing "buzz word bingo" James?



O Inter.link 🕼 Dashboard 👯 Settings 💬 Tickets

Location > Ports > IP-Transit > Summary

Search Locations

BER



Berlin 16 Locations

IPB Lützowstr Lützowstraße 105

IPB Kitzingstr Boxhagener Straße 80

NTT BER 1

Boxhagener Straße 80

Lumen/CenturyLink G60 Berlin

Boxhagener Straße 80

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IP-Transit

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Location Berlin IPB Lützowstr



Prefix V4 /31 2 Addresses

5,00€/mo

Prefix V6 /127 2 Addresses

0,00€/mo

SELECT PORT	SPEED			
] Gbps] () Gbps	25 Gbps	100 Gbps	400 Gbps
<u>SFP</u>	<u>SFP+</u>	SFP28	QSFP28	QSFP-DD
250,00 €	500,00 €	750,00 €	1.500,00 €	2.500,00 €
Select Prefix	< ∨4	SELECT PR	REFIX V6	
Recommended		Récommende		
/31	/30	/127		



CONFIGURE VLAN

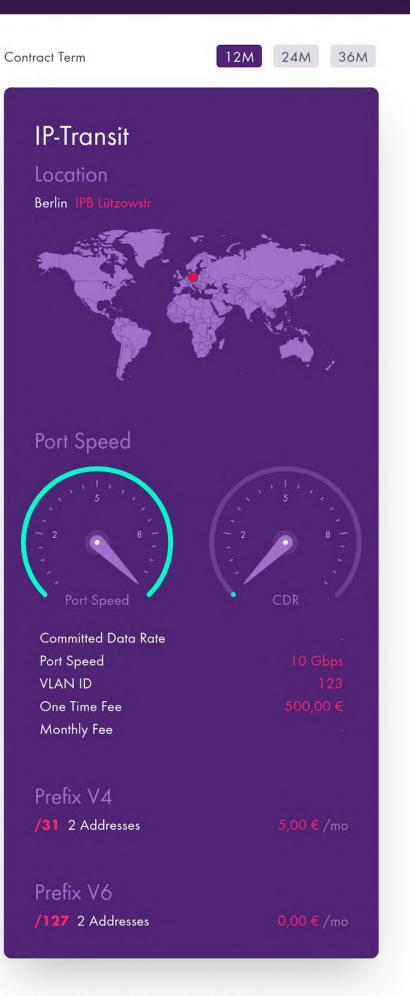
VLAN ID*

123

< Back

Next >

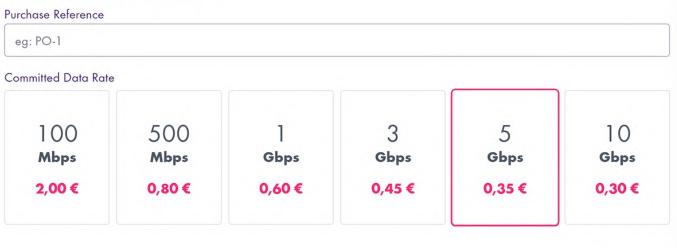




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CONFIGURE BGP SESSIC	N	
AS-Number*	AS-SET*	
5405	RIPE::AS-INTERDOTLINK	
Session Password		
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Prefix v4 Limit*	Prefix v6 Limit*	

CONFIGURE IP-TRANSIT







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2	Add	resses	
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/127 2 Addresses

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Location > Ports > IP-Transit > Summary

IP-Transit

Location

Berlin IPB Lützowstr



BGP Session

AS-Number	5405
AS-SET	RIPE::AS-INTERDOTLINK
Prefix limit V4	
Prefix limit V6	

Port Speed





Committed Data Rate Port Speed VLAN ID One Time Fee Monthly Fee

Prefix V4 /31 2 Addresses

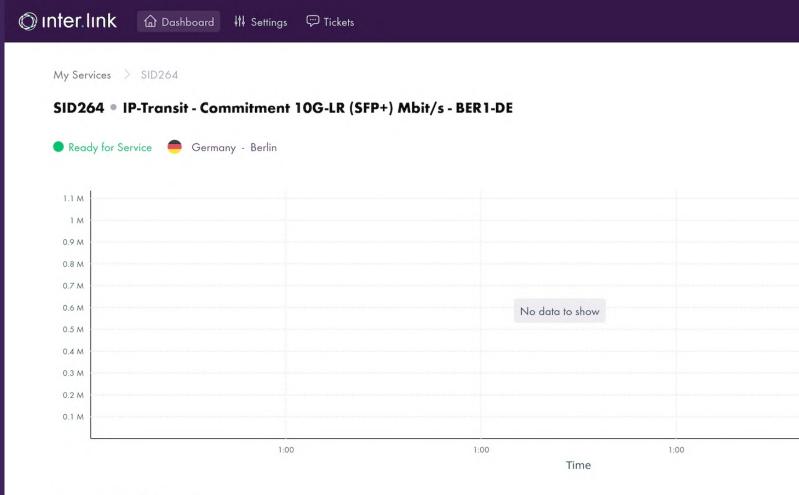
/127 2 Addresses

Prefix V6

Build Feb 24, 2023

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		0	Admin Localhost
	Contract Term 12M	24M 36M	
Pe	One Time Setup Fee ort Speed otal	500,00 € 500,00 €	
C Pi Pi	Committed Data Rate refix v4 refix v6 otal	0,35 € 5,00 € 0,00 € 15,00 €	
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Service Information

Start date	2023-02-21	Notice Period
End date	2024-02-20	Renewal Period

Components

SERVICE	PRODUCT COMPONENT ↑
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	BGP Session
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	BGP Session
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Billing Group
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Port
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Prefix
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Prefix
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Setup
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	VLAN

	admin Localhos
🕒 Last 24 hours 🗸	all Bandwidth 🗸
1:00	1:00
30 days 12 months PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR

Problem Statement

- Status-quo: "Auto-magic everything"
- Migration to fully automated operations is a "journey", even for green-field
- What are the questions you need to be asking if you're new to software and development?
- Spoiler: we can re-use our lessens learned from networking

Data Modelling

How: the "Lego bricks" approach

Components

SERVICE	PRODUCT COMPONENT 1	PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	BGP Session	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	BGP Session	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Billing Group	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Port	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Prefix	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Prefix	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	Setup	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
IP-Transit - Commitment 10G-LR (SFP+) Mbit/s - BER1-DE	VLAN	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR

Data Modelling

- What: Implicit vs explicit modelling
- Where: Global IDs
- Why: multiple sources can feed into a SSOT
- When: Data validation (as close to source as possible)

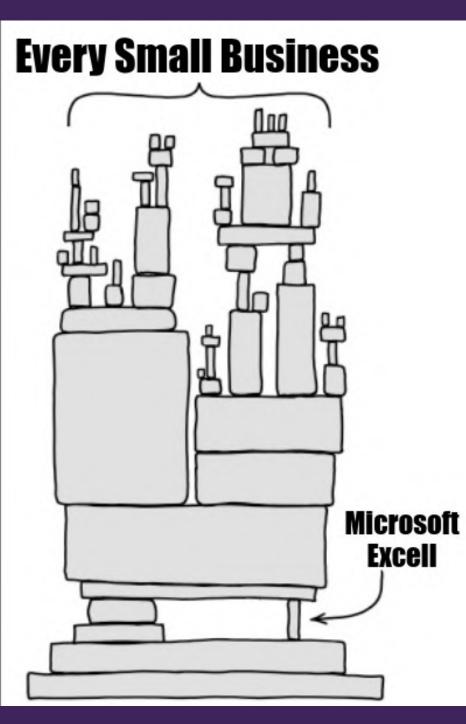


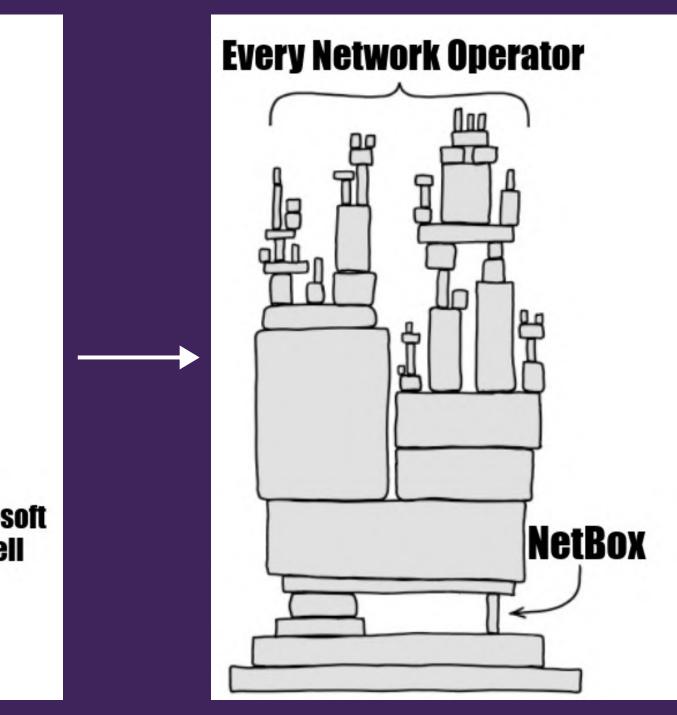
Tech Stack

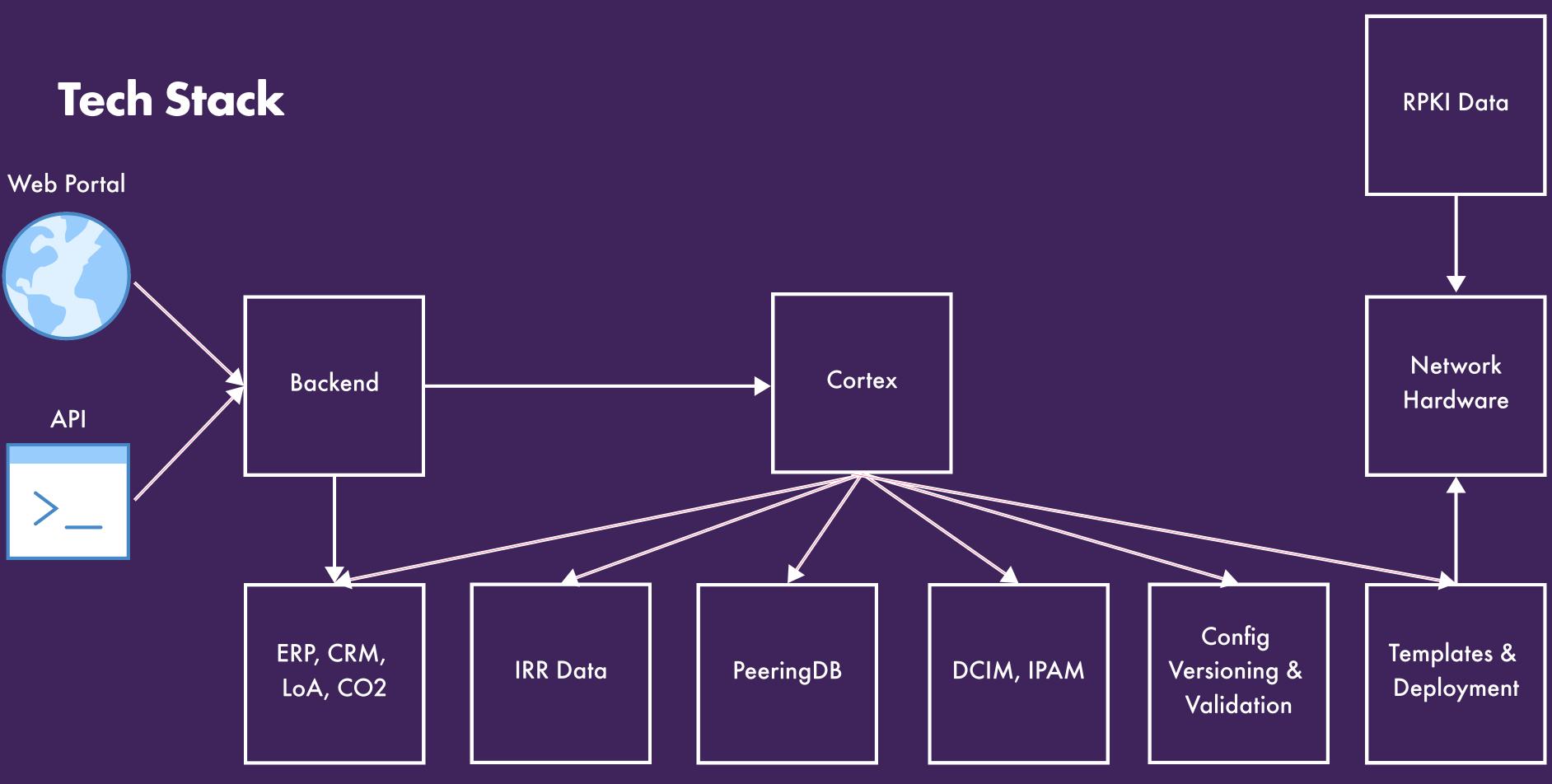
When to have a single application per role (scalability vs extensibility)?
Consider your user-base (they're technical, but maybe not dev's)?
Try to reduce lock-in / tech-debt
Network centric examples are NetBox, Ansible, and Jinja2

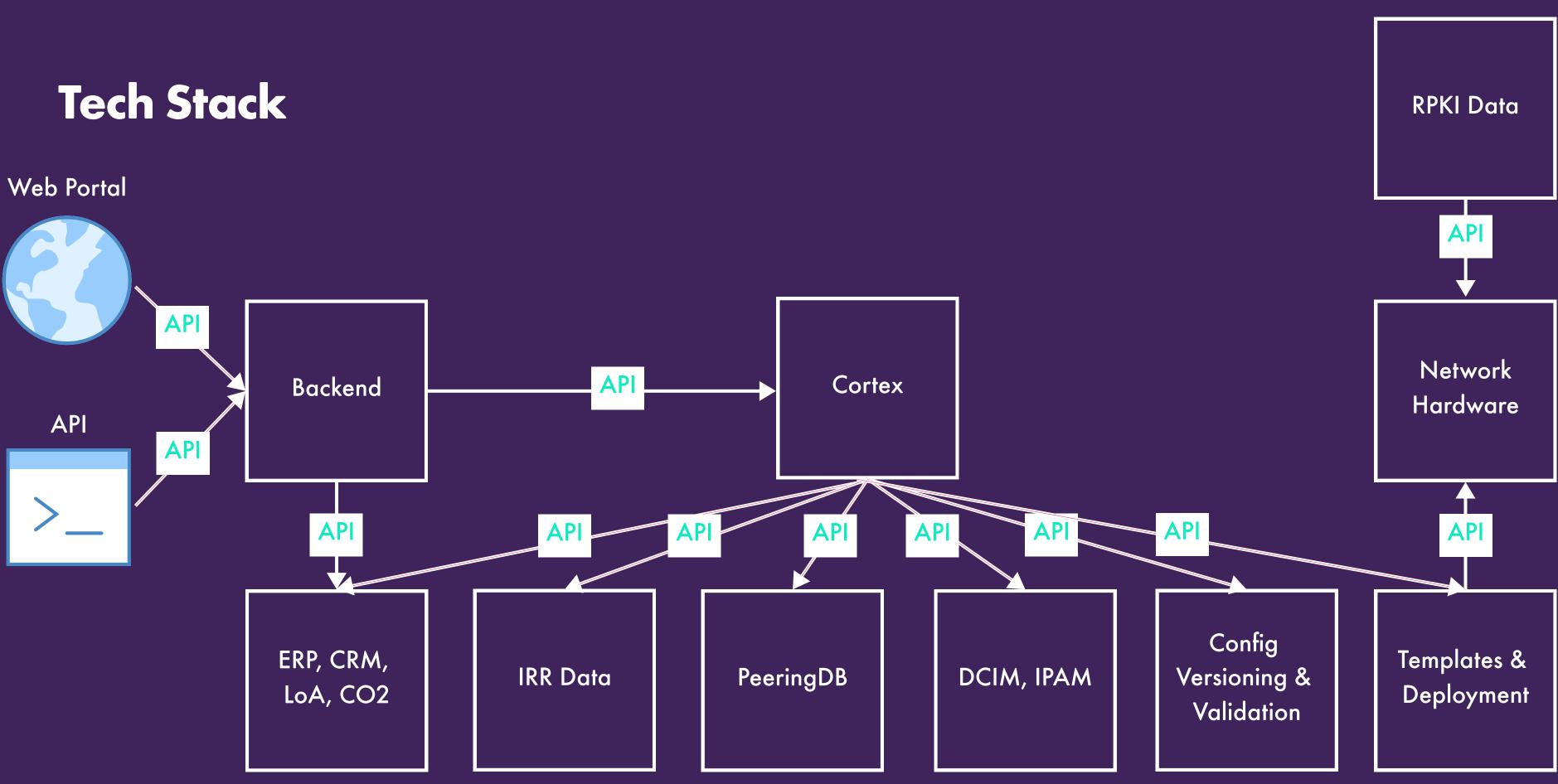
Tech Stack

- Easy to deployEasy to use
 - Easy to integrate
 - Creates massive tech-debt









Tech Stack

- What is practical? Full config replace vs partial config
- Fragility vs issue masking
- Clear: Source of Truth \rightarrow Network Not clear: Network \rightarrow Source of Truth



- Agree on an overall framework (coding style, contribution guidelines)
- What are sensible defaults?
- Use linting and style tools to establish a consistent style
- Use pull/merge requests to establish the contribution process, start with "non-blocking"



Documentation - where will it live and what will it cover?



Start with small unit tests

Cl pipelines help to automate the testing process, start with "non-blocking" Test coverage is a never ending story, work out what is "reasonable" for you

Create a simulation environment with production data

Debugging

- Write human friendly error messages
- Logging/monitoring
- Fail-safe

Guestions?

james@inter.link

