Trust In Digital Life
Next Generation Sprint Workshop

NEC Europe, Heidelberg
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Participants

Svetla Nikova (KU Leuven), Ronny Bjones (Microsoft), Amardeo Sarma (NEC Europe), Eric Blot-Lefevre, Stephane Amarger (Trustseed), Christine Jamieson, David Goodman (TDL), Volkmar Lotz (SAP), Huma Shah (Coventry University), Arthur Leitjens (Fligthmap), Maria Dubovitskaya (IBM Research Zurich), Mads Schaarup Andersen, Jonas Lindstrom (Alexandra Institute), Wendy Grossman

Introduction

Amardeo introduced the objectives for the day, highlighting the intention to reinvigorate TDL's sprint process with new ideas and proposals.

TDL Sprints: A Technology Contributor Perspective

Ronny Bjones,Microsoft

Ronny opened by reminding the group that the main goals of sprints were that they should be short collaborative integration projects, requiring a few man days effort over a period of a few months utilizing available technology rather than a new development or research project. They are intended to showcase the state of the art in some aspect of trustworthy ICT and to promote new developments including the outcomes of research projects and providing access to innovations to a wider audience.

Sprints were started in 2009 in the very early days of TDL and were selective collaborations between TDL members. Ronny revealed that Microsoft's Azure B2C, which is now available for trials, was born at TDL with Phillips Healthcare Service (the validation of privacy-enhancing technology) and Flightmap (the validation of Cloud identity). Azure B2C just released trust frameworks or 'user journeys' – which were introduced as a resut of the TDL sprints – and allows users to bring their own framework. This story highlights the value to a large corporate vendor of being able to collaborate with others through an association.

The intention now is to evolve from that by creating a community of innovators, comprising contributors and consumers: the one to validate new technology and the other to act in the role of integrator. TDL's role will be to enable a community for innovators to build new showcases and components for the innovation lines and to provide governance for the community.

The proposed TDL platform requires documentation, including some that address GDPR, and tooling. A key point is that research projects will be able to continue to live, for which he proposed resurrectinng miiCard (The ID Co.) as an ID provider.

Value of Customer Involvement in Sprints

Arthur Leitjens, Flightmap

Arthur's company had been involved in an early sprint project and his contribution to the meeting was to emphasize the value of customer involvement in making sprints as successful as possible. He opened by recapping that modern innovation management is agile and open by nature, focussing on learning through interaction, and that, as a consequence, TDL's concept of sprints is to stimulate innovation based on the principles of scrum development with short cycles.

Arthur's premise was that the ideal sprint is a mix of architecture and papers with the triple intention of connecting technology, people and business. He argued that most 'best practices' neglect the value of customer involvement and that the creation of new insights and opportunities increases customer orientation in development teams and improves quality and ultimately user value. He also highlighted the potential role of TDL's GTAC (Generic Trust Architecture Centre) to enable sprint execution with a generic, easy to board, easy to deploy platform – which could enable customer/consumer involvement if end user applications were provided.

His conclusion was simply that a framework for customer involvement would strengthen the approach taken by TDL in the sprints.

The First Global and Interoperable Trust Framework for Interoperable Electronic Transactions

Dr Eric Blot-Lefèvre & Dr Stéphane Amarger, Trustseed SAS

Stéphane and Eric presented a set of compelling statistics as evidence relating to the context and impact of GDPR followed by a statistics-based assessment of corporate readiness for the introduction of GDPR in May 2018. This was followed by an introduction to Valesign, a brand wholly owned by Trustseed, that is a vehicle designed to provide an innovative and open approach to ensuring the digital transformation in document transaction exchanges. Through the development of a 'qualified trust network', qualified legal entities will be able to manage their e-signed commitments by means of a service provided by qualified operators, verified by a national control body, from either a SaaS or a Cloud environment. The USP for businesses is that the whole signing process is secure, manageable and, most importantly, legally valid. In addition to being an open and interoperable platform, Valesign also provides a validation service for document exchange with traceable monitoring and is compliant with both eIDAS and GDPR.

Trustseed is keen to introduce the Valesign platform into TDL's proposed new sprint initiative as a demonstrator for all potential participants in a qualified trust network.

Privacy-preserving Attribute-Based Authentication as a Service

Dr Maria Dubovitskaya, IBM Research Zürich

Maria presented a sprint proposal on behalf of IBM Research Zürich and the Alexandra Institute. Privacy-preserving attribute-based credentials (PABC) offer strong authentication with privacy-preserving access control supported by auditability and revocation. PABC concepts and languages were developed through the collaborative ABC4Trust and AU2EU projects. However, they fell short of being able to provide a deployment model which the sprint project would address by making PABC available for easy local deployment. This would be achieved by creating a Docker Compose image that could be easily deployed and configured on a single host with one script and a reworked setup GUI. In addition, the sprint would create a configuration for a multi-host deployment. For bigger proofs of concept, it might be possible to run the Directory Service as an external service and adapt the Android Wallet application to work with such a deployment.

With testing and documentation, it was estimated that the project would require three person months' effort with funding requested for Alexandra Institute.

Future Directions

The new sprints would be based on two platforms: Microsoft Azure and possibly Blockchain, as well as Verizon's IOT ThingSpace. The target groups are:

- Start ups or research projects
- The output from completed EU projects (for example, H2020)

Amardeo invited the meeting participants to express their feedback on how to establish the process, and express their requirements

One of the questions that came up was how to build up a community of interest which wouldn't have to be very large and achieving it would be a marketing exercise. It was agreed that this community should extend beyond the current TDL membership and in fact could become a differentiator for the association. It was accepted that there are alternatives to using the sprint platform for prototypes (such as GitHub) but the supportive collaborative community aspect would be missing.

It was stated that the sprint initiative really encapsulates what TDL is about and it would be a considerable shame to lose it or at least let it dwindle. For example, Alexandra Institute, which is engaged in a number of research projects like ABC4Trust, see TDL as a platform to disseminate results and prototypes as well as looking at other prototypes.

TDL's unique selling point is that it doesn't just produce papers but actually proactively encourages collaboration around new software solutions. Besides Microsoft who are providing the initial platform, SAP, KU Leuven, Siveco, Trustseed and Alexandra all expressed interst in getting involved at some stage in the new initiative.

Amardeo suggested involving TDL's PR agency to promote the initative to a wider community as well as getting both Rob Kroneman engaged (for the Verizon platform) and Kai Rannenberg (for standards).