Platform Overview

Tafonic Quick Start Guide

Introduction

- The Tafonic platform is a complete ecosystem for running next generation cloud-native applications. It has been specially designed to harness the true potential of cloud computing.

- The following are some of the its key distinguishing features:
  - No need to install and upgrade applications.
  - Create and run application instances for as long or as short a duration as needed.
  - Access and manage application instances from anywhere using any device.
  - Share application instances with others using a safe and convenient workflow.

- This document describes important terms and concepts that are necessary for understanding the nature of the platform and what it has to offer.

Tenants and Members

- The Tafonic platform is a multi-tenant system.

- Groups of users, known as tenants, are provided with their own respective environments that are completely isolated from each other.
  - Users in one group are unaware of the fact that other groups may be co-existing with them.

- A special tenant, known as the public tenant, is available for individual users of the Tafonic platform.

- Additional (private) tenants can be created for meeting the needs of organizations.

- A user that belongs to a particular tenant is a member of that tenant.
  - When you sign in to the Tafonic platform, you will be able to lookup and interact with the members of your own tenant only.

App Library

- A computer application is a software package that can perform a set of defined tasks for end users (or in some cases for other applications).
  - It might consist of a single program or a group of programs that are bundled together.

- The Tafonic platform maintains a per-tenant library of applications that are available for the tenant members to use.

- The library is updated when new applications become available or when new versions of existing applications are released.

- The process of starting an application is quick and easy:
  - Simply choose the application you want to run from the App Library and create an instance of it.

Application Instances

- An application instance is a running copy of the application you had selected from the App Library.

- You may create multiple application instances at the same time.
  - You may even create multiple instances of the same application.

- Each application instance executes independently and is completely isolated from the others.

- When an application instance is no longer needed, you can delete it.

- All application instances on the Tafonic platform are hosted (run) in the cloud.

Interfaces

- To interact with an application instance (that is hosted in the cloud), you will need an interface associated with that instance.

- The interface will enable you to start the appropriate application UI and connect it to the application instance.

- You must be the operator of an interface in order to use it.

- There are two kinds of interfaces associated with application instances:
  - Primary Interface
  - Secondary Interface

Interfaces

Primary Interface

- This is a special interface that is automatically created as part of the application instance creation process.

- The primary interface cannot be disabled or deleted.

- Furthermore, it has the permission to perform all the operations supported by the application instance.

- Only the owner of an application instance can operate its primary interface.

Interfaces

Secondary Interface

- The owner of an application instance may attach additional interfaces to it.

- These secondary interfaces can be (temporarily) assigned to other members.

- A member who receives an interface becomes its new operator. He or she can then use that interface to interact with the application instance.

- The type of operations the assignee is allowed to perform on an application instance and the scope of those operations will be determined by the permissions that have been set on that interface (by the application instance owner).

Application Instance Sharing

- Attaching one or more secondary interfaces and assigning those interfaces to other members is a safe and convenient way to share your application instances.

- The Tafonic platform gives you the freedom to decide who can use your application instances, in what manner and for how long.