

What is vCon? And what does the evolving IETF standard solve?

Dan Petrie - SIPez LLC



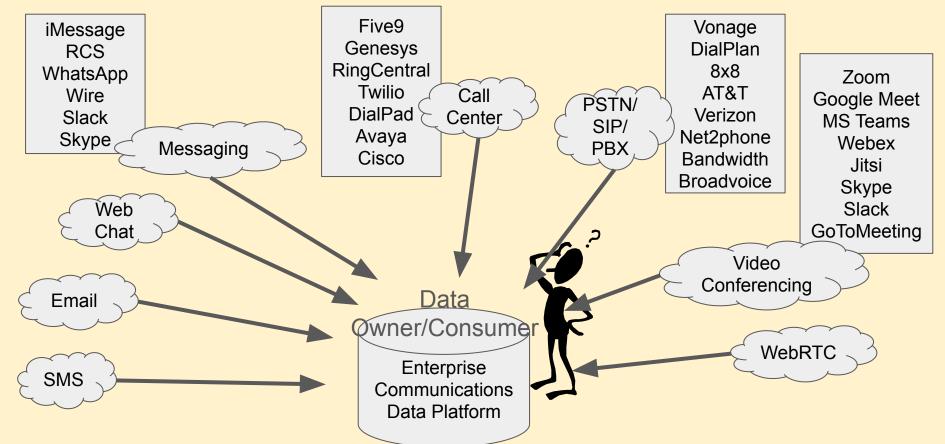
What is a vCon?

Virtual CONverstion data container

- Metadata 👬 🕈 🚯 🕒
- Conversation dialog
 Conversation dialog



Proprietary Communications Data APIs and Formats





A simple recording does not capture it all

Transfer

Conference joins and drops

Hold and unhold

Mute and unmute

Originator

Participants

Incompleted call

Disposition

Tamper Prevention

Confidentiality



Proprietary API and Data Formats for: Analysis SaaS

Post Conversational Analysis:

- Transcription
- Translation
- Sentiment analysis
- Summary
- Notes
- Action items
- Agent performance quality
- Reporting
- Categorization
- Tagging
- Generative Al
- ...

Every analysis service uses a different data interface

Transcription accuracy problems

Transcription is domain and dialect specific



AI & ML Training Data Chaos in Corporate Communications

Data ingest for model training

Email, SMS, webchat, phone calls, video conferences are modes of communication in modern contact centers

Biggest cost in creating AI & ML models:

- building training sets
- organizing, cleaning data

Need:

- Structured communications and conversation data
- Unified across communications modes



Proprietary API and Data Formats for: CRM

Non-standard way to get conversation data and analysis into CRM systems



vCon JSON Conversation Container

Data:

- Parties list
- Dialog list ■□♥ ₽
- Attachments list
 Attachments

JSON vCon format and examples:



Features:

- Dialog, Attachments and Analysis Data included or referenced
- Signing
- Encryption
- Redaction
- Grouping



vCon Parties Object

name
tel
mailto
stir
validation
jcard
civicaddress
gmlpos
timezone

vCon Dialog Object

type: text start duration parties[] originator mimetype filename body encoding url alg signature originator disposition party history[]

C T type: recording start duration parties[] originator mimetype filename body encoding url alg signature originator

disposition

party history[]

C) *m* (IJ) type: transfer start parties[] transferee transferor transfer-target original consultation target-dialog

type: incomplete start parties[] originator

vCon Attachment Object

purpose	
start	
party	
mimetype	
filename	
body	
encoding	
url	
alg	
signature	

vCon Analysis Object

type dialog[] mimetype filename vendor product schema body encoding url alg

signature



What does vCon enable for telcos and ITSPs?

Provide greater value to existing customers

- Increase revenues
 success
- Customer retention

Reduces friction for onboarding new customers

Attract new customers using standards approach





What does vCon do for conversational analysis SaaS?

Reduce development costs



Reduces friction

Reduce time and cost in customer acquisition





What does vCon enable for the Enterprise?

Easier Integration:



- Communications centers
- Data ingest for CDP and model training
- Post conversational analysis, internal and 3rd party SaaS
- CRM

Saves time and cost



More choices



What does vCon enable for the individual?

Productivity



- Transcript 🚅
- Summary
- Notes



Notifications

Freedom and flexibility



What is the IETF?

Some mid and upper layer protocols courtesy of the IETF

- IP
- DNS
- TCP
- UDP
- HTTP
- TLS
- SIP
- JABBER
- WebRTC
- JOSE: JWT, JWS, JWE
- STIR
- MLS



What is Happening with vCon in the IETF?

First draft JSON format - May 2022

IETF Hackathons - IETF meeting: July & Nov. 2022, Mar., July, Nov. 2023, Mar. 2024

Hot RFC - IETF meeting: Nov. 2022 & Mar. 2023

Bar BOF - IETF meeting Nov. 2022

ART Dispatch - IETF meeting Nov. 2022

BOF and Initial Charter Discussion - IETF meeting Mar. 2023

Informal WG Meeting - IETF meeting Nov. 2023

Charter Approved and WG Formed - Dec. 2023

First WG Meeting - IETF meeting Mar. 2024

I-D Draft Accepted as WG Item - Apr. 2024



How can you get involved with vCon at the IETF?

Join the vCon WG email list and comment

Review and comment on the I-D

Tell us about your use cases

Write a use case or requirements I-D

IETF vCon working group info, documents and email list:





Value of Hackathons and Open Source Implementations

Test Internet-Drafts

Test concepts and protocols

Feedback and corrections to Internet-Drafts

Early change to try out new protocols



Who is using or working on vCon?



More coming soon.

Add your logo here!



What can you do with vCon open source?

python-vcon package:

- Command Line Interface
- Core vCon Python library

```
Py_vcon README:
```





What can you do with vCon open source server?

RESTful APIs and Pipeline Server

- Store, retrieve, modify and delete vCons
- Perform operations on vCons using pluggable framework of vCon processors
- Run a single vCon processor with options, using provided or stored vCons
- Group a sequence of vCon processors and associated options into a vCon pipeline definition
- Run a vCon pipeline, via a RESTful API, using provide or stored vCons
- Queue vCon jobs for the pipeline server to run through vCon pipelines
- Administer and monitor the server and configuration via an Admin RESTful API
- Scale 100s of instances with shared state





How can you get involved with vCon Open Source?

Review the features and comment

Try out vCon

Use vCon in your product

Contribute:

- Be a tester
- Create vCon processor plugins
- Add new features

py_vcon_server README:





Contact me

dan.vcon@sipez.com

