

Ekiga

The Free Softphone



Content

- What is Ekiga?
- History
- Features
- Architecture
- More about OPAL
- The future
- Questions



What is Ekiga? (1)

- A VoIP/ToIP application
 - To call friends and family for free
 - To call in foreign countries at cheap rates
 - To get a phone number in foreign countries at cheap rates
 - To be used as a phone with an IPBX



What is Ekiga? (2)

- GnomeMeeting 'Next Generation'
 - Goodbye OpenH323
 - Hello OPAL
 - More protocols : H.323, SIP, ...
 - More features
 - Better user interface



What is Ekiga? (3)

- GnomeMeeting continued
 - Vendor independent
 - No commercial interest
 - Community project
 - Pure free software spirit



History (1)

- Academic project at the Université Catholique de Louvain
- First lines of code in December 2000
- First release in July 2001, huge success
- 1.00 release in March 2004
- 1.20 release in December 2004
- 2.00 release in March 2006



History (2)

- 2.00 release renamed into Ekiga because
 - New directions were chosen
 - New protocols were added
 - Old name was bad and confusing
- The Ekiga is
 - A vocal technic to communicate in Africa
 - Communication with a falsetto voice instead of drums



History (3)

- Ekiga 2.00 was released together with Ekiga.net
 - Sponsored by OVH (<http://www.ovh.net>)
 - Platform running free software like SER and Asterisk
 - Offers free SIP addresses to Ekiga users
 - Offers conference rooms
 - Offers white pages



Features (1)

- Chatters will enjoy
 - Its interoperability thanks to standard protocols like H.323 and SIP
 - The great audio quality
 - Wideband codecs
 - Echo cancellation
 - Denoiser
 - Dynamic jitter buffer

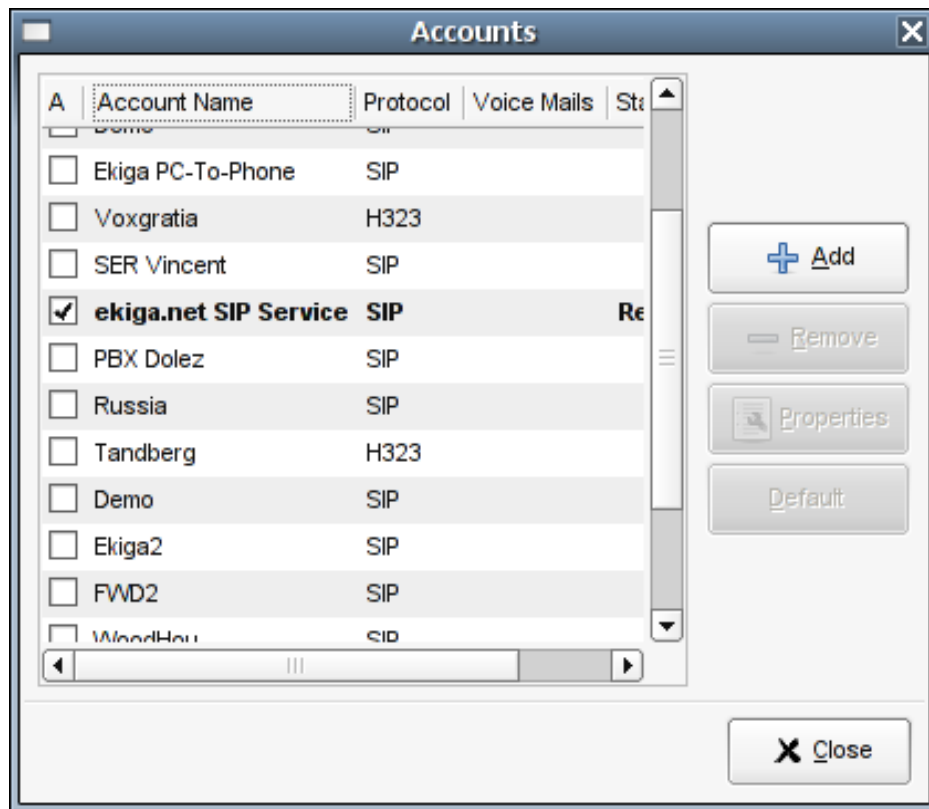


Features (2)

- Chatters will enjoy (cont'd)
 - The support of video conversations
 - The integration with the GNOME desktop
 - The possibility to get a SIP address:
sip:dsandras@ekiga.net
 - The powerful address book



Features (3)



- Chatters will enjoy (cont'd)
 - The possibility to choose any vendor for international calls
 - The possibility to use several vendors at the same time



Features (4)

- Corporate users will enjoy
 - H.323 and SIP support
 - Support for advanced features like
 - Call hold
 - Call transfer
 - Call forwarding
 - LDAP directories
 - Call statistics
 - Message Waiting Indications



Features (5)

- Designed to be cross-platform
 - GNU/Linux
 - OpenSolaris (thanks SUN)
 - FreeBSD
 - WIN32 (alpha release available)
 - MacOSX (abandoned)



Architecture (1)

- Uses PWLIB
 - High-level C++ classes
 - Portability
 - Stability
- Uses OPAL
 - High-level C++ classes
 - Portability
 - Multi-protocols



Architecture (2)

- Uses GTK+
 - C functions, but object-oriented
 - Portability
 - Bindings
 - Beautiful
- Uses GNOME (Optional)
 - Desktop integration (Evolution, DBUS, Avahi, ...)



More About OPAL (1)

- Old project aimed at replacing OpenH323
- Good H.323 support: OpenH323
- Good SIP support
 - Much work in the past year in the SIP stack
 - Few compliance problems reported since 2.00
 - All features required for a good user agent are supported



More About OPAL (2)

- Robust code
- Extensible code
 - Many codecs supported
 - Many features supported
- Good NAT support
- Widespread



The Future (1)

- Short-term
 - 2.2 release with audio and video codecs plugins
 - New user interface
 - More SIP features
- Long-term
 - More protocols (in OPAL)
 - Encryption
 - What would you like?



Questions?



Damien Sandras
WWW.EKIGA.ORG