Theme: Shanghai library FOLIO project

Time: March 23, 2021 07:00pm (EST) / March 24, 2020 07:00am (GMT+8)

Attendees:
Vincent Bareau (Enterprise Architect, EBSCO)
Gang Zhou (Project manager, Shanghai library)
Sha Jiang (Technical Director, Jiatu)
Lucy Liu (Product Owner, Folio China)

Notes

1. **When Okapi and Apps are deployed with Jar and use different versions of JDK (Okapi 4.7 uses JDK11 and App uses JDK8) in the UAT environment, we can't register the apps.**

Sha Jiang: We deploy in two environments: production and UAT. In the production environment, we use dockers; while in UAT, we deploy with jar files. We did everything in the production environment and wanted to move data from the production environment to UAT. But we found it incompatible.

Vince: You may have a compatibility problem. The other way you can do that is to run the jar file separately and simply just register the manifest, the module descriptor with that environment, with Okapi. You don't ask Okapi to deloy for you. You deploy it yourself. So you can run any kind of application, deploy to that and just register the endpoint.

Sha Jiang: Is it the same with docker?

Vince: It doesn't have to be docker. Docker is a choice if you want to just containerize. But if you don't want to containerize, you could put your jar files in a tomcat server or something, and then put the registry of endpoints with Okapi. Okapi doesn't care which version of java unless it's being asked to run it for you. And it's JRE.

Sha Jiang: We can register endpoint, not docker, starter or executable options. That means we have to change the development info for both the production and UAT environments.

Vince: If you are asking Okapi to deploy jar files in production, it's better not to do that. That function in Okapi of deploying jar files is really only useful for developers who want to just run it on a small local installation or a server for a very small library or something like that. But you should not expect to run jar files through Okapi in production.

Gang Zhou: Is it the best choice to use Docker?

Vince: You can certainly use Docker, especially if you have already implemented it in production. It should be relatively easy to do the same thing on UAT.

Sha Jiang: So you do not recommend letting Okapi manage apps in production, right?

Vince: Yes. This will allow you better control on the environment. You can do certain things, like if you do your own deployment of an application, you can deploy multiple Okapis and

applications of the modules at the backend. You can put a balancer in front of them and you register the load balancer endpoint into Okapi. So you have the ability to scale horizontally behind the load balancer without needing to change any registration in Okapi. Okapi thinks there's only one module because it only knows about the one registration. It's not actually the module but a load balancer. But behind that, you can do a horizontal scaling.

2. **What apps would you recommend for showing off?**

   Vince: Not sure. The interesting thing right now might be ElasticSearch. They are introducing ES to inventory. There will be a search api for Marc records against the source record storage. It won't be ready until the next release (R1 Iris release).

   Gang Zhou: What about the ERM modules?

   Vince: The ERM modules allow you to manage your relationships with the vendors and manage your contracts. You can do a little bit of analysis on your electronic collections. It's a very unique module that is different from all the other modules. They are groovy on Rails applications, not written in Java.

   Gang Zhou: What modules other libraries choose to use?

   Lucy: Implementation details
   https://wiki.folio.org/display/COHORT2019/Implementation+Details

3. **Updates on the go-live**

   Gang Zhou: We will go live the 1st or 2nd week of April.