

VOICECONNECT

Cryptocurrency trading information with a voice interface, powered by FaunaDB

ABOUT THE USER

VoiceConnect uses FaunaDB Cloud for its highly rated CryptoTracker Alexa skill.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

VoiceConnect is an early stage startup focused on creating voice-based applications to run on Amazon's Alexa. Amazon calls applications on Alexa "skills".

Founders Deepak Rao and Vijay Duraipalam find cryptocurrencies intriguing and wanted to bring crypto to the masses. They saw a potential need in the market for a voice application that would allow users to get information about cryptocurrencies and since Amazon's Alexa/Echo is the most popular voice platform, they targeted Alexa for their application.

Amazon Web Services was the obvious platform for deploying their new Alexa skill but they needed to choose the best architecture for their application, including choosing all the software components. They liked the idea of making their application serverless since that seemed like a ideal way to implement new Alexa skills.

With the application platform and framework chosen, VoiceConnect then needed to choose a database for managing their users' data. They looked at Amazon RDS, another natural choice, but they wanted to see what other options they had.

REQUIREMENTS & CHALLENGES

VoiceConnect wanted their database to be pay-as-you-go and they wanted it to work with AWS Lambda. High performance and reliability were critical to them as they wanted their users to have a great experience, which meant their service had to always be available and it had to respond quickly when asked for information. As Vijay and Deepak decided on a serverless architecture, they wanted to make use of components that were serverless or that were optimal for use in a serverless environment. That included the database that would manage all user data within the application.

WHY FAUNA

In searching for serverless capable databases, they found FaunaDB Cloud, Fauna's Database-as-a-Service offering that is perfect for serverless applications. FaunaDB Cloud's pay-as-you-go pricing as well as its Python interface and elastic scalability were attractive to VoiceConnect for their new application. The option of being able to bring FaunaDB on premises eventually by using Fauna's FaunaDB Enterprise, if desired, whether because of increased usage of their application or of regulatory policies and requirements, was another key factor in their decision to go with FaunaDB Cloud.

RESULTS

VoiceConnect saw the exciting promise of combining voice and cryptocurrencies. They also saw FaunaDB Cloud as a great way of bringing that vision to the market quickly, easily, and cost-effectively. Because FaunaDB Cloud is pay-as-you-go and cloud-based, you can avoid the massive investment in hardware and software that used to be required for such a high performance, highly scalable solution. CryptoTracker is available now, allowing you to get real-time information including the current price, volume, market cap and exchange information on more than 500 cryptocurrencies and Initial Coin Offerings.



<https://www.amazon.com/VoiceConnect-LLC-CryptoTracker/dp/B076PJKCYB>

We discovered FaunaDB as we were looking for a database that would work well in our AWS Lambda based serverless application, CryptoTracker. FaunaDB Cloud's pay-as-you-go pricing was very appealing. And since we didn't have to worry about provisioning hardware and configuring software, we could concentrate on the application itself. FaunaDB Cloud worked so well, we developed another Alexa application on FaunaDB that is currently undergoing certification by Amazon.

- Vijay Duraipalam, Cofounder, VoiceConnect