Don’t fear Erlang
fear your team

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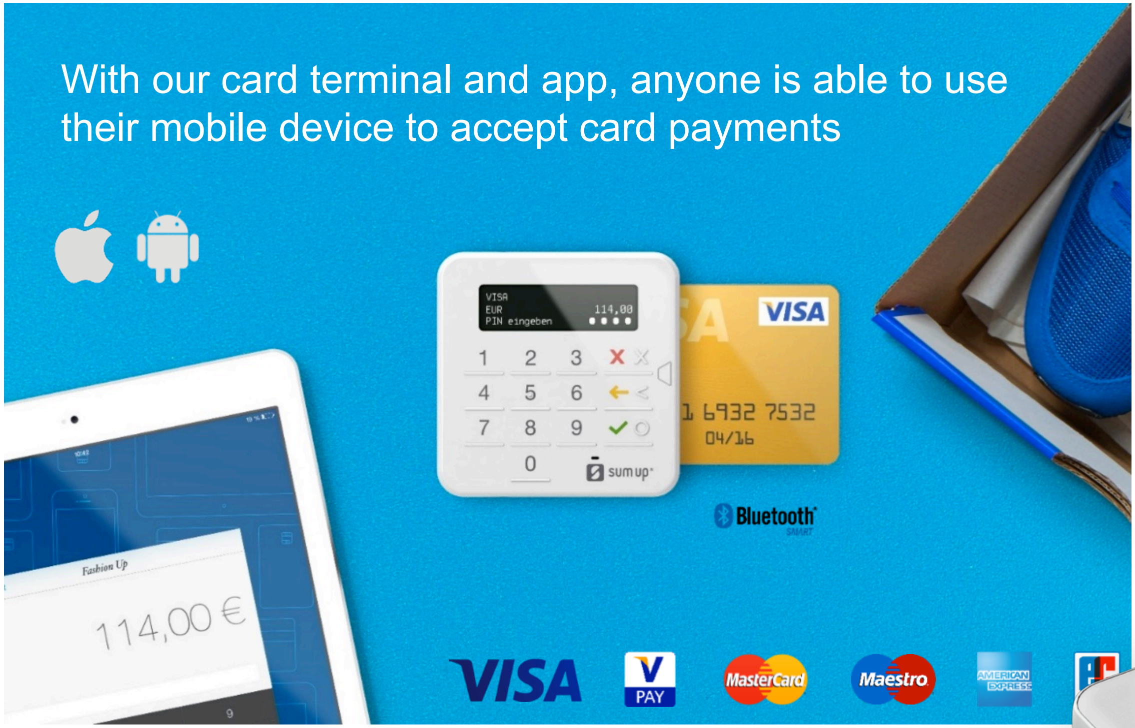
Overview

- SumUp
  - Product
  - Where do we use Erlang
- Why do people fear Erlang
- Why fear your problem
- Why fear your team

SumUp – the product



With our card terminal and app, anyone is able to use their mobile device to accept card payments

SumUp Where do we use Erlang

- Payment processing fully powered by erlang
- Riak for sensitive data
- Postgres and ruby for the rest

Why do people fear Erlang?

- Erlang is hard to learn
- Java is hard to learn
- **Any highlevel language is more or less hard to learn**

[There is not now, nor has there ever been, nor will there ever be, any programming language in which it is the least bit difficult to write bad code.]

Why do people fear Erlang

- It is difficult to hire Erlang developers
- It is difficult to hire Java developers
- It is difficult to hire good developers
- **Hiring is about finding a dev to solve your problem**

> If you want a product with certain characteristics, you must ensure that the team has those characteristics before the product's development.
>
> — Jim McCarthy and Michele McCarthy - Software for your Head

Why fear your problem

- complexity of problems grows
- Important skill is to understand the problem
- Teamwork is essential in todays software development processes

> There are two ways of constructing a software design: One way is to make it so simple that there are obviously no deficiencies and the other way is to make it so complicated that there are no obvious deficiencies.
>
> — C.A.R. Hoare, The 1980 ACM Turing Award Lecture

Why should you fear your team

- Team needs to share knowledge to find the best solution
- Team needs to work out requirements
- Team needs to agree on design and style

Without requirements or design, programming is the art of adding bugs to an empty text file
Mickey W. Mantle and Ron Lichty

Thank you
Questions?

> You can’t have great software without a great team, and most software teams behave like dysfunctional families.
>
> — Jim McCarthy