iOS 10 iMessages SDK Coming at iMessages Extension

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Of all the things announced at WWDC 2016, Messages App Extensions stand out as particularly compelling to companies with a mobile presence. These app extensions allow developers to write new functionality directly in the Messages app in iOS 10. Developers can now create sticker packs, message-sharing plug-ins, games, send videos, or take advantage of Apple's Siri and Apple Pay services all from within Messages conversations.

Messages Integration

Messages is used by both users and mobile companies. Users will be able to consume apps and services in the context of their conversations, while companies are given a new surface to engage iOS users. Companies can meet their customers where they are spending their time, and provide them with a new, more convenient way to interact with their products. Many Messages extensions will surprising become an important part of the iOS ecosystem.

In this post, I'm going to do a quick introduction of these new APIs, as well as take a look at how Messages App Extensions fit into Messages app extensions. We'll also go over the tools Xcode created as an extension that lets create Messages. Finally, we'll look Apple's, and others's, plans for Messages extensions. We'll also see how Apple will introduce a pro-like productivity offshoot with these new Messages APIs.

Downloading Xcode 8

First things first, you'll need to be a part of the Apple Developer program and download Xcode 8 beta. Apple's Xcode 8 beta is available at https://developer.apple.com/download/?q=xcode%20beta%20%20%20