Executive checklist: Choose your cloud-native path

Cloud-native applications take advantage of cloud computing models and DevSecOps principles to deliver new features and services faster and with more flexibility. With a cloud-native strategy, organizations can begin the culture, process, and technology evolutions needed to meet new demands and deliver business innovation faster. The following checklist will help you choose a cloud-native platform that benefits your business, developers, and IT operations team.

Boost developer productivity

Give your developers the choice they need to succeed with access to the latest innovations and powerful application tools. Does your business need to:

- Build new apps to better engage with customers?

- Modernize existing apps to continue operating critical systems?

- Enable artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning (ML) to create more engaging and intelligent apps?

- Give app teams modern tools and frameworks to improve their productivity and agility?

- Adopt new, modern technologies to attract the best app developers?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you should consider an open source cloud-native platform.

Maximize future choice

True app portability allows you to maintain control of your environment. Does your business:

- Have concerns about vendor lock-in?

- Want the ability to move apps across multiple private and public clouds?

- Want an environment to support development, test, and production for multiple app development life-cycle stages?

- Want to adopt modern app architectures without changing your current infrastructure?

- Need the speed of microservices without the management complexity?

- See serverless architecture as an alternative for future apps?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, it is important to confirm that you have an open source cloud-native platform—and not a mix of open and proprietary solutions.

Capitalize on existing investments

Open source hybrid cloud vendors will allow you to use your existing knowledge base, offer your developers choice, and provide confidence in the security of your container platform. Does your business:

- Continue to invest in new infrastructure while having under-utilized capacity?

- Experience long delivery times for modernizing apps that negatively impact your organization?

- Need public cloud agility for existing legacy apps?

- Have existing apps that are excluded from your DevSecOps initiatives?

- Want multicloud portability for existing apps?

- Have current middleware that inhibits your ability to modernize existing apps?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you should evaluate hybrid cloud vendors that have an open source philosophy.

Make security a top priority

When considering security, does your business:

- Struggle to bring security into your DevOps teams?

- Want to give developers a choice of technology but is concerned about the security risks?

- Have concerns about your current environment due to malicious users or poorly written code?

- Need the security assurances of tested and proven technologies?

- Want proactive security tools that inform your teams about security vulnerabilities before they become a public issue?

- Have a technology stack that enables a rapid security response to viral vulnerabilities?

- Want to adopt containers and Kubernetes but is concerned about security assurance and longevity?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you should evaluate whether a cloud-native platform will provide the needed security for your applications and IT infrastructure—and determine if that security will work throughout your stack.

Reasons to choose Red Hat OpenShift

Red Hat® OpenShift®:

- Is the industry's leading multicloud container application platform.[1]

- Enables hybrid cloud and multicloud deployments, using any cloud provider.

- Is powered by industry-standard Kubernetes to orchestrate and manage app containers at scale.

- Supports a broad range of enterprise apps, including JavaTM, Windows, and AI/ML.

- Provides the flexibility to adopt modern architectures like microservices, service mesh, and serverless.

- Uses the tools your developers need, including Quarkus, Spring Boot, WildFly Swarm, Eclipse Vert.x, Java EE 6/7, .NET Core, Rails, Django, Play, Sinatra, and Zend.

- Allows a choice of languages, including Java, Node.js, Ruby, PHP, Python, and Perl.

- Offers multitenancy and protects you from harmful code by using industry-leading security standards.

- Integrates with your existing infrastructure and application investments and provides portability to avoid vendor lock-in.

Learn more

Get more information about Red Hat OpenShift, including access to the latest whitepapers, webinars, and reference architectures.

Read The Forrester Wave™: Multicloud Container Development Platforms, Q3 2020 to see how Red Hat OpenShift stacks up against other multicloud container development platforms.

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1 *Forrester Research.* "The Forrester Wave: Infrastructure automation platforms Q3 2020," *2020.*

About Red Hat

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to deliver reliable and high-performing Linux, hybrid cloud, container, and Kubernetes technologies. Red Hat helps customers integrate new and existing IT applications, develop cloud-native applications, standardize on our industry-leading operating system, and automate, secure, and manage complex environments. Award-winning support, training, and consulting services make Red Hat a trusted adviser to the Fortune 500. As a strategic partner to cloud providers, system integrators, application vendors, customers, and open source communities, Red Hat can help organizations prepare for the digital future.

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