

# OPERATIONS GUIDE

A guide for administrators of CircleCI Server installations on AWS and private infrastructure.

**Docs Team** 

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# Overview



CircleCI Server v2.17 uses the CircleCI 2.0 architecture.

CircleCI Server is a modern continuous integration and continuous delivery (CI/CD) platform installable inside your private cloud or data center. Refer to the Changelog for what's new in this CircleCI Server release.

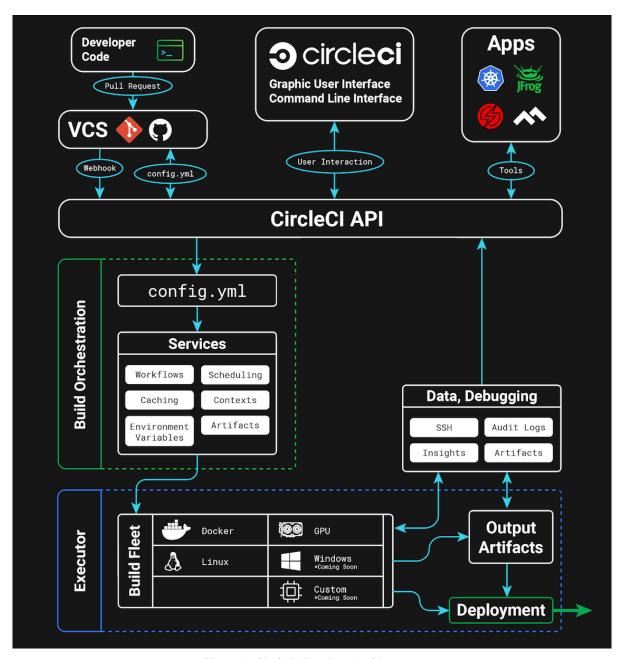


Figure 1. CircleCI Services Architecture

#### **Build Environments**

CircleCI 2.0 uses Nomad as the primary job scheduler. Refer to our Nomad Introduction to learn more about the job scheduler and how to perform basic client and cluster operations.

By default, CircleCI 2.0 Nomad clients automatically provision containers according to the image configured



for each job in your .circleci/config.yml file.

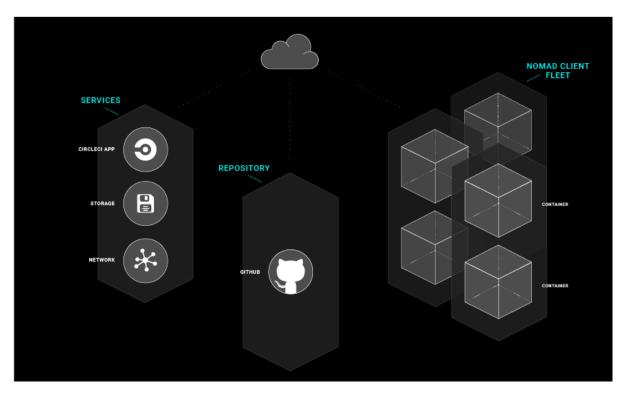
#### **Architecture**

Figure 1.1 illustrates CircleCI core components, build orchestration services, and executors. The CircleCI API is a full-featured RESTful API that allows you to access all information and trigger all actions in CircleCI.

Within the CircleCI UI is the Insights page, which acts as a dashboard showing the health of all repositories you are following including:

- median build time
- median queue time
- last build time
- success rate
- parallelism.

CircleCI consists of two primary components: Services and Nomad Clients. Any number of Nomad Clients execute your jobs and communicate back to the Services. All components must access GitHub or your hosted instance of GitHub Enterprise on the network, as illustrated in Figure 2.



#### **Services Machine**

The Services machine must must not be restarted and may be backed up using VM snapshotting. If you must restart the Services machine, do so only as a last resort, because a restart will result in downtime. Refer to the Disaster Recovery chapter for instructions.

DNS resolution may point to the IP address of the Services machine. It is also possible to point to a load balancer, for example an ELB in AWS. The following table describes the ports used for traffic on the Service



#### machine:

Source	Ports	Use
End Users	80, 443, 4434	HTTP/HTTPS Traffic
Administrators	22	SSH
Administrators	8800	Admin Console
Builder Boxes	all traffic, all ports	Internal Communication
GitHub (Enterprise or .com)	80, 443	Incoming Webhooks

#### **Nomad Clients**

Nomad Clients run without storing state, enabling you to increase or decrease the number of containers as needed.

To ensure enough Nomad clients are running to handle all builds, track the queued builds and increase the number of Nomad Client machines as needed to balance the load. For more on tracking metrics see Monitoring Your Installation.

Each machine reserves two vCPUs and 4GB of memory for coordinating builds. The remaining processors and memory create the containers. Larger machines are able to run more containers and are limited by the number of available cores after two are reserved for coordination.



The maximum machine size for a Nomad client is 128GB RAM/ 64 CPUs, contact your CircleCl account representative to request use of larger machines for Nomad Clients.

The following table describes the ports used on Nomad clients:

Source	Ports	Use
End Users	64535-65535	SSH into builds
Administrators	80 or 443	CCI API Access
Administrators	22	SSH
Services Machine	all traffic, all ports	Internal Comms
Nomad Clients (including itself)	all traffic, all ports	Internal Comms

#### **GitHub**

CircleCI uses GitHub or GitHub Enterprise credentials for authentication which, in turn, may use LDAP, SAML, or SSH for access. This means CircleCI will inherit the authentication supported by your central SSO infrastructure.



CircleCI does not support changing the URL or backend Github instance after it has been set up. The following table describes the ports used on machines running GitHub to communicate with the Services and Nomad Client instances.

Source	Ports	Use
Services	22	Git Access
Services	80, 443	API Access
Nomad Client	22	Git Access
Nomad Client	80, 443	API Access



# Introduction to Nomad Cluster Operation

This section provides conceptual and procedural information for operating, backing up, monitoring, and configuring a CircleCI server installation.

# **Basic Terminology and Architecture**

CircleCI 2.0 uses Nomad as the primary job scheduler. This chapter provides a basic introduction to Nomad for understanding how to operate the Nomad Cluster in your CircleCI 2.0 installation.

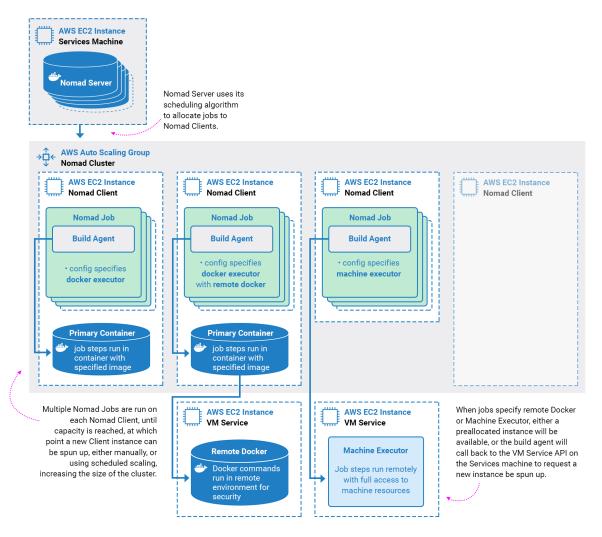


Figure 2. Nomad Cluster Management

- **Nomad Server:** Nomad servers are the brains of the cluster; they receive and allocate jobs to Nomad clients. In CircleCI, a Nomad server runs on your Services machine as a Docker Container.
- Nomad Client: Nomad clients execute the jobs they are allocated by Nomad servers. Usually a Nomad
  client runs on a dedicated machine (often a VM) in order to fully take the advantage of machine power.
   You can have multiple Nomad clients to form a cluster and the Nomad server allocates jobs to the cluster
  with its scheduling algorithm.
- Nomad Jobs: A Nomad job is a specification, provided by a user, that declares a workload for Nomad. In CircleCl 2.0, a Nomad job corresponds to an execution of a CircleCl job. If the job uses parallelism, say 10 parallelism, then Nomad will run 10 jobs.

• **Build Agent:** Build Agent is a Go program written by CircleCI that executes steps in a job and reports the results. Build Agent is executed as the main process inside a Nomad Job.

# **Basic Operations**

The following section is a basic guide to operating a Nomad cluster in your installation.

The nomad CLI is installed in the Service instance. It is pre-configured to talk to the Nomad cluster, so it is possible to use the nomad command to run the following commands in this section.

### **Checking the Jobs Status**

The get a list of statuses for all jobs in your cluster, run:

nomad status

The Status is the most important field in the output, with the following status type definitions:

- running: Nomad has started executing the job. This typically means your job in CircleCI is started.
- pending: There are not enough resources available to execute the job inside the cluster.
- dead: Nomad has finished executing the job. The status becomes dead regardless of whether the corresponding CircleCI job/build succeeds or fails.

### **Checking the Cluster Status**

To get a list of your Nomad clients, run:

nomad node-status



nomad node-status reports both Nomad clients that are currently serving (status active) and Nomad clients that were taken out of the cluster (status down). Therefore, you need to count the number of active Nomad clients to know the current capacity of your cluster.

To get more information about a specific client, run the following from that client:

nomad node-status -self

This will give information such as how many jobs are running on the client and the resource utilization of the client.



#### **Checking Logs**

As noted in the Nomad Jobs section above, a Nomad Job corresponds to an execution of a CircleCl job. Therefore, Nomad Job logs can sometimes help to understand the status of a CircleCl job if there is a problem. To get logs for a specific job, run:

nomad logs -job -stderr <nomad-job-id>



Be sure to specify the -stderr flag as this is where most Build Agent logs appear.

While the nomad logs -job command is useful, the command is not always accurate because the -job flag uses a random allocation of the specified job. The term allocation is a smaller unit in Nomad Job, which is out of scope for this document. To learn more, please see the official document.

Complete the following steps to get logs from the allocation of the specified job:

- 1. Get the job ID with nomad status command.
- 2. Get the allocation ID of the job with nomad status < job-id > command.
- 3. Get the logs from the allocation with nomad logs -stderr <allocation-id>

#### **Scaling the Cluster**

By default, your Nomad Client is set up within an Auto Scaling Group (ASG) within AWS. To view settings: . Go to your EC2 Dashboard and select Auto Scaling Groups from the left hand menu . Select your Nomad Client . Select Actions > Edit to set Desired/Minimum/Maximum counts. This defines the number of Nomad Clients to spin up and keep available. Use the Scaling Policy tab to scale up your group automatically at your busiest times, see below for best practices for defining scaling policies. Use nomad job metrics to assist in defining your scaling policies.

#### **Auto Scaling Policy Best Practices**

There is a blog post series wherein CircleCI engineering spent time running simulations of cost savings for the purpose of developing a general set of best practices for Auto Scaling. Consider the following best practices when setting up AWS Auto Scaling:

- In general, size your cluster large enough to avoid queueing builds. That is, less than one second of
  queuing for most workloads and less than 10 seconds for workloads run on expensive hardware or at
  highest parallellism. Sizing to reduce queuing to zero is best practice because of the high cost of developer
  time. It is difficult to create a model in which developer time is cheap enough for under-provisioning to be
  cost-effective.
- 2. Create an Auto Scaling Group with a Step Scaling policy that scales up during the normal working hours of the majority of developers and scales back down at night. Scaling up during the weekday normal working hours and back down at night is the best practice to keep queue times down during peak development, without over provisioning at night when traffic is low. Looking at millions of builds over time, a bell curve during normal working hour emerges for most data sets.

This is in contrast to auto scaling throughout the day based on traffic fluctuations, because modelling



revealed that boot times are actually too long to prevent queuing in real time. Use Amazon's Step Policy instructions to set this up along with Cloudwatch Alarms.

#### **Shutting Down a Nomad Client**

When you want to shutdown a Nomad client, you must first set the client to drain mode. In drain mode, the client will finish any jobs that have already been allocated but will not be allocated any new jobs.

1. To drain a client, log in to the client and set the client to drain mode with **node-drain** command as follows:

```
nomad node-drain -self -enable
```

2. Then, make sure the client is in drain mode using the node-status command:

```
nomad node-status -self
```

Alternatively, you can drain a remote node with the following command, substituting the node ID:

```
nomad node-drain -enable -yes <node-id>
```

#### **Scaling Down the Client Cluster**

To set up a mechanism for clients to shutdown, first enter drain mode, then wait for all jobs to be finished before terminating the client. You can also configure an ASG Lifecycle Hook that triggers a script for scaling down instances.

The script should use the commands in the section above to do the following:

- 1. Put the instance in drain mode
- 2. Monitor running jobs on the instance and wait for them to finish
- 3. Terminate the instance

# Monitoring Your Installation

This section includes information on metrics for monitoring your CircleCI Server installation.

# **System Monitoring**

To enable system and Docker metrics forwarding to either AWS Cloudwatch or Datadog, navigate to your CircleCI Management Console, select Settings from the menu bar and scroll down to enable the provider of your choice. To get straight to this section use the following URL, substituting in your CircleCI hostname:

https://<your-circleci-hostname>.com:8800/settings#cloudwatch\_metrics

#### **VM Service and Docker Metrics**

VM Host and Docker services metrics are forwarded via Telegraf, a plugin-driven server agent for collecting and reporting metrics.

Following are the enabled metrics:

- CPU
- Disk
- Memory
- Networking
- Docker

#### **Nomad Job Metrics**

Nomad job metrics are enabled and emitted by the Nomad Server agent. Five types of metrics are reported:

Metric	Description
circle.nomad.server_agent.poll_failure	Returns 1 if the last poll of the Nomad agent failed, otherwise it returns 0.
<pre>circle.nomad.server_agent.jobs.pending</pre>	Returns the total number of pending jobs across the cluster.
circle.nomad.server_agent.jobs.running	Returns the total number of running jobs across the cluster.
<pre>circle.nomad.server_agent.jobs.complet e</pre>	Returns the total number of complete jobs across the cluster.
circle.nomad.server_agent.jobs.dead	Returns the total number of dead jobs across the cluster.

When the Nomad metrics container is running normally, no output will be written to standard output or standard error. Failures will elicit a message to standard error.



# **Supported Platforms**

We have two built-in platforms for metrics and monitoring: AWS CloudWatch and DataDog. The sections below detail enabling and configuring each in turn.

#### **AWS CloudWatch**

To enable AWS CloudWatch complete the following:

1. Navigate to the settings page within your Management Console. You can use the following URL, substituting your CircleCI URL:

https://<your-circleci-hostname>.com:8800/settings#cloudwatch\_metrics

2. Check Enabled under AWS CloudWatch Metrics to begin configuration.

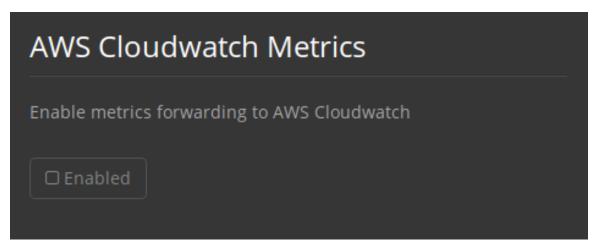


Figure 3. Enable Cloudwatch

#### **AWS CloudWatch Configuration**

There are two options for configuration:

• Use the IAM Instance Profile of the services box and configure your custom region and namespace.

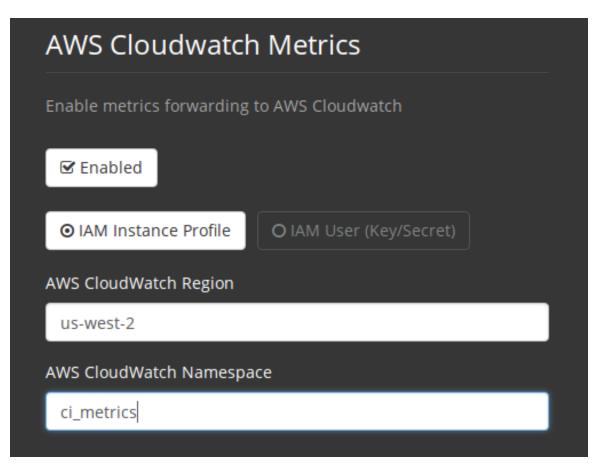


Figure 4. CloudWatch Region and Namespace

• Alternatively, you may use your AWS Access Key and Secret Key along with your custom region and namespace.

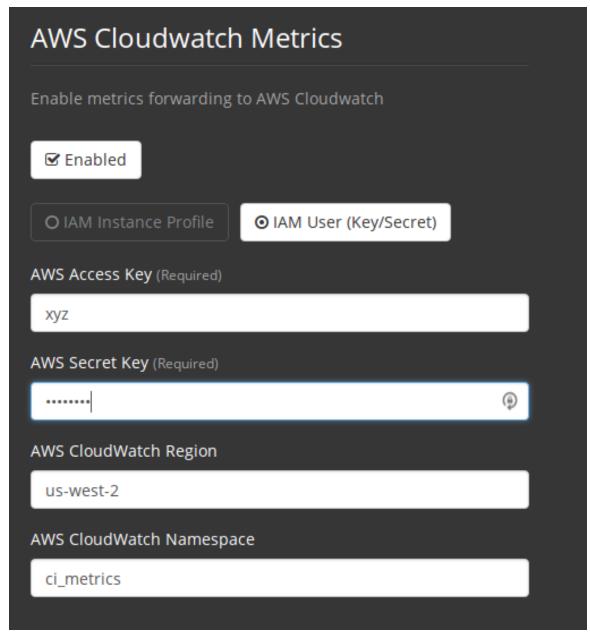


Figure 5. Access Key and Secret Key

After saving you can verify that metrics are forwarding by going to your AWS CloudWatch console.

#### **DataDog**

To enable Datadog complete the following:

- 1. Navigate your Management Console Settings. You can use the following URL, substituting your CircleCI hostname: https://<your-circleci-hostname>.com:8800/settings#datadog\_metrics
- 2. Check Enabled under Datadog Metrics to begin configuration.



Figure 6. Enable Datadog Metrics

3. Enter your DataDog API Key.

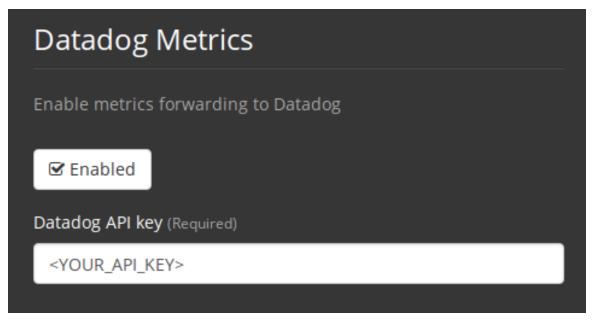


Figure 7. Enter Datadog API key

After saving you can **verify** that metrics are forwarding by going to the DataDog metrics summary.

#### **Custom Metrics**

Custom Metrics using a Telegraf configuration file may be configured in addition to the predefined CloudWatch and Datadog metrics described above. Telegraph can also be used instead of CloudWatch and Datadog for more fine grained control.

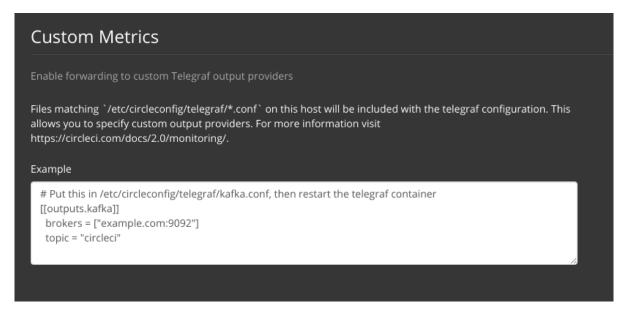


Figure 8. Custom Metrics

#### **Configuring Custom Metrics**

Configuration options are based on Telegraf's documented output plugins. See their documentation here.

For example, if you would like to use the InfluxDB Output Plugin you would need to follow these steps:

- 1. SSH into the Servics Machine
- 2 cd/etc/circleconfig/telegraf/influxdb.conf
- 3. Adding the desired outputs, for example:

```
[[output.influxdb]]
  url = "http://52.67.66.155:8086"
  database = "testdb"
```

4. Run docker restart telegraf to restart the container to load or reload any changes.

You may check the logs by running docker logs -f telegraf to confirm your output provider (e.g. influx) is listed in the configured outputs.

Additionally, if you would like to ensure that all metrics in an installation are tagged against an environment you could place the following code in your config:

```
[global_tags]
Env="<staging-circleci>"
```

Please see the InfluxDB documentation for default and advanced installation steps.



a

Any changes to the config will require a restart of the system.

# **Setting Up HTTP Proxies**

This section describes how to configure CircleCI to use an HTTP proxy.

#### **Overview**

If you are setting up your proxy through Amazon, read this before proceeding:

Using an HTTP Proxy - AWS Command Line Interface

Avoid proxying internal requests, especially for the Services machine. To add these to the NO\_PROXY rules, run:

```
export NO_PROXY=<services_box_ip>
```

In an ideal case, traffic to S3 will not be proxied, and will instead be bypassed by adding s3.amazonaws.com, \*.s3.amazonaws.com to the NO\_PROXY rule.

These instructions assume an unauthenticated HTTP proxy at 10.0.33:3128, a Services machine at 10.0.1.238 and use of ghe.example.com as the GitHub Enterprise host.



The following proxy instructions must be completed **before** installing CircleCI on fresh VMs or instances. You must also configure JVM OPTs again as described below.

# **Service Machine Proxy Configuration**

The Service machine has many components that need to make network calls, as follows:

- External Network Calls Replicated is a vendor service that we use for the Management Console of CircleCI. CircleCI requires Replicated to make an outside call to validate the license, check for updates, and download upgrades. Replicated also downloads docker, installs it on the local machine, and uses a Docker container to create and configure S3 buckets. GitHub Enterprise may or may not be behind the proxy, but github.com will need to go through the proxy.
- Internal Network Calls
  - If S3 traffic requires going through an HTTP proxy, CircleCI must pass proxy settings into the container.
  - The CircleCI instance on the Services machine runs in a Docker container, so it must to pass the proxy settings to the container to maintain full functionality.

### **Set up Service Machine Proxy Support**

For a static installation, not on AWS, SSH into the Services machine and run the following code snippet with your proxy address:



```
echo '{"HttpProxy": "http://<proxy-ip:port>"}' |
sudo tee /etc/replicated.conf
(cat <<'EOF'
HTTP_PROXY=<proxy-ip:port>
HTTPS_PROXY=<proxy-ip:port>

EOF
| sudo tee -a /etc/circle-installation-customizations
sudo service replicated-ui stop; sudo service replicated stop;
sudo service replicated-operator stop; sudo service replicated-ui
start;
sudo service replicated-operator start; sudo service replicated start
```

If you run in Amazon's EC2 service then you'll need to include 169.254.169.254 EC2 services as shown below:

```
echo '{"HttpProxy": "http://cproxy-ip:port>"}' |
sudo tee /etc/replicated.conf
(cat <<'E0F'
HTTP_PROXY=proxy-ip:port>
HTTPS_PROXY=<proxy-ip:port>
NO_PROXY=169.254.169.254, <circleci-service-ip>,
127.0.0.1, localhost, ghe.example.com
JVM_OPTS="-Dhttp.proxyHost=<ip> -Dhttp.proxyPort=<port>
-Dhttps.proxyHost=cproxy-ip> -Dhttps.proxyPort=<port)</pre>
-Dhttp.nonProxyHosts=169.254.169.254|<circleci-service-ip>|
127.0.0.1|localhost|ghe.example.com"
E0F
| sudo tee -a /etc/circle-installation-customizations
 sudo service replicated-ui stop; sudo service replicated stop;
 sudo service replicated-operator stop; sudo service replicated-ui
start;
  sudo service replicated-operator start; sudo service replicated start
```



The above is not handled by by our enterprise-setup script and will need to be added to the user data for the Services Machine startup or done manually.

#### **Corporate Proxies**



#### **Nomad Client Configuration**

#### **External Network Calls**

CircleCI uses curl and awscli scripts to download initialization scripts, along with jars from Amazon S3. Both curl and awscli respect environment settings, but if you have whitelisted traffic from Amazon S3 you should not have any problems.

#### **Internal Network Calls**

- CircleCI JVM:
  - Any connections to other Nomad Clients or the Services machine should be excluded from HTTP proxy
  - Connections to GitHub Enterprise should be excluded from HTTP proxy
- The following contains parts that may be impacted due to a proxy configuration:
  - 2 Amazon EC2 metadata. This **should not** be proxied. If it is, then the machine will be misconfigured.
  - ☑ Amazon S3 traffic note S3 discussion above
  - Amazon EC2 API EC2 API traffic may need to be proxied. You would note lots of failures (timeout failures) in logs if the proxy setting is misconfigured, but it will not block CircleCI from functioning.

#### **Nomad Client Proxy Setup**

- If you are installing CircleCI Server on AWS using Terraform, you should add the below to your Nomad client launch configuration these instructions should be added to /etc/environment.
- If you are using Docker refer to the [Docker HTTP Proxy Instructions](https://docs.docker.com/engine/admin/systemd/#/http-proxy) documentation.
- If you are running a static installation, add the following to the server before installation:



```
#!/bin/bash

(cat <<'EOF'
HTTP_PROXY=<proxy-ip:port>
HTTPS_PROXY=169.254.169.254, <circleci-service-ip>,
127.0.0.1, localhost, ghe.example.com
JVM_OPTS="-Dhttp.proxyHost=<ip> -Dhttp.proxyPort=<port>
-Dhttps.proxyHost=<proxy-ip> -Dhttps.proxyPort=3128
-Dhttp.nonProxyHosts=169.254.169.254|<circleci-service-ip>|
127.0.0.1|localhost|ghe.example.com"
EOF
) | sudo tee -a /etc/environment

set -a
. /etc/environment
```

You will also need to follow the Docker instructions to make sure your containers have outbound/proxy access.

### **Troubleshooting**

If you cannot access the CircleCI Management Console, but the Services machine seems to be running, try to SSH tunnel into the machine by running the following, substituting your proxy address and the IP address of your Services machine:

```
ssh -L 8800:<address you want to proxy through>:8800
ubuntu@<ip_of_services_machine>
```

#### **Data Persistence**

Contact support@circleci.com to discuss externalizing services for data persistence.

# **Authentication**

This document describes how to enable, configure, and test CircleCI to authenticate users with OpenLDAP or Active Directory credentials.



LDAP is not supported with existing installations, only clean installations may use LDAP.

# **Prerequisites**

- Install and configure your LDAP server and Active Directory.
- GitHub Enterprise must be configured and is the source of organizations and projects to which users have access.
- Install a new instance of CircleCI 2.0 with no existing users.
- Contact CircleCI support and file a feature request for CircleCI Server.

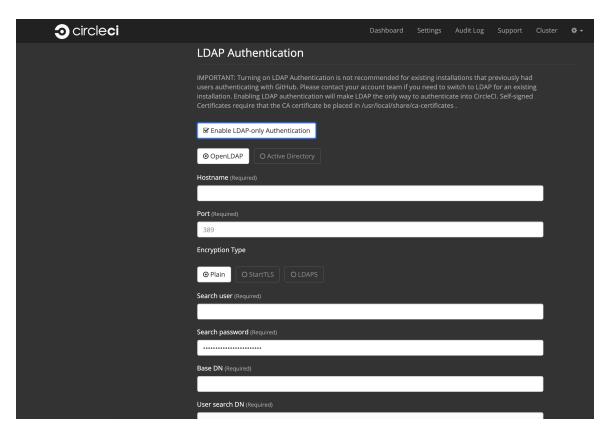


After completing this configuration, all users must log in to CircleCI with their LDAP credentials. After logging in to CircleCI, each user will then click the Connect button on the Accounts page to connect and authenticate their GitHub account.

# **Configure LDAP Authentication**

This section provides the steps to configure LDAP in the CircleCI Server Management Console:

- 1. Verify access over the LDAP/AD ports to your LDAP/AD servers.
- 2. Log in as administrator to the Management Console for your newly installed CircleCI 2.0 instance.
- 3. Navigate to the Settings page and check the Enable LDAP-only Authentication button. Select either OpenLDAP or Active Directory.



- 4. Fill in your LDAP instance Hostname and port number.
- 5. Select the encryption type (plain text is not recommended).
- 6. Fill in the Search user field with the LDAP admin username using the format cn=<admin>, dc=<example>, dc=<org> replacing admin, example, and org with appropriate values for your datacenter.
- 7. Fill in the Search password field with the LDAP admin password.
- 8. Fill in the User search DN field with an approrpiate value using the format ou=<users> replacing users with the value used in your LDAP instance.
- 9. Fill in the Username field with an approriate unique identifier used for your users, for example, mail.
- 10. Fill in the Group Membership field with an appropriate value. By default, the value is uniqueMember for OpenLDAP and member for Active Directory. This field will list member dn for a group.
- 11. Fill in the Group Object Class field with an approrpiate value. By default, the value is groupOfUniqueNames for OpenLDAP and group for Active Directory. The value of the objectClass field indicates a dn is a group.
- 12. (Optional) Fill in the Test username and Test password fields with a test email and password for an LDAP user you want to test.
- 13. Save the settings.

A user who logs in will be redirected to the Accounts page of the CircleCI application with a Connect button that they must use to connect their GitHub account. After they click Connect, an LDAP section with their user information (for example, their email) on the page will appear and they will be directed to authenticate their GitHub account. After authenticating their GitHub account users are directed to the **Job page** to use CircleCI.





A user who has authenticated with LDAP and is then removed from LDAP/AD will be able to access CircleCI as long as they stay logged in (because of cookies). As soon as the user logs out or the cookie expires, they will not be able to log back in. A users' ability to see projects or to run builds is defined by their GitHub permissions. Therefore, if GitHub permissions are synced with LDAP/AD permissions, a removed LDAP/AD user will automatically lose authorization to view or access CircleCI as well.

# **Troubleshooting**

Troubleshoot LDAP server settings with LDAP search as follows:

ldapsearch -x LLL -h <ldap\_address\_server>

# **VM** Service

This section outlines how to set up and customize VM service for your CircleCI installation, to be used for machine executor and remote Docker jobs.



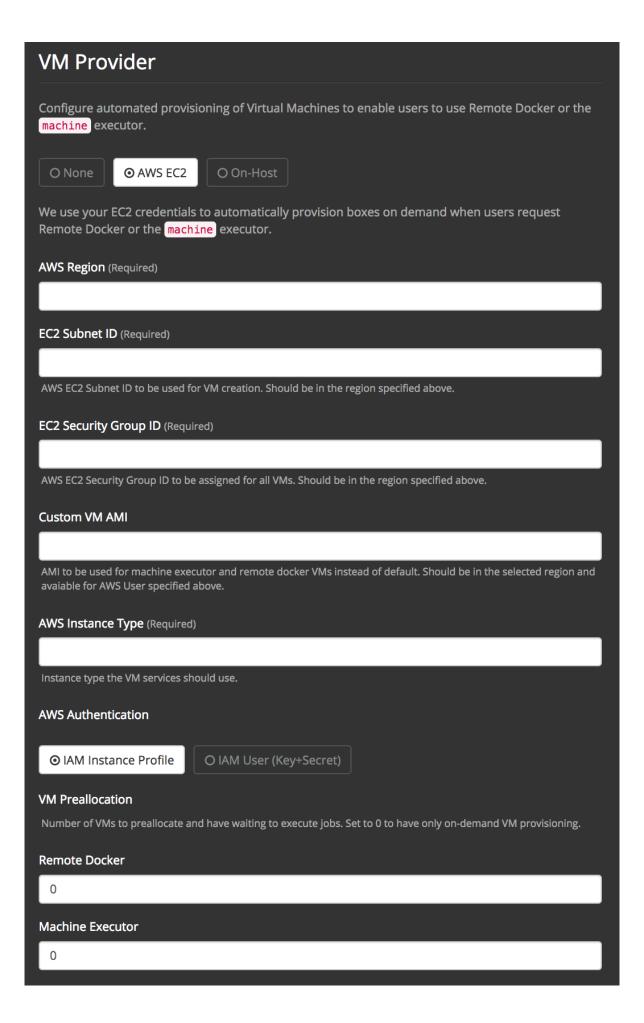
This is only available for installations on AWS, please contact your CircleCI account representative to request this for a static installation.

### **Overview**

VM service enables users of CircleCI Server, installed on AWS, to run jobs using the Remote Docker Environment and the machine executor.

# Configuration







To configure VM service, it is best practice to select the AWS EC2 option in the Management Console Settings, which will allow CircleCI to run remote Docker and machine executor jobs using dedicated EC2 instances.

You can provide a custom Amazon Machine Image (AMI) for VM service, as described in the sections below. If you do not provide a custom image, all machine executor and remote Docker jobs will be run on instances built with one of our default AMIs, which have Ubuntu 16.04, Docker version 18.06.3 and a selection of common languages, tools, and frameworks. See the picard-vm-image branch of our image-builder repository for details.

#### **Default VM service AMIs**

- Ap-northeast-1:ami-0e49af0659db9fc5d
- Ap-northeast-2:ami-03e485694bc2da249
- Ap-south-1:ami-050370e57dfc6574a
- Ap-southeast-1:ami-0a75ff7b28897268c
- Ap-southeast-2:ami-072b1b45245549586
- Ca-central-1:ami-0e44086f0f518ad2d
- Eu-central-1:ami-09cbcfe446101b4ea
- Eu-west-1:ami-0d1cbc2cc3075510a
- Eu-west-2:ami-0bd22dcdc30fa260b
- Sa-east-1:ami-038596d5a4fc9893b
- Us-east-1:ami-0843ca047684abe87
- Us-east-2:ami-03d60a35576647f63
- Us-west-1:ami-06f6efb13d9ccf93d
- Us-west-2:ami-0b5b8ad02f405a909

#### Customization

It may be beneficial to customize the VM service image for your installation of CircleCI. This will allow you to specify other versions of Docker and Docker Compose, as well as install any additional dependencies that may be part of your CI/CD pipeline. Without doing so, you will likely need to run these additional install and update steps on every commit as part of your config.yml file.

To build custom VM service images:

- 1. Clone our image builder repo: https://github.com/circleci/image-builder/tree/picard-vm-image
- 2. Open aws-vm. j son in your editor and fill in the required groups. An access key and secret key are required to upload. Handle the key and secret process according to your requirements, but consider restricting the ami\_groups to only within your organization
- 3. Runpacker build aws-vm.json

Refer to https://packer.io/docs/builders/amazon-ebs.html#ami\_groups for more information and see



https://github.com/circleci/image-builder/blob/picard-vm-image/provision.sh for details about settings.

You will need to associate the circleci user with the image you want to use as shown in this example.

#### On Demand and Preallocated Instances

Remote Docker and machine executor instances are spun up on demand. It is also possible to preallocate instances to remain up and running, ready for remote Docker and machine jobs to be run (see the last two fields in figure 9).



If Docker Layer Caching (DLC) is to be used, VM Service instances must be on-demand so both remote Docker and machine preallocated instance fields must be set to 0.



When using preallocated instances be aware that a cron job is scheduled to cycle through these instances once per day to ensure they don't end up in an unworkable state.

# **Job and Instance Management**

Jobs run using the remote Docker Environment, or the machine executor are scheduled and dispatched by the Nomad server to your Nomad clients and passed on to remote Docker or machine from there. This means jobs run on remote Docker and the machine executor can be monitored in the usual way, using the Nomad CLI. See our Introduction to Nomad Cluster Operation for more about Nomad commands and terminology.



A cron job in scheduled to cycle all default and preallocated instanced at least once per day to ensure instanced don't end up in a dead/bad state.

# Accessing Remote Docker and machine instances

By default, private IP addresses are used to communicate with VM service instances. If you need to grant wider access, for example, to allow developers SSH access, this can be set using the checkbox in the VM Provider Advanced Settings.

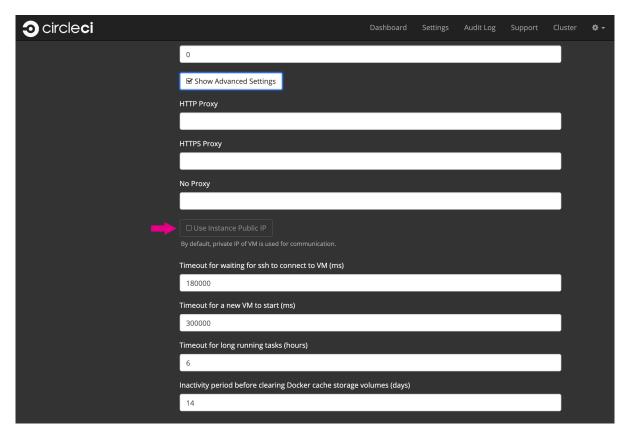


Figure 9. Allowing Access to VM Service Instances

# **Setting Up Certificates**

This document provides a script for using a custom Root Certificate Authority and the process for using an Elastic Load Balancing certificate.

# **Using a Custom Root CA**

Any valid certificates added to the following path will be trusted by CircleCI services: usr/local/share/ca-certificates/

The following example openss1 command is one way of placing the certificate. It is also possible to pull a certificate from a vault/PKI solution within your company.

Some installation environments use internal Root Certificate Authorities for encrypting and establishing trust between servers. If you are using a customer Root certificate, you will need to import and mark it as a trusted certificate at CircleCI GitHub Enterprise instances. CircleCI will respect such trust when communicating with GitHub and webhook API calls.

CA Certificates must be in a format understood by Java Keystore, and include the entire chain.

The following script provides the necessary steps:

```
GHE_DOMAIN=github.example.com

# Grab the CA chain from your GitHub Enterprise deployment.
openssl s_client -connect ${GHE_DOMAIN}:443 -showcerts < /dev/null | sed
-ne '/-BEGIN CERTIFICATE-/,/-END CERTIFICATE-/p' > /usr/local/share/ca-
certificates/ghe.crt
```

Then, navigate to the system console at port 8800 and change the protocol to upgraded. You can change the protocol to HTTPS (TLS/SSLEnabled) setting and restart the services. When trying Test GitHub Authentication you should get Success now rather than x509 related error.

# **Setting up ELB Certificates**

CircleCI requires the following steps to get ELB (Elastic Load Balancing) certificates working as your primary certs. The steps to accomplish this are below. You will need certificates for the ELB and CircleCI Server as described in the following sections.



Opening the port for HTTP requests will allow CircleCI to return a HTTPS redirect.

1. Open the following ports on your ELB:

Load Balancer Protocol	Load Balancer Port	Instance Protocol	Instance Port	Cipher	SSL Certificate
HTTP	80	HTTP	80	N/A	N/A
SSL	443	SSL	443	Change	your-cert
SSL	3000	SSL	3000	Change	your-cert
HTTPS	8800	HTTPS	8800	Change	your-cert
SSL	8081	SSL	8081	Change	your-cert
SSL	8082	SSL	8082	Change	your-cert

2. Add the following security group on your ELB:



The sources below are left open so that anybody can access the instance over these port ranges. If that is not what you want, then feel free to restrict them. Users will experience reduced functionality if your stakeholders are using IP addresses outside of the Source Range.

Туре	Protocol	Port Range	Source
SSH	ТСР	22	0.0.0.0
HTTPS	ТСР	443	0.0.0.0
Custom TCP Rule	ТСР	8800	0.0.0.0
Custom TCP Rule	TCP	64535-65535	0.0.0.0

- 3. Next, in the management console for CircleCI, upload a valid certificate and key file to the Privacy Section. These don't need to be externally signed or even current certs as the actual cert management is done at the ELB. But, to use HTTPS requests, CircleCI requires a certificate and key in which the "Common Name (FQDN)" matches the hostname configured in the admin console.
- 4. It is now possible to set your Github Authorization Callback to https rather than http.

### **Using Self-Signed Certificates**

Because the ELB does not require a *current* certificate, you may choose to generate a self-signed certificate with an arbitrary duration.

- 1. Generate the certificate and key using openssl command openssl req -newkey rsa:2048 -nodes -keyout key.pem -x509 -days 1 -out certificate.pem
- 2. Provide the appropriate information to the prompts.
  - **a**

The Common Name provided must match the host configured in CircleCI.

3. Save the certificate.pem and key.pem file locally.

# **Setting up TLS/HTTPS on CircleCI Server**

You may use various solutions to generate valid SSL certificate and key file. Two solutions are provided below.

#### **Using Certbot**

This section describes setting up TLS/HTTPS on your Server install using Certbot by manually adding a DNS record set to the Services machine. Certbot generally relies on verifying the DNS record via either port 80 or 443, however this is not supported on CircleCI Server installations as of 2.2.0 because of port conflicts.

- 1. Stop the Service CircleCI Server Management Console (http://<circleci-hostname>.com:8800).
- 2. SSH into the Services machine.
- 3. Install Certbot and generate certificates using the following commands:

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install software-properties-common
sudo add-apt-repository ppa:certbot/certbot
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install certbot
certbot certonly --manual --preferred-challenges dns
```

- 1. You will be instructed to add a DNS TXT record.
- 2. After the record is successfully generated, save fullchain.pem and privkey.pem locally.

If you are using Route 53 for your DNS records, adding a TXT record is straightforward. When you're creating a new record set, be sure to select type 2 TXT and provide the appropriate value enclosed in quotes.

### Adding the certificate to CircleCI Server

Once you have a valid certificate and key file in . pem format, you must upload it to CircleCI Server.

- 1. To do so, navigate to hostname: 8800/console/settings
- 2. Under "Privacy" section, check the box for "SSL only (Recommened)"
- 3. Upload your newly generated certificate and key
- 4. Click "Verify TLS Settings" to ensure everything is working
- 5. Click "Save" at the bottom of the settings page and restart when prompted

More information is available here.

Ensure the hostname is properly configured from the Management Console (http://<circleci-hostname>.com:8800) and that the hostname used matches the DNS records associated with the TLS certificates.

Make sure the Auth Callback URL in Github/Github Enterprise matches the domain name pointing to the



Services machine, including the protocol used, for example  ${\bf https://info-tech.io/.}$ 



# **Managing User Accounts**

This section provides information to help system administrators manage accounts for their users. For an overview of user accounts, view the Admin settings overview from the CircleCI app by clicking on your profile in the top right corner and selecting Admin. This overview provides the active user count and the total number of licensed users.

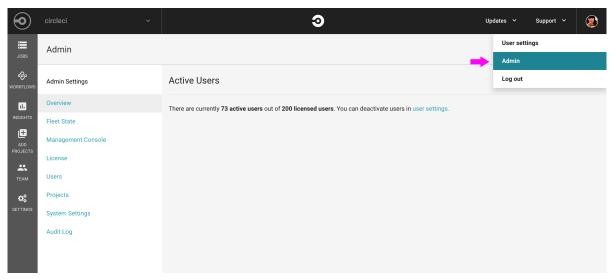


Figure 10. Admin Settings - Account Overview

# **Suspending Accounts**

When an account is no longer required, you can suspend the account so it will no longer be active and will not count against your license quota. To suspend an account:

- 1. Navigate to your CircleCI Admin Settings
- 2. Select Users from the Admin Settings menu
- 3. Scroll to locate the account in either the Active or Inactive window
- 4. Click Suspend next to the account name and the account will appear in the Suspended window

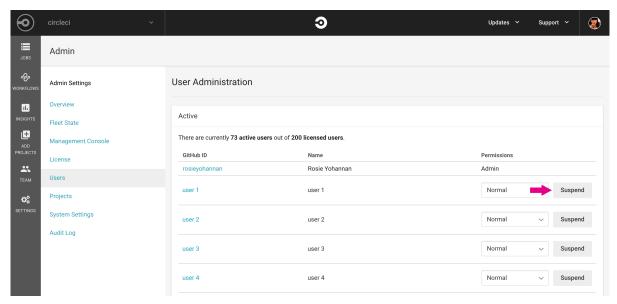


Figure 11. Suspending an Account

# **Reactivating a Suspended User Account**

To reactivate an account that has been suspended:

- 1. Navigate to your CircleCI Admin Settings
- 2. Select Users from the Admin Settings menu
- 3. View the Suspended window
- 4. Click on Activate next to the User you wish to grant access and the account will appear in the Active window

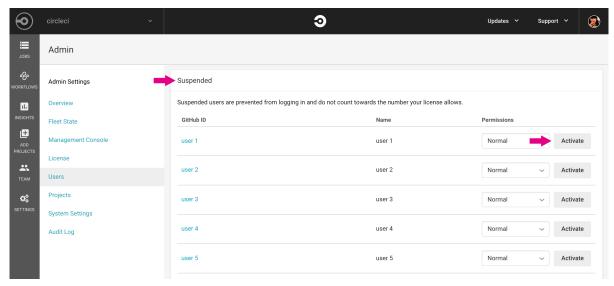


Figure 12. Rectivate Existing Users

# **Controlling Account Access**

Any user associated with your GitHub.com or Github Enterprise organization can create a user account for your CircleCl installation. In order to control who has access, you can automatically suspend **all** new users,



requiring an administrator to activate them before they can log in. To access this feature:

- 1. Navigate to your CircleCI Admin Settings
- 2. Select System Settings from the Admin Settings menu
- 3. Set Suspend New Users to True

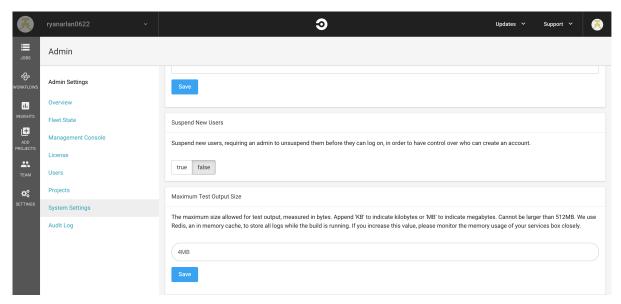


Figure 13. Auto Suspend New Users

## **Activating a Suspended New User Account**

To activate an **new** account that was automatically suspended, and allow the associated user access to your installation of CircleCI Server:

- 1. Navigate to your CircleCI Admin Settings
- 2. Select Users from the Admin Settings menu
- 3. View the Suspended New Users window
- 4. Click on Activate next to the User you wish to grant access and the account will appear in the Active window

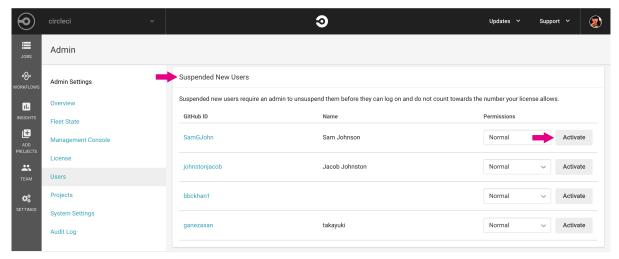


Figure 14. Activate a Suspended New User

## **Limit User Registrations by Github Organization**

When using Github.com, you can limit who can register with your CircleCI install to people with **some** connection to your approved organizations list. To access this feature:

- 1. Navigate to your CircleCI Admin Settings page
- 2. Select System Settings from the Admin Setting menu
- 3. Scroll down to Required Org Membership List
- 4. Enter the organization(s) you wish to approve. If entering more than one organization, use a comma delimited string

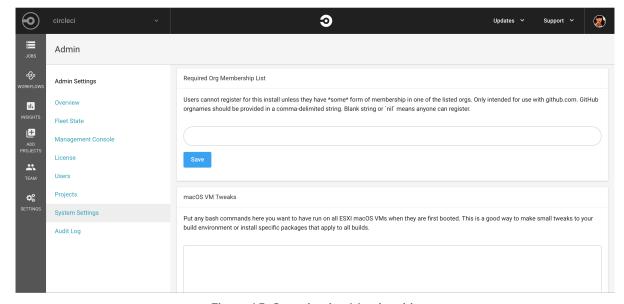


Figure 15. Organization Membership



Any form of organization membership is within the scope of this approval feature, and it does not stop users from running builds associated with other organizations they may belong to.

### **Full User List**

To view a full list of users for your CircleCI Server installation, first SSH into your Services machine, and then run:

```
circleci dev-console
(circle.model.user/where { :$and [{:sign_in_count {:$gte 0}}, {:login
{:$ne nil}}]} :only [:login])
```

## **Deleting a User**

If you need to remove a user from your installation of CircleCI Server, you will need to SSH into the services machine first and then delete using the following command, substituting the user's github username:

```
circleci dev-console
(circle.http.api.admin-commands.user/delete-by-login-vcs-type! "github-
username-of-user" :github)
```

# **Build Artifacts**

Build artifacts persist data after a job is completed and may be used for longer-term storage of your build process outputs. For example, when a Java build/test process finishes, the output of the process is saved as a . jar file. CircleCI can store this file as an artifact, keeping it available long after the process has finished.

# **Safe and Unsafe Content Types**

By default, CircleCI Server only allows whitelisted artifact types to be served. This is to protect users from uploading, and potentially executing malicious content. The whitelist is as follows:

Category	Safe Type
Text	Plain
Application	json
Image	png
Image	jpg
Image	gif
Image	bmp
Video	webm
Video	ogg
Video	mp4
Audio	webm
Audio	aac
Audio	mp4
Audio	mpeg
Audio	ogg
Audio	wav

Also, by default, the following types will be rendered as plain text:

Category	Туре
Text	html
Text	CSS
Text	javascript
Text	ecmascript
Application	javascript



Category	Туре
Application	ecmascript
Text	xml

# **Allow Unsafe Content types**

If you would like to allow content types that are not included in the whitelist above, follow these steps:

- Navigate to the CircleCI Management Console (e.g. https://<your-circleci-hostname>:8800/ settings) and select Settings from the menu bar
- 2. Scroll down to find the Artifacts section
- 3. Select Serve Artifacts with Unsafe Content-Types

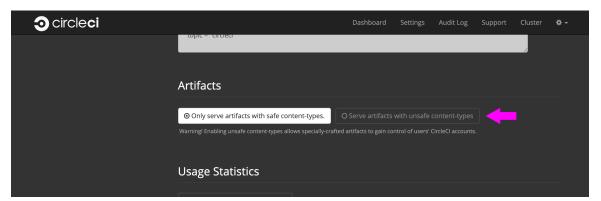


Figure 16. Allow Unsafe Content Types

4. Click Save at the bottom of the page and Restart Now in the pop-up to save your changes and restart the console.

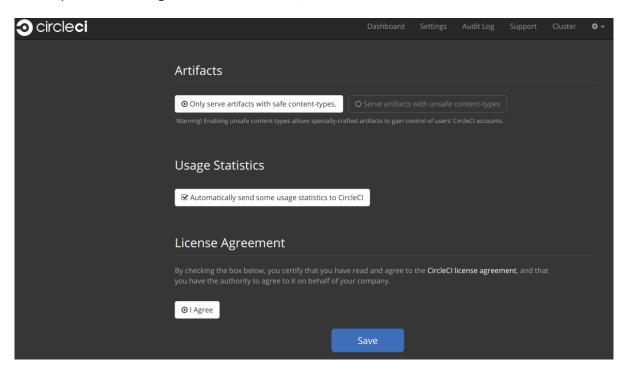


Any change to the settings within the Management Console will incur downtime as the console will need to be restarted.

# **Enabling Usage Statistics**

This chapter is for System Administrators who want to automatically send some aggregate usage statistics to CircleCI. Usage statistics data enhances visibility into CircleCI installations and is used to better support you and ensure a smooth transition from CircleCI 1.0 to CircleCI 2.0.

To opt-in to this feature, navigate to your Management Console settings (e.g. http://<circleci-hostname>.com:8800/settings) and scroll down to Usage Statistics. Enable the radio button labeled Automatically send some usage statistics to CircleCI, as shown below.



# **Detailed Usage Statistics**

The following sections provide information about the usage statistics CircleCI will gather when this setting is enabled.

## **Weekly Account Usage**

Name	Туре	Purpose
account_id	UUID	Uniquely identifies each vcs account
usage_current_macos	minutes	For each account, track weekly builds performed in minutes.
usage_legacy_macos	minutes	
usage_current_linux	minutes	
usage_legacy_linux	minutes	

# **Weekly Job Activity**

Name	Туре	Purpose
utc_week	date	Identifies which week the data below applies to
usage_oss_macos_legacy	minutes	Track builds performed by week
usage_oss_macos_current	minutes	
usage_oss_linux_legacy	minutes	
usage_oss_linux_current	minutes	
usage_private_macos_legacy	minutes	
usage_private_macos_current	minutes	
usage_private_linux_legacy	minutes	
usage_private_linux_current	minutes	
new_projects_oss_macos_legacy	sum	Captures new Builds performed on 1.0. Observe if users are starting new projects on 1.0.
new_projects_oss_macos_current	sum	
new_projects_oss_linux_legacy	sum	
new_projects_oss_linux_current	sum	
new_projects_private_macos_legac y	sum	
new_projects_private_macos_curre nt	sum	
new_projects_private_linux_legacy	sum	
new_projects_private_linux_curren t	sum	
projects_oss_macos_legacy	sum	Captures Builds performed on 1.0 and 2.0. Observe if users are moving towards 2.0 or staying with 1.0.
projects_oss_macos_current	sum	
projects_oss_linux_legacy	sum	
projects_oss_linux_current	sum	
projects_private_macos_legacy	sum	
projects_private_macos_current	sum	
projects_private_linux_legacy	sum	



Name	Туре	Purpose
projects_private_linux_current	sum	

# **Accessing Usage Data**

If you would like programatic access to this data in order to better understand your users you may run this command from the Services VM.

docker exec usage-stats /src/builds/extract

# **Security and Privacy**

Please reference exhibit C within your terms of contract and our standard license agreement for our complete security and privacy disclosures.



# Maintenance

This chapter describes system checks and the basics of user management.

# **System Checks**

#### When are executor instances created and destroyed?

Answer: CircleCI creates a new instance for each job. The instance will be destroyed at the end of the job. However, given that cloud instance creation may take significant time (~1 to 3 minutes), CircleCI offers a prescale option, where a set number of instances will be created in anticipation of demand. These will be killed at the end of the job. The number of pre-scaled instances is configured in the settings section of the Management Console. At any given time, CircleCI expects to have a base of pre-scaled instances and the required instances to service current job load.

#### When are executor instances reused?

**Answer:** Machine executor VMs never get reused for multiple jobs. EBS Volumes are reused for multiple jobs, but only get shared among jobs within the same project.

#### How are EBS volumes managed?

Answer: Since docker layers can be large (GBs), CircleCI prefers caching by using attached EBS volumes to using an object storage (for example, S3). Volumes are created when a job is configured to use docker layer caching (for example, set <a href="docker\_layer\_caching">docker\_layer\_caching</a>: <a href="true">true</a> in config). Note: For docker layer caching to work, you cannot use preallocated instances. You must set the remote docker and/or machine executor (depending on which one you want to use DLC, or both) to 0 in the replicated settings for "on-demand" instances. Otherwise, DLC will not work.

CircleCI reuses any existing available volume for that job project. If there is none (or all existing volumes are busy), CircleCI creates a new volume for the project. Volumes are associated with a project. No two project jobs can share an EBS volume for security reasons. CircleCI deletes EBS volumes in few circumstances (for example, when there is a risk of running out of disk space).

#### Can the amount of EBS volumes and EC2 instances be bounded?

Answer: Not at this time. You may utilize the metrics provided to alert when reaching a specific threshold.

### How do you prevent executors from existing indefinitely?

**Answer:** A process runs that periodically detects and stops any leaked VMs (for example, a task completed but it's VM is running for over N hours). You may also manually inspect instances that have been running for over 24 hours (CircleCl currently does this as well). You may also utilize the metrics provided to alert when stale VMs are detected.

#### Where can I find the audit log(s)?

Answer: The Audit logs are found at the root of your object storage installation under /audit-logs/audit\_log/v1. Audit Log Service (as of CircleCl v2.13) handles the storage of audit log events. Services running within a cluster may fire audit events that are then captured by this service and persisted to



the provisioned Storage mechanism for AWS S3 and On-Host.

### What do the audit log files contain?

**Answer:** A JSON representation of event(s) for the period of time since the last file created (each file starts with a timestamp and is generally an hourly period). For example;

```
{
   "id": "27aa77e3-0255-4464-93ad-f8236533ab53",
   "version":1,
   "action": "workflow.job.finish",
   "success":true,
   "payload":{
      "job":{
         "id": "e8cef7c4-60d4-429b-8c94-09c05f309408",
         "contexts":[
         "job_name": "remote_docker",
         "job_status":"success"
      },
      "workflow":{
         "id": "c022ca3c-5f6f-41ba-a6ca-05977f6a336a",
         "vcs branch": "master"
      }
   },
   "target":{
      "id": "3c4886e1-b810-4765-a1a2-d588e6e4b9cb",
      "type":"project"
   },
   "request":{
      "id":""
   },
   "actor":{
      "id": "27075c88-9ba4-47d7-8523-fa576e839bfd",
      "type": "user"
   },
   "scope":{
      "id": "3c4886e1-b810-4765-a1a2-d588e6e4b9cb",
      "type": "project"
   }
}
```

### What action types are there?

#### Answer:

```
context.create
context.delete
context.env var.delete
context.env_var.store
project.add
project.follow
project.settings.update
project.stop_building
project.unfollow
user.create
user.logged_in
user.logged_out
user.suspended
workflow.error
workflow.job.context.request
workflow.job.finish
workflow.job.scheduled
workflow.job.start
workflow.retry
workflow.start
```

### How can I access the files and do something with them?

**Answer:** . Set up the awscli and jq or another JSON processor for your OS.

1. In this example, grep for all workflow. job.start events.

```
#!/bin/bashBUCKET=YOUR-BUCKET-NAME
for key in `aws s3api list-objects --bucket BUCKET --prefix audit-
logs/audit_log/v1/ --output json | jq -r '.Contents[].Key'`;
do
echo $key;
aws s3 cp --quiet s3://BUCKET/$key - | grep workflow.job.start;
done
```

#### How do I ensure proper injection of Internal CA Certificate?

**Answer:** If using an internal CA, or self-signed certificate, you must ensure the signing certificate is trusted by the domain service to properly connect to GitHub Enterprise.

- 1. The Domain Service uses a Java Truststore, loaded with Keytool. Must match the formats supported by that tool.
- 2. You need the full CA chain, not just root/intermediate certificates.
- 3. The CA certificate chain should be saved in /usr/local/share/ca-certificates/

# **Security and Access Control**

CircleCI conducts ongoing security checks, for example, CircleCI containers are scanned by TwistLock prior to being published. CircleCI does **not** conduct ongoing security checks of your environment.

## **Password and PII Security**

What kind of security is in place for passwords and Personally Identifiable Information (PII)? Are the passwords hashed with a strong hash function and salted?

**Answer:** Passwords are hashed with a 10-character salt and SHA265, refer to the Security chapter for more details.

## **Ongoing Security Checks**

How will the Host and Nomad clients be monitored for security issues?

**Answer:** Your internal security teams are responsible for monitoring the Host and Nomad clients installed in your private datacenter or cloud. CircleCI containers are scanned by TwistLock prior to being published.

# **System Configuration**

How is configuration managed for the system?

**Answer:** Replicated Management Console handles all of the post-installation configuration. Installation-specific configuration is managed by Terraform or Shell scripts.

How are configuration secrets managed?

**Answer:** Configuration secrets are stored in plain-text on the host.

## **Metrics**

What significant metrics will be generated?

Answer: Refer to the Configuration Chapter for details about monitoring and metrics.

How do I find out how many builds per day are running?

**Answer:** 



# **Usage Statistics**

How do I find the usage statistics?

**Answer:** 

```
docker exec server-usage-stats /src/builds/extract
```

## **Health Checks**

How is the health of dependencies (components and systems) assessed? How does the system report its own health?

**Answer:** Ready Agent can be used to determine the health of the system. Replicated looks to the server-ready-agent API for a 200 response. **server-ready-agent** waits to receive a 200 from all listed services, reporting a 5XX until all services come online and then it reports a 200. You can tail the logs to determine current and final state as follows:

```
docker logs -f ready-agent
```

# **Health of Service**

Each documented service provides /health-check, /healthcheck, /status HTTP endpoint: 200 indicates basic health, 500 indicates bad configuration. To determine the health of individual services you must ssh into your Services VM (where all the containers are running) and make the request. The current list of services that expose a check are listed below:

- Frontend localhost:80/health-check
- API Service localhost:8082/status
- Workflows Conductor localhost:9999/healthcheck
- Federations Service localhost:8090/status



- Permissions Service localhost:3013/status
- Context Service localhost:3011/status
- Domain Service localhost:3014/status
- Cron Service localhost:4261/status
- VM Service\* localhost:3001/status
  - ? if enabled

As an example, following is how you would determine if the frontend is healthy:

# **Health of Dependencies**

Use /health HTTP endpoint for internal components that expose it. Other systems and external endpoints: typically use HTTP 200 except some synthetic checks for some services.

# **Operational Tasks**

## **Deployment**

How is the software deployed? How does rollback happen?

**Answer:** CircleCI uses Enterprise-Setup Terraform or Static bash scripts for deployments, Replicated is installed and orchestrates pulling all containers into your VPC. Rollbacks can only occur by reloading a previous backup and are not possible through Replicated.

## **Scaling Events**

What kind of scaling events take place?

**Answer:** Vertically scaling Service and Nomad clients is possible with downtime, Horizontally scaling Nomad Clients is possible without downtime. Refer to the Monitoring section of the Configuration chapter for details.

## **Routine and sanity checks**

What kind of checks need to happen on a regular basis?

Answer: All /health endpoints should be checked every 60 seconds including the Replicated endpoint.

## **Troubleshooting**

How should troubleshooting happen? What tools are available?

#### **Answer:**

It is worth noting two things. First is that the REPL is a extremely powerful tool that can cause irreparable damage to your system when used improperly. We cannot guarantee that any of the repl commands outside



of this guide are safe to run, and do not support custom repl being run in our shell. The second thing is that in order to run any of our commands you'll need to run the following commands below:

- 1. ssh into services box
- 2 run circleci dev-console

If the above does not bring you into a REPL that mentions it is the CircleCI Dev-Console you can run the alternative command.

- 1. ssh into the services box
- 2 Runsudo docker exec -it frontend bash
- 3. Runlein repl :connect 6005

Once you are in the repl, you can copy and paste any of the commands below, and making the necessary substitutions in order to make the command work.

#### **User/Admin Problems:**

#### How do I view all users?

#### Answer:

```
(circle.model.user/where { :$and [{:sign_in_count {:$gte 0}}, {:login
{:$ne nil}}]} :only [:login])
```

#### How do I delete a user?

#### **Answer:**

```
(circle.http.api.admin-commands.user/delete-by-login-vcs-type!
"Sirparthington" :github)
```

#### How do I make a user an admin?

#### Answer:

```
(circle.model.user/set-fields! (circle.model.user/find-one-by-github-
login "your-github-username-here") {:admin "all"})
```

#### How do I get user statistics?

**Answer:** If a if you need some basic statistics (name, email, sign in history) for your users, run the following REPL commands:



#### **All Time**

```
circleci dev-console
(circle.model.user/where {} :only [:name :login :emails :admin
:dev_admin :activated :sign_in_count :current_sign_in_at
:current_sign_in_ip :last_sign_in_at :last_sign_in_ip])
```

#### **Last Month**

```
(circle.model.user/where
   {:last_sign_in_at {:$gt (clj-time.core/minus (clj-time.core/now) (clj-time.core/months 1))}}
   :only
   [:name :login :emails :admin :dev_admin :activated :sign_in_count
:current_sign_in_at :current_sign_in_ip :last_sign_in_at
:last_sign_in_ip])
```

#### How do I create a new admin?

Answer: By default, the first user to access the CCIE instance after it is started becomes the admin.

Options for designating additional admin users are found under the Users page in the Admin section at https://[domain-to-your-installation]/admin/users.

In the event the admin is unknown, or has left the company without creating a new admin, you can promote a user in the following way:

- 1. SSH into the services box
- 2. Open the CircleCI dev console with the command circleci dev-console
- 3. Run this command (replacing \<username\> with the GitHub username of the person you want to promote:

```
(-> (circle.model.user/find-one-by-login "<username>")
  (circle.model.user/set-fields! {:admin "write-settings"}))
```

#### How do I reset the Management Console password?

**Answer:** https://www.replicated.com/docs/kb/supporting-your-customers/resetting-console-password/

- 1. SSH into the services box
- 2. Use the following command: replicated auth reset to remove the password
- 3. Visit https://<server>:8800/create-password to create a new password or connect LDAP.



### **Leftover VMs in Your AWS Account**

#### How do I resolve the case of VM spin-up / spin-down issues?

**Answer:** Make sure no builds are running that require the remote Docker environment or the machine executor, and make sure to terminate any running preallocated/remote VM EC2 instances first. Then, complete the following:

- 1. SSH into the services box
- 2. Log into the VM service database in the Postgres container: sudo docker exec -it postgres psql -U circle vms
- 3. Delete these records: delete from vms.tasks; delete from vms.volumes; delete from vms.vms;
- 4. Configure the settings in the management console to on-demand instancing (for example, set to 0 to prevent preallocated instances from being used)
- 5. Terminate all existing vm ec2 instances that are currently running.
- 6. Run circleci dev-console to REPL in. You should now be able to run the below commands to check queues.
- 7. After checking queues with the commands below, change the setting back to their original values.

### **Queues**

Queues may become an issues for you if you are running version 2.10 or earlier. As 1.0 builds pile up and block any builds from running, run the commands below to get a feeling for how long the queues are. Then, you can promote builds from the usage-queue to the run-queue or just cancel them from the run queue.

### **Checking Usage Queue**

```
(in-ns 'circle.backend.build.usage-queue)
(->> (all-builds) count) # Will give you the count for how many builds
are in the queue
(->> (all-builds) (take 3) (map deref) (map circle.http.paths/build-
url)) # If you want to check the top three builds at the top of the
queue.
(->> (all-builds) reverse (take 3) (map circle.http.paths/build-url)) #
If you want to check the builds at the end of the queue.
# If you want to promote builds from the usage queue to the run queue
you can do the following:
(let [builds (->> (all-builds)
                  (take 3)
                  (map circle.http.paths/build-url)
                  (map circle.model.build/find-one-by-circle-url))]
  (doseq [b builds]
    (circle.backend.build.usage-queue/forward-build b)))
Its safe to do this by the 100's, but do not put the entire queue in.
```

## **Checking Run Queue**

```
(circle.backend.build.run-queue/queue-depths) # returns how many are in
the queue
(->> (circle.backend.build.run-queue/all-builds) (take 3) (map
circle.http.paths/build-url)) # Check the top three builds in the run-
queue

# In case builds are jammed run the following. You can cancel in batches
of 100.
(->> (circle.backend.build.run-queue/all-builds) (take 100) (map
circle.backend.build.cancel/cancel!))
```



Remember to set values back to original in your settings after checking queues.

## **Daylight-saving time changes**

Is the software affected by daylight-saving time changes (both client and server)?

Answer: No. All date/time data converted to UTC with offset before processing.

#### Data cleardown

Which data needs to be cleared down? How often? Which tools or scripts control cleardown?

**Answer:** If using On-Host storage and Static, all storage should be mounted.

## Log rotation

Is log rotation needed? How is it controlled?

Answer: Docker automatically rotates logs.

## **Replicated Failover and Recovery procedures**

What needs to happen when parts of the system are failed over to standby systems? What needs to happen during recovery?

Answer: Refer to the Backup and Troubleshooting sections of this document for details.

# **User Management**

How do I provision admin users?

Answer: The first user who logs in to the CircleCI application will automatically be designated an admin user. Options for designating additional admin users are found under the Users page in the Admin section at https://[domain-to-your-installation]/admin/users.



# **Backup and Recovery**

This chapter describes failover or replacement of the services machine. Refer to the Backup section below for information about possible backup strategies and procedures for implementing a regular backup image or snapshot of the services machine.

# **Disaster Recovery**

Specify a spare machine, in an alternate location, with the same specs for disaster recovery of the services machine. Having a hot spare regularly imaged with the backup snapshot in a failure scenario is best practice.

At the very least, provide systems administrators of the CircleCI installation with the hostname and location (even if co-located) of an equivalent server on which to install a replacement server with the latest snapshot of the services machine configuration. To complete recovery, use the Installation procedure, replacing the image from that procedure with your backup image.

# **Backing up CircleCI Data**

This document describes how to back up your CircleCI application so that you can recover from accidental or unexpected loss of CircleCI data attached to the Services machine:



If you are running CircleCI in an HA configuration, you must use standard backup mechanisms for the external datastores. Contact <a href="mailto:support@circleci.com">support@circleci.com</a> for more information document for more information.

# **Backing up the Database**

If you have **not** configured CircleCI for external services, the best practice for backing up your CircleCI data is to use VM snapshots of the virtual disk acting as the root volume for the Services machine. Backups may be performed without downtime as long the underlying virtual disk supports such an operation as is true with AWS EBS. There is a small risk, that varies by filesystem and distribution, that snapshots taken without a reboot may have some data corruption, but this is rare in practice.



"Snapshots Disabled" refers to Replicated's built-in snapshot feature that is turned off by default.

# **Backing up Object Storage**

Build artifacts, output, and caches are generally stored in object storage services like AWS S3. These services are considered highly redundant and are unlikely to require separate backup. An exception is if your instance is setup to store large objects locally on the Services machine, either directly on-disk or on an NFS volume. In this case, you must separately back these files up and ensure they are mounted back to the same location on restore.

# **Snapshotting on AWS EBS**

There are a few features of AWS EBS snapshots that make the backup process quite easy:



- 1. To take a manual backup, choose the instance in the EC2 console and select Actions > Image > Create Image.
- 2. Select the No reboot option if you want to avoid downtime. An AMI that can be readily launched as a new EC2 instance for restore purposes is created.

It is also possible to automate this process with the AWS API. Subsequent AMIs/snapshots are only as large as the difference (changed blocks) since the last snapshot, such that storage costs are not necessarily larger for more frequent snapshots, see Amazon's EBS snapshot billing document for details.

# **Restoring From Backup**

When restoring test backups or performing a restore in production, you may need to make a couple of changes on the newly launched instance if its public or private IP addresses have changed:

- 1. Launch a fresh EC2 instance using the newly generated AMI from the previous steps
- 2. Stop the app in the Management Console (at port 8800) if it is already running
- 3. Ensure that the hostname configured in the Management Console at port 8800 reflects the correct address. If this hostname has changed, you will also need to change it in the corresponding GitHub OAuth application settings or create a new OAuth app to test the recovery and log in to the application.
- 4. Update any references to the backed-up instance's public and private IP addresses in /etc/default/replicated and /etc/default/replicated-operator on Debian/Ubuntu or /etc/sysconfig/\* in RHEL/CentOS to the new IP addresses.
- 5. From the root directory of the Services box, run sudo rm -rf /opt/nomad. State is saved in the /opt/nomad folder that can interfere with builds running when an installation is restored from a backup. The folder and its contents will be regenerated by Nomad when it starts.
- 6. Restart the app in the Management Console at port 8800.

# **Cleaning up Build Records**

While filesystem-level data integrity issues are rare and preventable, there will likely be some data anomalies in a point-in-time backup taken while builds are running on the system. For example, a build that is only half-way finished at backup time may result in missing the latter half of its command output, and it may permanently show that it is in Running state in the application.

If you want to clean up any abnormal build records in your database after a recovery, you can delete them by running the following commands on the Services machine replacing the example build URL with an actual URL from your CircleCI application:

```
$ circleci dev-console
# Wait for console to load
user=> (admin/delete-build "https://my-circleci-hostname.com/gh/my-
org/my-project/1234")
```



# Security

This document outlines security features built into CircleCI and related integrations.

### **Overview**

Security is our top priority at CircleCI, we are proactive and we act on security issues immediately. Report security issues to security@circleci.com with an encrypted message using our security team's GPG key (ID: 0x4013DDA7, fingerprint: 3CD2 A48F 2071 61C0 B9B7 1AE2 6170 15B8 4013 DDA7).

# **Encryption**

CircleCI uses HTTPS or SSH for all networking in and out of our service including from the browser to our services application, from the services application to your builder fleet, from our builder fleet to your source control system, and all other points of communication. In short, none of your code or data travels to or from CircleCI without being encrypted unless you have code in your builds that does so at your discretion. Operators may also choose to go around our SSL configuration or not use TLS for communicating with underlying systems.

The nature of CircleCI is that our software has access to your code and whatever data that code interacts with. All jobs on CircleCI run in a sandbox (specifically, a Docker container or an ephemeral VM) that stands alone from all other builds and is not accessible from the Internet or from your own network. The build agent pulls code via git over SSH. Your particular test suite or job configurations may call out to external services or integration points within your network, and the response from such calls will be pulled into your jobs and used by your code at your discretion. After a job is complete, the container that ran the job is destroyed and rebuilt. All environment variables are encrypted using Hashicorp Vault. Environment variables are encrypted using AES256-GCM96 and are unavailable to CircleCI employees.

# **Sandboxing**

With CircleCI you control the resources allocated to run the builds of your code. This will be done through instances of our builder boxes that set up the containers in which your builds will run. By their nature, build containers will pull down source code and run whatever test and deployment scripts are part of the code base or your configuration. The containers are sandboxed, each created and destroyed for one build only (or one slice of a parallel build), and they are not available from outside themselves. The CircleCI service provides the ability to SSH directly to a particular build container. When doing this a user will have complete access to any files or processes being run inside that build container, so provide access to CircleCI only to those also trusted with your source code.

# **Integrations**

A few different external services and technology integration points touch CircleCI. The following list enumerates those integration points.

• Web Sockets We use Pusher client libraries for WebSocket communication between the server and the browser, though for installs we use an internal server called slanger, so Pusher servers have no access to your instance of CircleCI nor your source control system. This is how we, for instance, update the builds list dynamically or show the output of a build line-by-line as it occurs. We send build status and lines of your build output through the web socket server (which unless you have configured your installation to



run without SSL is done using the same certs over SSL), so it is encrypted in transit.

- Replicated We use Replicated to manage the installation wizard, licensing keys, system audit logs, software updates, and other maintenance and systems tasks for CircleCI. Your instance of CircleCI communicates with Replicated servers to send license key information and version information to check for updates. Replicated does not have access to your data or other systems, and we do not send any of your data to Replicated.
- Source Control Systems To use CircleCI you will set up a direct connection with your instance of GitHub Enterprise or GitHub.com. When you set up CircleCI you authorize the system to check out your private repositories. You may revoke this permission at any time through your GitHub application settings page and by removing Circle's Deploy Keys and Service Hooks from your repositories' Admin pages. While CircleCI allows you to selectively build your projects, GitHub's permissions model is "all or nothing" CircleCI gets permission to access all of a user's repositories or none of them. Your instance of CircleCI will have access to anything hosted in those git repositories and will create webhooks for a variety of events (eg: when code is pushed, when a user is added, etc.) that will call back to CircleCI, triggering one or more git commands that will pull down code to your build fleet.
- **Dependency and Source Caches** Most CircleCI customers use S3 or equivalent cloud-based storage inside their private cloud infrastructure (Amazon VPC, etc) to store their dependency and source caches. These storage servers are subject to the normal security parameters of anything stored on such services, meaning in most cases our customers prevent any outside access.
- Artifacts It is common to use S3 or similar hosted storage for artifacts. Assuming these resources are secured per your normal policies they are as safe from any outside intrusion as any other data you store there.
- iOS Builds If you are paying to run iOS builds on CircleCI hardware your source code will be downloaded to a build box on our macOS fleet where it will be compiled and any tests will be run. Similar to our primary build containers that you control, the iOS builds we run are sandboxed such that they cannot be accessed.

# **Audit Logs**

The Audit Log feature is only available for CircleCI installed on your servers or private cloud.

CircleCI logs important events in the system for audit and forensic analysis purposes. Audit logs are separate from system logs that track performance and network metrics.

Complete Audit logs may be downloaded from the Audit Log page within the Admin section of the application as a CSV file. Audit log fields with nested data contain JSON blobs.

**Note:** In some situations, the internal machinery may generate duplicate events in the audit logs. The **id** field of the downloaded logs is unique per event and can be used to identify duplicate entries.

## **Audit Log Events**

Following are the system events that are logged. See action in the Field section below for the definition and format.

- context.create
- context.delete



- context.env\_var.delete
- context.env\_var.store
- project.env\_var.create
- project.env\_var.delete
- · project.settings.update
- user.create
- user.logged\_in
- user.logged\_out
- workflow.job.approve
- workflow.job.finish
- · workflow.job.scheduled
- workflow.job.start

## **Audit Log Fields**

- action: The action taken that created the event. The format is ASCII lowercase words separated by dots, with the entity acted upon first and the action taken last. In some cases entities are nested, for example, workflow.job.start.
- actor: The actor who performed this event. In most cases this will be a CircleCl user. This data is a JSON blob that will always contain id and and type and will likely contain name.
- target: The entity instance acted upon for this event, for example, a project, an org, an account, or a build. This data is a JSON blob that will always contain id and and type and will likely contain name.
- payload: A JSON blob of action-specific information. The schema of the payload is expected to be consistent for all events with the same action and version.
- occurred\_at: When the event occurred in UTC expressed in ISO-8601 format with up to nine digits of fractional precision, for example '2017-12-21T13:50:54.474Z'.
- metadata: A set of key/value pairs that can be attached to any event. All keys and values are strings. This can be used to add additional information to certain types of events.
- id: A UUID that uniquely identifies this event. This is intended to allow consumers of events to identify duplicate deliveries.
- version: Version of the event schema. Currently the value will always be 1. Later versions may have different values to accommodate schema changes.
- scope: If the target is owned by an Account in the CircleCI domain model, the account field should be filled in with the Account name and ID. This data is a JSON blob that will always contain id and type and will likely contain name.
- success: A flag to indicate if the action was successful.
- request: If this event was triggered by an external request this data will be populated and may be used to connect events that originate from the same external request. The format is a JSON blob containing id (the request ID assigned to this request by CircleCI), ip\_address (the original IP address in IPV4 dotted notation from which the request was made, eg. 127.0.0.1), and client\_trace\_id (the client trace ID



 $header, if\ present, from\ the\ 'X-Client-Trace-Id'\ HTTP\ header\ of\ the\ original\ request).$ 



# **Troubleshooting Server Installations**

This document describes an initial set of troubleshooting steps to take if you are having problems with your CircleCI installation on your private server. If your issue is not addressed below, please generate a support bundle and contact our Support Engineers by opening a support ticket.

## **Debugging Queuing Builds**

If your Services component is fine, but builds are not running, or all builds are queueing, follow the steps below.

### 1. Check Dispatcher Logs for Errors

Run sudo docker logs dispatcher, if you see log output that is free of errors you may continue on the next step.

If the logs dispatcher container does not exist or is down, start it by running the sudo docker start <container\_name > command and monitor the progress. The following output indicates that the logs dispatcher is up and running correctly:

```
Jan 4 22:38:38.589:+0000 INFO circle.backend.build.run-queue dispatcher mode is on - no need for

run-queue
Jan 4 22:38:38.589:+0000 INFO circle.backend.build.usage-queue
5a4ea0047d560d00011682dc:

GERey/realitycheck/37 -> forwarded to run-queue
Jan 4 22:38:38.589:+0000 INFO circle.backend.build.usage-queue
5a4ea0047d560d00011682dc: publishing

:usage-changed (:recur) event

Jan 4 22:38:39.069:+0000 INFO circle.backend.build.usage-queue got
usage-queue event for

5a4ea0047d560d00011682dc (finished-build)
```

If you see errors or do not see the above output, investigate the stack traces because they indicate that there is an issue with routing builds from 1.0 to 2.0. If there are errors in the output, then you may have a problem with routing builds to 1.0 or 2.0 builds.

If you can run 1.0 builds, but not 2.0 builds, or if you can only run 2.0 builds and the log dispatcher is up and running, continue on to the next steps.



#### 2. Check Picard-Dispatcher Logs for Errors

Run the sudo docker logs picard-dispatcher command. A healthy picard-dispatcher should output the following:

```
Jan 9 19:32:33 INFO picard-dispatcher.init Still running...
Jan 9 19:34:33 INFO picard-dispatcher.init Still running...
Jan 9 19:34:44 INFO picard-dispatcher.core taking build
=GERey/realitycheck/38
Jan 9 19:34:45 INFO circle.http.builds project GERey/realitycheck at revision

2c6179654541ee3d succcessfully fetched and parsed .circleci/config.yml
picard-dispatcher.tasks build GERey/realitycheck/38 is using resource

class {:cpu 2.0, :ram 4096, :class :medium}
picard-dispatcher.tasks Computed tasks for build=GERey/realitycheck/38,

stage=:write_artifacts, parallel=1
Jan 9 19:34:45 INFO picard-dispatcher.tasks build has matching jobs:

build=GERey/realitycheck/38 parsed=:write_artifacts passed
=:write_artifacts
```

The output should be filled with the above messages. If it is a slow day and builds are not happening very often, the output will appear as follows:

```
Jan 9 19:32:33.629:+0000 INFO picard-dispatcher.init Still running...
```

As soon as you run a build, you should see the above message to indicate that it has been dispatched to the scheduler. If you do not see the above output or you have a stack trace in the picard-dispatcher container, contact support@circleci.com.

If you run a 2.0 build and do not see a message in the picard-dispatcher log output, it often indicates that a job is getting lost between the dispatcher and the picard dispatcher.

Stop and restart the CircleCI app in the Management Console at port 8800 to re-establish the connection between the two containers.

#### 3. Check Picard-Scheduler Logs for Errors

Run sudo docker logs picard-scheduler. The picard-scheduler schedules jobs and sends them



to nomad through a direct connection. It does not actually handle queuing of the jobs in CircleCI.

#### 4. Check Nomad Node Status

Check to see if there are any nomad nodes by running the nomad node-status -allocs command and viewing the following output:

ID DC	Name	Class	Drain	Status	
Running Allocs					
ec2727c5 us-east-1	ip-127-0-0-1	linux-64bit	false	ready	0

If you do not see any nomad clients listed, please consult our <nomad#,Introduction to Nomad Cluster Operation> for more detailed information on managing and troubleshooting the nomad server.



DC in the output stands for datacenter and will always print us-east-1 and should be left as such. It doesn't affect or break anything. The things that are the most important are the Drain, Status, and Allocs columns.

- Drain If Drain is true then CircleCI will not route jobs to that nomad client. It is possible to change this value by running the following command nomad node-drain [options] <node>. If you set Drain to true, it will finish the jobs that were currently running and then stop accepting builds. After the number of allocations reaches 0, it is safe to terminate instance. If Drain is set to false it means the node is accepting connections and should be getting builds.
- Status If Status is ready then it is ready to accept builds and should be wired up correctly. If it is not wired up correctly it will not show ready and it should be investigated because a node that is not showing ready in the Status will not accept builds.
- Allocs Allocs is a term used to refer to builds. So, the number of Running Allocs is the number of builds running on a single node. This number indicates whether builds are routing. If all of the Builders have Running Allocs, but your job is still queued, that means you do not have enough capacity and you need to add more Builders to your fleet.

If you see output like the above, but your builds are still queued, then continue to the next step.

#### 5. Check Job Processing Status

Run the sudo docker exec -it nomad nomad status command to view the jobs that are currently being processed. It should list the status of each job as well as the ID of the job, as follows:

ID	Туре	Priority
Status 5a4ea06b7d560d000116830f-0-build-GERey-realitycheck-1 dead	batch	50
5a4ea0c9fa4f8c0001b6401b-0-build-GERey-realitycheck-2 dead	batch	50
5a4ea0cafa4f8c0001b6401c-0-build-GERey-realitycheck-3 dead	batch	50

After a job has completed, the Status shows dead. This is a regular state for jobs. If the status shows running, the job is currently running. This should appear in the CircleCI app builds dashboard. If it is not appearing in the app, there may be a problem with the output-processor. Run the docker logs picard-output-processor command and check the logs for any obvious stack traces.

- If the job is in a constant pending state with no allocations being made, run the sudo docker exec

   it nomad nomad status JOB\_ID command to see where Nomad is stuck and then refer to
   standard Nomad Cluster error documentation for information.
- If the job is running/dead but the CircelCI app shows nothing:
  - Check the Nomad job logs by running the sudo docker exec -it nomad nomad logs --stderr --job JOB\_ID command.
  - Run the picard-output-processor command to check those logs for specific errors.



The use of **--stderr** is to print the specific error if one exists.

# Jobs stay in queued status until they fail and never successfully run

If the nomad client logs contain the following error message typw, check port 8585:

```
{"error":"rpc error: code = Unavailable desc = grpc: the connection is unavailable", "level":"warning", "msg":"error fetching config, retrying", "time":"2018-04-17T18:47:01Z"}
```

# Why is the cache failing to unpack?

If a **restore\_cache** step is failing for one of your jobs, it is worth checking the size of the cache - you can view the cache size from the CircleCI Jobs page within the **restore\_cache** step. We recommend keeping cache sizes under 500MB – this is our upper limit for corruption checks because above this limit check times would be excessively long. Larger cache sizes are allowed but may cause problems due to a higher chance of decompression issues and corruption during download. To keep cache sizes down, consider splitting into multiple distinct caches.



## How do I get round the API service being impacted by a high thread count

Disable cache warming by completing the following steps:

- 1. Add the export DOMAIN\_SERVICE\_REFRESH\_USERS=false flag to the `/etc/circleconfig/api-service/customizations file on the Services machine. For more information on configuration overrides, see <server-config-overrides#\_server\_config\_overrides, Server Config Overrides>.
- 2. Restart CircleCI:
  - 1. Navigate to the Management Console
  - 2. Click Stop Now and wait for it to stop
  - 3. Click Start

# Frequently Asked Questions

This chapter answers frequently asked questions and provides installation troubleshooting tips.

## Can I move or change my GitHub Enterprise URL without downtime?

No, because of the nature of CircleCI integration with GitHub authentication, you should not change the domain of your GHE instance after CircleCI is in production. Redeploying GitHub without will result in a corrupted CircleCI instance. Contact support if you plan to move your GitHub instance.

### Can I monitor available build containers?

Yes, refer to the Introduction to Nomad Cluster Operation section for details. Refer to the Monitoring Your Installation section for how to enable additional container monitoring for AWS.

## How do I provision admin users?

The first user who logs in to the CircleCI application will automatically be designated an admin user. Options for designating additional admin users are found under the Users page in the Admin section at <a href="https://[domain-to-your-installation]/admin/users">https://[domain-to-your-installation]/admin/users</a>.

## **How can I gracefully shutdown Nomad Clients?**

Refer to the Introduction to Nomad Cluster Operation chapter for details.

## Why is Test GitHub Authentication failing?

This means that the GitHub Enterprise server is not returning the intermediate SSL certificates. Check your GitHub Enterprise instance with <a href="https://www.ssllabs.com/ssltest/analyze.html">https://www.ssllabs.com/ssltest/analyze.html</a> – it may report some missing intermediate certs. You can use commands like <a href="https://www.ssltest/analyze.html">openssl</a> to get the full certificate chain for your server.

In some cases authentication fails when returning to the configuration page after it was successfully set up once. This is because the secret is encrypted, so when returning checking it will fail.

#### How can I use HTTPS to access CircleCI?

While CircleCI creates a self-signed cert when starting up, that certificate only applies to the management console and not the CircleCI product itself. If you want to use HTTPS, you'll have to provide certificates to use under the Privacy section of the settings in the management console.

### Why doesn't terraform destroy every resource?

CircleCI sets the services box to have termination protection in AWS and also writes to an s3 bucket. If you want terraform to destroy every resource, you'll have to either manually delete the instance, or turn off termination protection in the circleci.tf file. You'll also need to empty the s3 bucket that was created as part of the terraform install.



## Do the Nomad Clients store any state?

They can be torn down without worry as they don't persist any data.

## How do I verify TLS settings are failing?

Make sure that your keys are in unencrypted PEM format, and that the certificate includes the entire chain of trust as follows:

```
----BEGIN CERTIFICATE----
your_domain_name.crt
----END CERTIFICATE----
intermediate 1
----END CERTIFICATE----
----BEGIN CERTIFICATE----
intermediate 2
----END CERTIFICATE----
```

## How do I debug the Management Console (Replicated)?

The CircleCI management console is powered by Replicated. If you are experiencing any issues with the Management Console, here are a few ways to debug it:

#### 1. Check you have Replicated installed

First, make sure you have the CLI tool for Replicated installed by running the following:

```
replicated -version
```

## 2. Restart Replicated and the CircleCl app

Try restarting Replicated services. You can do this by running the following commands on the service box, for Ubuntu 14.04:

```
sudo service replicated-ui restart
sudo service replicated restart
sudo service replicated-operator restart
```

For Ubuntu 16.04, run the following commands:

```
sudo systemctl restart replicated-ui
sudo systemctl restart replicated
sudo systemctl restart replicated-operator
```

Then try restarting the CircleCi app: go to your services box admin (for example, https://<your-circleci-hostname>.com:8800) and try restarting with "Stop Now" and "Start Now".

## 3. Try to log into Replicated

Try logging in to Replicated. You can do this by running the following command on the service box. You will be asked to enter your password - the same one used to unlock the Management Console (i.e. https://<your-circleci-hostname>.com:8800).

```
replicated login
```

If you could login, then run the following command and send the output to us at support@circleci.com so we can help diagnose what is causing the problem you are experiencing.

```
sudo replicated apps
```

If you were seeing the following error: request returned Unauthorized for API route this could be because you are not logged into Replicated, so please check if you are still getting the error after a successful login.

### 4. Check Replicated logs

You can find Replicated logs on the Services machine under /var/log/replicated.

#### 5. Check what Docker containers are currently running

Replicated starts many Docker containers to run CircleCl Server, so it can be useful to check what containers are running.

To check what containers are currently running, run sudo docker ps and you should see something similar to this output:

\$ sudo docker ps

CONTAINER ID IMAGE

COMMAND CREATED STATUS PORTS

NAMES

eb2970306859 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-api-service:0.1.6910
8b54ef9 "circleci-service-run" 26 hours



```
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:32872->80/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32871-
>443/tcp, 0.0.0.0:8082->3000/tcp,
0.0.0.0:32870->6010/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32869->8585/tcp
api-service
01d26714f5f5 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-workflows-
conductor:0.1.38931-1a904bc8 "/service/docker-ent..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:9998->9998/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32868-
>80/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32867->443/tcp,
0.0.0.0:9999->3000/tcp, 0.0.0:32866->8585/tcp
workflows-conductor
Occ6e4248cfb 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-permissions-
service:0.1.1195-b617002 "/service/docker-ent..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0:3013->3000/tcp
permissions-service
9e6efc98b7d6 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-cron-service:0.1.680-
1fcd8d2 "circleci-service-run" 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:4261->4261/tcp
cron-service
8c40bd1cecf6 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-federations-
service:0.1.1134-72edcbc "/service/docker-ent..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:3145->3145/tcp, 0.0.0.0:8010-
>8010/tcp, 0.0.0.0:8090->8090/tcp
federations-service
71c71941684f 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-contexts-
service:0.1.6073-5275cd5 "./docker-entrypoint..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:2718->2718/tcp, 0.0.0.0:3011-
>3011/tcp, 0.0.0.0:8091->8091/tcp
contexts-service
71ffeb230a90 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-domain-service:0.1.4040-
         "/service/docker-ent..." 26 hours
eb63b67
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:3014->3000/tcp
domain-service
eb22d3c10dd8 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-audit-log-
service:0.1.587-fa47042 "circleci-service-run" 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours
audit-log-service
243d9082e35c
                  172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-frontend:0.1.203321-
501fada
                    "/docker-entrypoint..." 26 hours
```

```
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:80->80/tcp, 0.0.0.0:443->443/tcp,
0.0.0.0:4434->4434/tcp
frontend
af34ca3346a7 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-picard-
dispatcher:0.1.10401-aa50e85 "circleci-service-run" 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours
picard-dispatcher
fb0ee1b02d48 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-vm-service:0.1.1370-
                   "vm-service-service-..." 26 hours ago Up 26
ad05648
hours 0.0.0:3001->3000/tcp
vm-service
3708dc80c63e
                172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-vm-scaler:0.1.1370-
ad05648
                 "/scaler-entrypoint..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0:32865->5432/tcp
vm-scaler
77bc9d0b4ac9 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-vm-gc:0.1.1370-ad05648
"docker-entrypoint.s.." 26 hours
     Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:32864->5432/tcp
ago
vm-qc
4b02f202a05d 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-output-
processing:0.1.10386-741e1d1 "output-processor-se..." 26 hours
        Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:8585->8585/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32863-
>80/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32862->443/tcp
picard-output-processor
b8f982d32989 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-frontend:0.1.203321-
501fada
                   "/docker-entrypoint..." 26 hours ago Up 26
hours 0.0.0.0:32861->80/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32860->443/tcp,
0.0.0.0:32859->4434/tcp
dispatcher
601c363a0c38 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-frontend:0.1.203321-
501fada
                  "/docker-entrypoint..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours
                           0.0.0.0:32858->80/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32857-
>443/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32856->4434/tcp
legacy-notifier
f2190c5f3aa9 172.31.72.162:9874/mongo:3.6.6-jessie "/entrypoint.sh" 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0:27017->27017/tcp
mongo
3cbbd959f42e 172.31.72.162:9874/telegraf:1.6.4
"/telegraf-entrypoin..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:8125->8125/udp, 0.0.0.0:32771-
```



```
>8092/udp, 0.0.0.0:32855->8094/tcp
telegraf
15b090e8cc02 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-schedulerer:0.1.10388-
                 "circleci-service-run" 26 hours
741e1d1
ago Up 26 hours
picard-scheduler
fb967bd3bca0 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-server-nomad:0.5.6-5.1
"/nomad-entrypoint.sh" 26 hours
   Up 26 hours 0.0.0:4646-4648->4646-4648/tcp
ago
nomad
7e0743ee2bfc 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-test-results:0.1.1136-
                "circleci-service-run" 26 hours
b4d94f6
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:2719->2719/tcp, 0.0.0.0:3012-
>3012/tcp
test-results
0a95802c87dc 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-slanger:0.4.117-42f7e6c
"/docker-entrypoint..." 26 hours
     Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:4567->4567/tcp, 0.0.0.0:8081-
>8080/tcp
slanger
ca445870a057 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-postgres-script-
enhance:0.1.9-38edabf "docker-entrypoint.s.." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours
                       0.0.0.0:5432->5432/tcp
postgres
a563a228a93a 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-server-ready-
agent:0.1.105-0193c73 "/server-ready-agent" 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:8099->8000/tcp
ready-agent
d6f9aaae5cf2 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-server-usage-
                    "bash -c /src/entryp..." 26 hours
stats:0.1.122-70f28aa
ago Up 26 hours
usage-stats
086a53d9a1a5 registry.replicated.com/library/statsd-
                           "/usr/bin/supervisor..." 26 hours
graphite:0.3.7
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:32851->2443/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32770-
>8125/udp
replicated-statsd
cc5e062844be 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-shutdown-hook-
poller:0.1.32-9c553b4
                        "/usr/local/bin/pyth..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours
musing_volhard
```



```
9609f04c2203 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-rabbitmq-delayed:3.6.6-
management-12 "docker-entrypoint.s..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:5672->5672/tcp, 0.0.0.0:15672-
>15672/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32850->4369/tcp, 0.0.0:32849->5671/tcp,
0.0.0.0:32848->15671/tcp, 0.0.0.0:32847->25672/tcp rabbitmq
2bc0cfe43639 172.31.72.162:9874/tutum-logrotate:latest
"crond -f"
                    26 hours
ago Up 26 hours
hardcore_cray
             172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-vault-cci:0.3.8-e2823f6
79aa857e23b4
"./docker-entrypoint..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:8200-8201->8200-8201/tcp
vault-cci
b3e317c9d62f 172.31.72.162:9874/redis:4.0.10
"docker-entrypoint.s..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0:6379->6379/tcp
redis
f2d3f77891f0 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-nomad-metrics:0.1.90-
1448fa7 "/usr/local/bin/dock..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours
nomad-metrics
1947a7038f24 172.31.72.162:9874/redis:4.0.10
"docker-entrypoint.s..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0:32846->6379/tcp
slanger-redis
3899237a5782 172.31.72.162:9874/circleci-exim:0.2.54-697cd08
"/docker-entrypoint..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:2525->25/tcp
exim
97ebdb831a7e registry.replicated.com/library/retraced:1.2.2
"/src/replicated-aud..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 3000/tcp
retraced-processor
a0b806f3fad2 registry.replicated.com/library/retraced:1.2.2
"/src/replicated-aud..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 172.17.0.1:32771->3000/tcp
retraced-api
19dec5045f6e registry.replicated.com/library/retraced:1.2.2
"/bin/sh -c '/usr/lo..." 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 3000/tcp
retraced-cron
```



```
registry.replicated.com/library/retraced-
7b83a3a193da
postgres:10.5-20181009
                         "docker-entrypoint.s..." 26 hours
         Up 26 hours
                           5432/tcp
retraced-postgres
029e8f454890
               registry.replicated.com/library/retraced-nsq:v1.0.0-
compat-20180619 "/bin/sh -c nsqd"
                                      26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 4150-4151/tcp, 4160-4161/tcp, 4170-
4171/tcp
retraced-nsqd
500619f53e80 quay.io/replicated/replicated-operator:current
"/usr/bin/replicated..." 26 hours
         Up 26 hours
ago
replicated-operator
e1c752b4bd6c quay.io/replicated/replicated:current
"entrypoint.sh -d" 26 hours
ago Up 26 hours 0.0.0.0:9874-9879->9874-9879/tcp
replicated
1668846c1c7a quay.io/replicated/replicated-ui:current
"/usr/bin/replicated..." 26 hours
        Up 26 hours
ago
                           0.0.0.0:8800->8800/tcp
replicated-ui
f958cf3e8762 registry.replicated.com/library/premkit:1.2.0
"/usr/bin/premkit da..." 3 weeks
ago Up 26 hours 80/tcp, 443/tcp, 2080/tcp, 0.0.0.0:9880-
>2443/tcp
replicated-premkit
```

Providing support@circleci.com with the output of sudo docker ps from the Services machine will help us diagnose the cause of your problem.

# **Customization and Configuration**

The following sections summarize the key files and variables that impact CircleCl Server behavior, and configuration options for your Server installation.

#### **Notable Files & Folders**

Need	Path	More info
General Config	/etc/circle-installation-customizations	See table below for values
JVM Heap Sizes	/etc/circleconfig/XXXX/cu stomizations Supports: frontend, test_results	Adjust heap size for individual containers with JVM_HEAP_SIZE
Custom CA Certs	/usr/local/share/ca- certificates/	
Container Customizations	<pre>/etc/circleconfig/XXX/cus tomizations</pre>	Used lots of places in replicated
/etc/hosts	/etc/hosts	Respected by several containers including frontend, copied to container's /etc/hosts
/etc/environment	/etc/environment	Respected by all containers

## Properties of /etc/circle-installation-customizations



Every property should be in the format export ENV\_VAR="value"

Property	Impact	More info
CIRCLE_URL	Override the scheme and host that CircleCI uses	
JVM_HEAP_SIZE	Set JVM heap size for <b>all</b> containers reading this property	Use container specific settings when possible (see files above)

## **Other Properties and Env Vars**

Property	Impact	More info
HTTP_PROXY, NO_PROXY	Proxy for replicated and other services outside CircleCl containers to use	



### **Service Configuration Overrides**

This section describes the configuration interface for overriding services in CircleCI Server.



Customizing your configuration can have potentially damaging consequences, so we recommend contacting support@circleci.com for guidance before making any changes.

Configuration is done by exporting environment variables in files located on the Services machine.

Consider the file "customizations" created at the following path /etc/circleconfig/workflows-conductor:

```
export F00="bar"
```

The value of FOO will take precedence over the default values set in the default container mapping in the CircleCI Server configuration.

#### **Available Overrides**

```
/etc/circleconfig/api-service/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/audit-log-service/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/contexts-service-db-migrator/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/contexts-service/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/cron-service-db-migrator/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/cron-service/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/domain-service-migrator/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/domain-service/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/federations-service-db-migrator/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/federations-service-migrator/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/frontend/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/output-processor/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/permissions-service-migrator/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/permissions-service/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/picard-dispatcher/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/schedulerer/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/test-results/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/vm-gc/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/vm-scaler/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/vm-service-db-migrator/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/vm-service/customizations
/etc/circleconfig/workflows-conductor/customizations
```



#### **Login Screen**

You can add a banner to your login screen as follows:

- 1. Access the file: /etc/circleconfig/frontend/customizations on the Services machine
- 2. Add the following line, substituting the text you wish to display in the banner:

```
export CIRCLE__OUTER__LOGIN_BANNER_MESSAGE="<insert-your-message-
here>
```

3. Restart CircleCI from the Management Console (your-circleci-hostname.com:8800)

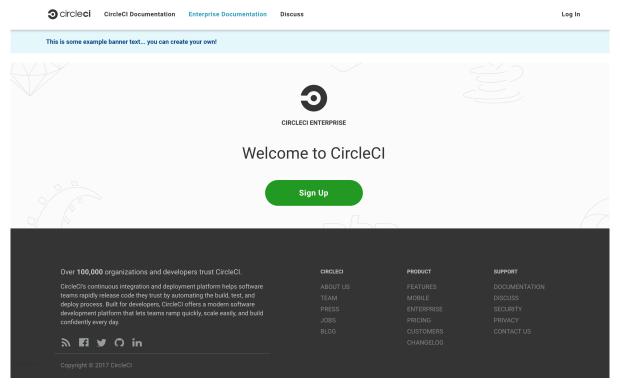


Figure 17. Login Screen Banner Example

# CircleCI Server Container Architecture

This document outlines the containerized services that run on the Services machine within a CircleCI Server installation. This is provided both to give an overview of service operation, and to help with troubleshooting in the event of service outages. Supplementary notes and a key are provided below the following table.

#### **Notes**

• Database migrator services are listed here with a low failure severity as they only run at startup, however:



if migrator services are down at startup connected services will fail

• With a platinum support contract some services can be externalized (marked with \* here) and managed to suit your requirements. Externalization provides higher data security and allows for redundancy to be built into your system.

#### key

Icon	Description
$\odot$	Failure has a minor affect on production - no loss of data or functioning.
<b>A</b>	Failure might cause issues with some jobs, but no loss of data.
î	Failure can cause loss of data, corruption of jobs/workflows, major loss of functionality.

## **Containers, Roles, Failure Modes and Startup Dependencies**

Container / Image	Role	What happens if it fails?	Failure severity	Startup dependencies
api-service	Provides a GraphQL API that provides much of the data to render the web frontend.	Many parts of the UI (e.g. Contexts) will fail completely.	î	postgres, frontend, contexts- service- migrator, contexts- service, vault- cci
audit-log- service	Persists audit log events to blob storage for long term storage.	Some events may not be recorded.	$\odot$	postgres, frontend

Container / Image	Role	What happens if it fails?	Failure severity	Startup dependencies
contexts- service	Stores and provides encrypted contexts.	All builds using Contexts will fail.	<b>A</b>	postgres, frontend, contexts- service- migrator, vault- cci
contexts- service- migrator	Runs postgresql migrations for the contexts- service	Only runs at startup.	$\odot$	postgres, frontend
cron-service	Triggers scheduled workflows.	Scheduled workflows will not run.		postgres, frontend, cron- service- migrator
cron-service- migrator	Runs postgresql migrations for the cron-service.	Only runs at startup.	$\odot$	postgres, frontend
domain-service	Stores and provides information about our domain model.	Workflows will fail to start and some REST API calls may fail causing 500 errors in the CircleCI UI.		postgres, frontend, domain-service- migrator
domain-service- migrator	Runs postgresql migrations for the domain-service.	Only runs at startup.	$\odot$	postgres, frontend
exim	Mail Transfer Agent (MTA) used to send all outbound SMTP.	No email notifications will be sent.	$\odot$	None
federation- service	Stores user identities (LDAP)	If LDAP authentication is in use, all logins will fail and some REST API calls might fail.	Tonly if LDAP in use	postgres, frontend, federations- service- migrator
federation- service- migrator	Runs postgresql migrations for the federations- service.	Only runs at statup.	$\odot$	postgres, frontend



Container / Image	Role	What happens if it fails?	Failure severity	Startup dependencies
fileserved	File storage service used as a replacement for S3 when CircleCl Server is run outside of AWS. Not used if Server is configured to use S3. Stores step output logs, artifacts, test results, caches and workspaces.	If not using S3, builds will produce no outputand some REST API calls might fail.	if not using \$3	None
frontend	CircleCl web app and www-api proxy.	The UI and REST API will be unavailable and no jobs will be triggered by Github/Enterprise. Running builds will be OK but no updates will be seen.		postgres
mongo*	Mongo data store.	Potential total data loss. All running builds will fail and the UI will not work.	Ť	mongodb- upgrader
nomad-metrics	Queries the nomad server for stats and sends them to statsd.	Nomad metrics will be lost, but everything else should run as normal.	⊗	None
output- processor/ output- processing	Receives job output & status updates and writes them to MongoDB. Also provides an API to running jobs to access caches, workspaces, store caches, workspaces, artifacts, & test results.	All running builds will either fail or be left in an unfixable, inconsistent state. There will also be data loss in terms of step output, test results and artifacts.		None

Container / Image	Role	What happens if it fails?	Failure severity	Startup dependencies
permissions- service	Provides the CircleCI permissions interface.	Workflows will fail to start and some REST API calls may fail, causing 500 errors in the UI.	<b>A</b>	postgres, frontend, permissions- service- migrator
permissions- service- migrator	Runs postgresql migrations for the permissions- service	Only runs at startup.	$\odot$	postgres, frontend
picard- dispatcher	Splits a job into tasks and sends them to schedulerer to be run.	No jobs will be sent to Nomad, the run queue will increase in size but there should be no meaningful loss of data.		None
postgres/ postgres- script-enhance*	Basic postgresql with enhancements for creating required databases when containers are launched.	Potential total data loss. All running builds will fail and the UI will not work	Ť	None
<pre>rabbitmq/ rabbitmq- delayed*</pre>	Runs the RabbitMQ server. Most of our services use RabbitMQ for queueing.	Potential total data loss. All running builds will fail and the UI will not work.		None
outputRunningRe dis/redis*	The Redis key/value store.	Lose output from currently-running job steps. API calls out to github may also fail.	<b>A</b>	None
schedulerer	Sends tasks to server-nomad to run. \	No jobs will be sent to Nomad, the run queue will increase in size but there should be no meaningful loss of data.	<b>A</b>	None

Container / Image	Role	What happens if it fails?	Failure severity	Startup dependencies
mongodb- upgrader/ server-mongo- upgrader	Used to run any mongo conversion/upgrade scripts during mongo version upgrade.	Not required to run all the time \	$\odot$	None
nomad_server/ server-nomad*	Nomad primary service.	No 2.0 build jobs will run.	Ť	None
ready-agent/ server-ready- agent	Called by Replicated to check whether other containers are ready.	startup. If	⊘	None
server-usage- stats	Sends the user count to the internal CircleCI "phone home" endpoint.	CircleCI will not receive usage stats for your install but no affect on operation.	⊘	None
shutdown-hook- poller	Checks the frontend container for 1.0 Builder shutdown requests. If a request is found, the 1.0 Builder is shut down.	1.0 Builder lifecycles will not be properly managed, but jobs will continue to run.	$\odot$	None
slanger	Provides real-time events to the CircleCI app.	Live UI updates will stop but hard refreshes will still work.	$\otimes$	None
telegraf	This is the statsd forwarding agent that our local services write to and can be configured to forward to an external metrics service.	Metics will stop working but jobs will continue to run.	⊘	None



Container / Image	Role	What happens if it fails?	Failure severity	Startup dependencies
tutum/logrotate	Used to manage log rotations for all containers on the services machine.	If this stays down for a long period the Services machine disk will eventually run out of space and other services will fail.	<b>A</b>	None
test-results	Parses test result files and stores data.	There will be no test failure or timing data for jobs, but this will be back- filled once the service is restarted.	$\odot$	None
contexts-vault/ vault-cci*	Instance of Hashicorp's Vault – an encryption service that provides key- management, secure storage, and other encryption related services. Used to handle the encryption and key store for the contexts- service.	contexts- service will stop working, and all jobs that use contexts- service will fail.		None
vm-gc	Periodically check for stale machine and remote Docker instances and request that vm-service remove them.	Old vm-service instances might not be destroyed until this service is restarted.	<b>⊘</b>	vm-service-db- migrator
vm-scaler	Periodically requests that vm-service provision more instances for running machine and remote Docker jobs.	VM instances for machine and Remote Docker might not be provisioned causing you to run out of capacity to run jobs with these executors.		vm-service-db- migrator



Container / Image	Role	What happens if it fails?	Failure severity	Startup dependencies
vm-service	Inventory of available vm-service instances, and provisioning of new instances.	Jobs that use machine or remote Docker will fail.	<b>A</b>	vm-service-db- migrator
vm-service-db- migrator	Used to run database migrations for vm-service.	Only runs at startup.	⊘	None
workflows- conductor	Coordinates and provides information about workflows.	No new workflows will start, currently running workflows might end up in an inconsistent state, and some REST and GraphQL API requests will fail.		postgres, frontend, workflows- conductor- migrator
workflows- conductor- migrator	Runs postgreSQL migrations for the workflows-conductor.	Only runs on startup.	⊗	postgres, frontend