AWS Cloud Solutions Architect Associate Course:

**AWS – History So Far:**

“Invention requires two things: ability to try a lot of experiments, and 2. Not having to live with the collateral damage of failed experiments.”

2003 – paper on what Amazon’s own internal infrastructure should look like

selling it as a service and prepared a business case.

SQS launched 2004

AWS launched 2006

2007 had over 180,000 developered

2010 all of amazon.com moved over

2012 Re-Invent conference

2013 Certifications Launched

2014 Committed to achieved 100% renewable energy

2015 AWS breaks out its revenue. $6 billion per year

2016 Run rate of 13 billion USD

2016 Cisco, Dell, IBM had a 15 billion reduction

New service announcements grow substantially every year.

Subscribe to YouTube on Cloudguru, Jeff Bar’s Blog and twitter of ACloudGuru.

May 2015 AWS was named as a leader in the IaaS for the 5th consecutive year in the leader category. Same for 2016.

CenturyLink VmWare and Softlayer are now niche players.

**10,000 ft overview:**

Messaging, Desktop& App Streaming, Security & Identity, Management Tools, Storage, Databases, Networking & Content Delivery, Compute, and AWS Global Infrastructure will need to be known for **the exam.**

Global Infrastructure

* **Regions** – where availability zones reside. Geographical area. Consists of 2 or more availability zones
  + some regions don’t have all the services in them.
* **Availability Zones** – simply a data center. Isolated from other availability zones.
* **Edge Location** – CDN end point for CloudFront. A way to cache media objects in the cloud. More edge locations than regions. POP for CloudFront

Networking & Content Delivery

* **VPC (Virtual Private Cloud)** – virtual datacenter. Multiple VPC’s to a region and connect other VPC’s to another. **Important on exam.** How to build a VPC from memory?
* **Route53 –** DNS service. Can register domain names through this. 53 is the DNS port.
* **CloudFront** – Part of CDN. Edge locations that cache assets.
* **Direct Connect** – a way to connect an office or physical datacenter to AWS directly with a dedicated telephone line. **Can come up in the exam.**

Compute

* **EC2 (Elastic Compute Cloud)** – virtual machines in the cloud.
  + SSH/RDP
* **EC2 Container Service** – container management service geared towards Docker containers. Don’t have to install cluster management system. Doesn’t come up in the system.
* **Elastic Beanstalk** – comes up in developer exam. Upload code and then this service will deploy the needed infrastructure for the application.
* **Lambda** – Serverless, upload code and code will respond to events. Not in exams yet.
* **Lightsail** – out of the box cloud. Wordpress/etc.

Storage

* **S3 (Simple Storage Service)** – virtual disk in the cloud which can store object. Files, pictures, movies, etc. Does come up in the developer and CSAA exam. Object based storage.
* **Glacier** – place to archive your files off of S3.
* **EFS** (Elastic File Service) – Block based storage which can be shared. Could install databases/applications and share it with multiple VM’s.
* **Storage Gateway –** a way to connect S3 to your physical datacenter. VM on premise but pulls the data from S3.

Databases

* **RDS (Relational Database Service)** – MariaDB, SQL, MySQL, Oracle, Comes up in the CSAA
* **Aurora** – MySQL, PostGres
* **DynamoDB** – non-relational database. NoSQL. Developer exam
* **Redshift** – datawarehousing solution. Big Data.
* **Elasticcache** – a way to cache your data in the cloud.

Migration

* **Snowball** – initially import/export. Briefcase size appliance for loading the data on it. S3/EBS transfer. Traditionally consisted of just storage. Added compute capacity to it which can be taken on premise. SysOps/Associate exam.
* **DMS (Database Migration Services)** – migrate databases on premise or databases in the cloud for shifting them over. Migrate databases inside AWS to other regions or into Redshift. Don’t have to stay with the database you’re migrating from. Handles the entire conversion process. Zero downtime. Oracle, Aurora, SAP ESE, MySQL, SQL. Not in exam yet.
* **SMS (Server Migration Services)** – migrate VM (vmWare) on premise to replicate them to the cloud and can do 50 concurrent at the same time. Not on exam yet.

Analytics

* **Athena** – run SQL queries on S3. JSON files. Flat files turning them into searchable details.
* **EMR (Elastic Map Reduce)** – Produce large amount of data. Web indexing. Using Hadoop and other frameworks. Big Data.
* **Cloud Search –** Managed service. Create search capabilities with your website.
* **Elastic Search** – open source framework. Create search capabilities with your website.
  + Angola
* **Kinesis** – A way of analysis streaming data and storing data like financial transactions. Social media streams.
* **Data Pipeline** – Data that allows to be transferred from one location to another.
* **Quick Sight** – Business analytics tool, create visualizations and can use data from S3. Dashboards.

Security & Identity

* **IAM (Identity Access Management)** – comes up in every exam. Basic way to sign in/authenticate. Group users
* **Inspector** – agent installed on VM. Inspects them. Does reporting
* **Certificate Manager** – free SSL certs for your domains
* **Directory Service** – way to connect AD to AWS.
* **WAF (Web Application Firewall)** – application level protection to your website. SQL injection, cross-site scripting.
* **Artifacts** – where to get your documentation in the console.

Management Tools

* **Cloud Watch** – monitor performance on AWS environment. Monitor disk utilization, filters.
* **Cloud Formation** – a way to turn your infrastructure into code. Document that describes your environment. Templates. Know inside and out. Doesn’t come up in exam.
* **Cloud Trail** – a way to audit changes to your AWS environment.
* **Opsworks** – automating deployments via chef.
* **Config** – a way to monitor and automate your environment. You can set alerts.
* **Service Catalog** – allows enterprises to build out what can be authorized and not authorized.
* **Trusted Advisor** – a way to recommend tips like cost optimization, etc.

Application Services

* **Step Functions** – a way to visualize what is happening inside your application or microservices.
* **SWF (Simple Workflow Service)** – a way to coordinate human ordinated tasks and non-human tasks.
* **API Gateway** – a door to create publish, secure API’s at scale. A way for apps to access backend data.
* **AppStream** – streaming desktop applications to your users
* **Elastic Transcoder** – changes video format to suite multiple devices.

Developer Tools

* **CodeCommit** – Github. A place to store your code like Github
* **CodeBuild** – a way to compile your code
* **CodeDeploy** – a way to deploy your code to EC2 instances
* **CodePipeline** – a way to keep track of all versions of your codes.

Mobile Services

* **Mobile Hub** – let’s you add/configure features for your apps. Backend logic, notfications. Own console for the apps.
* **Cognito** – easy for users to sign in and sign up for your apps. Gmail credentials for example.
* **Device Farm** – provides a way to enhance usable android/ios apps. Can test on hundreds of real smart phones.
* **Mobile Analytics** – Cost effective collect mobile app usage data
* **Pinpoint** – enables you to understand and engage with your users. Gather data on what users are doing what with your apps. Can look at human behavior. Can market to your users.

Business Productivity

* **WorkDocs** – store your important work documents in the cloud.
* **WorkMail** – exchange for AWS. A way to send/receive email

Internet of Things

* **iOT** – millions of devices out there and a way to keep track of them.

Desktop & App Streaming

* **WorkSpaces** – VDI, a way of having your desktop in the cloud.
* **AppStream 2**.**0** – a way to stream desktop applications to your users.

Artificial Intelligence

* Superintelligence book by Nick Bostrom
* **Lex** – don’t need an echo to communicate with alexa
* **Polly** – text to speech in 47 different languages. Mp3 file. Synthesis Speech language.
* **Machine Learning** – Give AWS a data set and what the outcomes are. Uses machine learning to predict outcomes based on the data center. Predict data based on previous data.
* **Rekognition** – Upload a picture. Provides tags, facial recognition.

Messaging

* **SNS (Simple Notification Service)** – email, text message, HTTP endpoints
* **SQS (Simple Queue Service)** - a way of decoupling your applications. Post jobs to a queue. If message dies, it stays in the SQS queue. No tightly coupled dependencies.
* **SES (Simple Email Service)** – a way of sending/receiving email in this service.

**IAM (Identity Access Management) 101**

* Allows you to manage users and their level of access to the AWS Console.
* Gives you centralized control of your AWS account
* Shared access to your AWS account
* You can peer AWS accounts to other accounts
* Granular Permissions
* Identity Federation (AD, FB, LinkedIn). SSO
  + Create apps that authenticate against FB, etc.
* Multifactor authentication
* Provide temporary access for users/services when necessary.
* Allows you to setup your own rotation policy.
* Integrate with other AWS services.
* Supports PCI DSS compliance – taking online payments and storing credit card details yourself.
* **Users** – End Users (think people)
* **Groups** – collection of users under one set of permissions
* **Roles** – create roles and can then assign them to AWS resources.
* **Policies** – a document that defines one or more permissions (JSON) – Attribute/Value

**Global regions can come up on the exam for IAM. It can be accessed in any region.**

Root account is your email address you used to create your account.

**Access key id and secret access key id can only be used for programmatic access on IAM.**

You can attach more than one policy to a user and group.

New users have no permissions when created.

Can only view access key and secret access key once.

Always setup MFA on your root account.

Read AWS Security Best Practices - AWS Security Best Practice