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Clemens Vasters Microsoft Corporation Chief Messenger



CARIBBEAN DEVELOPERS CONFERENCE

Azure Event Hubs The Architect's Cut

https://github.com/clemensv/messaging

Agenda

A very brief overview: "What is Azure Event Hubs?"

The Event Hubs Deep Dive

Clusters and Namespaces

Networking Capabilities

Authorization Models

Partitions and Log Storage

Message Broker Compute Model

Federation and Replication

Throughput and Latency

Observed Availability and Reliability

Q&A

What is Azure Event Hubs?

Platform-as-a-Service Event Stream Broker

Use the Apache Kafka® API, but with far lower cost and better performance.

Fully managed: You use the features, Azure deals with everything else

AMQP 1.0 standards compliant, Apache Kafka® wire-compatible

Polyglot Azure SDK and cross-platform client support

Industry-leading reliability and availability

Fast.

Azure Event Hubs vs. Apache Kafka®

Similar yet very different

	Azure Event Hubs	Apache Kafka
User Model	Partitioned event stream broker with high-availability replication	Partitioned event stream broker with high-availability replication
Architecture	Multi-tenant, 3-Tier Gateway/Broker/Storage cluster model, with tenant-isolation, all tiers independently scalable	Single-tenant monolith. Need to increase broker instances in a cluster to scale any dimension.
Implementation Language	C# and Native (C/C++)	Java
Cluster Manager	Azure Service Fabric (inline)	Apache Zookeeper (external); KRaft (inline, experimental)
Partition Mapping	Key hashing, client or server-side mapping of events	Key hashing, client-side mapping of events
Consumer Partition Ownership Coordination	Server-coordinated partition ownership (Kafka), client-coordinated ownership with external leader election. Parallel, direct partition reads.	Server-coordinated partition ownership
Server Workload Balancing	Dynamic and fully automated (100% hands-off). Broker resource allocation independent of partition count or ownership, flexible scaling.	Static assignment of partitions to broker instances requiring operator intervention for rebalancing.
Storage Model	Replicated log store, synchronous per-message flush-to-disk on all replicas	Replicated log store, asynchronous flush-to-disk controlled by host file system write cache settings.
Networking	Single endpoint access to all partitions, Public IP/DNS or Virtual Networking, Firewall.	Endpoint per broker instance. Multiple IPs required. Complex network management required.
Access Control	Token-based access policy model with unlimited publisher policies, Azure Active Directory role-based access control	Local accounts, federation extensibility.
Protocols	AMQP 1.0 (optional: WebSockets) HTTPS 1.1 Apache Kafka RPC	Apache Kafka RPC
Batching / Archives	Avro-packaged batch-packaging and archival to blob store	
Schema Registry	Schema Registry based on open CNCF Schema Registry API	(Proprietary from commercial vendors)

SKUs and Pricing

Azure Event Hubs Standard:

Shared-resources model

Blended capacity and consumptionbased pricing.

Up to 40 MB/sec ingress:

- Throughput Units: 1TU = min(1000 msg/s, 1MB/s in), min(2000 msg/s, 2MB/s out)
- Capture
- First 12M events free, 12-25M
 \$x/1M, 25-50M \$x/1M, 50+ \$x/1M

Azure Event Hubs *Premium*:

Isolated-resources model

Capacity-based pricing model. No consumption charges.

Up to 120 MB/sec ingress:

 Premium Units: 1PU = ~5-10MB/sec throughput, no per-event charge, includes Capture

Azure Event Hubs Dedicated:

Dedicated-resources model

Capacity-based pricing model. No consumption charges. Full isolated cluster.

Beyond 120MB/sec ingress (>4 GB/sec in prod)

- Capacity Unit: 1CU \$4995/mo.
- 8CU required for availbility zones.

We will discuss all these versions today and what the units mean

You're running Apache Kafka® in your own datacenter?

Azure Event Hubs is

more reliable and dependable with higher 24/365 uptime

(no service windows or weekend downtime)

far less costly to own

(no initial/recurring licensing fees as with commercial Kafka distributions)

far less costly to operate (fully managed, no hardware)

just a quick network hop away from your existing workloads

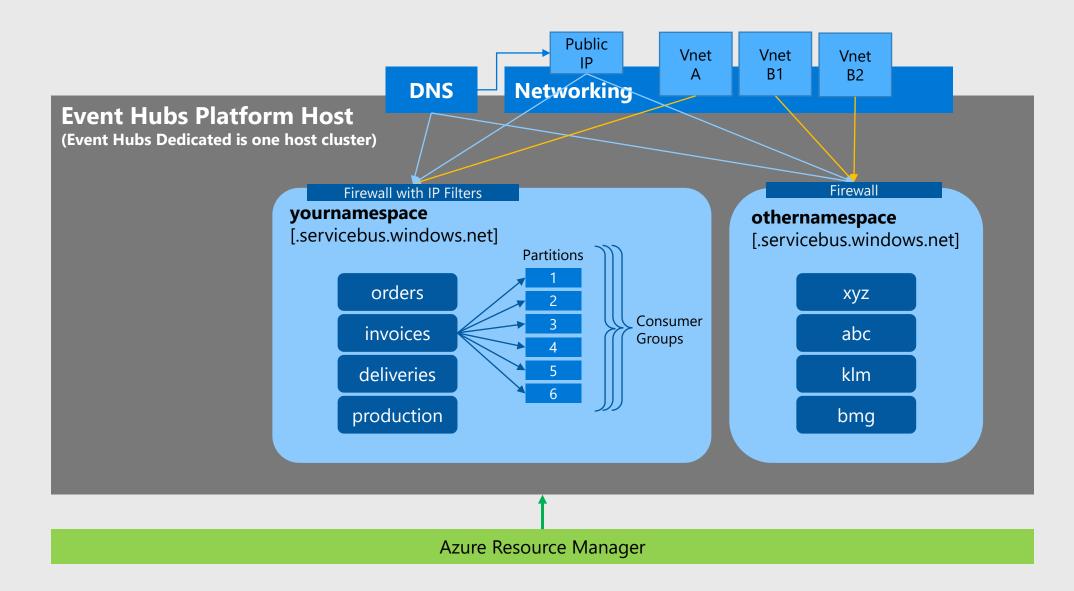
easy to integrate into your network via VPN Gateway or Express Route



Example 2 Azure Event Hubs



Event Hubs Namespaces: Virtual Brokers



Event Hubs

Producers send using a protocol of their choosing, with or without setting a partition key. Partitions can also be targeted directly.

Producer

Event

Hub

Producers choose their preferred protocol

OASIS AMOP 1.0 Apache Kafka® RPC HTTPS 1.1

A log partition is a durable, triple-replicated, append-only storage structure. Each partition has a throughput ceiling imposed by IO and compute limits. More partitions provide more throughput capacity, but also make consumption more complex.

Consumer Group Partition 1 Consumer Partition 2 Partition 3 Consumer

Partition 4

Group 2

An Event Hub is an event stream manager handling one or more independent log partitions. Different from Apache Kafka®, Event Hubs can optionally assign events to partitions on the server-side. **Consumers choose** their own preferred protocol

OASIS AMOP 1.0 Apache Kafka® RPC

mechanism to allow multiple parallel consumers to coordinate who owns which partition.

A consumer group is an optional

Kafka RPC: Broker assigns partitions and checkpoints can be stored in the CG.

AMQP: Clients choose leader using an external mechanism and can break leases using an epoch model. Checkpoints are external. AMQP with server-assigned partitions and CG checkpoints on roadmap.

> Consumers on a consumer group own one or more partitions exclusively to ensure inorder processing.

Consumers choose the initial log offset:

Start (oldest), End (newest), Timestamp, Sequence Number

Read progress is noted in checkpoints that can be stored anywhere.

{Namespace}/{EventHub}/{PartitionId}/{Year}/{Month}/{Day}/{Hour}/{Minute}/{Second} **Event Hubs Capture** https://mystorageaccount.blob.core.windows.net/mycontainer/ mynamespace/myeventhub/0/2017/12/08/03/03/17.avro **Azure Blob Storage Event Hubs Capture** Event is raised when allows organizing torrents capture file has been Lifecycle of telemetry in batches written Policy that can be easily Partition 0 **Automation** consumed by batchoriented analytics .../myeventhub/0/... frameworks. .../myeventhub/1/... Hot Partition 1 **Event** Hubs **Event Producer Capture** Hub .../myeventhub/2/... **Engine** Partition 2 .../myeventhub/3/... Cool Archived Partition 3 Expired **Producers choose** Size Limit their preferred protocol Capture throughput keeps up Capture policy with the Event Hubs' ingress allows OASIS AMQP 1.0 throughput capacity and balancing Azure Data Lake Gen2 Apache Kafka® RPC

provides automated low latency

capture to batch storage.

HTTPS 1.1

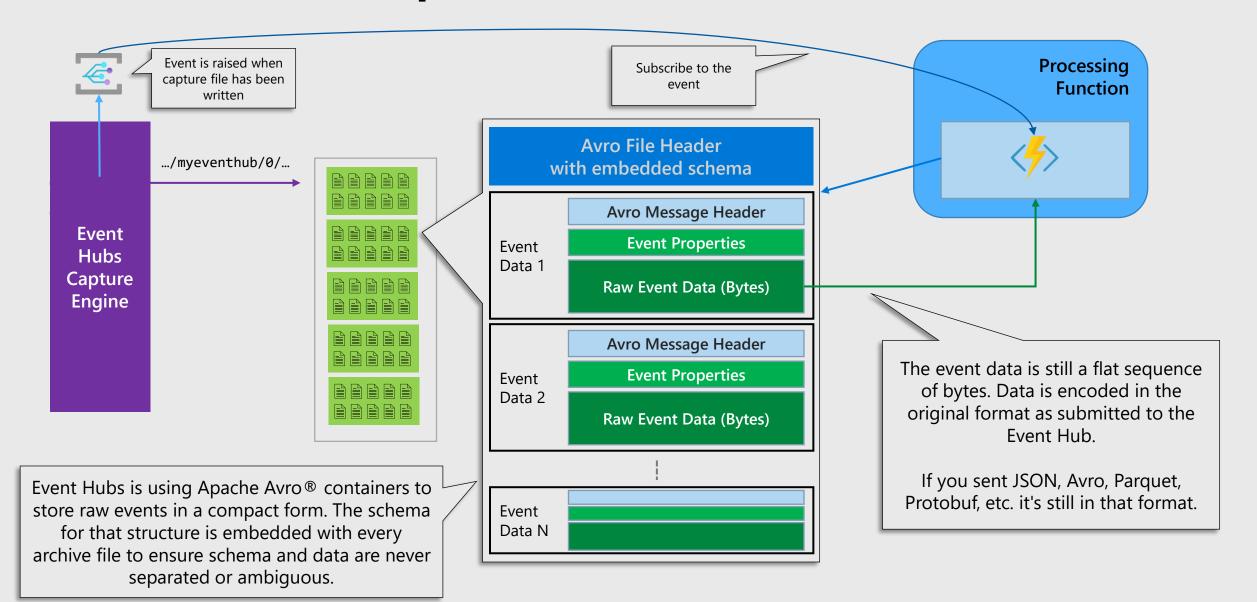
Time.

Limit

latency and

batch size.

Event Hubs Capture Avro Archives



Event Hubs* is not...

... a publish/subscribe broker. Partitions are not subscriptions. They are chosen by the producer or the broker on ingress. There is also no server-side filtering.

→ Azure Service Bus, Azure Event Grid

... a queue broker. Read progress over the log is handled by the client and there is no event-level ownership and delivery state handling.

→ Azure Service Bus

... a discrete event distribution engine. Event Hubs does not do push deliveries, and delivery failures need to be tracked individually.

→ Azure Event Grid

... a database or long-term event store. Event Hubs exists to catch, store and provide fast access to event data organized around time axis. As data ages (days, not months), you need better indexing.

→ Azure Cosmos DB, Azure SQL, Azure Synapse, Azure Data Explorer

Apache Kafka® Clients

https://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=30736606

Azure Event Hubs is compatible with the producer and consumer APIs of all current Apache Kafka clients.

Only the Java/JVM client is part of the Apache Kafka project. All other clients are under various non-foundation ownerships and licenses. Azure does not provide QFE support for any of these clients but does provide support for service-side compatibility.

Direct implementations of JVM & C library bindings the Apache Kafka® wire protocol. Clojure / kinsky Java/JVM (Exoscale) (Apache project) C++ librdkafka (M. Edenhill/Confluent) Python (Confluent) **Python**/Kafka-Python (Dana Powers, Flexport) Go (Confluent) Golang/Sarama (Shopify) .NET (Confluent) Erlang/Brod **Apache** (Klarna AB) Azure Node /node-rdkafka Kafka[®] **Event Hubs** Ruby/Ruby-Kafka API (Zendesk) PHP /php-rdkafka (Arnaud Le Blanc) Ruby / Karafka (Karafka/Coditsu) Rust /rust-rdkafka (Federico Giraud, Google) Ruby / Karafka (Karafka/Coditsu) Lisp /cl-rdkafka (Sahil Kang) Node / kafka-node (SOHU-Co, CN) Swift, Tcl, Perl, OCaml, Node, Perl / Kafka Lua, Haskell, D, ... (TrackingSoft)

Apache Software Foundation

Non-Foundation, Community / Best Effort Support

Non-Foundation, Commercial Support Option

Event Hubs SDK Support: Azure SDKs

.NET

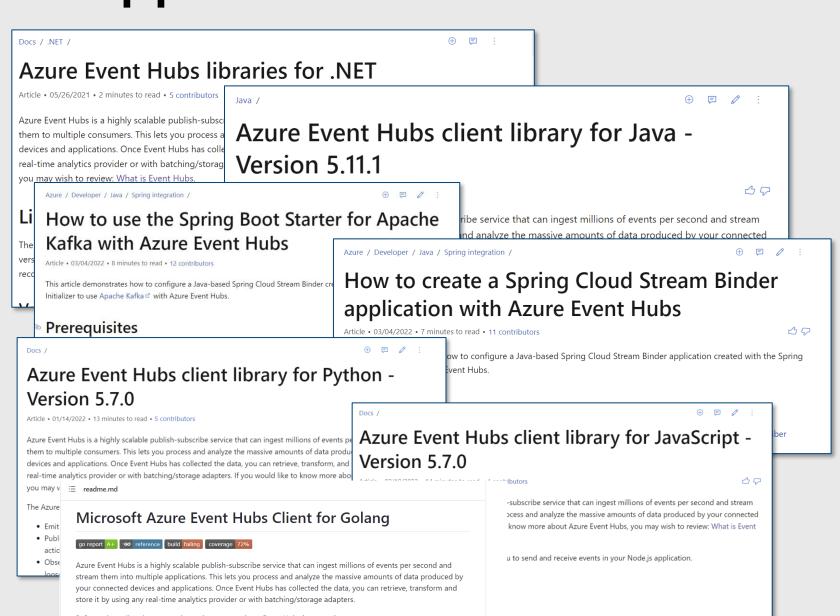
Java

Java Spring Boot

Python

JavaScript/Typescript

Go



Compatible Generic AMQP 1.0 Clients

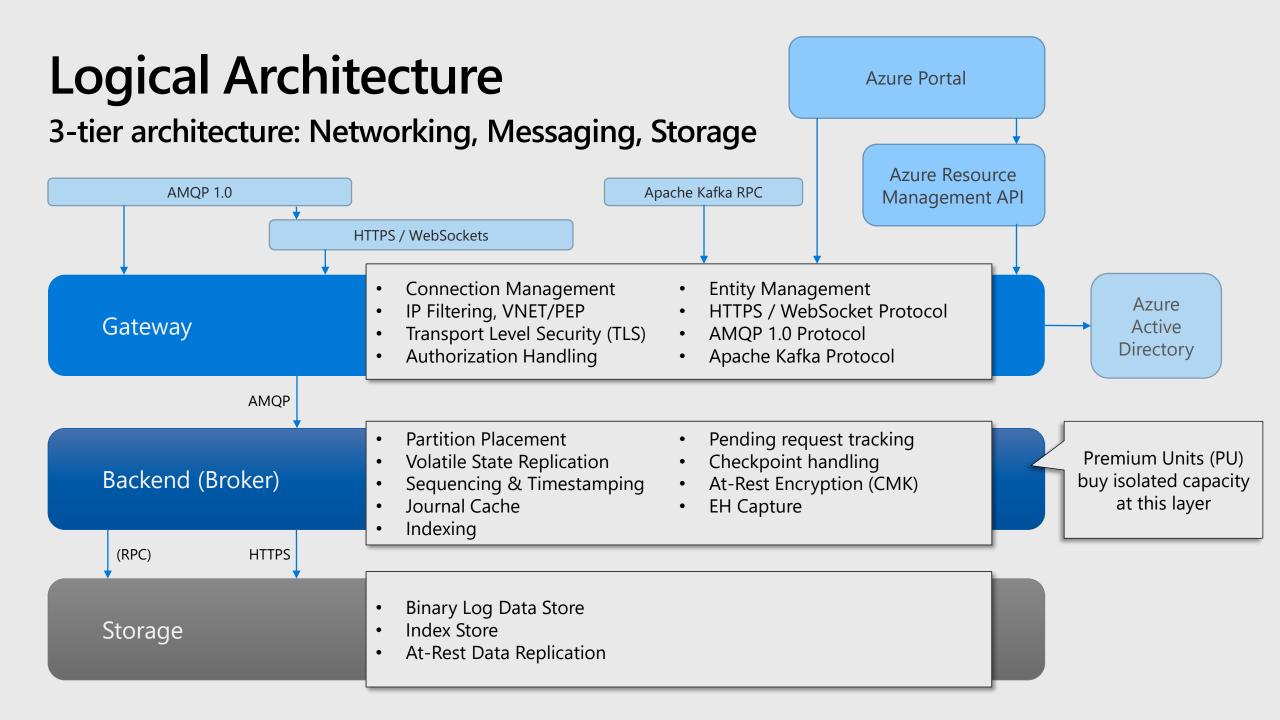
Client Stack	URL
Apache Qpid Proton-C (Go, Python, Ruby, C++)	https://qpid.apache.org/proton/
Apache Qpid Messaging API	https://qpid.apache.org/components/messaging-api
Apache Qpid Proton-J	https://qpid.apache.org/proton/
Apache NMS AMQP	https://activemq.apache.org/components/nms/providers/amqp/
AMQP .NET Lite (all variants of .NET, incl. Nano & Micro)	https://github.com/Azure/amqpnetlite
Azure AMQP (our own server stack)	https://github.com/Azure/azure-amqp
Azure uAMQP C (Python, PHP)	https://github.com/Azure/azure-uamqp-c https://github.com/Azure/azure-uamqp-python
Rhea (NodeJS)	https://github.com/amqp/rhea
Go AMQP	https://github.com/Azure/go-amqp
Vert.X AMQP Client	https://vertx.io/docs/vertx-amqp-client/java/

Azure Event Hubs Deep Dive Architecture

Internal Architecture

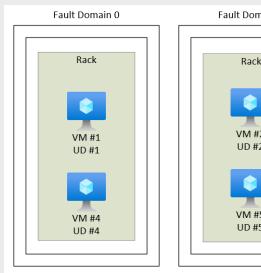
Protocols

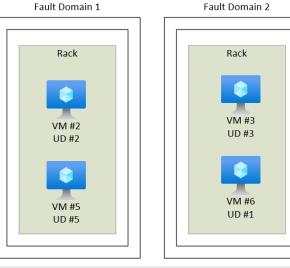
Performance Metrics

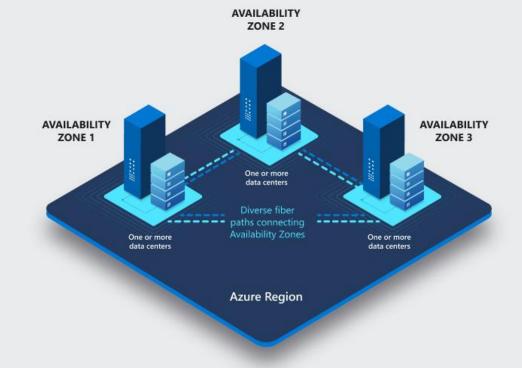


Fault Domains & Availability Zones

High-Availability starts at the physical reality







Fault Domain Placement:

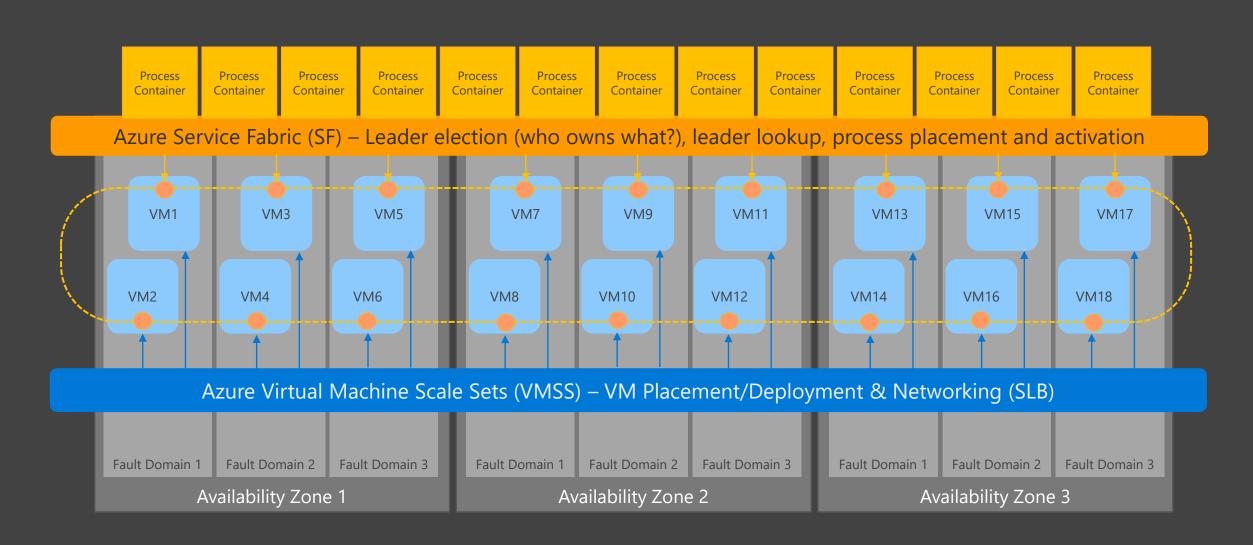
Cluster VMs are spread across at least 3 fault domains such that the loss of a rack or network poses no availability risk. Recovery from a fault domain failure is fully automated and the system maintains SLA.

Availability Zones Placement:

Each cluster spans three availability zones and maintains SLA without any tolerance for data loss when one or two zones fail.

Backend and Gateway Clusters

Logical Architecture meets Placement



Backend and Gateway Clusters

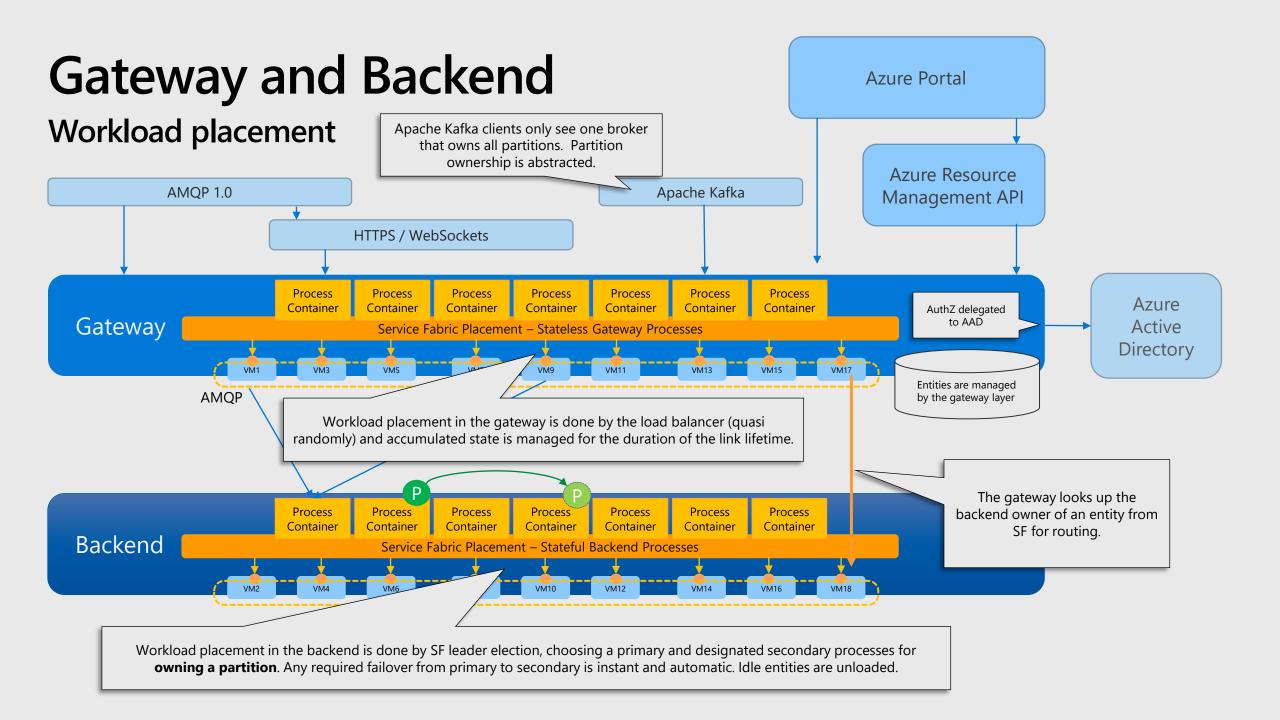
Principles

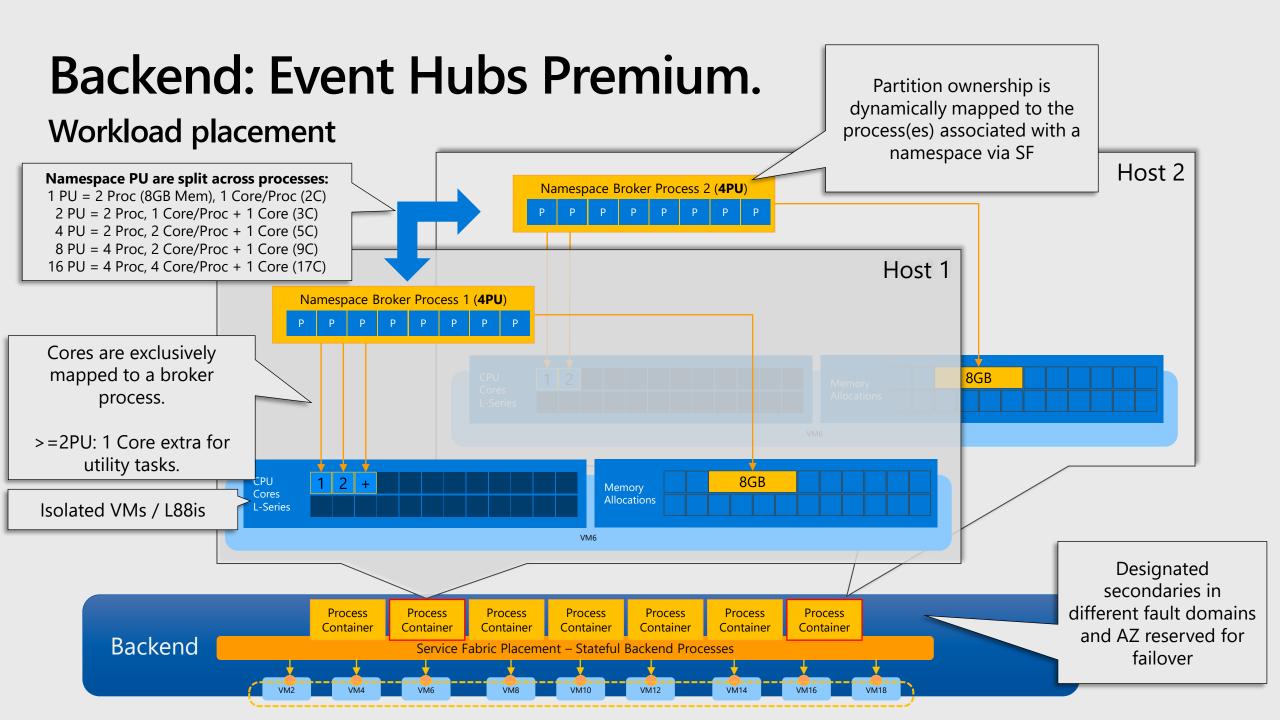
Everything is automated. There's no manual intervention in placement of VMs or processes or workloads.

Process placement and servicing/upgrade cycles are controlled by Azure Service Fabric.

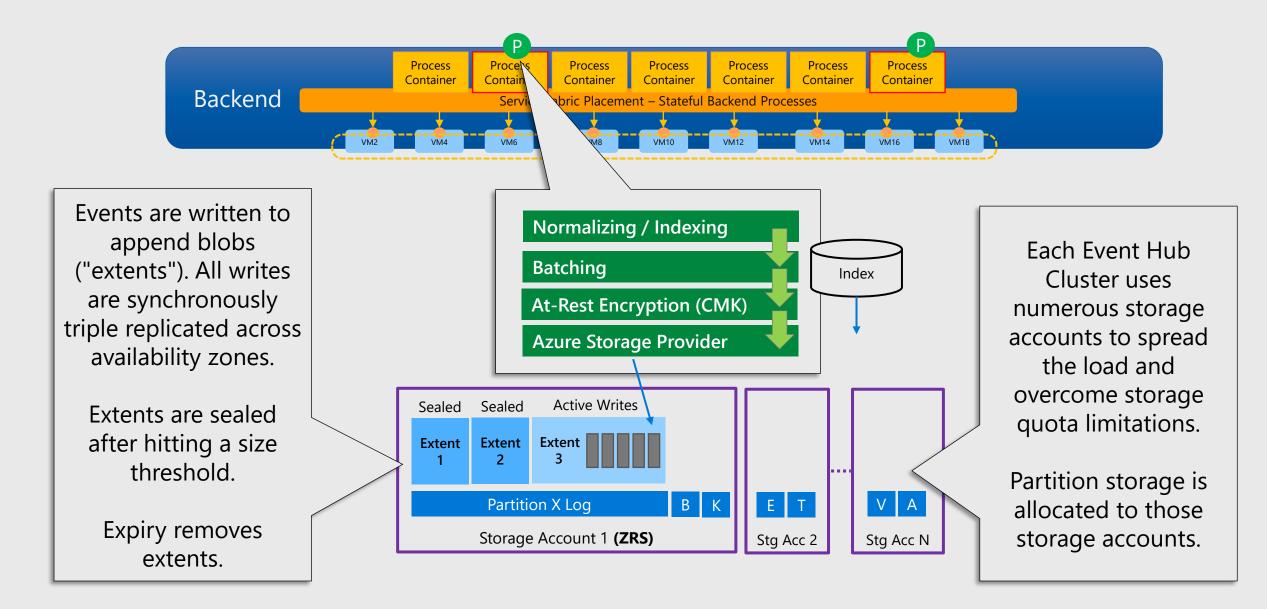
Each cluster has a well-known number of virtual machines. We don't use auto-scaling with VMs. We may (rarely) choose to initiate scale up/down to a different level.

Allocation of namespaces to clusters are based on well-established heuristics (Standard) or deterministic capacity limits (Premium). Customerdefined allocation in Dedicated.

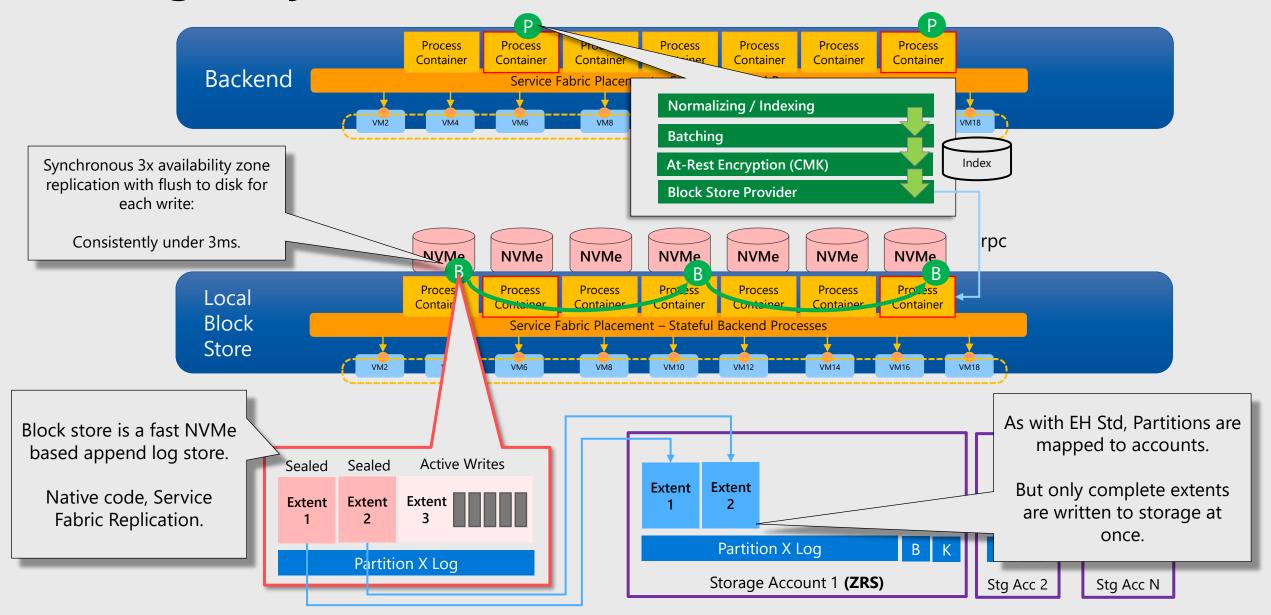




Storage Layer – Event Hubs Standard



Storage Layer – Event Hubs Premium



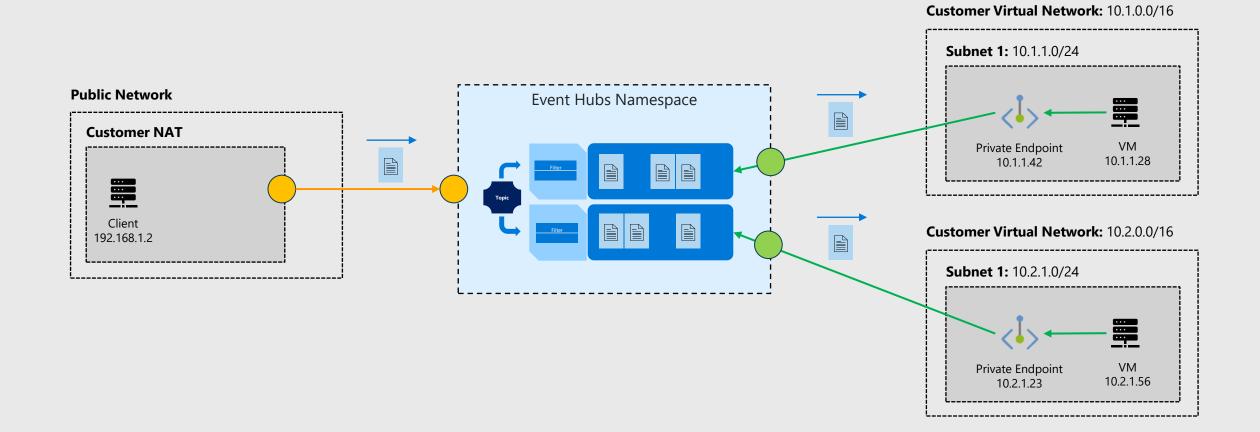
Networking Features

Firewall, Virtual Network Integration with Private Endpoints

Each cluster has a single public load-balancer IPv4 address. AMQP 1.0 w/ TLS Apache Kafka RPC The address is generally stable and will very rarely change. But: use HTTPS / WebSockets DNS firewall rules on your namespace. CNAME clemensvams.servicebus.windows.net Client-Side Firewalls & Proxies Namespace names alias the cluster DNS **Customer Virtual Network:** 10.0.0.0/8 WebSockets AMQP tunneling name. EH relies on that hostname to identify allows port 443 firewall traversal. the namespace tenant and it can therefore **Subnet 1:** 10.1.1.0/24 not be further aliased. ns-eh1-prod-am3-403.cloudapp.net 52.236.186.64 **Private Endpoint** 10.1.1.28 10.1.1.42 IPv6 SE TLS 1.2 is the default. All current, supported clients use Each cluster has an Azure-private TLS 1.2 and all traffic "IPv6 Service Endpoint" address for generally uses TLS. private endpoints. Common, namespace-level IP filter and VNet/PEP firewall policy enforcement on each VM. Legacy clients are still permitted to use TLS < 1.2, customer controlled. VM3 VM11 TLS is terminated at the gateway VMs.

Networking Features

Event Hubs namespaces <u>can</u> be attached to one or more virtual networks and the public IP address space <u>concurrently</u> and act as safe "Layer 7" stream bridges.



Authorization

Azure Active Directory RBAC and Shared Access Signatures (SAS)

Event Hubs has two authorization models.

SAS (Local): Simple model for external clients that cannot use Azure Active Directory for any reason.

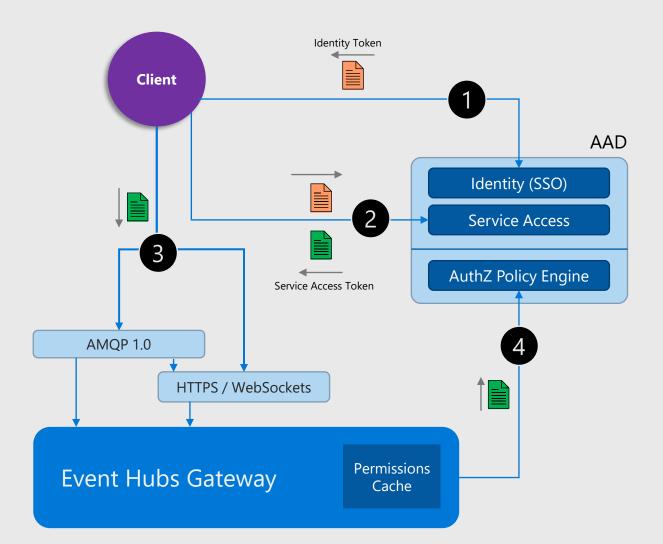
- Very simple. Rights at namespace or entity scope: "Send", "Listen" (Receive/Subscribe), "Manage"
- No accounts. 12 named rules per scope, each rule has a key. Rules combine a set of rights.
- HMACSHA256 signed tokens are issued using name and key and passed to the service.
- Tokens can be issued in the client or by some security token service holding the key
- Can be turned off via the portal on the overview page under "Local Authentication"

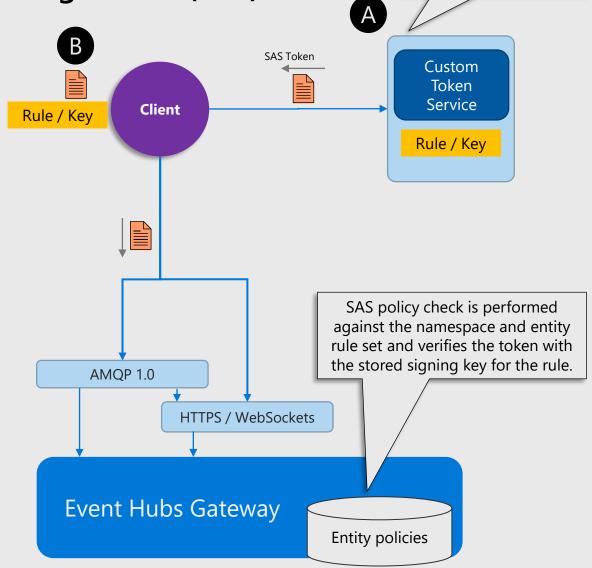
AAD RBAC: Integrated Azure identity model, also for service-level integration (managed identity)

- Very detailed, operation-level permission set that can be assigned to roles
- Several standard control- and data-plane roles (like Data Owner, Data Sender, Data Receiver)
- Roles can be assigned at the namespace and entity level

Authorization

Azure Active Directory RBAC and Shared Access Signatures (SAS)





Allows very fine grained

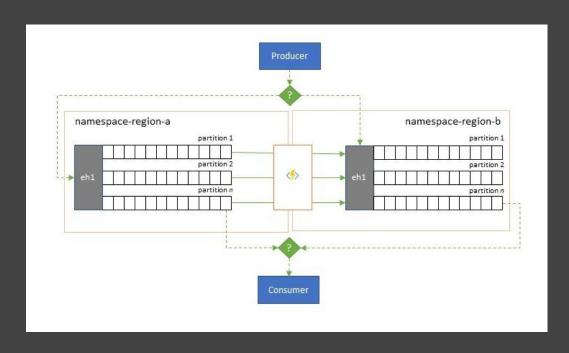
control with tokens scoped to a certain time and/or EH and/or publisher policy

Event Hubs Premium

Replication & Federation

Replication Tasks

Providing code-free replication of data between Service Bus and Event Hubs



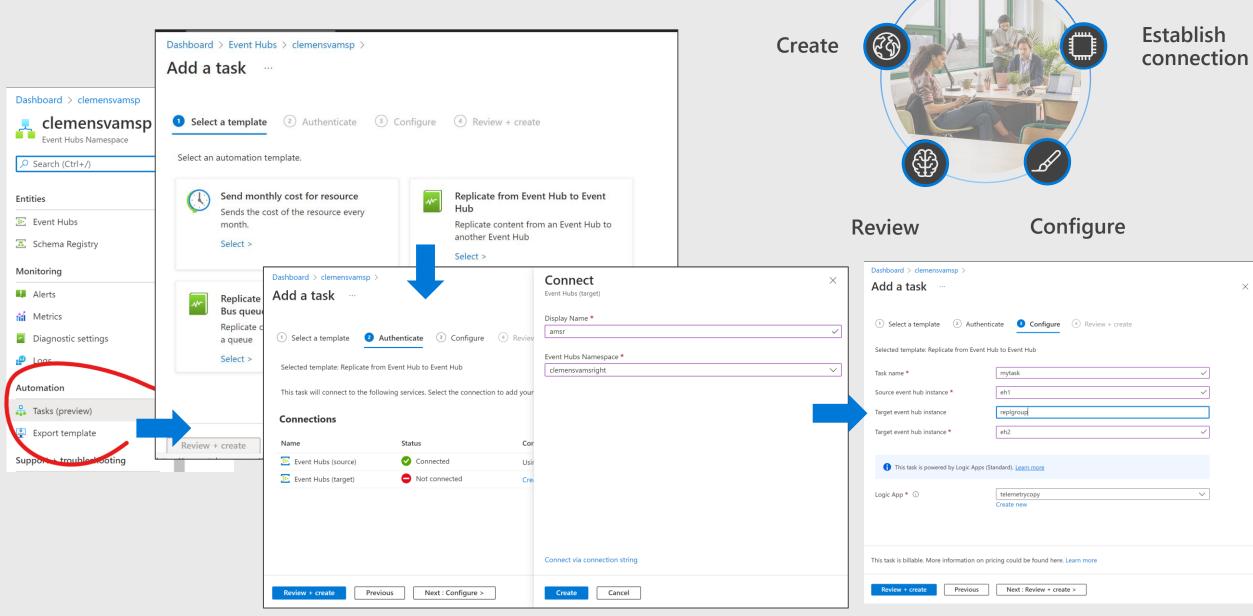
Problem

In many scenarios, event data needs to be moved or merged across regions.

Solution

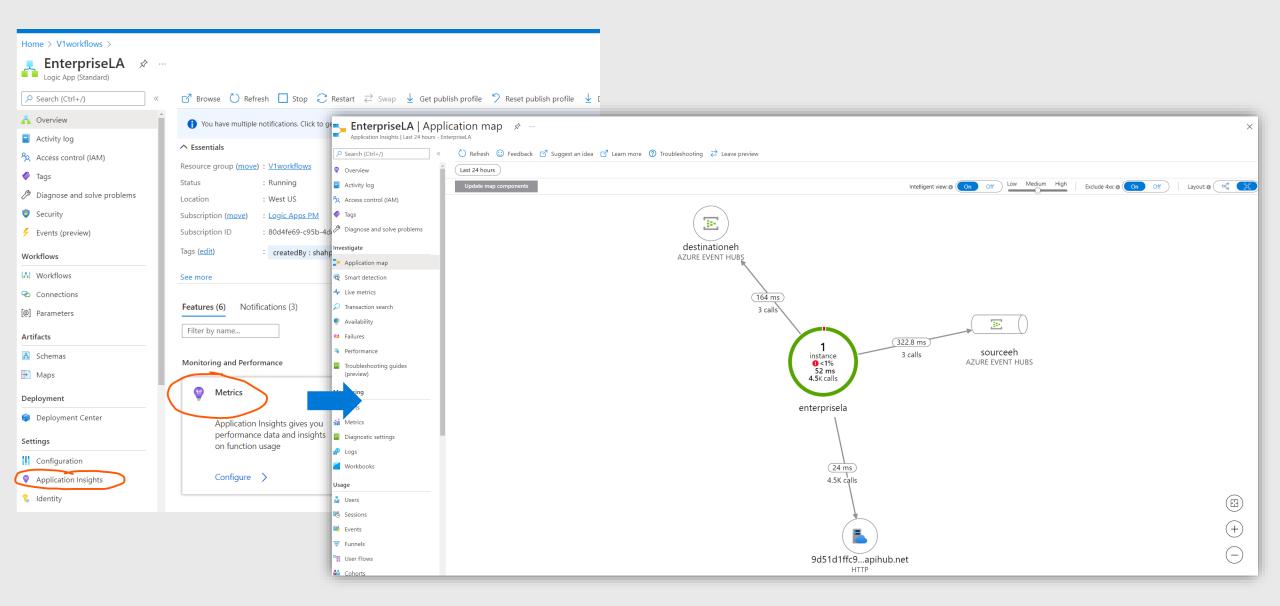
Quick and simple replication between namespaces through templates available on Azure Portal's Tasks.

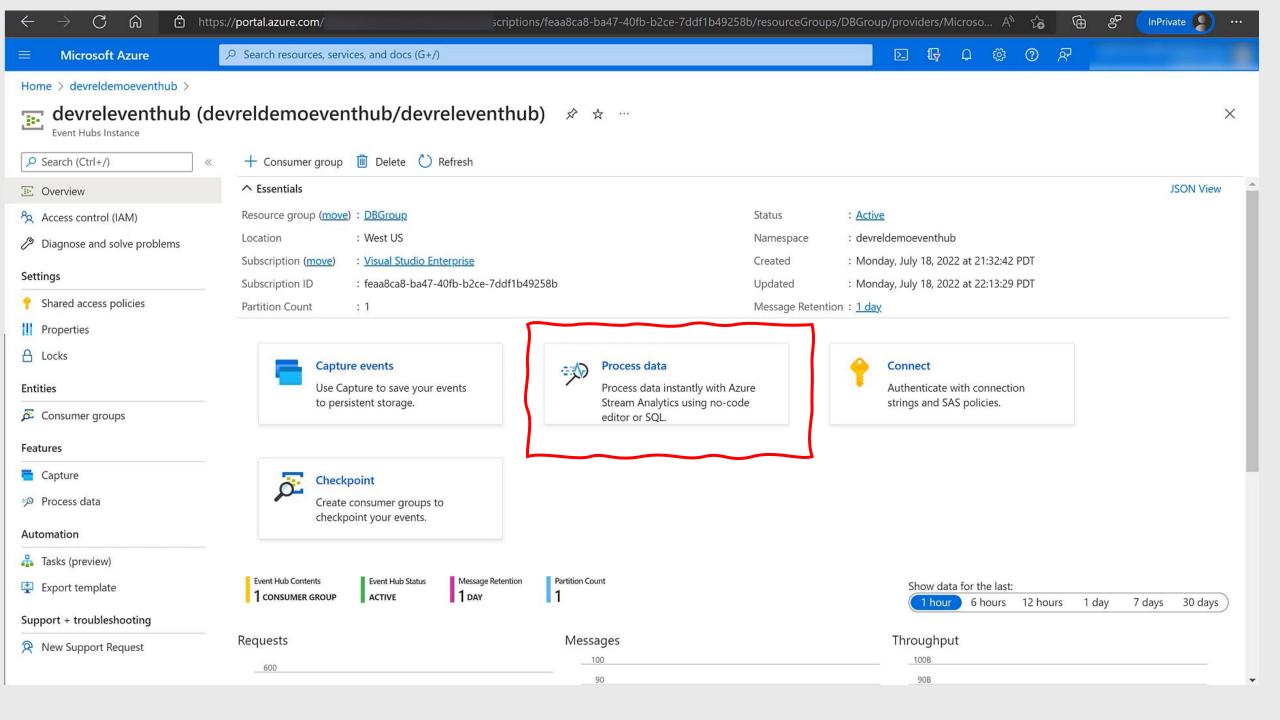
Automation Tasks to the rescue



Select template

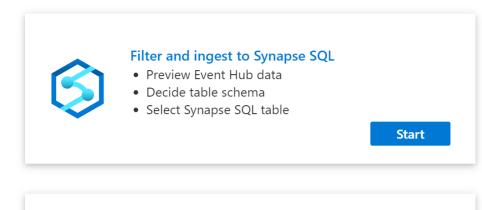
EventHub replication visualization





Process Event Hub data with Azure Stream Analytics

Process your Event Hub data using no-code drag and drop experience. (Preview)





Capture data to ADLS Gen2 in Parquet format

- Save events to ADLS Gen2 in Parquet
- Specify a time or size interval

Start



Materialize data in Cosmos DB

- Maintain a view of your data in Cosmos DB
- Select the fields to group by
- Define aggregations like count, sum, average
- Set a time period

Start



Filter and ingest to ADLS Gen2

- Preview Event Hub data
- Decide table schema
- Select ADLS Gen2 account

Start



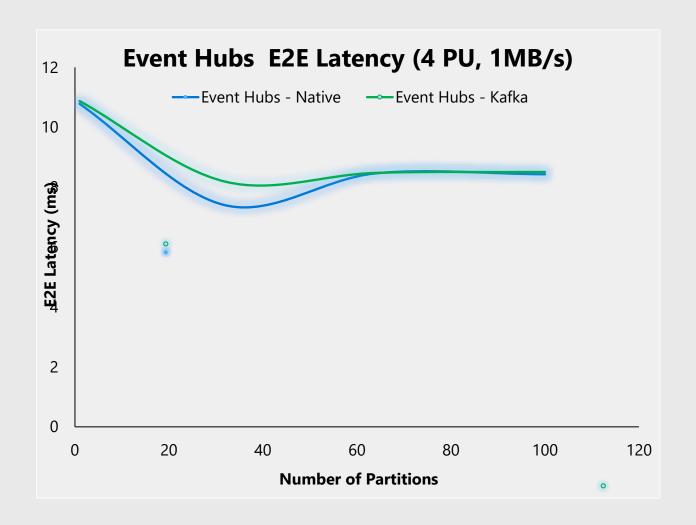
Start with a blank canvas

- View incoming data and define schema
- Define transformations on your input data
- Select output to egress streaming data

Start

Event Hubs Premium Performance!

Event Hubs Premium is *Fast*!

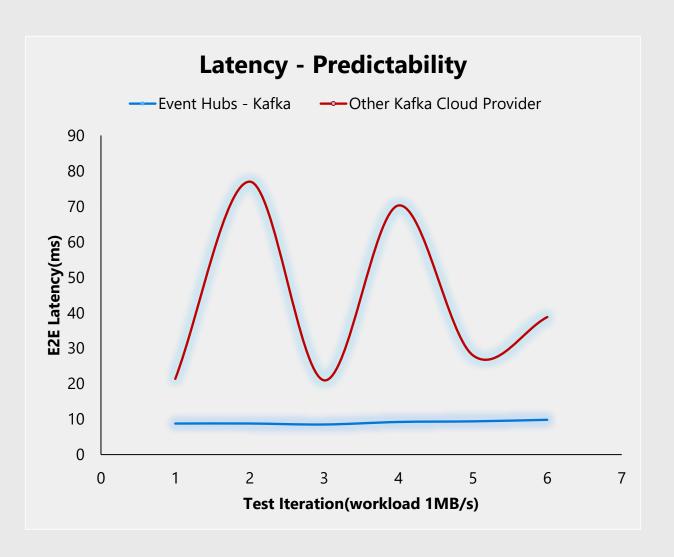


Event Hubs Premium end-to-end latency < 10ms for most Event Streaming workloads.

Performan ce Metric	Expected Range	Comments
Throughput	~5-10 MB/s per 1 PU	Maximum throughput can be achieved by scaling partitions For both Kafka and AMQP
Latency	<10 ms	With 1 MB/s load, 4 PU namespace For both Kafka and AMQP

Event Hubs Premium – Predictability

Event Hubs Premium offers consistent end-to-end latency of < 10ms.



Effective Global Reliability

Uptime – Is the cluster available to accept connections?

100%

Reliability – Are individual operations suceeding?

>99,9999% weekly average

Azure Event Hubs

Platform-as-a-Service Event Stream Broker

Use the Apache Kafka® API, but with far lower cost and better performance.

Fully managed: You use the features, Azure deals with everything else

AMQP 1.0 standards compliant, Apache Kafka® wire-compatible

Polyglot Azure SDK and cross-platform client support

Industry-leading reliability and availability

Fast.

Thank You!

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That was a lot, wasn't it?



