

# **The Cloud Integration Offer**

Realization document

Bachelor's in applied IT Application Development

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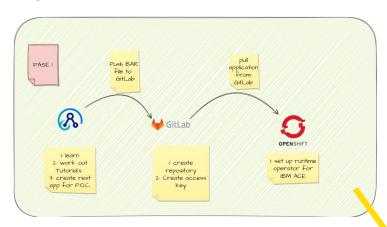
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## 1 INTRODUCTION

In this document, I have outlined my achievements. As mentioned in my "Plan of Approach," my team uses Confluence for sharing all documentation and accomplishments. Confluence serves as a platform for sharing various documents and ideas among team members.

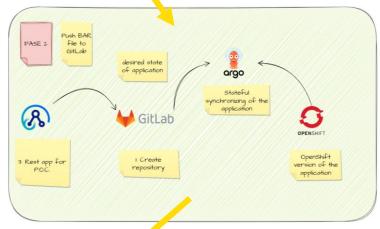
Given the relatively new nature of my role, I have created several tutorials to share with my colleagues, which I use as evidence of my achievements. In addition to this, my responsibilities included developing an offer, for which I created a PowerPoint presentation. I am attaching the slides along with a video recording of my pitch.

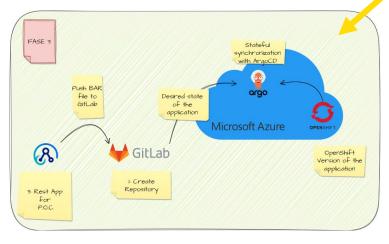
To give more context on how the tutorials are ordered:



The first tutorial is the first picture. I push my application file (BAR file) to my repo on git lab and I pull that file with OpenShift to deploy the application.

Second tutorial, I push my BAR file to git lab and ArgoCD pulls it to deploy it on OpenShift. Difference here is that with ArgoCD it remains synced with the GitLab repo to make sure the desired state of the application is always running.





The third tutorial is situated in the cloud. I give a step-by-step guide to deploy an azure OpenShift cluster and how to deploy your ACE application. The deployment process is very similar to the previous tutorial, but it covers how to properly set up your cloud environment and how to handle the few differences with the on-prem deployment process.

## 2 TUTORIALS

In this section, I will share all the tutorials that I have created on our sharing platform. These tutorials include step-by-step guides, with pictures and brief explanations of the processes that are happening behind the scenes.

## 2.1 Ace APP on RedHat OpenShift

In this tutorial, I'll be explaining the simplest method for deploying an App Connect Enterprise application using OpenShift. OpenShift is a deployment platform that is based on Kubernetes, but with an additional layer on top that makes everything easier.

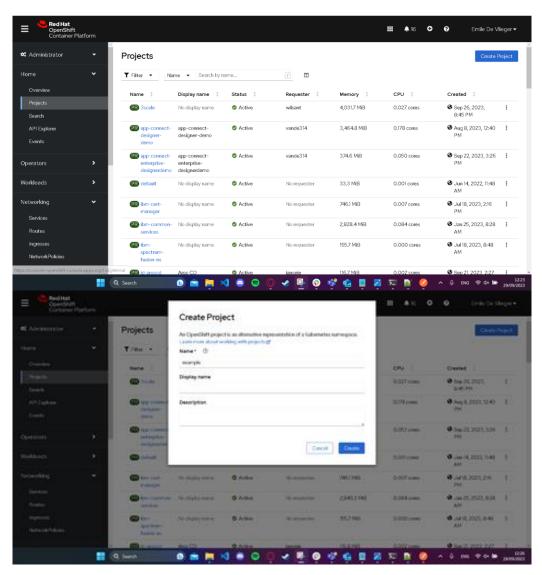
#### 2.1.1 Prerequisites

You need a git lab repo with a BAR file to deploy.

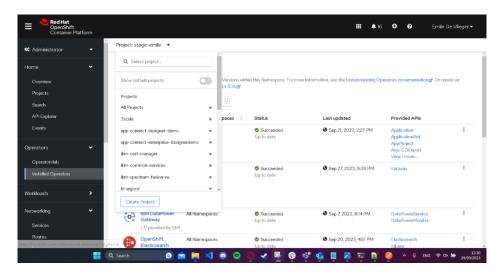
## 2.1.2 Creating a namespace

First up I made a namespace for myself which you can do by clicking home on 'Home' (top-left) => 'Projects' => 'Create Project' (top-right).

Then in the pop-up enter a name.



Once you made your namespace, you will find it in the 'Projects' list. To work within this namespace you can either click it in the list or, when on other tabs, you can find it in the dropdown list:



## 2.1.3 Creating the configurations

Next up we will create 2 configurations:

- Barauth
  - o We need this so OpenShift knows it can access our BAR-file on git.
- ServerConf
  - o We need this for OpenShift to create a web-UI to access our application.

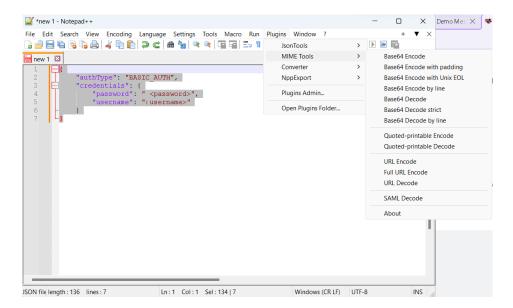
### 2.1.3.1 Creating the base65 encoded string to configure our "barauth"

The "barauth" configuration is where we store our credentials to be able to reach our BAR-file which we stored in the GitLab repository.

Open 'NotePad++' and copy this json text:

```
{
    "authType": "BASIC_AUTH",
    "credentials": {
        "password": " <password>",
        "username": "<username>"
}
```

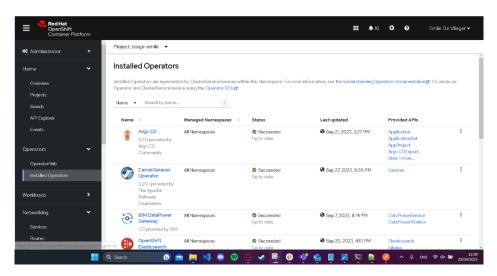
Now in 'notepadd++' select this piece of code and, in your toolbar, hover over 'plugins' => hover over 'MIMETOOLS' and select 'base64 encode'



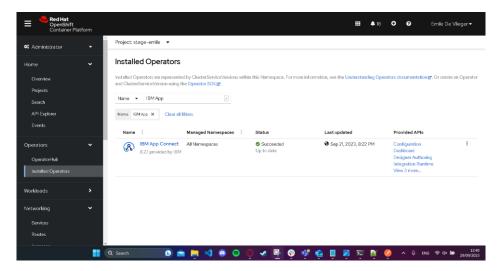
After this you should have base64 encoded json instead of the json we wrote.

## 2.1.3.2 Making our 'barauth' config

In OpenShift, select 'installed operators' under the 'Operators' tab:

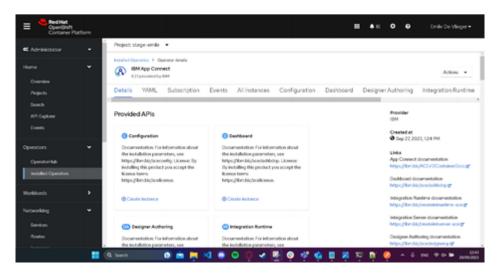


In the search bar look for 'IBM App Connect'



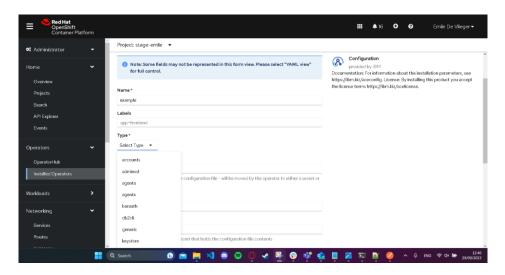
When in the App connect operator dashboard, we can see a range of possible operators to create. Later, we will create a runtime operator which we connect with GitLab to get our Bar URL from, which is why we are creating this 'barauth' configuration so that our operator can access this file.

### Now click 'create instance' in the 'configuration' option:

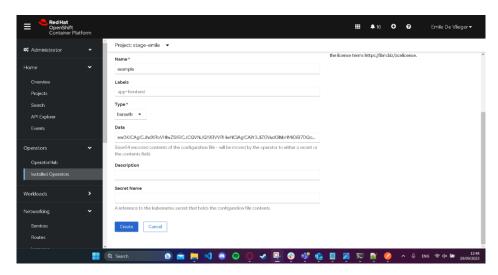


Choose a name for the configuration.

Now on the 'type' dropdown, choose 'barauth':



Next up, enter the previously created base 64 json in the 'DATA' field:



#### Click 'create'.

## 2.1.3.3 "Serverconf" Configuration:

Next up we need to create a configuration which will allow us to access the 'web ui' from our 'runtime operator'.

Again, choose the "App Connect" operator in the "installed operators" tab and click on configuration.

choose a name for the configuration.

As type we will choose 'serverconf'.

Within our 'DATA' field we will enter a base64 string, derived from this configuration:

RestAdminListener:

 $\verb"authorizationEnabled: false"$ 

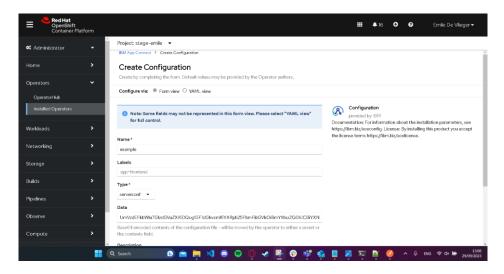
basicAuth: false

port: 7600

requireClientCert: false

You can copy it and convert it again in 'notepad++' to save time I will add the string here.

UmVzdEFkbWluTGlzdGVuZXI6DQogIGFldGhvcml6YXRpb25FbmFibGVkOiBmYWxzZQ0KICBiYXNpY0FldGq6IGZhbHNlDQoqIHBvcnQ6IDc2MDANCiAqcmVxdWlyZUNsaWVudENlcnQ6IGZhbHNl



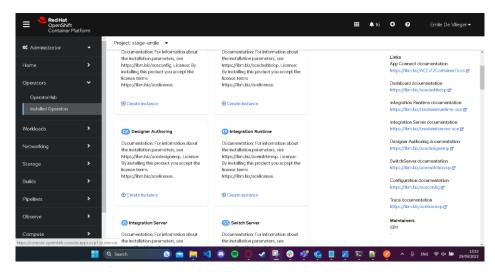
#### Click 'create'.

PS: To make the next step easier for you, I recommend copying the names of your configurations and keeping them on standby in notepad.

## 2.1.4 Creating our runtime operator

Navigate to the 'App Connect' operator dashboard.

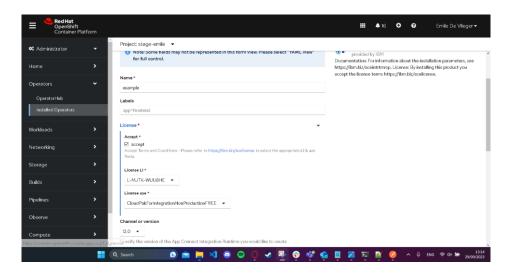
This time we will choose to create an instance from the 'integration runtime' operator:



## When in the create tab:

Choose a name for your operator.

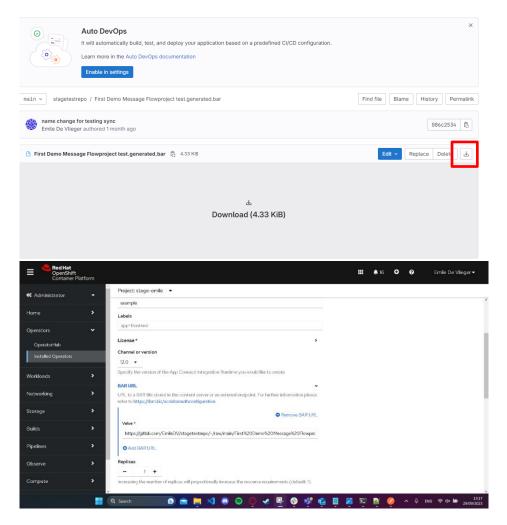
#### Check the 'accept' box in the 'license' dropdown:



Open the Bar URL dropdown and click 'add BAR URL':

In your GitLab repo go to you BAR-file and copy the downloadable link:

(you can do this by right clicking the download logo on the right side of the page and choosing "copy link address")



Open the 'configuration' dropdown:

Click 'add configuration' and insert the name of our 'barauth' configuration, which you stored in notepad

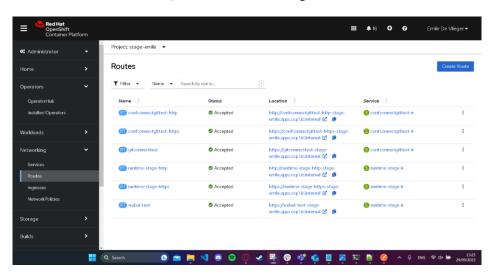
Repeat the previous step for the 'serverconf' configuration.

#### Click 'create'

### 2.1.5 Creating a route

To make our lives easier we will now create a route which allows us to access the web UI just by clicking this link instead of having to 'port forward' our operator to our localhost.

In our menu on the left, choose Networking and click Routes:



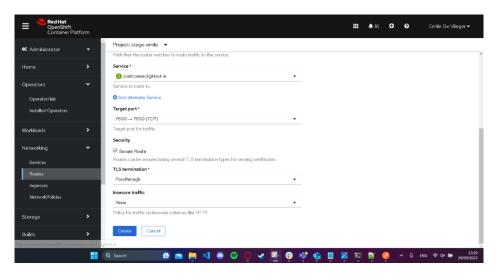
Next click 'Create Route'

Enter a name for your route, click the 'service' dropdown list and choose your integration runtime.

(The name of your operator will be the name you gave it with `-ir' behind it. Be careful not to choose the one with `-metrics' behind it)

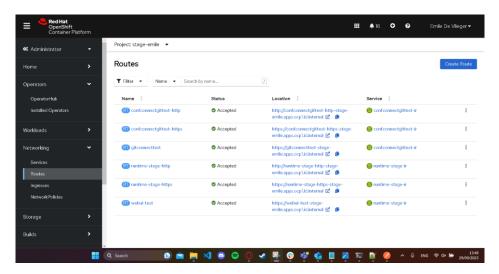
now under 'target port select port 7600.

Check the 'secure' checkbox and choose: 'passthrough' and 'none' withing theses dropdowns.



#### Click 'create'

You will see the link in the new rout we've just created.

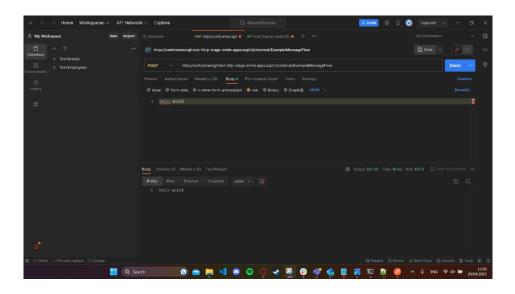


#### For example:

For me to access the web UI of the project I made for this tutorial, I click the link next to 'gitconnectedtest'

ps: to do API requests to your application you can enter the 'HTTP' link of your route and add the app you want to access.

In this example I sent a post request with postman to see if my application is running and responding.



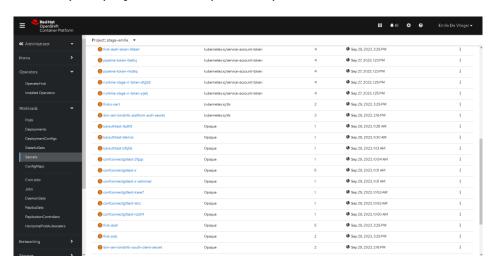
## 2.1.6 Accessing our web UI

When clicking on the link we created in the previous step we will be met with the login screen of the IBM web UI. However, we have not declared a user and/or password.

No worries as 'Secrets' come to the rescue!

In our menu on the left, click 'Operators' and select 'Secrets'.

Choose your project in the top left dropdown.

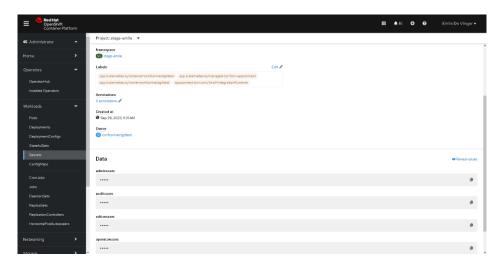


Your credentials will always be in a "opaque" type secret, so clicking the "type" will help you find it more easily

Next up choose the secret which is naming goes as follows: "<integration runtimename> - ir". (not with "-adminssl")

Click on your secret.

Scroll down until you see the "adminusers" field and copy the credentials.



When pasting them in notepad, the first half is your username and the second half is your password.

Now go to our created route, click on the link and enter your credentials.

If you have done everything correctly, you should be in the webUI.

## 2.2 Deploy App Connect application with ArgoCD

In this tutorial we will create a deployed ACE application through ArgoCD. ArgoCD is a pipelining tool that manages your cluster to assure stateful deployment.

We create an ArgoCD instance, link it with a repo and deploy the right application.

## 2.2.1 Prerequisites

- Command line tool "OC"
- Command line tool "kubectl"

### 2.2.2 Steps:

- Links for GitLab repo's.
- Creating the namespace.
- Creating the ArgoCD instance.
- o Creating an application in ArgoCD.
  - 1. Accessing our platform.
  - 2. Creating an ACE operand.
- Testing.

## 2.2.3 Links for GitLab repo's

https://gitlab.com/EmileDV/argocd-install

https://gitlab.com/EmileDV/argocd

Change files to your specific namespace

- o Download the files within this git repo.
- Change all the "namespace" parameters within these files to your created namespace.
- o Create a repo with the same structure but with the corrected namespaces.
- Use this new repo where we use the git repo listed above.

#### 2.2.4 Creating the namespace

#### Sidenote:

The namespace that is used in this tutorial is already used so in order for others to follow this tutorial you will have to change the "namespace" parameter in almost all files that are used. The GitLab links above have downloadable files that you can change locally and push to you own repo.

All steps described in this tutorial are crucial and should be followed. So only the namespaces should be changed and the GitLab links should be altered to represent you own specific versions.

Above you will find a specific sections with instruction on where to change the namespaces.

In your cmd, login to OpenShift:

in the OpenShift console, in the top-right, you will find your name. click on it and click "copy login command".

Click the second option "openshift AD" and log in with your credentials and click "display token". Copy the first token and paste it in you command line.

Copy the following command and change the namespace (in this case "argocd") to your liking:

kubectl create namespace argood

#### 2.2.5 Creating the ArgoCD instance

We will create our ArgoCD instance through our cmd with the following command:

kubectl apply -n argocd -f https://gitlab.com/EmileDV/argocd-install//raw/main/install.yml?ref type=heads

#### Sidenote:

The file in this git repo is an altered version of the following original:

https://raw.githubusercontent.com/argoproj/argo-cd/stable/manifests/install.yaml

This file is altered as followed

When using the original, we found that the file requested restricted access. In order to change this we commented out 9 lines. These 9 lines are exactly the same and go as follows:

#seccompProfile:

#type: RuntimeDefault

We have commented out these two lines 9 times which solves our access problems.

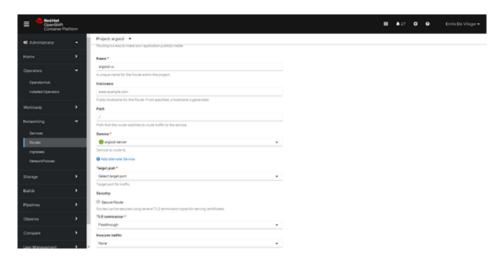
## 2.2.6 Accessing our platform

After all pods are created and deployed, we will make a route to access our argord ui.

Navigate to the "Routes" map within "Networking" and click "Create Route"

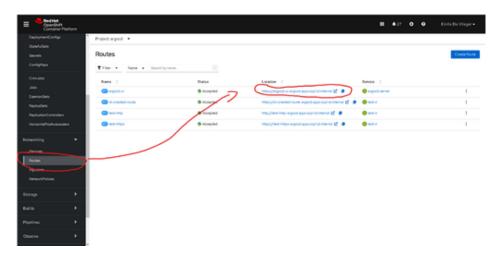
Within this page enter "argocd-ui" as name, "argocd-server" as Service and "https" as target port.

Lastly enter "Passthrough" and "none" within the "TLS "fields:

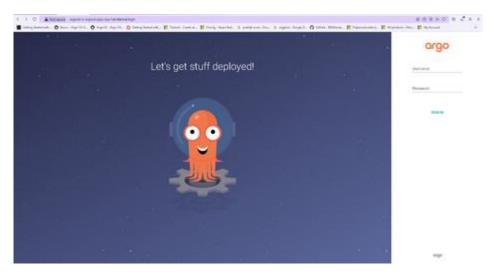


```
kind: Route
apiVersion: route.openshift.io/v1
metadata:
 name: argocd-ui
 namespace: argocd
 uid: 7f28e21e-4fed-46bb-9a87-af4376dca118
  resourceVersion: '515633455'
  creationTimestamp: '2023-10-26T09:50:36Z'
 labels:
    app.kubernetes.io/component: server
    app.kubernetes.io/name: argocd-server
    app.kubernetes.io/part-of: argocd
  annotations:
    openshift.io/host.generated: 'true'
  managedFields:
    - manager: Mozilla
     operation: Update
      apiVersion: route.openshift.io/v1
      time: '2023-10-26T09:50:36Z'
      fieldsType: FieldsV1
      fieldsV1:
        'f:metadata':
          'f:labels':
            .: {}
            'f:app.kubernetes.io/component': {}
            'f:app.kubernetes.io/name': {}
            'f:app.kubernetes.io/part-of': {}
        'f:spec':
          'f:port':
            .: {}
            'f:targetPort': {}
          'f:tls':
            .: {}
            'f:termination': {}
          'f:to':
            'f:kind': {}
            'f:name': {}
            'f:weight': {}
          'f:wildcardPolicy': {}
    - manager: openshift-router
      operation: Update
      apiVersion: route.openshift.io/v1
      time: '2023-10-26T09:50:36Z'
      fieldsType: FieldsV1
      fieldsV1:
        'f:status':
          'f:ingress': {}
     subresource: status
spec:
 host: argocd-ui-argocd.apps.ocpl.id.internal
   kind: Service
   name: argocd-server
   weight: 100
  port:
    targetPort: https
  tls:
    termination: passthrough
  wildcardPolicy: None
status:
 ingress:
    - host: argocd-ui-argocd.apps.ocpl.id.internal
      routerName: default
      conditions:
        - type: Admitted
          status: 'True'
          lastTransitionTime: '2023-10-26T09:50:36Z'
      wildcardPolicy: None
      routerCanonicalHostname: router-default.apps.ocpl.id.internal
```

Click the link found the "Location" header to navigate to the ArgoCD UI.



This will navigate you to the login screen of you ArgoCD instance



Now in your cmd enter the following command:

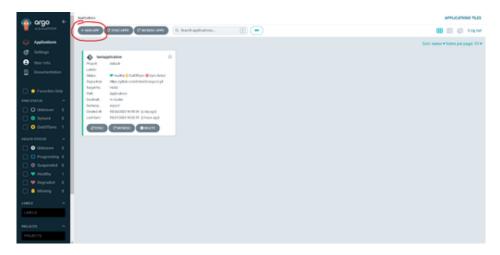
kubectl -n argocd get secret argocd-initial-admin-secret -o
jsonpath="{.data.password}" | base64 -d; echo

This will give you the password for the "admin" user for your ArgoCD platform.

Now enter "admin" as username and the give password.

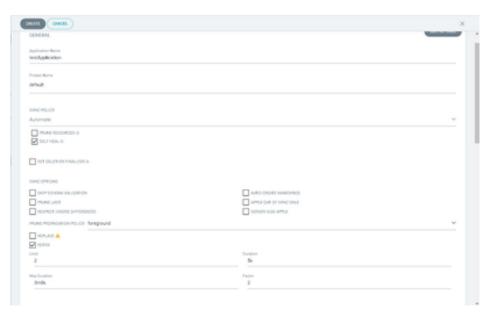
## 2.2.7 Creating an application

In your UI click "+ NEW APP" in the top left

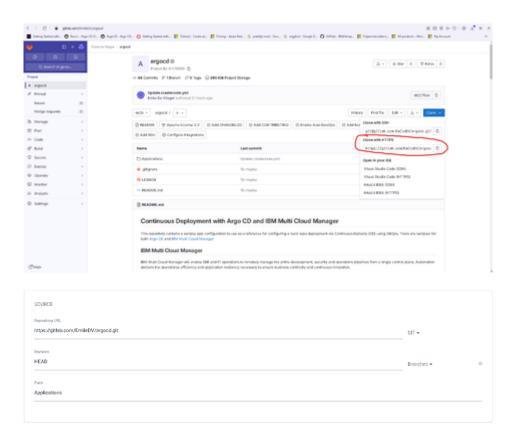


In the "GENERAL" tab you can choose the name you want to give this application, for tutorial purposes we named it "testapplication"

These are the settings we chose for this version and recommend using these settings for the sake of simplicity.



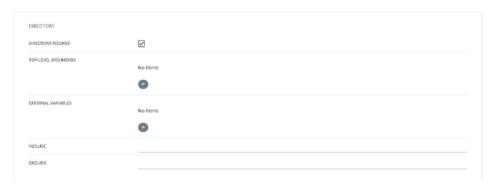
In the "SOURCE" tab enter your Git repo under "Repository URL" and the "Applications" map in the "PATH" input field



In the "DESTINATION" tab enter the following (with "namespace" being your created namespace)



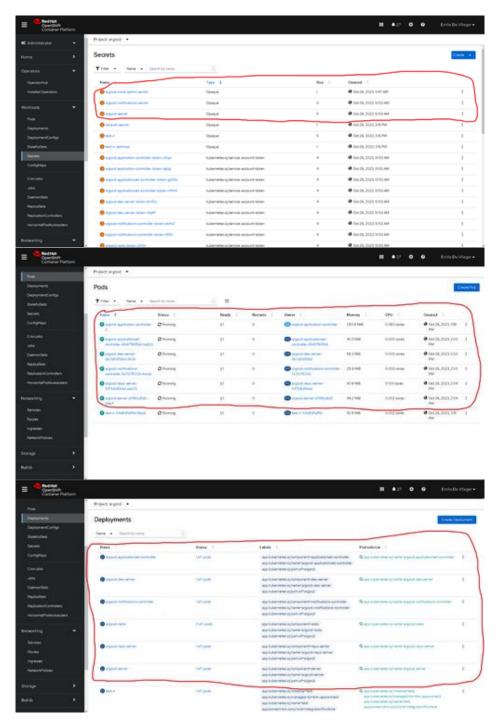
In the "DIRECTORY" tab we check the "directory recurse" checkbox



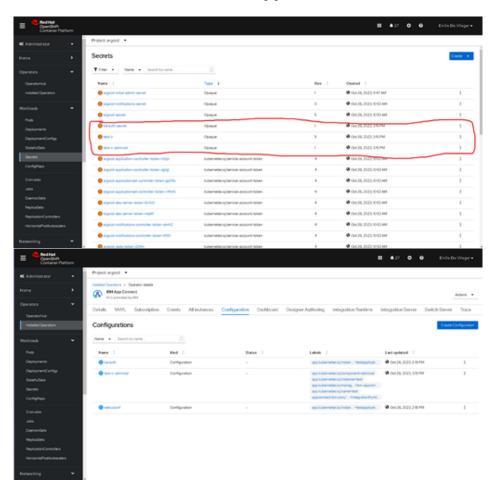
## 2.2.8 Testing

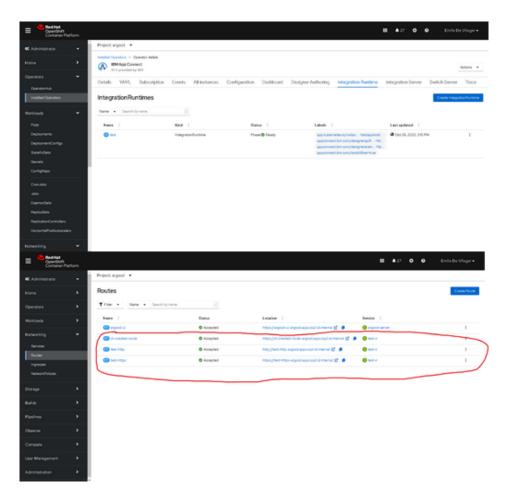
If everything has been done and created correctly you should see the following deployments on your openshift console.

## 2.2.8.1 What's created with ArgoCD deployment



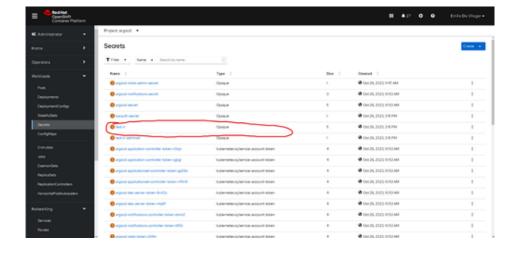
## What's created with the ACE application



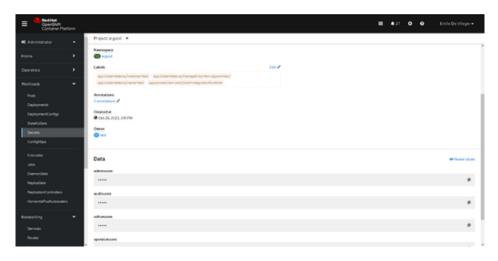


When clicking on the route "cli-created-route" under the "Location" header, you should be navigated to the login page.

You login credentials are located within the secret "test-ir-".



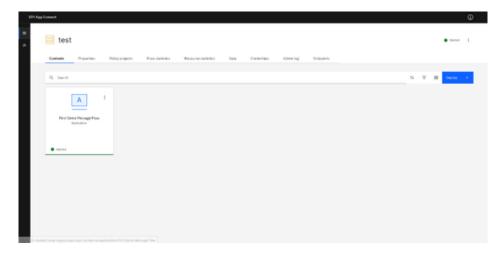
Under the "admin" field, copy the credentials and copy them in a notepad file.



Copy the first part and paste them as your "username".

Copy the second part and paste them as your "password".

Login and you will see your deployed application.



## All done!

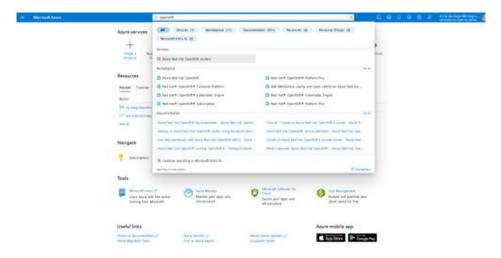
## 2.3 How to create an Azure OpenShift Cluster

## 2.3.1 Prerequisite

1. You should have an Azure subscription which allows you to create an OpenShift cluster (look at pricing, cheapest version is +- €1850)

### 2.3.2 Setting up the cluster

On the top of your window you will find a search bar. Type "openshift" and select the first option.



This will navigate you to the following page:

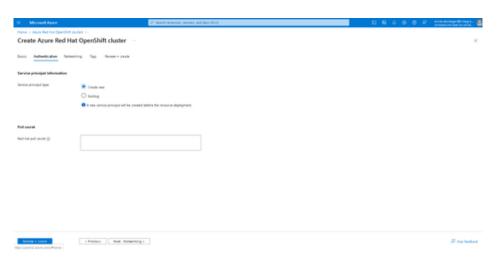


Click "Create RedHat OpenShift cluster" or the "+ Create" button on the top left.



In this example, where we will be working with the most light weight version of ARO, only enter the name you wish to give to your cluster. However when creating a more heavy weight cluster You can choose which master and worker nodes to select and how many.

#### Click "Next: Authentication"



As you can see in the middle of your page. The setup asks for a "pull secret". This is very important as it allows you to access the "Operator Hub" on you OpenShift platform.

To get your pull secret go to the following link:

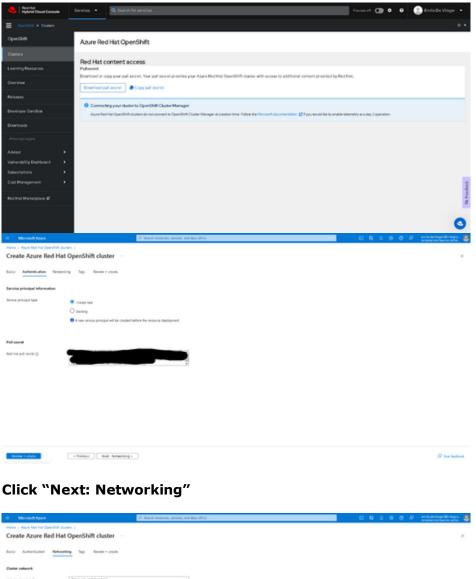
https://sso.redhat.com/auth/realms/redhat-external/protocol/openid-connect/auth?client\_id=cloud-

<u>services&redirect\_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fconsole.redhat.com%2Fopenshift%2Finstall%2Fazure%2Faro-provisioned&state=47544e44-bfea-4604-8663-</u>

b4798677c437&response mode=fragment&response type=code&scope=openid&nonce =d82740b4-8b59-4614-ba6f-09d97e288f62

If needed create an account and log in.

After login in you should see the option to "copy pull secret". Copy it and paste it in the input field in the setup wizard on Azure:





You can keep everything as it is or create a new Virtual network and subnets if you wish to do so.

(If you are using an existing virtual network, click the existing master subnet and worker subnet in the dropdowns.)

Click "Next: Tags"



You can read what Tags do in the link on the top of the page.

In this example I entered our BusinessUnit and a SourceCodeUrl (these are autocompleted)

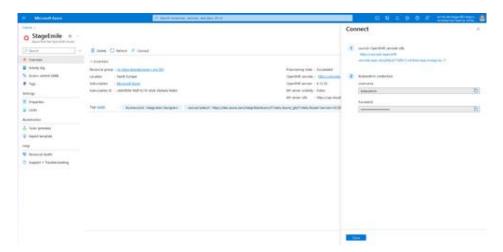
#### Click "Next: Review + Create"

On the next page, Azure will take some time to validate all given information. After this is done you will be able to click the **Create** Button on the bottom left.

### Click "Create"

This deployment takes a good amount of time so go get yourself something to drink in the meantime.

After creation is complete you will find your credentials on the right when clicking on "connect".



Click the link above your credentials and enter your username and password.

#### 2.3.3 Introducing extra IBM operators

When looking for operator's like "IBM MQ" or "IBM App Connect" you will notice that these are not available in the operatorhub. This is because this is not a basic operator in any OpenShift subscription no matter the platform.

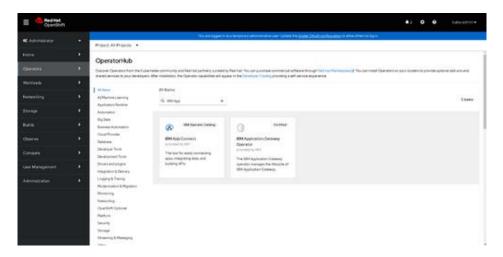
To get access to these operators follow this one easy step below.

On the top right press the "+" sign and in the yaml code window enter the following code:

```
apiVersion: operators.coreos.com/vlalphal
kind: CatalogSource
metadata:
    name: ibm-operator-catalog
    namespace: openshift-marketplace
spec:
    displayName: IBM Operator Catalog
    publisher: IBM Content
    sourceType: grpc
    image: icr.io/cpopen/ibm-operator-catalog:latest
    updateStrategy:
    registryPoll:
        interval: 45m
```

#### Click "Create"

After a couple minutes and a refresh you should see the added operators.



Installing the operator will be done through the installing wizard where, in this example, we install version 10.1. This version is auto selected but if not, install the auto selected version.

## All done!

Recreating an ArgoCD instance in your ARO environment is exactly the same as doing it on our on-prem version (follow this guide).

Deploy App connect operand with through ArgoCD

!!!

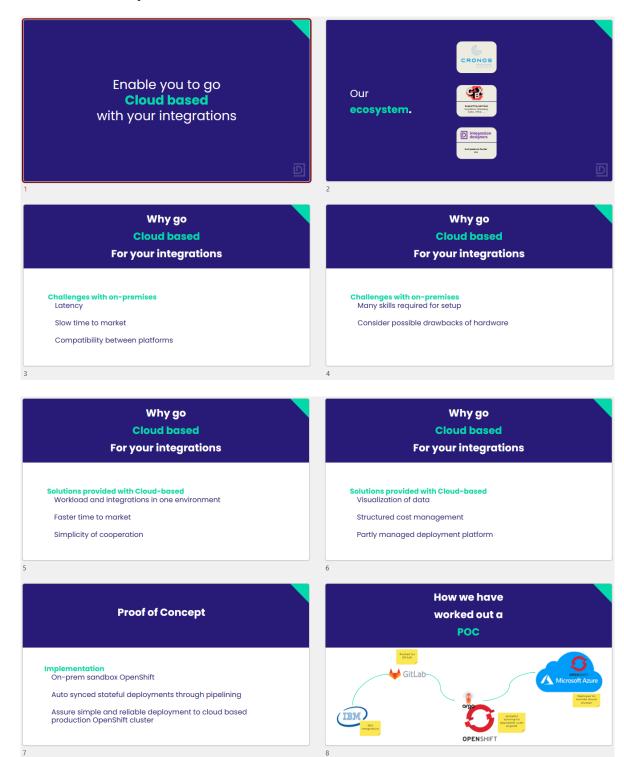
Instead of using the git repo with files for the on-prem version, use this repo.

https://gitlab.com/EmileDV/argocd-aro.git

(Do note that licenses to create an integration runtime operand differ in an ARO environment. The license to create and integration runtime has been changed here.)

## 2.4 Powerpoint and Pitch

## 2.4.1 Powerpoint



## **Proof of Concept**

Implementation
On-prem sandbox OpenShift

Auto synced stateful deployments through pipelining

Assure simple and reliable deployment to cloud based production OpenShift cluster

## **Resources for basic OpenShift cluster** on Azure

5 worker nodes 3 master nodes 128Gib (P10) D8s v3 1024GiB (P30)

D4as v4 8 vCPUs 500IOPS 4 vCPUs 100MB/sec 16GB RAM

5000IOPS 32GB RAM 200MB/sec

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## pricing for basic environment **PAYGO**

Azure

Estimated cost Monthly payment

€ 2,849.22 Monthly

€ 34,190.64 / year

**Estimated cost** 

Monthly payment

€ 1,500Monthly

€ 18,000 / year

## pricing for basic environment 1 Year

**Estimated cost** Monthly & upfront payment

> € 1,654.50 Monthly € 4.659,99 upfront (1 year)

€ 24,513.99 / year

- 28%

Compared to PAYGO

+ 33%

Compared to on-prem

## **Your project**

IBM integration
POC worked out with ACE but works with any IBM integration

Cloud platform
Azure is not the only option

ipelining ArgoCD is simple, quick and reliable

You can choose your preferred tool

**Your OpenShift** 

Entirely customizable

Many possibilities to ensure the best plan for you

Type of plan

The type of payment can be chosen separately for worker and master nodes (to ensure scalability when needed)

Support
Cloud environment also ensures support from their side

## **Why Integration Designers**

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Expertise Ensuring that our knowledge is up to date with constant knowledge sharing, certifications and

**Why Integration Designers** 

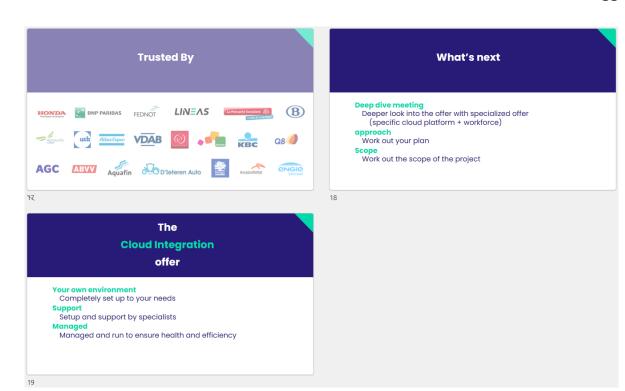


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## 3 CONCLUSION

I was given a broad project to work on, but I believe I did a great job completing both sides of the process. I created a proof of concept that demonstrated the benefits of deploying on the cloud and how it can help in the field of integration.

Despite my background in application development and some doubts from my peers, I worked hard to finish this project. With the help of my mentor Kim, we developed a strong plan with clear checkpoints and goals, making each step of the process well-defined, challenging, and yet, still achievable.

I hope this document shows how I have grown and what I have accomplished.