

Azure Governance Best Practices

by Thomas Naunheim & Gregor Reimling

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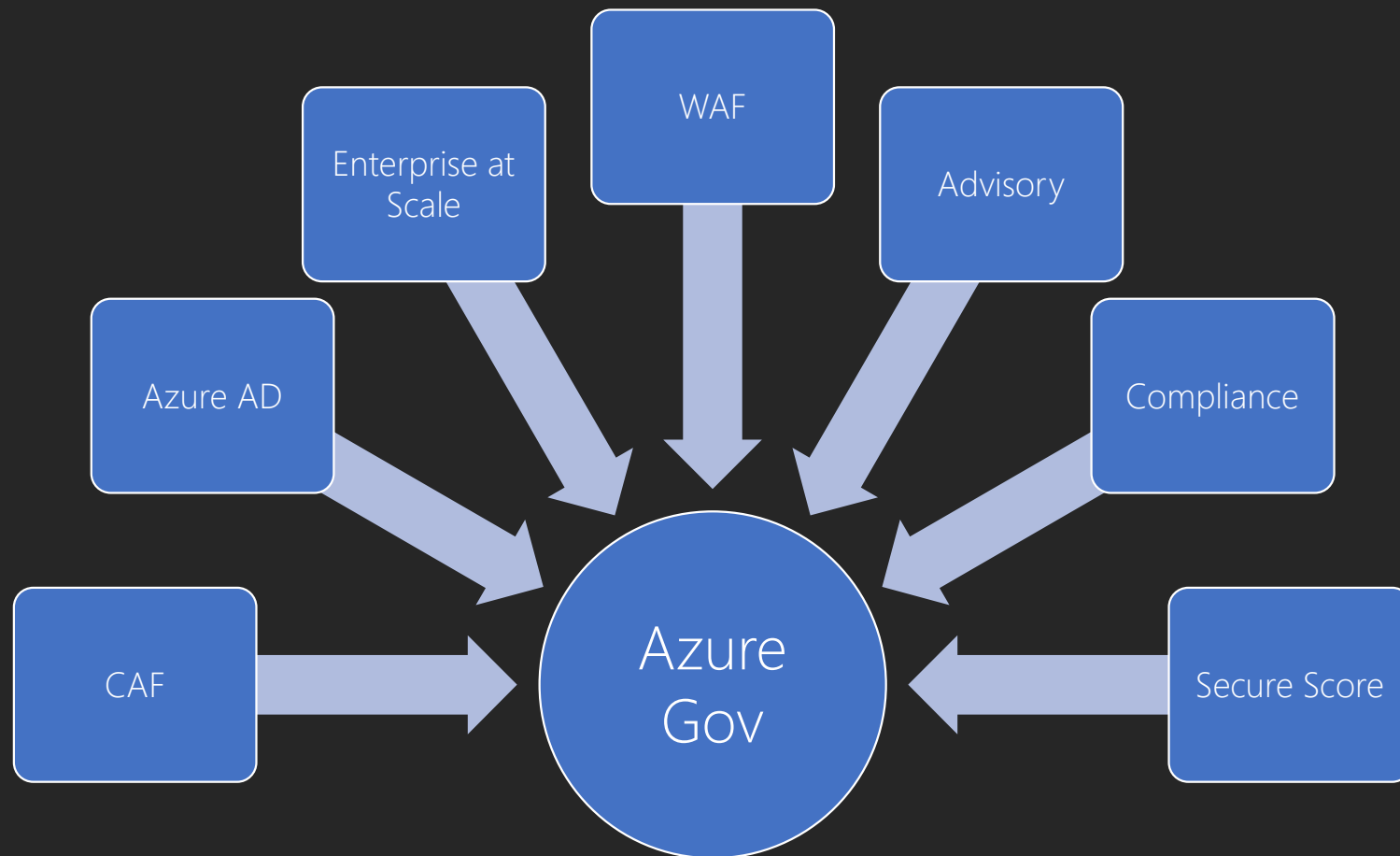
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Agenda

- Overview of Cloud Adoption Framework and Well-architecture Framework
- Management of Compliance and Security Status
- Azure Enterprise-Scale Landing Zone
- AzOps: "Operationalize" Azure environment at scale

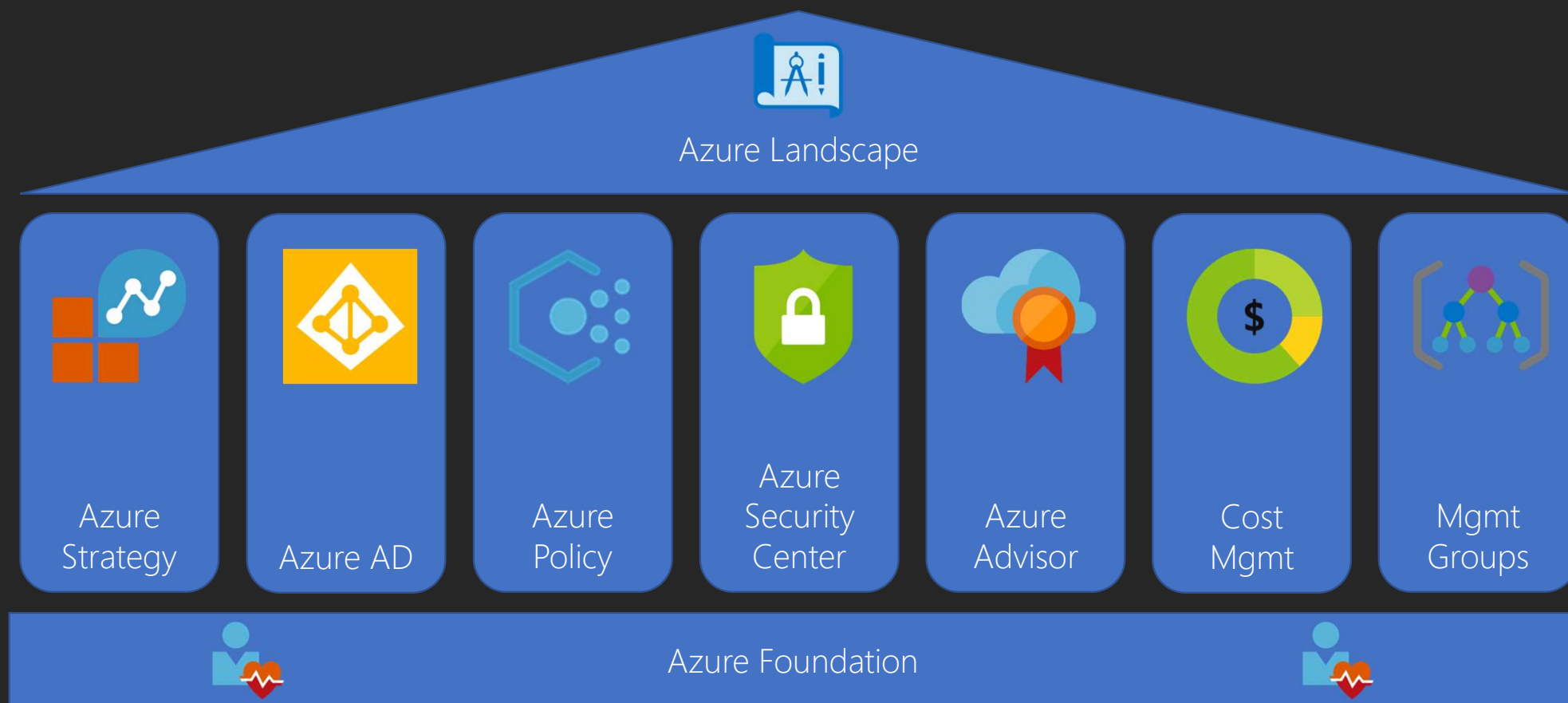
Lot of DEMOS

Topic Overview



Overview of CAF

Azure Governance House



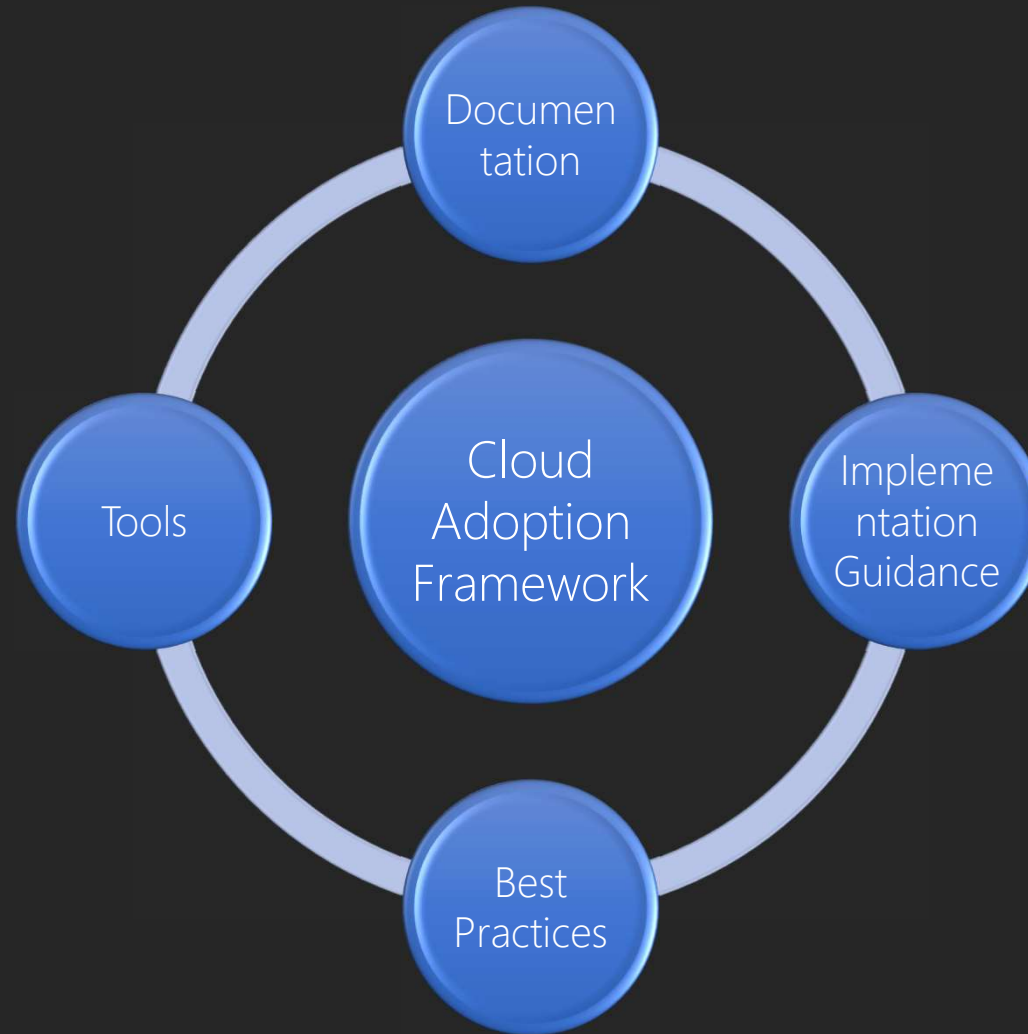
Azure Cloud Adoption Framework (CAF)

„The Cloud Adoption Framework is a collection of documentation, implementation guidance, best practices, and tools that are proven guidance from Microsoft designed to accelerate your cloud adoption journey.“

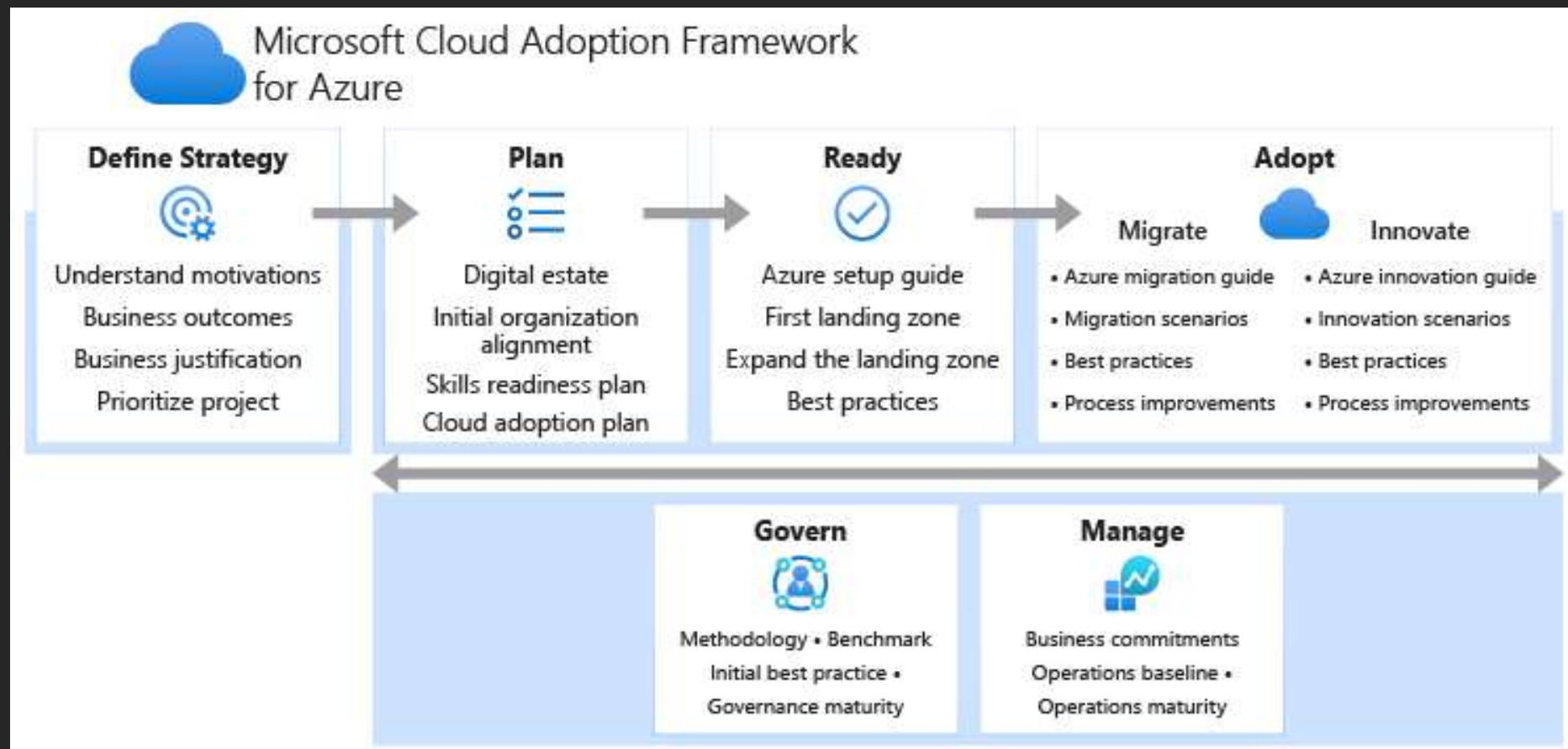
Azure Well-Architected Framework (WAF)

“The Azure Well-Architected Framework is a set of guiding tenets that can be used to improve the quality of a workload.”

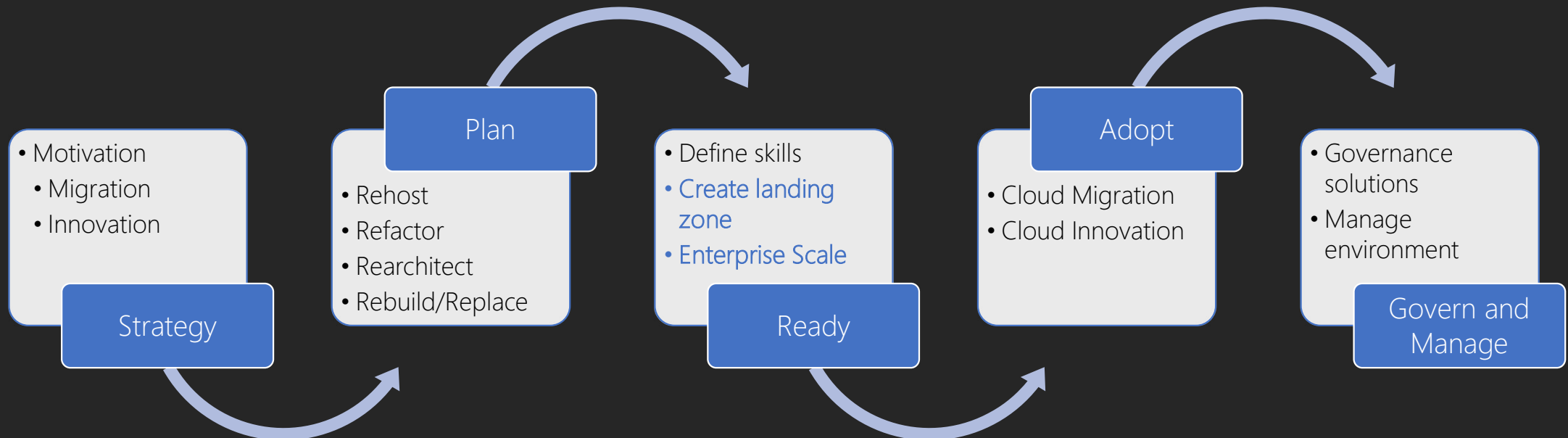
Cloud Adoption Framework



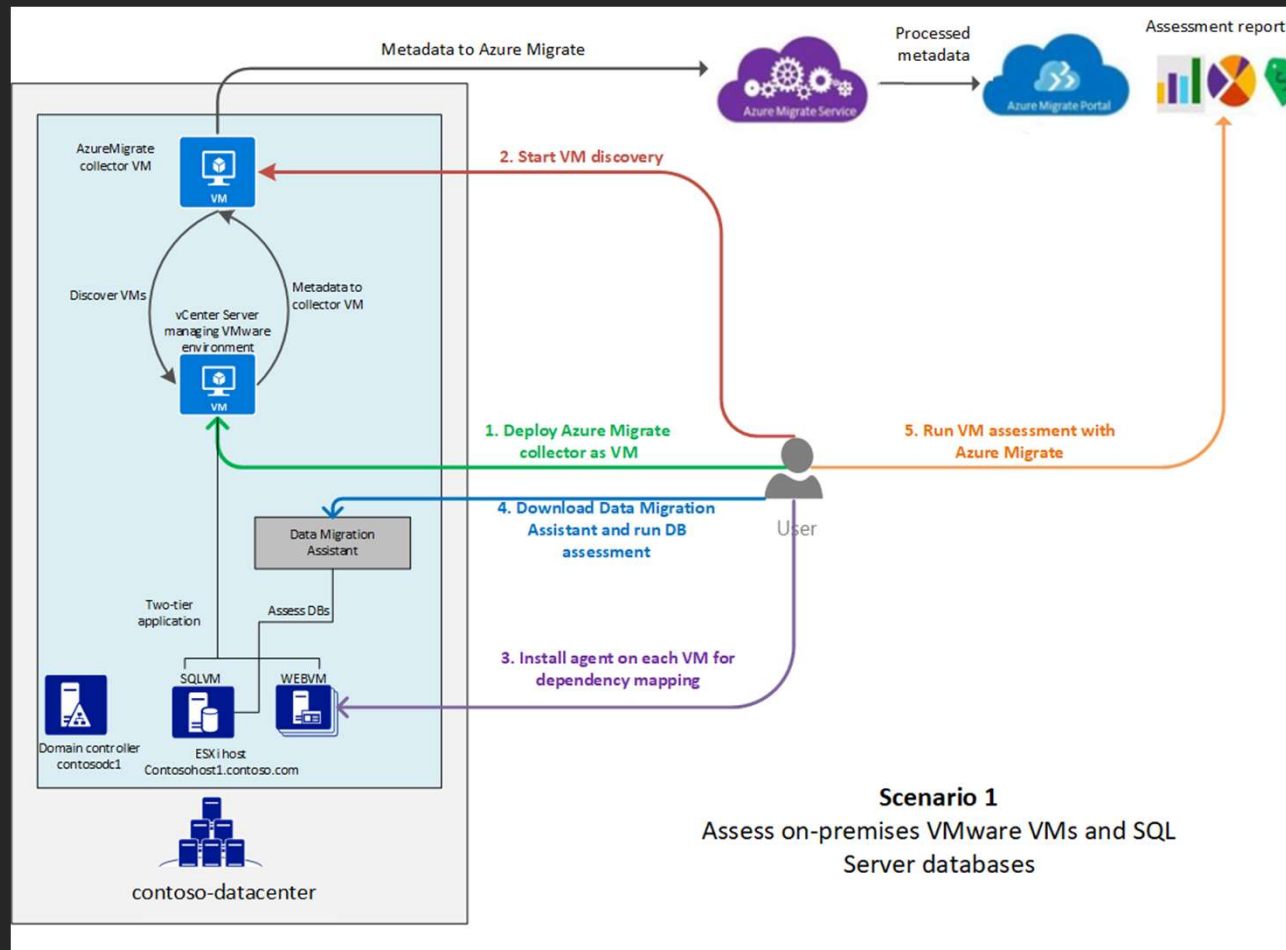
CAF Overview



CAF Flow

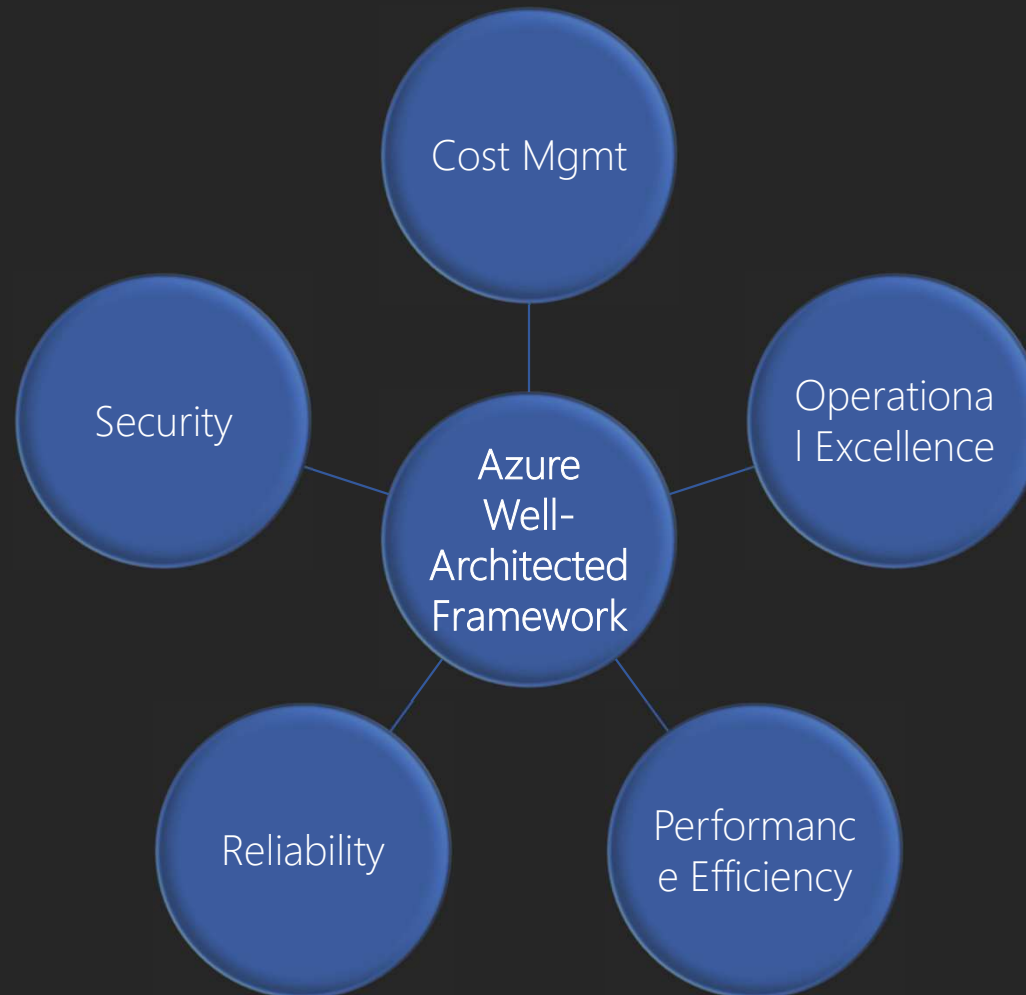


CAF Assessment example



Overview of WAF

"The Azure Well-Architected Framework is a set of guiding tenets that can be used to improve the quality of a workload."



<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/framework/>

Microsoft Assessments Azure Well- Architected Review

Security

- What design considerations did you make in your workload in regards to security?
- What considerations for compliance and governance do you need to take?
- How are you managing encryption for this workload?
- How are you managing identity for this workload?
- How have you secured the network of your workload?
- What tradeoffs do you need to make to meet your security goals?
- * How are you ensuring your critical accounts are protected?

Examine your workload through the lenses of reliability, cost management, operational excellence, security and performance efficiency [20 minutes].

Assessment name *

Microsoft Azure Well-Architected Review - Aug 24, 2020 - 7:43:58 PM

Choose your interests

☐ Cost Optimization

An effective architecture achieves business goals and ROI requirements while keeping costs within the allocated budget.

☐ Operational Excellence

To ensure that your application is running effectively over time, consider multiple perspectives, from both an application and infrastructure angles. Your strategy must include the processes that you implement so that your users are getting the right experience.

☐ Performance Efficiency

Prioritize scalability as you design and implement phases. Scalability leads to lower maintenance costs, better user experience, and higher agility.

☐ Reliability

In a cloud environment you scale out rather than buying higher-end hardware to scale up. While it's always desirable to prevent all failure, focus your efforts in minimizing the effects of a single failing component.

☒ Security

Security is one of the most important aspects of any architecture. It provides confidentiality, integrity, and availability assurances against deliberate attacks and abuse of your valuable data and systems. Losing these assurances can negatively impact your business operations and revenue, as well as your organization's reputation in the marketplace. In the following series of articles, we'll discuss key architectural considerations and principles for security and how they apply to Azure.

Next →

Cloud Adoption Framework Well Architecture Framework



DEMO



Management of Compliance and Security Status

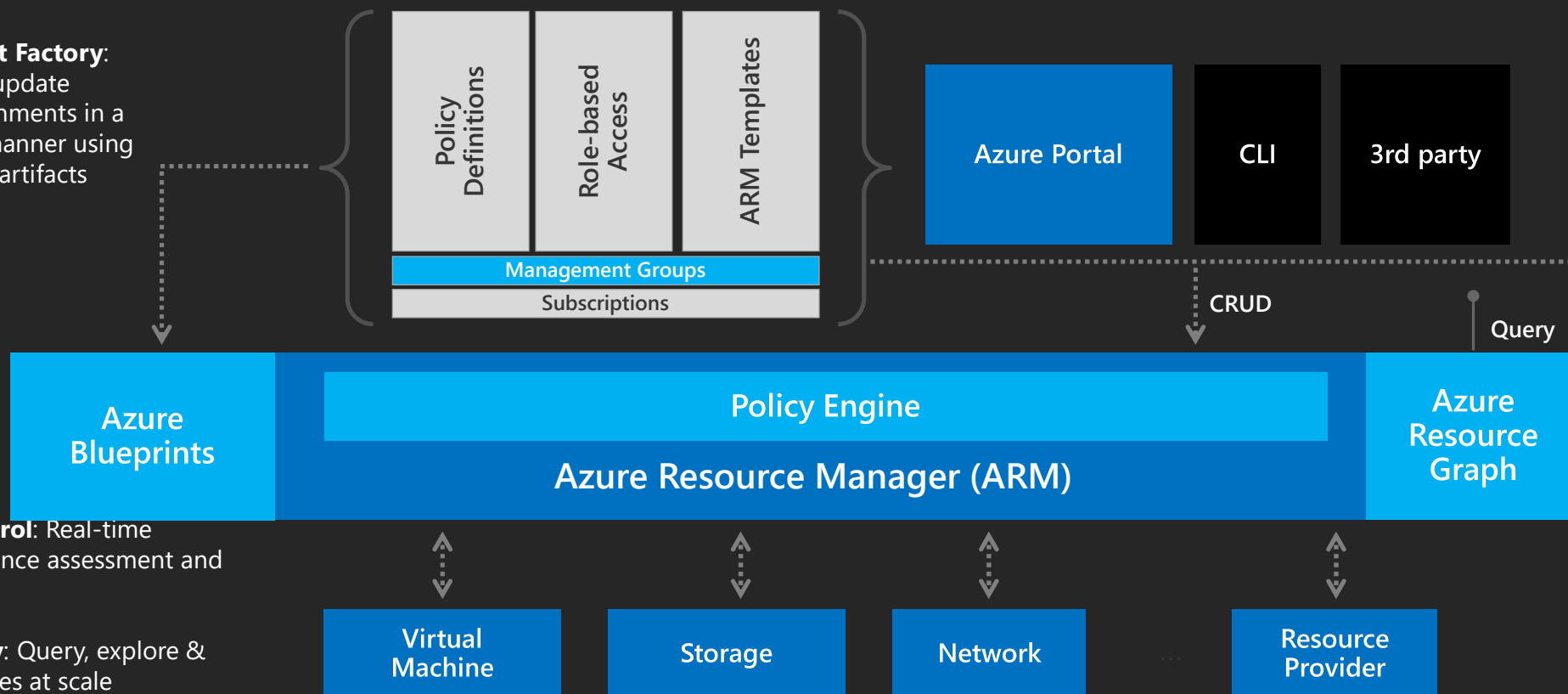


Azure Governance Architecture

providing control over the cloud environment, without sacrificing developer agility

1. Environment Factory:

Deploy and update cloud environments in a repeatable manner using composable artifacts



2. Policy-based Control: Real-time enforcement, compliance assessment and remediation at scale

3. Resource Visibility: Query, explore & analyze cloud resources at scale

Azure Policy Concepts

- Part of CAF to support WAF
- Create, assign and manage policies
- Enforce rules to ensure your resources are compliant
- Focus on resource properties for new and existing deployments
- A definition is a set of conditions in audit or deny mode
- An assignment is a policy definition placed on a specific scope
- An initiative is a collection of policies

Azure Policy



Turn on built-in policies or build custom ones for all resource types



Real-time policy evaluation and enforcement



Periodic & on-demand compliance evaluation



VM In-Guest Policy (NEW)

Enforcement & Compliance



Apply policies to a Management Group with control across your entire organization



Apply multiple policies and & aggregate policy states with policy initiative



Exclusion Scope

Apply policies at scale



Real time remediation



Remediation on existing resources (NEW)

Remediation

Leverage built-in initiative & policies



Security

Azure Security Center
Guest Config baselines
Key Vault certificate
NSG rules
AKS & AKS Engine
RBAC role assignment



Regulatory Compliance

NIST SP 800-53 R4
ISO 27001:2013
CIS
PCI v3.2.1:2018
FedRAMP Moderate
Canada Federal PBMM
SWIFT CSP-CSCF v2020
UK Official and UK NHS
IRS 1075



Tags

Require specified tag
Add or replace a tag
Inherit a tag from the RG
Append a tag



Resource standardization

Allowed/ not allowed RP
Allowed locations
Naming convention
Back up VMs
Allowed images for AKS



Cost

Allowed VM SKUs
Allowed Storage SKUs

Policy

- 250 policy definitions per scope
- 100 policy set definitions per scope
- 1000 policy set definitions per tenant
- 100 policyDefinition references per policySetDefinition
- 100 policy assignments per scope
- 250 notScopes per policyAssignment
- <https://github.com/Azure/azure-policy>

Azure Security Center

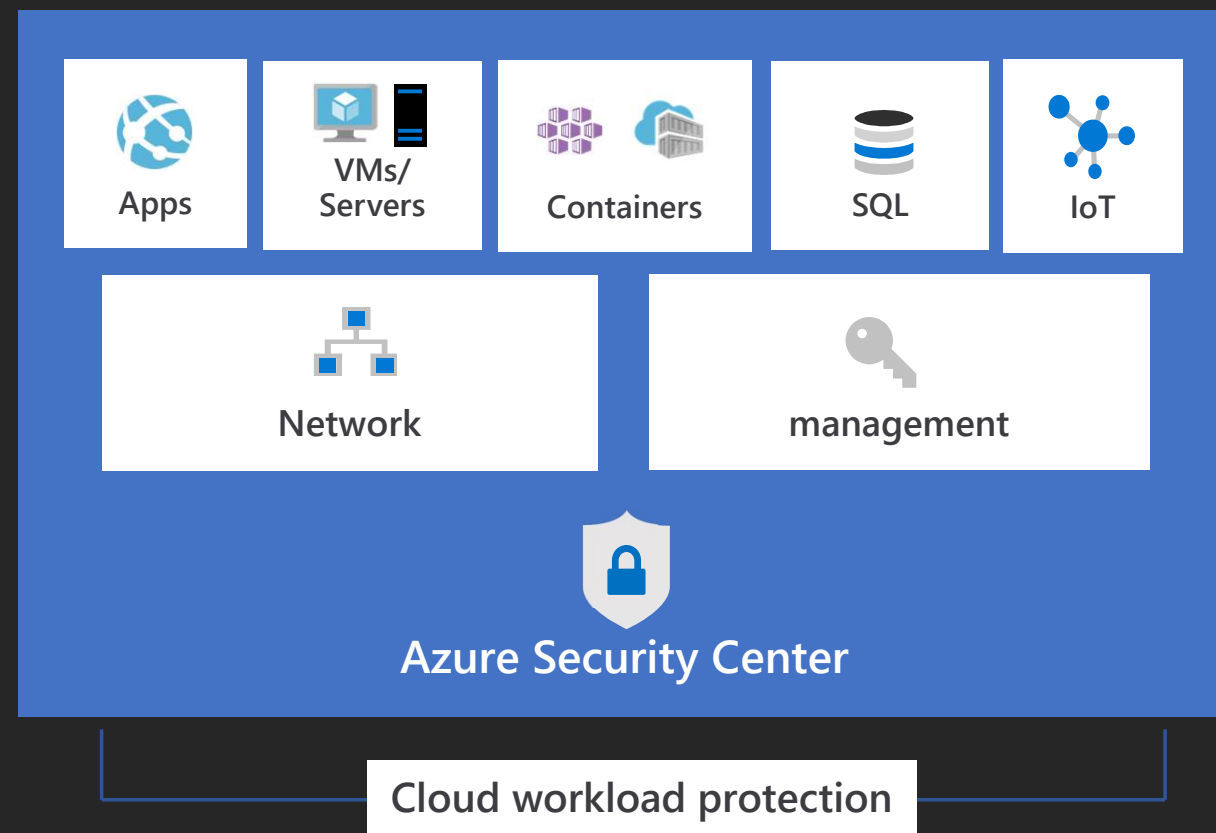


Azure Security Center

- A service to strengthen your security posture
- Available in two Tiers – Basic and ~~Standard~~ -> changed to Azure Defender
- Basic -> Free – Activated by default for all subscriptions
- Based on an security score – scope based
- Available for all workloads (Server, Container, SQL, IoT and more)

Protect your workloads

- Detect & block advanced malware and threats for Linux and Windows Servers on any cloud
- Protect cloud-native services from threats
- Protect data services against malicious attacks
- Protect your Azure IoT solutions with near real time monitoring
- Service layer detections: Azure network layer and Azure management layer (ARM)



Azure Policy & Azure Security Center



DEMO

How it works together

- All Azure Security Center recommendations based on Azure Policy
- Secure score is result of Azure Policy settings
- Recommendations are a result of Azure Policy
- All Azure Policies are defined in Compliance mode



Azure Policy Recap



Powerful solution to define Cloud Guards for own Tenant



Start with an audit effect instead of a deny effect



Define Management Groups to group subscriptions and set RBAC, Policies and more at Higher level



Use Deny effect for Production workloads with wisdom



Creating initiatives even for single policy definition



Integrate Azure Policy in your regular Azure check

Azure Security Center



START WITH ASC TO
GET A SECURITY
OVERVIEW



USE ASC TO
STRENGTHEN YOUR
INFRASTRUCTURE



CHECK THE STATUS
IN ASC REGULARLY



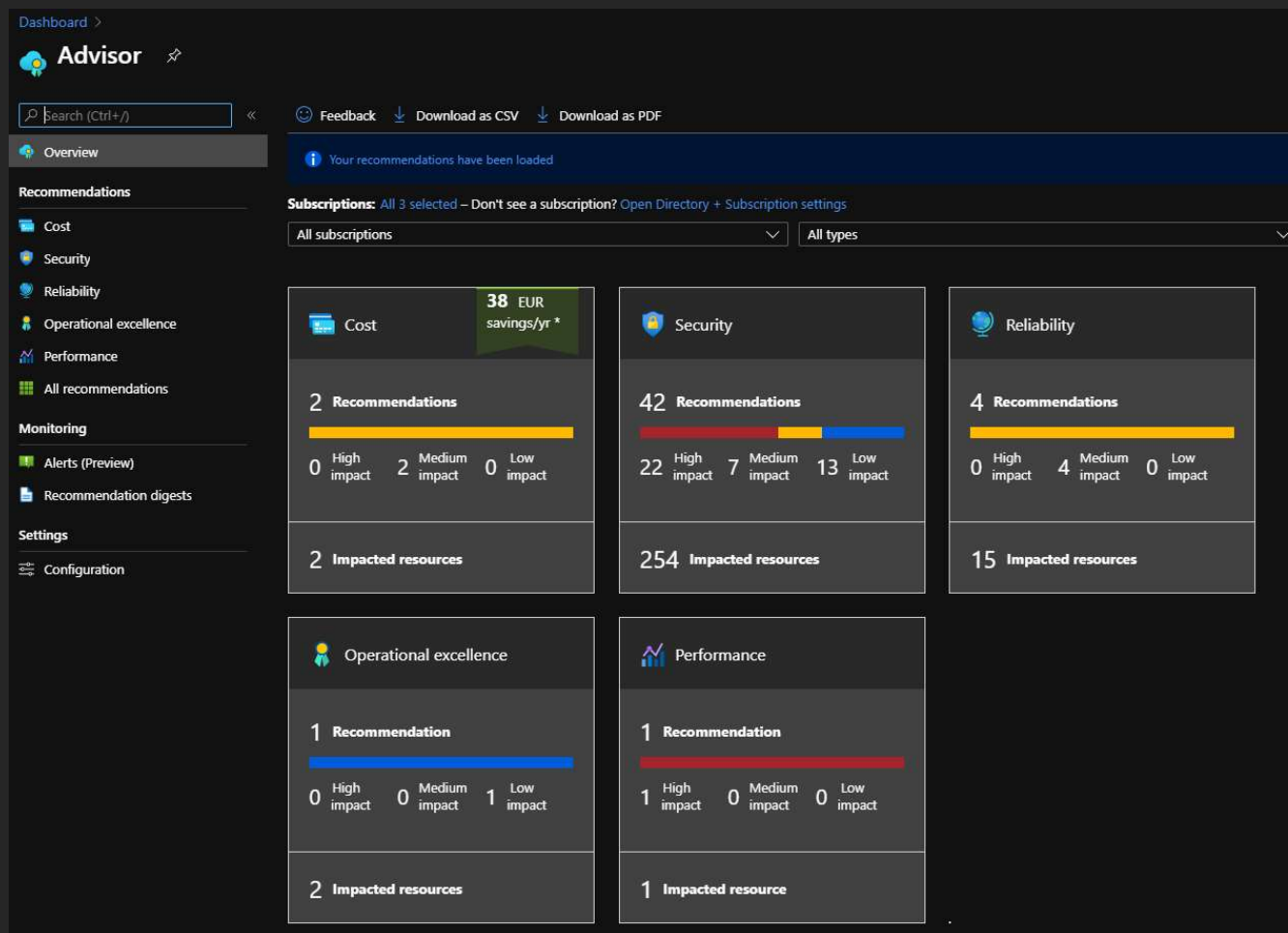
CREATE OWN
SECURITY POLICIES
FOR SECURE SCORE



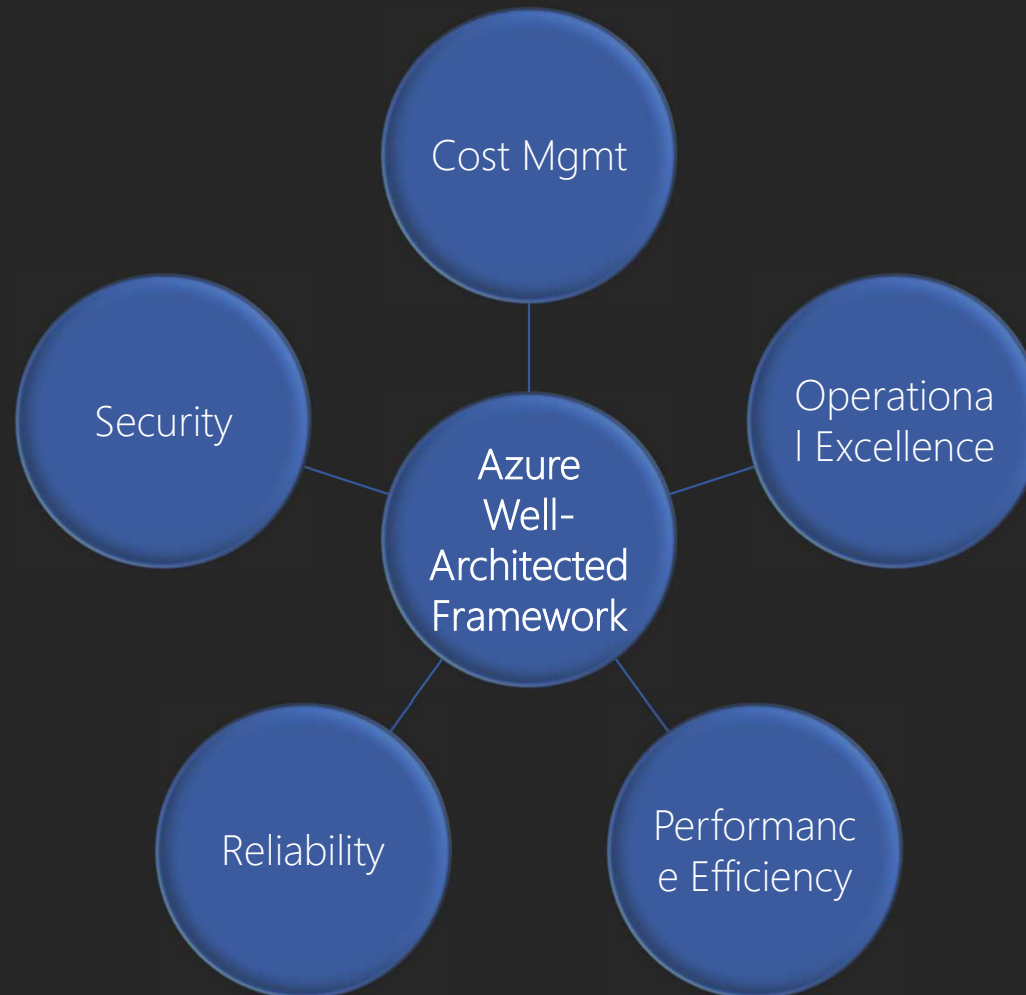
USE ASC TO PROOF
YOUR
INFRASTRUCTURE



INTEGRATE AZURE
POLICY IN YOUR
REGULARLY AZURE
CHECK



"The Azure Well-Architected Framework is a set of guiding tenets that can be used to improve the quality of a workload."



<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/framework/>



Azure Enterprise-Scale Architecture

Introduction and Implementation

What is Enterprise-Scale?

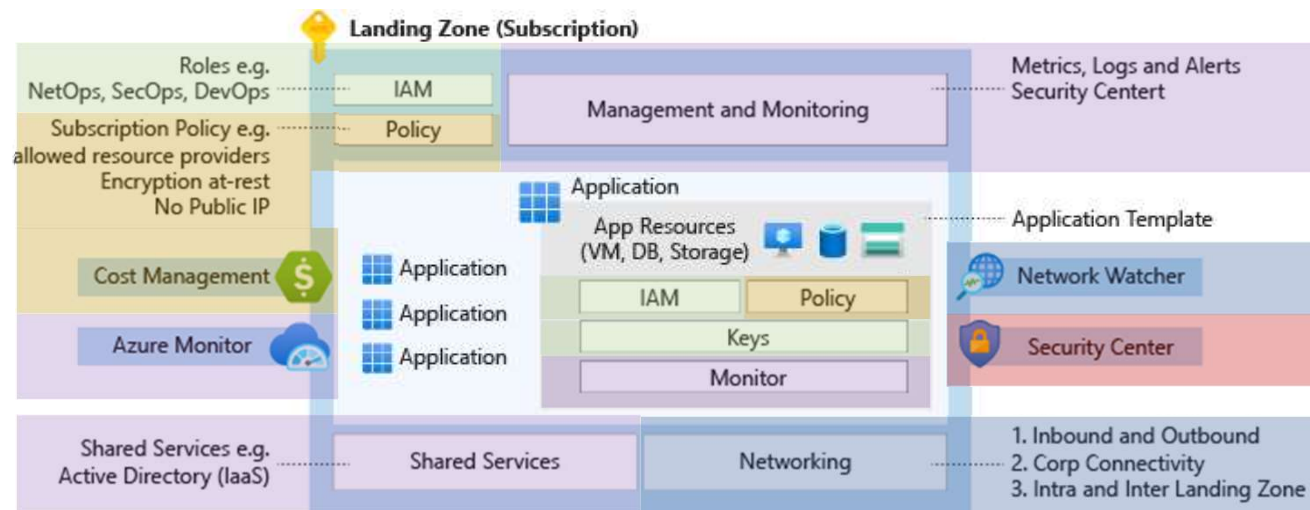


What is Enterprise-Scale?

„Azure landing zones help customers set up their Azure environment for scale, security, governance, networking, and identity.“

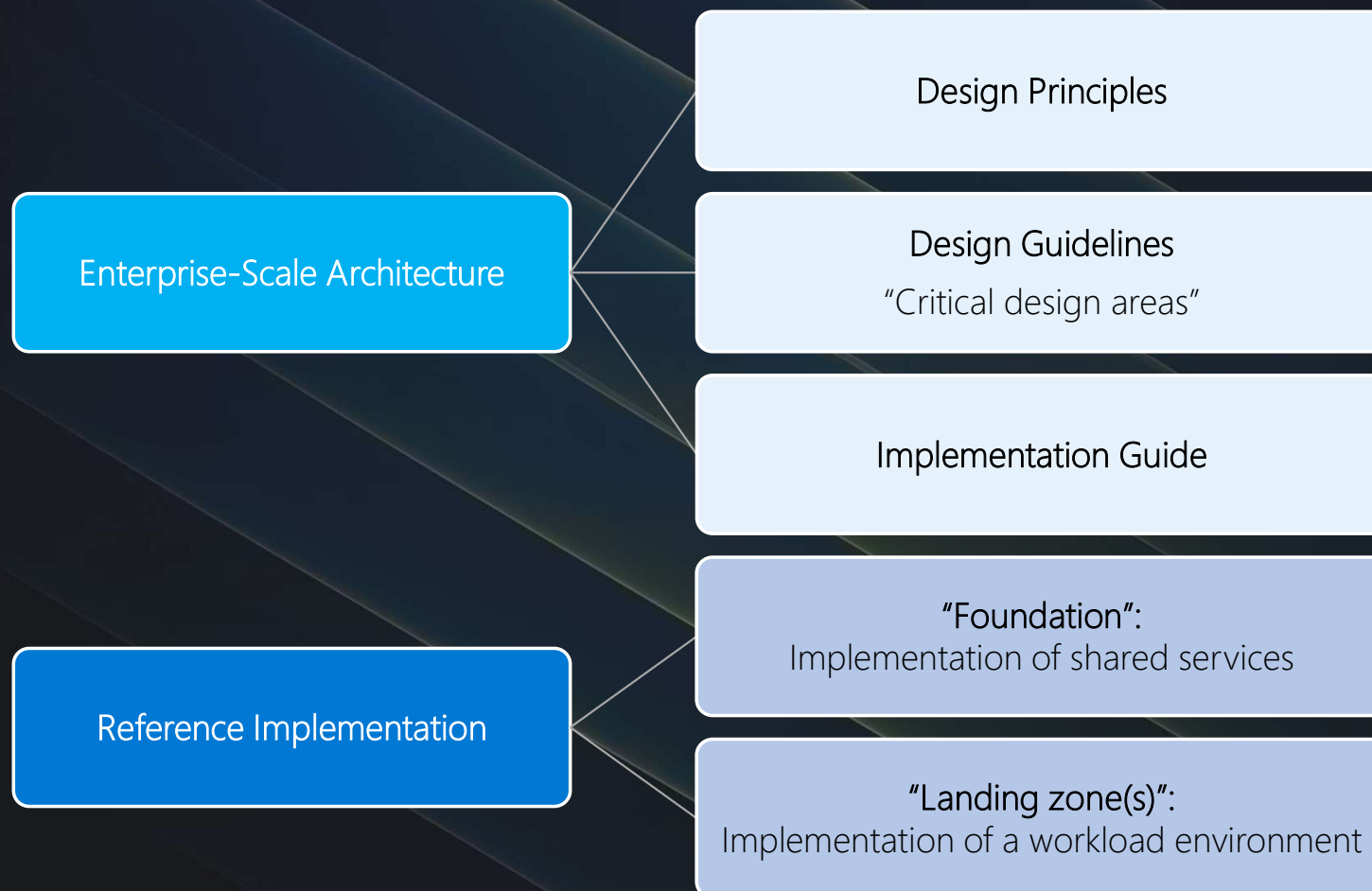
„Draw on Microsoft’s proven technical guidance, resources, and templates, to guide your customers through iteration and learning as they gain confidence and successfully adopt Azure.“

Design areas of Landing Zone(s)

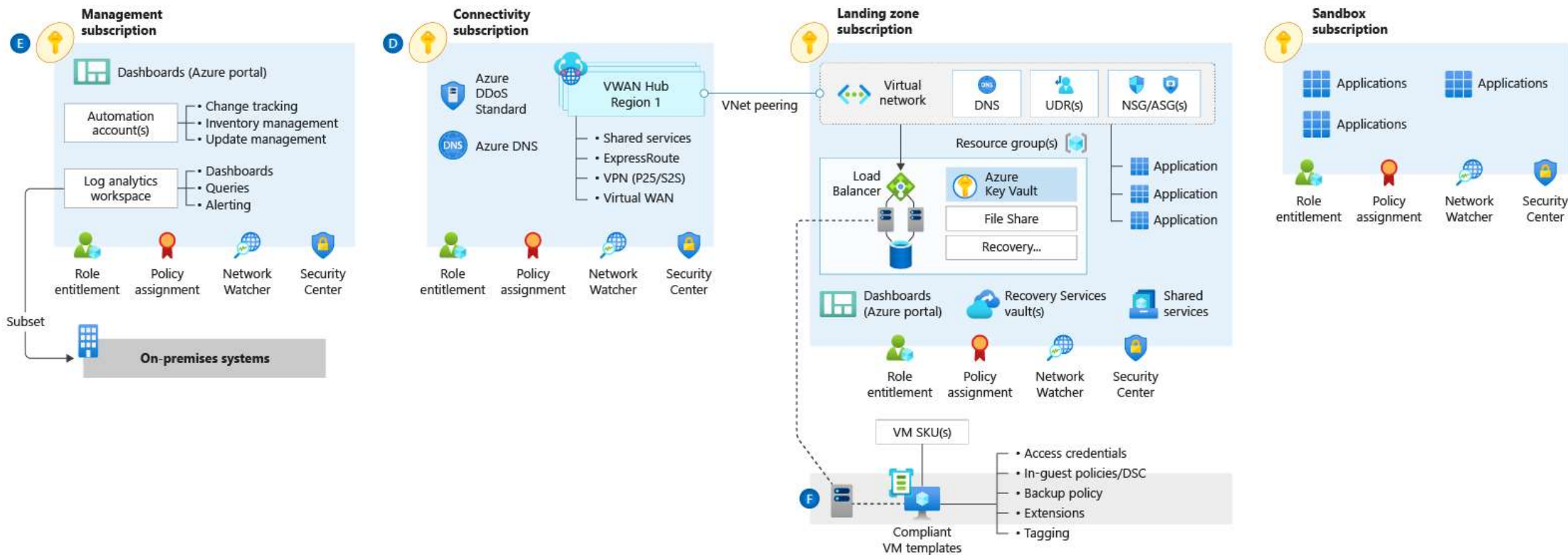


Connectivity, Identity, Governance, Operations
and Security

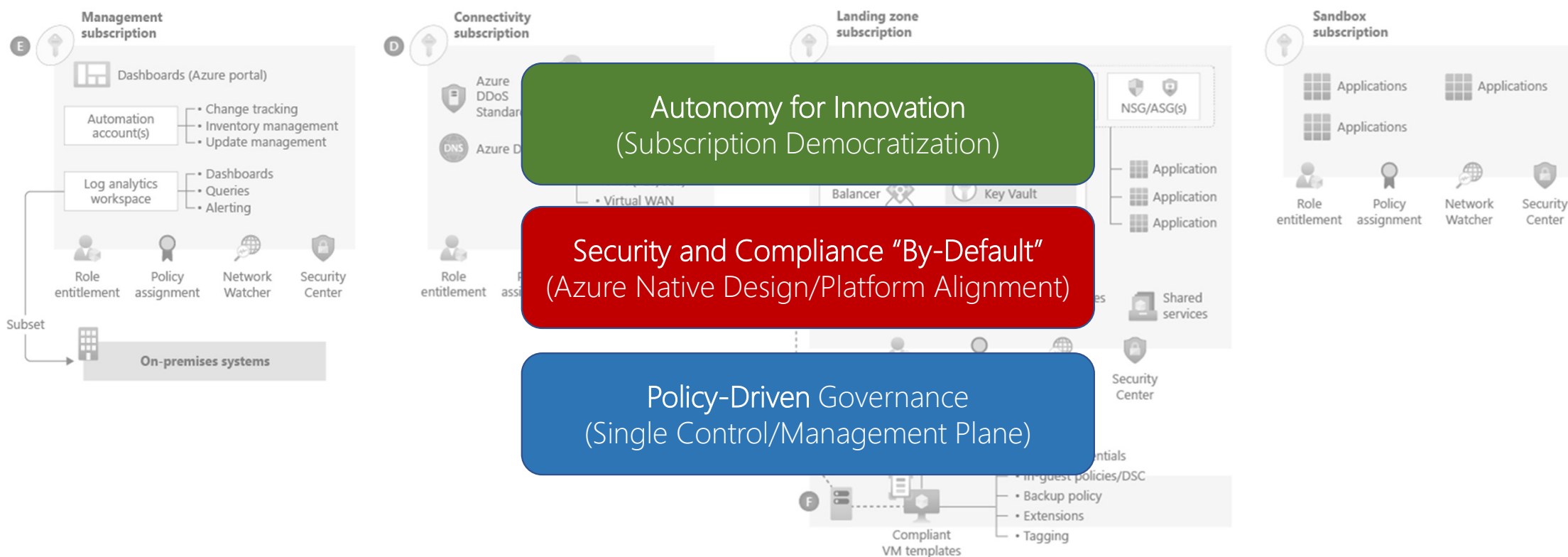
Enterprise-Scale Architecture & Reference



Enterprise-Scale Implementation

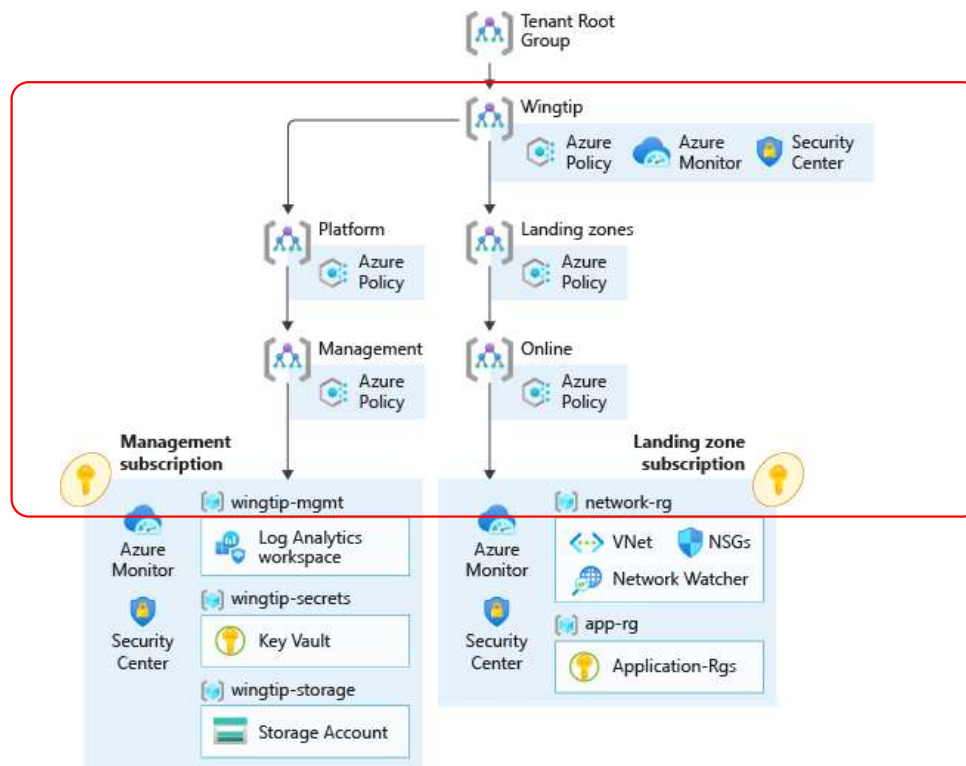


Enterprise-Scale Design Principles

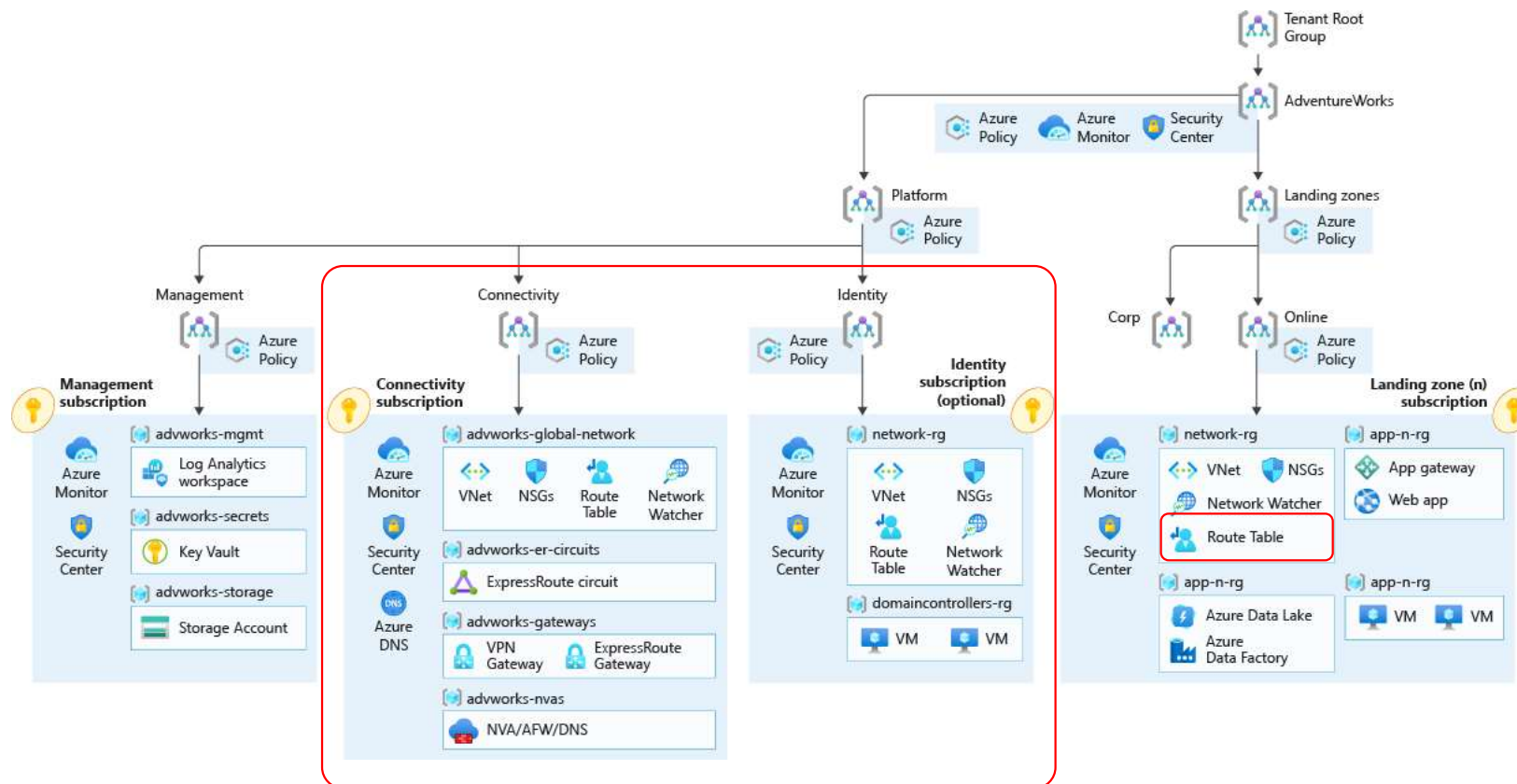


Enterprise-Scale Reference Implementation

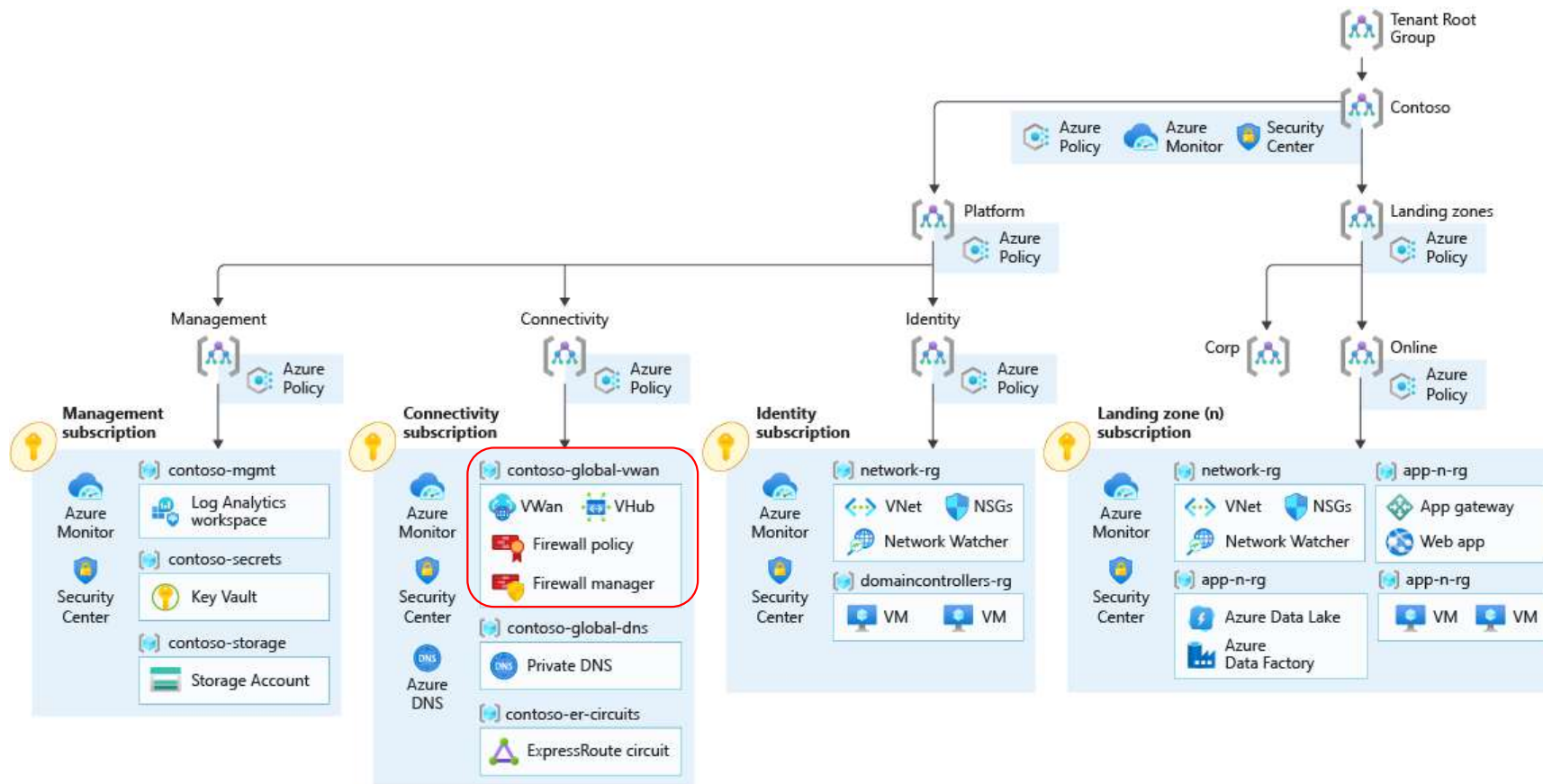
Foundation without hybrid connectivity



Enterprise-Scale Reference Implementation Foundation with Hub and Spoke Connectivity



Enterprise-Scale Reference Implementation Foundation with Azure VWAN Connectivity



Enterprise-Scale Deployment and Policies



DEMO



Enterprise-Scale and AzOps



Git->Clone->Azure/Northstar

Git -> Commit is new "az deploy"

Git repository scoped at customer AAD tenant for all Azure infrastructure

Discover existing Azure environment as-is

Turn-on the lights for existing resources and configuration



ARM as orchestrator to declare Goal-state at all 4 scopes:
Tenant -> MGs -> Subs -> RGs

E2E orchestration for "North Star" to create Landing Zones

Integrated CI/CD pipeline with File->New Regions and Landing Zones i.e. subscriptions

Autonomous Landing Zones - enforced by Azure Policy in platform

Azure Engineering and platform roadmap aligned



Operationalize: Configuration Drift and Reconciliation

Azure-Native immutable configuration in Git

Native platform capabilities for what-if, rollback, rollforward and complete mode

Inclusive of DevOps (Git) and ITPros (Portal)

Consistent export of all resources at all scopes across the tenant with implicit dependencies

AzOps

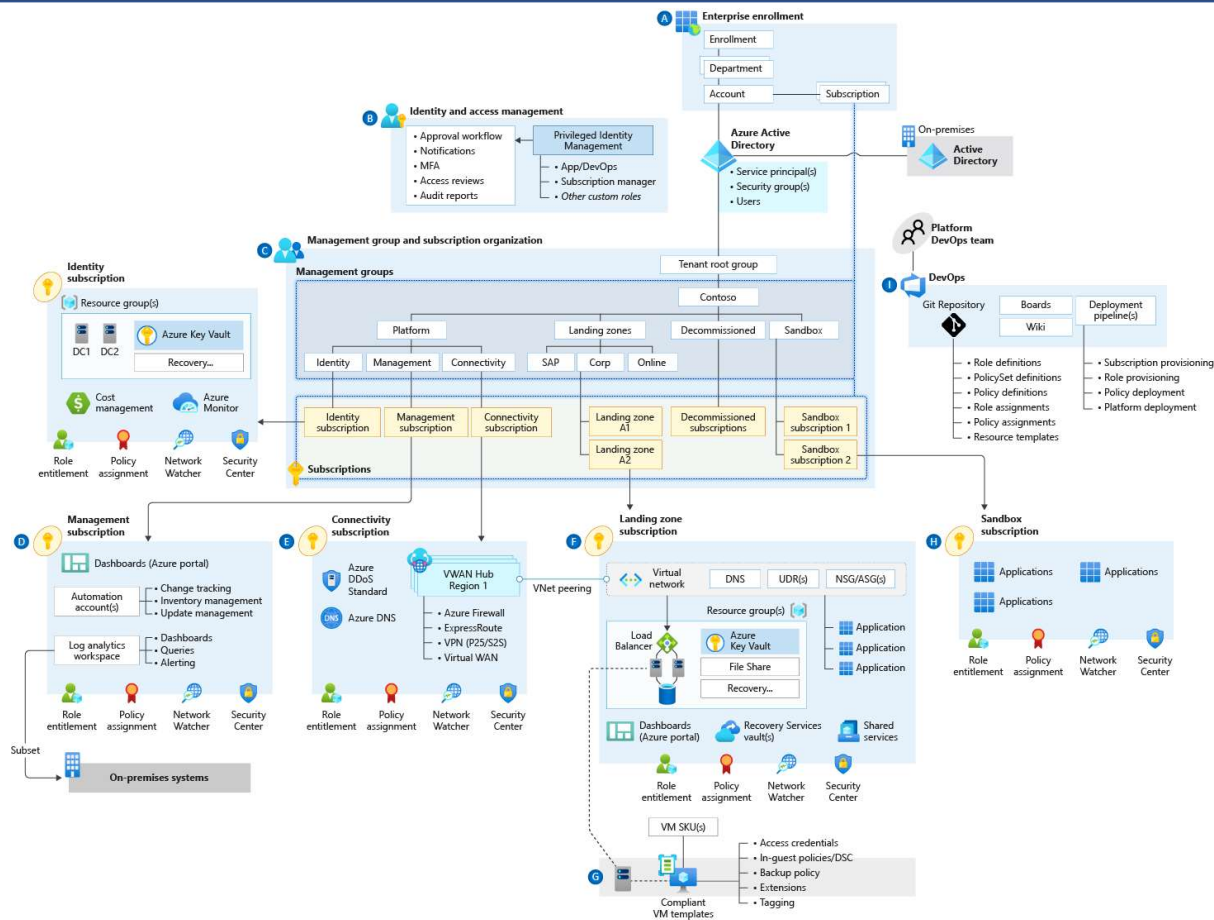
Repository and CI/CD Pipelines



DEMO



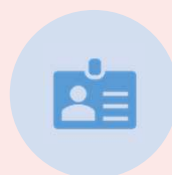
Enterprise-Scale Architecture



Enterprise-Scale **Critical Design Areas**



Enterprise Enrollment
& Azure AD Tenants



Identity & Access
Management



Management Group
& Subscription
Organization



Network Topology &
Connectivity



Management &
Monitoring



Business Continuity &
Disaster Recovery

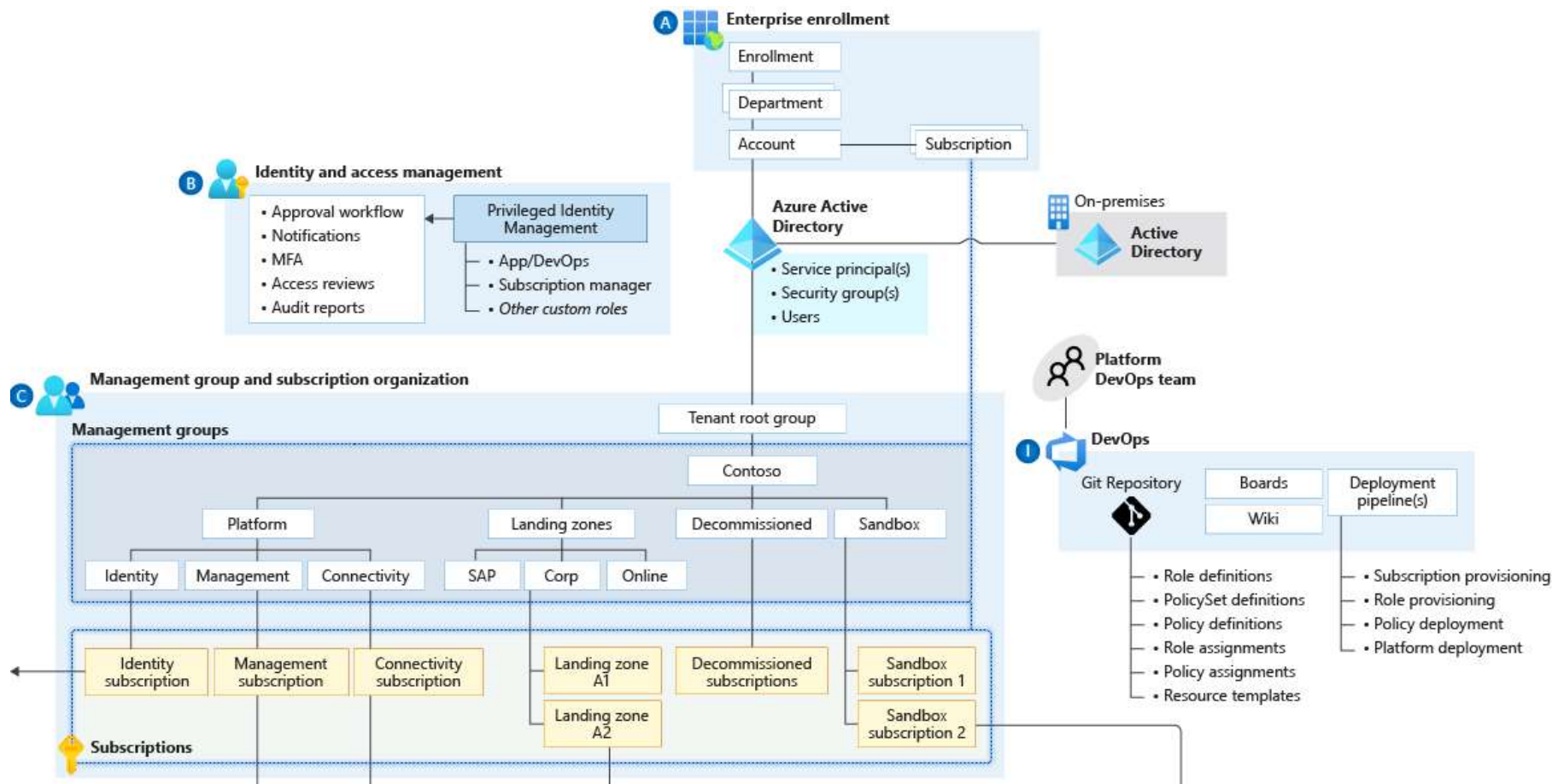


Security, Governance
& Compliance



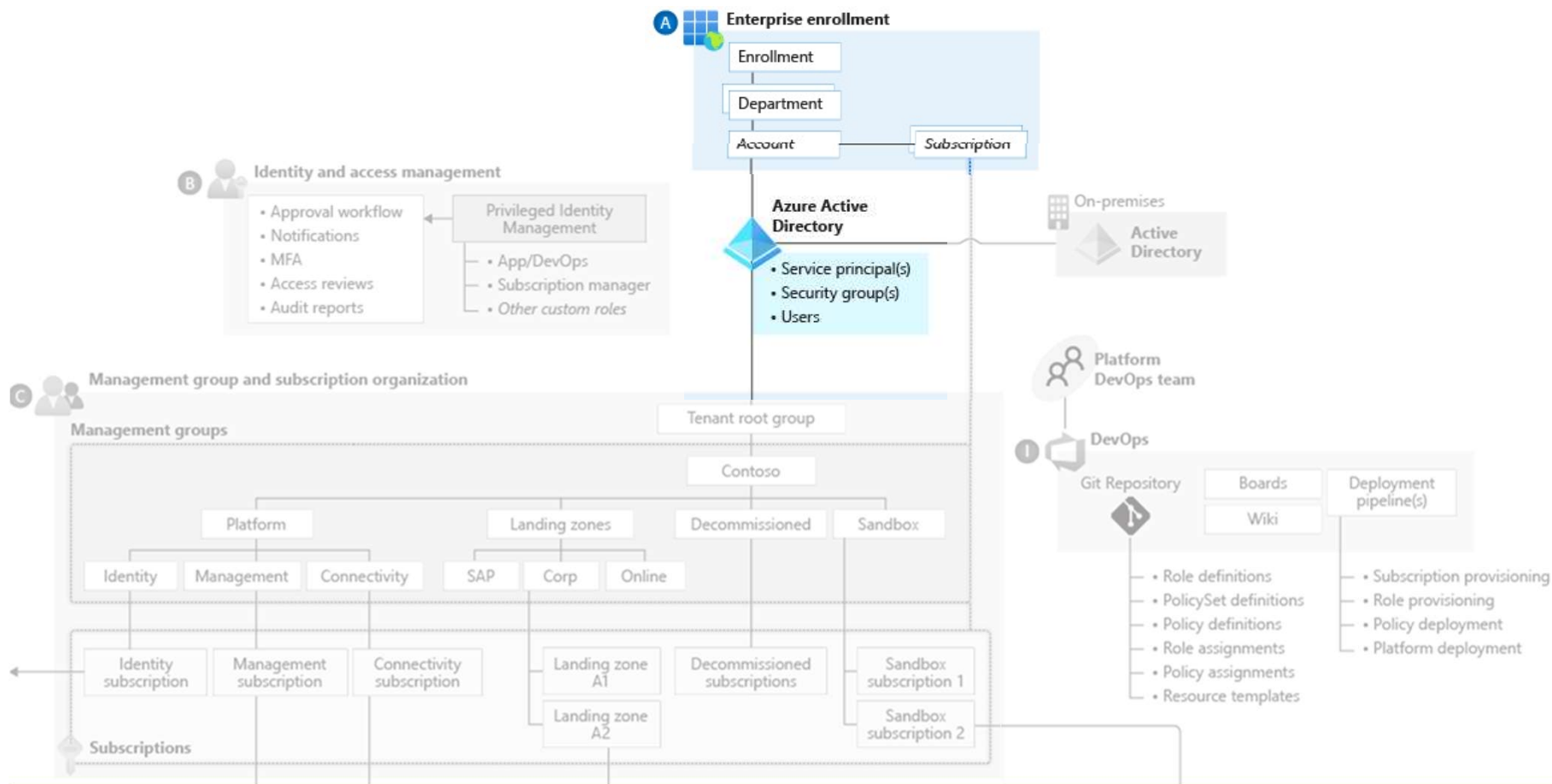
Platform Automation
& DevOps

Critical Design Areas: Enrollment and Tenants



Source: [Start with Cloud Adoption Framework enterprise-scale landing zones](#)

Critical Design Areas: Enrollment and Tenants

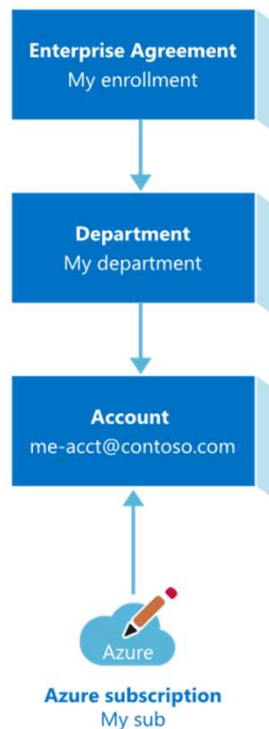


Source: [Start with Cloud Adoption Framework enterprise-scale landing zones](#)

Critical Design Areas: Enrollment and Tenants

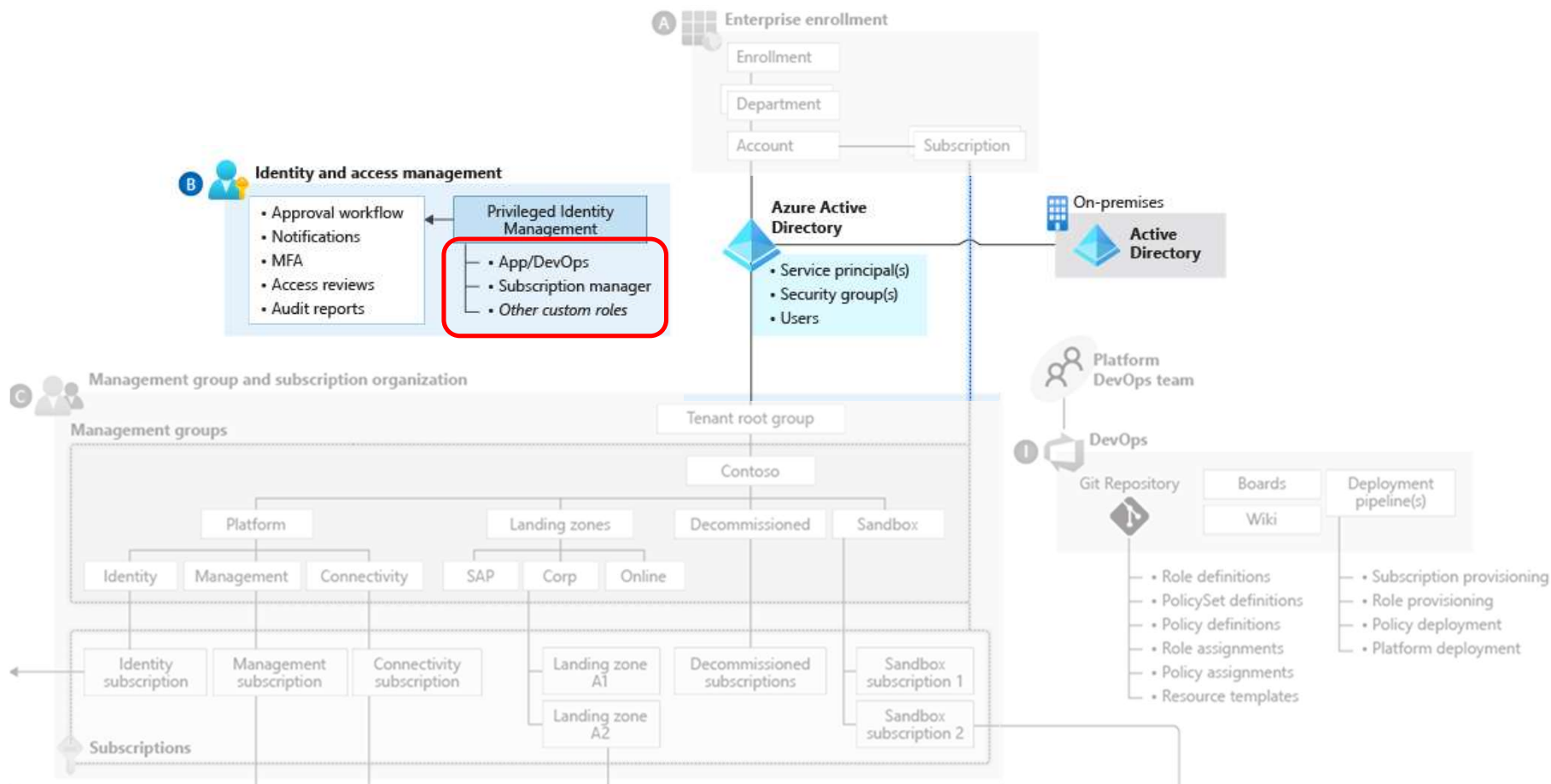
Customer and Enterprise Agreement Hierarchy

Existing hierarchy



- [Account Owner](#) can manage subscription permissions
Restrict and minimize the number of account owners within the enrollment
 - No Auditing and PIM integration
Periodically audit the EA portal to review and avoid "manual management"
- ➔ Automation (as part of AzOps) and Account Owner as "Break Glass"

Critical Design Areas: Identity and Access



Source: [Start with Cloud Adoption Framework enterprise-scale landing zones](#)

Critical Design Areas: Identity and Access Tiered Administration & Least Privilege

„To mitigate risk of identity compromise, or bad actors, implement tiered administration and ensure that you follow principles of least privilege for Azure AD Administrator Roles.“

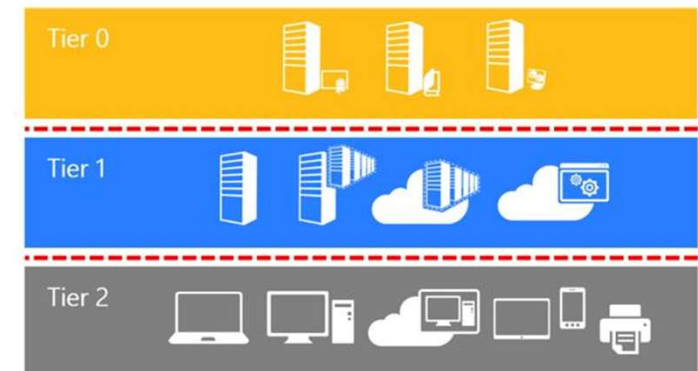
Source: „Securing Azure Environments with Azure AD (Architecture and Design Guide)“, Page 8

Active Directory administrative tier model

02/14/2019 • 33 minutes to read • 6 icons +6

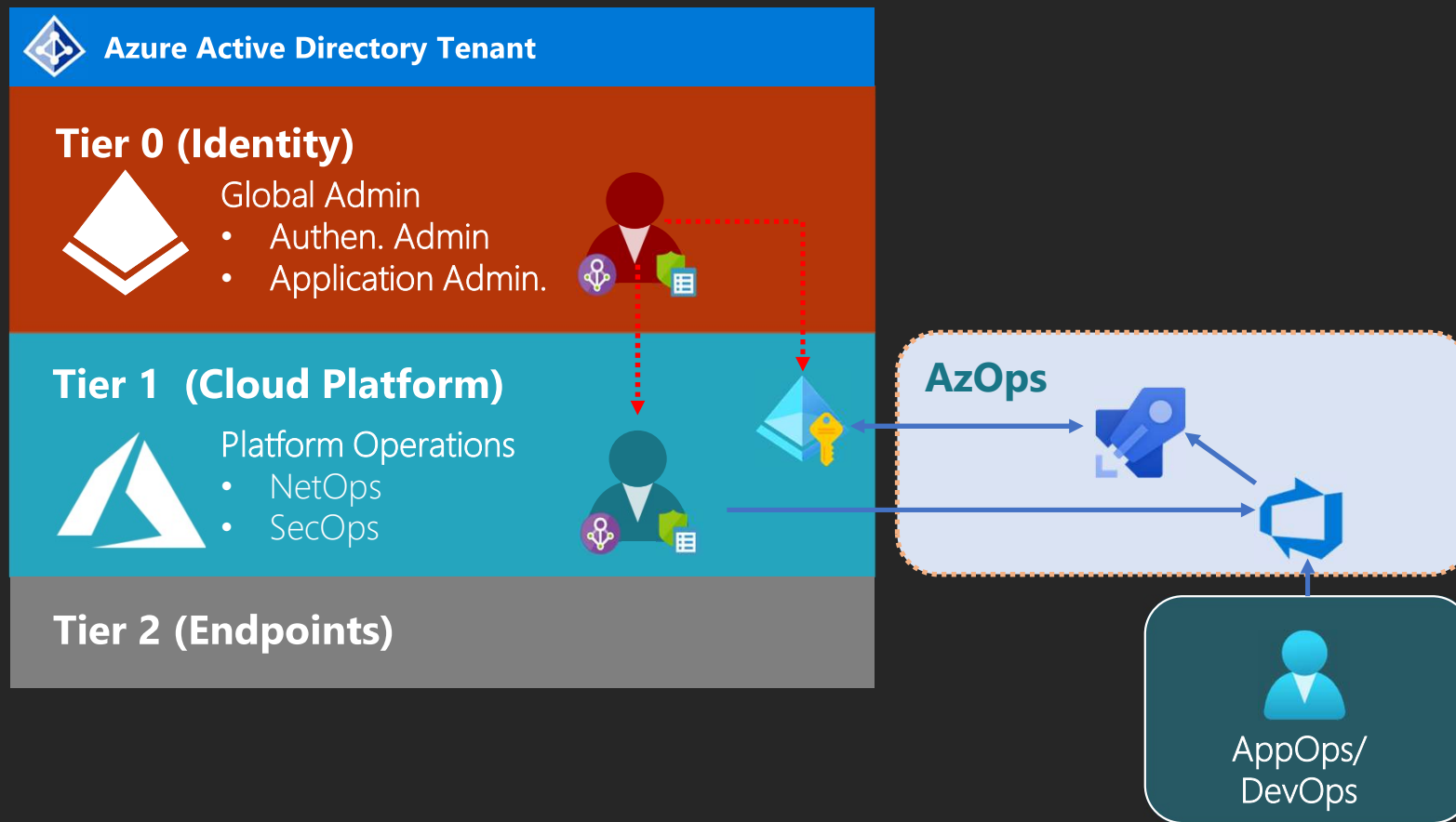
Applies To: Windows Server

The purpose of this tier model is to protect identity systems using a set of buffer zones between full control of the Environment (Tier 0) and the high risk workstation assets that attackers frequently compromise.



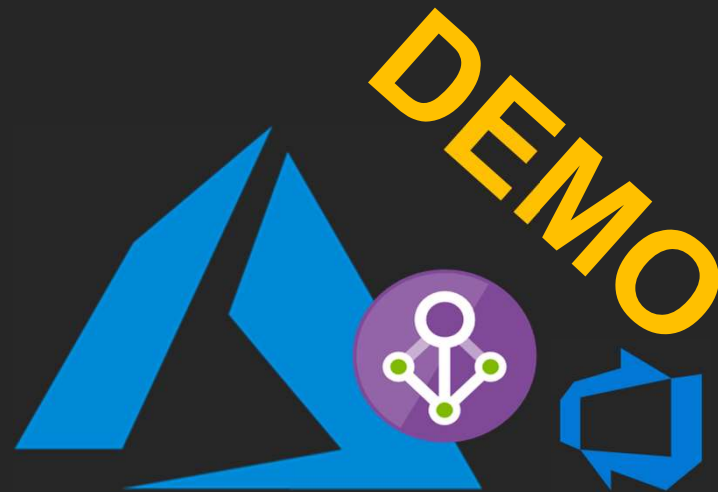
Securing Azure Environment with Azure AD

Example of Tiered Administration Model

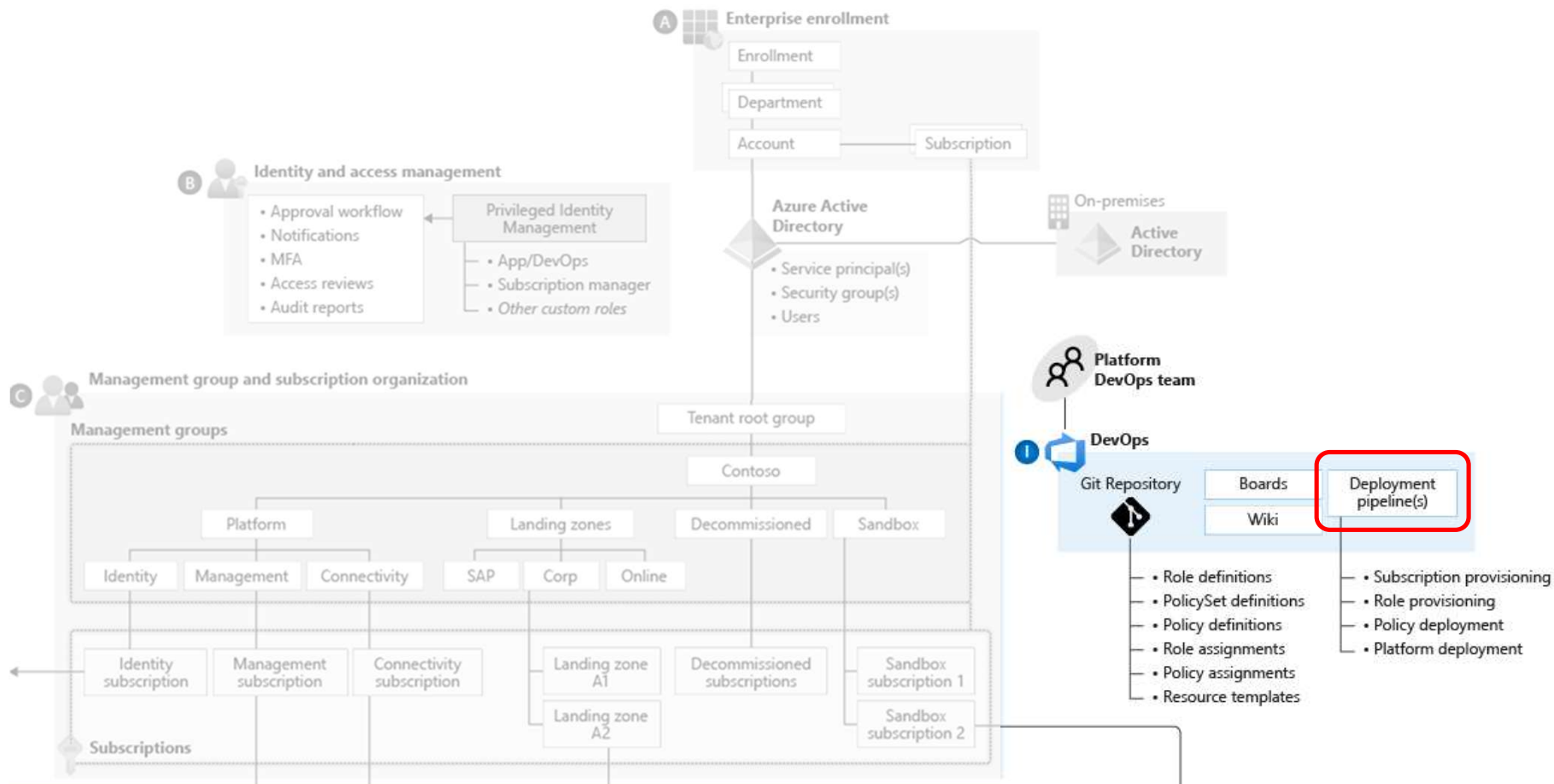


Managing access to AzOps

with RBAC, PIM and Entitlement Management



Critical Design Areas: Identity and DevOps





Source: [Start with Cloud Adoption Framework enterprise-scale landing zones](#)


Auditing and Security in Azure DevOps

- Secrets and Service Principals in Pipeline
 - Service Principal or Managed Identities in Service Connections

Authentication method

☒  Service principal (automatic) Recommended

☐  Service principal (manual)

☐  Managed identity

Security

☒ Grant access permission to all pipelines

- Review of DevOps Orga-Settings and integration in your Conditional Access Strategy
- Audit in Azure DevOps
 - Monitoring of Sensitive Changes or Suspicious Activities (Generate PAT, Public Repo)
 - Streaming of "Auditing Logs" → *EventHub, Log Analytics*
 - No correlation between Azure Activity and Pipeline Events → My feature request

Protection of AzOps in GitHub Enterprise

- [Control Access via Azure AD](#) (Users, Groups and SSO)
- [Secure your GitHub deployment using Microsoft Cloud App Security](#)
 - Detection of OAuth App Creation and Data Leakage (high rate of download)
- Conditional Access (App Control) → Restrict activity from unmanaged device
- [Protecting your GitHub assets with Azure Sentinel](#)





Azure Active Directory Tenant

Tier0 (Identity)



Azure AD Tenant

Tier1 (Platform)



Azure Tenant

Microsoft EA Enrollment
(management via Automation only)

Account Admin



Global Admin
Authentication / User Admin

IdentityOps (Tier0) via Directory Roles (Tenant-Level)

protection of high-privileged / sensitive
Azure Admin Accounts & Service
Principals required



DevOps Helpdesk via Scoped Roles

Delegated user management
with scope of
Administrative Unit



User Access Admin
via Elevated GA

AzOps
via Service Principal



System/Feature
Master
PR Approval



Access via
PAG

Platform DevOps (Tier1)
via Management Group (Root or Segment)

Platform Owner

Built-in
Owner role on
Management
Group Level

Management
group and
subscription

Restrict Access

SecOps

with a
horizontal
view across
the entire
Azure estate
and the
Azure Key
Vault purge
policy

NetOps

Platform-
wide global
connectivity
operations:
virtual
networks,
UDRs, NSGs,
NVAs, VPN,
ExpressRoute
and others

Restrict Access

AppOps/DevOps
Contributor for
operations team at
resource group level

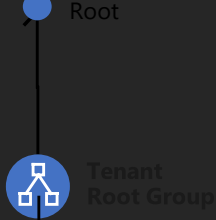
**AppOps/
DevOps**



Service Admin
(Break Glass Access)

Primarily used for
initial configuration
and emergency access

Contributor



Subscription(s)

Management

Connectivity

Identity

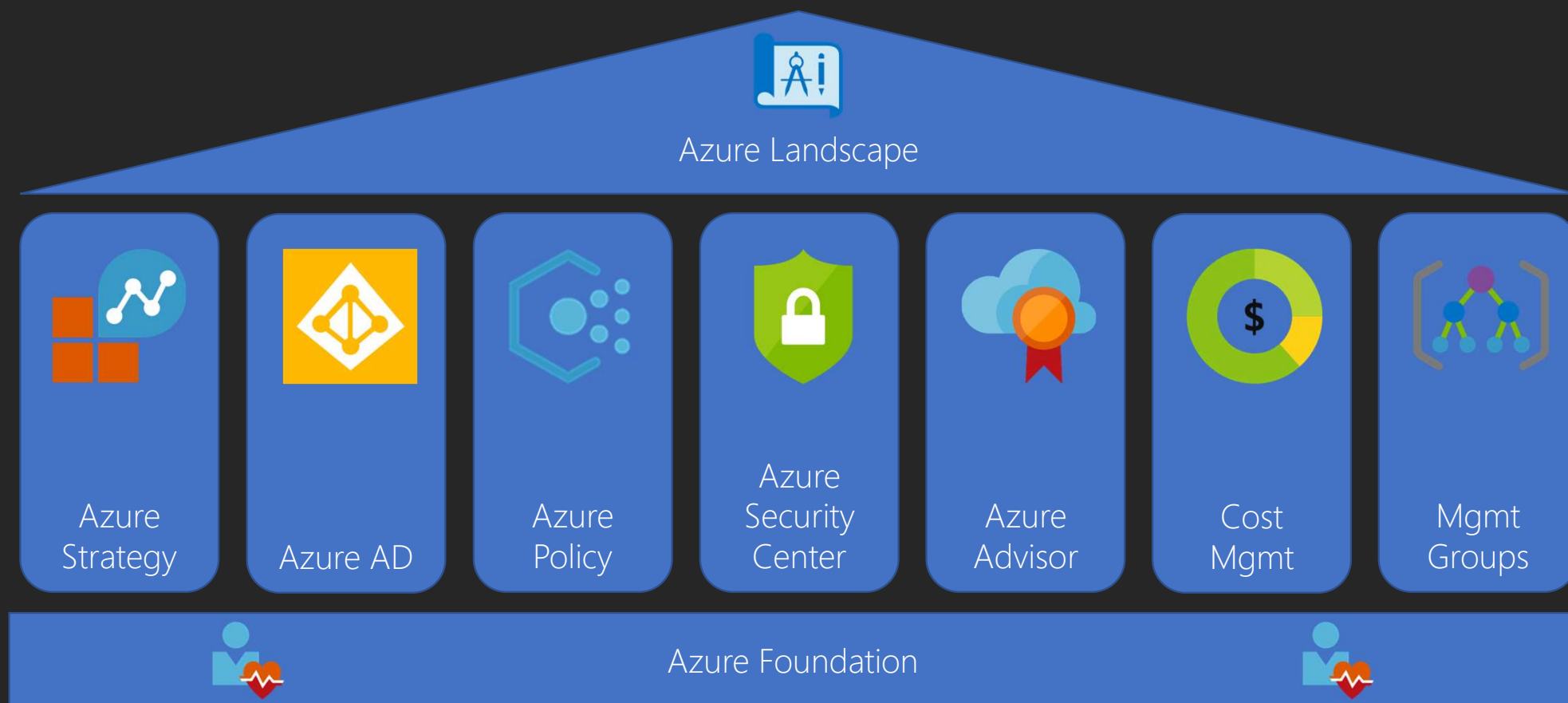
SAP/Corp/Online (Workload)

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Links

- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cloud-adoption-framework/>
- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/framework/>
- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-portal/azure-portal-quickstart-center>
- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/advisor/>
- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/governance/policy>
- <https://www.reimling.eu/2019/03/azure-management-groups-und-blueprints-ueberblick-und-einrichtung-teil-1/>
- <https://aka.ms/SecurityCommunity>
- <https://blog.azureandbeyond.com/2020/04/24/mastering-azure-security-my-latest-adventure/>

How brings it to Azure?



Our Recommendations

- Define a Cloud Strategy
 - Use the available Tools and Guidelines
 - Define the added value of the cloud
- Create a Team for Cloud Services of different people
- Evaluate guidelines and best practices
- Organize a regular meeting/call for Cloud news
- Get in touch with Partners and Community for help and support

Questions? ->
Reach us via Twitter 😊



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