What is ‘Containerisation?’

Containerisation is the process of bundling software so that it can run consistently on any infrastructure.

Using Containers over a traditional Virtual Machine gives you the benefit of an application that is separate from the host machines OS, so should I develop in Linux, I can relatively easily transfer my work to a windows machine.

Pros and cons of using pre-built AMIs

Pros of using a prebuilt AMI include:

* **Official Images will have consistent and regular security updates.**

This allows you to focus your work elsewhere as security has already been worked on.

* **There will likely be a large community using them.**

Similar to the above, however if you run into an issue there could be other that have, and already solve your problem.

* **A lot of Images will have plenty of packages installed.**

This again will free up your time are you won’t have as much configuration to think about

Pros of using a custom AMI:

* **More control**

You have greater flexibility and control over what software is installed and how it is installed as you will have made the image yourself.

* **Better security**

Because you know exactly what software is installed on the image you can be sure that everything can be vetted or tested before it being used. You can also add your own security software should you wish.