IBM MobileFirst Foundation on Bluemix

Overview

IBM MobileFirst Foundation can be hosted on Bluemix, here is some information about Bluemix.

IBM Bluemix is an implementation of IBM's Open Cloud Architecture. It leverages **Cloud Foundry** to enable developers to rapidly build, deploy, and manage their cloud applications, while tapping a growing ecosystem of available services and runtime frameworks.

> Learn more about the Bluemix architecture and Bluemix concepts on the Bluemix website (https://www.ng.bluemix.net/docs/overview/overview.html).

How does it work?

In a nutshell: There are 2 ways to run IBM MobileFirst Foundation on Bluemix based on what kind of a license entitlement.

- Bluemix subscription or PayGo license: Mobile Foundation Bluemix Service
- On Prem license: Use IBM provided scripts to setup a MFP instance on IBM Containers or Liberty for Java runtime.

To run IBM MobileFirst Foundation on Bluemix IBM Containers, several components must interact with one another: the first component is an **image** that contains a **Linux distribution with a WebSphere Liberty installation**, with a **MobileFirst Server instance** deployed to it. The image is then stored inside an **IBM Container**, and the IBM Container is managed by **Bluemix**.

To run IBM MobileFirst Foundation on Bluemix Liberty for Java runtime, the components are: an **Cloudfoundry app** thats contains a **WebSphere Liberty installation**, with a **MobileFirst Server instance** deployed to it.

IBM Containers

IBM Containers are objects that are used to run images in a hosted cloud environment. IBM Containers hold everything that an app needs to run.

IBM Container infrastructure includes a private registry for your images, so that you can upload, store, and retrieve them. You can make those images available for Bluemix to manage them. A command line interface is then used to manage your containers on Bluemix - More on this in the following tutorials.

Learn more about IBM Containers (https://www.ng.bluemix.net/docs/containers/container_index.html).

Liberty for Java runtime

The Liberty for Java runtime is powered by the liberty-for-java buildpack. The liberty-for-java buildpack provides a complete runtime environment for running applications on top of WebSphere Liberty profile. A command line interface is then used to manage your apps on Bluemix.

Learn more about Liberty for Java (https://new-console.ng.bluemix.net/docs/runtimes/liberty/index.html).

Tutorials to follow next

- Create a MobileFirst Server instance using the Mobile Foundation Bluemix service (using-mobile-foundation/).
- Create a MobileFirst Server instance on Bluemix using IBM-provided scripts (mobilefirst-server-using-scripts/) using IBM Containers.
- Create a MobileFirst Server instance on Bluemix using IBM-provided scripts (mobilefirst-server-using-scripts-lbp/) using Liberty Build Pack.

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