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Glossary: OpenShift Basics

A/B testing

Strategy is mostly used for testing new features in front-end applications. It is used to evaluate two versions of the application namely A and B, to assess which one performs better in a controlled environment. The two versions of the applications differ in terms of features and cater to different sets of users. Based on the interaction and responses received from the users such as feedback, you can choose one of the versions of the application that can be deployed globally into production.

Build The process of transforming inputs into a resultant object.

BuildConfig

An OpenShift-specific object that defines the process for a build to follow.

The build process makes use of the input sources and the build strategy. The

BuildConfig is the blueprint, and the build is an instance of that blueprint.

Canary DeploymentsAims to deploy the new version of the application by gradually increasing the number of users. The canary deployment strategy uses the real users to test

the new version of the application. As a result, bugs and issues can be detected and fixed before the new version of the application is deployed

globally for all the users.

Circuit breaking A method to prevent errors in one microservice from cascading to other

microservices.

Configuration Change A trigger that causes a new build to run when a new BuildConfig resource is

created.

Control Plane The control plane takes the desired configuration and its view of the services

and dynamically programs and updates the proxy servers as the environment

changes.

Custom build strategy Requires you to define and create your own builder image.

Custom builder images Are regular Docker images that contain the logic needed to transform the

inputs into the expected output.

CRDs Custom code that defines a resource to add to your Kubernetes API server

without building a complete custom server.

Custom controllers Reconcile the custom resources (CRDs) actual state with its desired state.

Data planeCommunication between services is handled by the data plane. If a service

mesh is absent, the network cannot identify the type of traffic that flows, the

source, and the destination and make any necessary decisions.

Enforceability (Control) Istio provides control by enforcing policies across an entire fleet and ensures

resources are fairly distributed among consumers.

Envoy proxy All network traffic is subject to or intercepted by a proxy, called Envoy, used

by the service mesh and allows many features depending on the

configuration.

Human operators Understand the systems they control. They know how to deploy services and

how to recognize and fix problems.

Image Change A trigger to rebuild a containerized application when a new or updated

version of an image is available. For example, if an application is built using

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a Node.js base image, that image will be updated as security fixes are

released and other updates occur.

ImageStream An abstraction for referencing container images within OpenShift. Each

image contains an ID, or digest, that identifies it. ImageStreams do not

contain image data but rather are pointers to image digests.

ImageStream TagAn identity to the pointer in an ImageStream that points to a certain image in

a registry.

Istio A platform-independent and popular service mesh platform, often used with

Kubernetes. It intelligently controls the flow of traffic and API calls between services, conducts a range of tests and reduces the complexity of managing network services. Istio secures services through authentication, authorization, and encryption. Istio provides control by defining policies that can be

enforced across an entire fleet. With Istio, you can observe traffic flow in your mesh so you can trace call flows, dependencies, and you can view service communication metrics such as latency, traffic, errors and saturation.

Man-in-the-middle attacks A man-in-the-middle (MiTM) attack is a type of cyber-attack where the

attacker secretly intercepts and relays messages between two parties who believe they are communicating directly with each other. The attack is a type of eavesdropping in which the attacker intercepts and then controls the entire

conversation.

Observability Helps to observe the traffic flow in your mesh, trace call flows and

dependencies, and view metrics such as latency and errors.

OpenShift A hybrid cloud, enterprise Kubernetes application.

OpenShift CI/CD process Automatically merges new code changes to the repository, builds, tests,

approves, and deploys a new version to different environments.

Operators Automate cluster tasks and act as a custom controller to extend the

Kubernetes API.

Operator Framework Is a family of tools and capabilities to deliver an efficient customer

experience. It is not just about writing code; what is also critical is testing,

delivery, and updating Operators.

OperatorHub Web console lets cluster administrators find Operators to install on their

cluster. It provides many different types of Operators available, including Red

Hat Operators, Certified Operators from independent service vendors partnered with Red Hat, Community Operators from the open-source community but not officially supported by Red Hat, and custom Operators

defined by users.

Operator Lifecycle Manager (or OLM) Controls the install, upgrade, and role-based access control (or

RBAC) of Operators in a cluster.

Operator maturity model Defines the phases of maturity for general day two Operations activities and

ranges from Basic Install to Auto Pilot.

Operator Pattern A system design that links a Controller to one or more custom resources.

Operator Registry Stores CRDs, cluster service versions (CSVs), and Operator metadata for

packages and channels. It runs in Kubernetes or OpenShift clusters to provide

the Operator catalog data to OLM.

Operator SDK (which includes Helm, Go, and Ansible) Helps authors build, test, and

package their Operators without requiring knowledge of Kubernetes API

complexities.

postCommit Section defines an optional build hook.

Retries A method to prevent errors in one microservice from cascading to other

microservices.

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runPolicy Field controls how builds created from a build configuration need to run.

Values include the default Serial (sequentially) and simultaneously.

Service Broker Provides a short-running process that cannot perform the consecutive day's

operations such as upgrades, failover, or scaling.

Service Mesh A dedicated layer for making service-to-service communication secure and

reliable. It provides traffic management to control the flow of traffic between services, security to encrypt traffic between services, and observability of service behavior; so, you can troubleshoot and optimize applications.

Software operators Try to capture the knowledge of human operators and automate the same

processes.

Source-to-Image A tool for building reproducible container images. Also abbreviated S2i, it

injects application source code into a container image to produce a ready-to-

run image.

Source strategy Section shows the strategy used to execute the build, such as a Source,

Docker, or Custom strategy.

Source type Determines the primary input like a Git repository, an inline Dockerfile, or

binary payloads.

Webhook A trigger that sends a request to an OpenShift Container Platform API

endpoint. Often this will be a GitHub webhook, though it can also be a generic webhook. If a GitHub webhook is utilized, GitHub can send the request to OpenShift when there is a new commit on a certain branch, or a pull request is merged, or under many more circumstances. Webhooks are a

great way to automate development flows so that builds can occur

automatically as new code is developed.

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