

Flatcar tutorial

Take the power back on your containers



Requirements

- Linux or Linux VM with nested virtualization
- Internet access
- Qemu and Terraform
- (asciinema to run the demo locally)





Who am I



- Mathieu Tortuyaux (@tormath1)
- Work on Flatcar and related tools
- Occasionally "devops teacher"
- Software engineer with Microsoft



Goals

operate Flatcar

deploy Flatcar with Terraform



Ignition provisioning



How is the tutorial structured?



How is the tutorial structured?



tormath1/flatcar-tutorial (github.com)



In case of question, now or later

https://matrix.to/#/#flatcar:matrix.org

(Flatcar development and user channel)





Flatcar:







Hands-on 1: discovery



Locally run Flatcar instance



Boot the instance and SSH into



Run a Nginx Docker container

tormath1/flatcar-tutorial (github.com)



Ignition

- First boot
- All or nothing
- Declarative
- Generated config



Ignition

```
. . .
  "passwd": {
       "name": "caddy",
       "path": "/src/www/html/brand-logo.svg",
         "name": "caddy"
         "source": "https://www.flatcar.org/media/brand-logo.svg"
        "group": {
```



```
. . .
variant: flatcar
       - docker
    - path: /src/www/html/brand-logo.svg
       source: https://www.flatcar.org/media/brand-logo.svg
       name: caddy
    - path: /srv/www/html/index.html
    - path: /srv/www
     device: /dev/disk/by-partlabel/USR-B
     wipe_filesystem: true
with mount unit: true
    - name: froscon-demo-webserver.service
       Description=fr0Scon example static web server
       ExecStart=/usr/bin/docker run -i -p 80:80 --name caddy
                  -v /srv/www/html:/usr/share/caddy \
                  docker.io/caddy caddy file-server \
```

Ignition

butane < butane.yml > ignition.json

```
• • •
  "passwd": {
   "users": [
        "groups": [
        "name": "caddy",
   "files":[
          "name": "caddy"
        "path": "/src/www/html/brand-logo.svg",
          "name": "caddy"
          "source": "https://www.flatcar.org/media/brand-logo.svg"
        "group": {
```



Hands-on 2: provisioning



Provision a local Flatcar instance



Write Butane configuration



Generate the Ignition configuration



Boot the instance with the config

tormath1/flatcar-tutorial (github.com)



5 minutes break







In the cloud

- QEMU, Vagrant, Virtualbox, libvirt, PXE, ...
- Aws, Azure, GCP, Equinix Metal, OpenStack, VMWare, Digital Ocean, Hetzner
- Vultr, Rackspace, Exoscale, ...



Azure

User data

Pass a script, configuration file, or other data that will be accessible to your applications **throughout the lifetime of the virtual machine**. Don't use user data for storing your secrets or passwords. Learn more about user data for VMs 🗹

Enable user data	
User data *	



Google Cloud Platform

Metadata

You can set custom metadata for an instance or project outside of the server-defined metadata. This is useful for passing in arbitrary values to your project or instance that can be queried by your code on the instance. Learn more

Key 1 *		_
user-data	Value 1	
		,



Hands-on 3: deploying



Deploy Flatcar instances with IaC



Manipulate Terraform code



Write Flatcar provisioning with Terraform



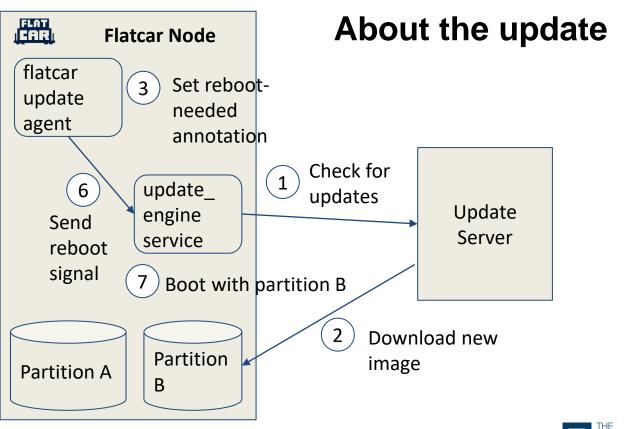
Deploy Flatcar on OpenStack with Terraform

tormath1/flatcar-tutorial (github.com)



About the update







Hands-on 4: auto update



Leverage auto-update feature



Boot an old version of Flatcar



Control the update





Thank you.

https://matrix.to/#/#flatcar:matrix.org



