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AWS re:Invent Announcements

written by @sandro_vol



AWS re:Invent Announcements

Top 2021 re:Invent Announcements



Sandro Volpicella

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AWS re:Invent is currently going on and there are so many new announcements. It is hard to have an overview of all of them so I am summarizing my top announcements of the last few days. These are mainly the announcements of Werner Vogel's keynote.

Let's go!

CDK 2.0

CDK 2.0 is out! It has a lot of features and I will cover it in my own blog post but the most exciting features are:

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when working¹ wit CDK. If I take a look at my zsh history I find the following



COPY

```
yarn add @aws-cdk  
yarn add @aws-cdk/aws-lambda-event-sources  
yarn add @aws-cdk/aws-secretsmanager  
yarn add @aws-cdk/aws-lambda-nodejs
```

And believe me, that is just a short excerpt of the whole history. With CDK 2.0 you just have the package `aws-cdk-lib` and that's it!

CDK Watch

CDK Watch lets you watch your code of your CDK stack and deploy it whenever a change happens. This enables fast inner-loop development since all new changes will be deployed instantly. You can configure this by including and excluding certain files. I'd start with a staging env 😊

CDK API Improvements

The [API reference](#) was updated with a lot more code snippets and additional documentation

Assertion library for unit tests

There is a new library called `aws-cdk-lib.assertions` module to enable developers to better write unit tests for CDK stacks.

Constructs Hub

The new constructs hub is [live](#).

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CDK for Terraform



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CDK for Kubernetes



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Just search for a construct and you will find a lot of example code



It has great examples and code snippets to get started quickly with CDK!



For example if I look for `appsync transformer` I can find some great constructs for using Amplify's graphql transformer in CDK for all different languages.

Construct Hub

Getting Started ▾ Documentation ▾ Contribute

The screenshot shows the AWS Construct Hub interface. On the left, there are filters for CDK Type (Any CDK Type selected), Programming Language (.NET, Java, Python, TypeScript, Go), Publisher (AWS, HashiCorp, Datadog, Community), and Keywords (serverless, aws lambda, aws solutions constructs, vpc, containers). The main search results page displays three items for 'appsync transformer': 1. 'cdk-appsync-transformer' by Ken Winner, an AWS CDK v1 construct. 2. '@aws-cdk/aws-appsync' by Amazon Web Services, an AWS CDK v1 construct. 3. 'aws-cdk-appsync-transformer' by Ken Winner, an AWS CDK v1 construct. Each result includes a brief description, tags (e.g., Amazon DynamoDB, AWS Amplify, Serverless, Databases, amplify, appsync), and a 'Relevance' sort indicator.

re:Post - Question & Answering tool

We all have AWS questions from time to time. AWS published a new platform called **re:Post** that AWS used internally for answering AWS related questions.

Everybody can read questions and answers and everybody with an AWS account can ask and answer questions.

This is a great time for technical AWS people to flex their AWS skills and a great tool for helping out with AWS problems. You can also gain some reputation points 😊

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The screenshot shows the AWS re:Post homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, Questions, Tags, Topics, Community Groups, My Dashboard, Help, and a user profile. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation, there's a section titled "Welcome to AWS re:Post" with a brief introduction. Three main call-to-action boxes are displayed: "Find answers" (Get unblocked with peer, AWS, and expert advice), "Answer questions" (Level up by being helpful to others), and "Join a group" (Connect with AWS partners and employees). Further down, there's a section titled "Learn AWS faster by following popular topics" with three categories: "Serverless", "Analytics", and "Containers". Each category has a description, the number of questions and followers, and a "Follow" button. At the bottom of the page, there's a "Recent questions" section with a "see all" link.

Three new AWS SDKs

There are 3 new AWS SDKs:

1. Rust
2. Swift
3. Kotlin

All three are now in developer preview. This enables functional programming applications and native mobile applications the extended access to AWS!

Amplify Studio - Real fullstack development

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WELCOME BACK TO **twitterstudioclone's** staging environment

Things to do next

Category	Timestamp	Status	Reason
amplify-twitterstudioclone-staging-134551	03/12/2021, 14:46:20	CREATE_COMPLETE	-
amplify-twitterstudioclone-staging-134551	03/12/2021, 14:45:52	CREATE_IN_PROGRESS	User Initiated

This is one I am really excited about. Amplify's vision in general (IMO) is already to enable developer to build fullstack apps without the hassle of becoming an AWS export. They further support this vision by introducing Amplify Studio.

Amplifiy Studio is a no-code/low-code tool that lets you build frontend and backend components:

Frontend

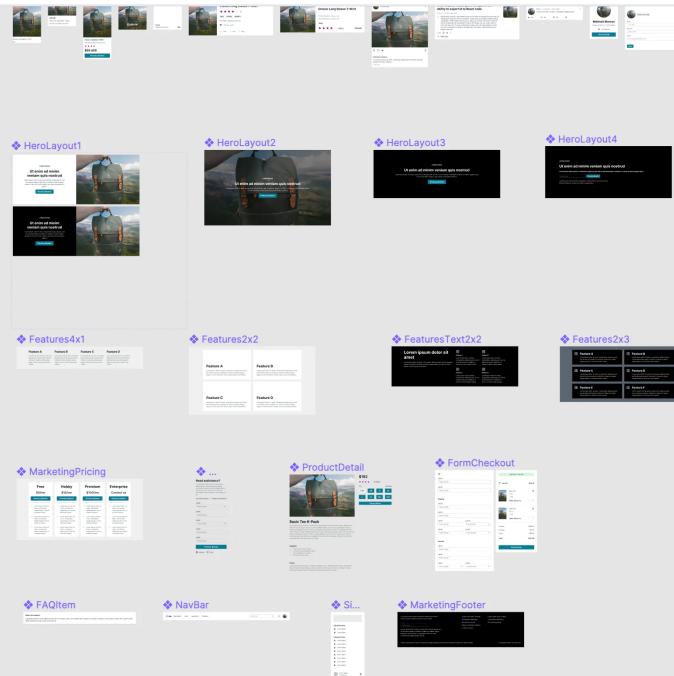
The front end is built by using Figma and Amplify together. You have some default components built by the Amplify team and you can synchronize them between Figma and Amplify.

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Examples

- INFO
 - FAQItem
 - SideBar
 - NavBar
 - FormCheckout
 - MarketingFooter
 - ProductDetail
 - ContactUs
 - EditProfile
 - CardD
 - ProfileA
 - SocialB
 - SocialA
 - CardE
 - CardG
 - CardF
 - CardA
 - CardB
 - Ampligram
 - CardC
 - MarketingPricing
 - Features2x3
 - FeaturesText2x3



You can then adjust your components in Figma, synchronize them, and give them custom props in Amplify.

UI Library (Preview) > CardB

Edit Component in Figma Shuffle preview data Create collection

Elements tree	Component properties
CardB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> image Card Area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$99 USD 4beds 3 ba 2,530 sqft - ... 832 34th Ave, Seattle, ... 	Add prop
</> Get component code Learn how to use properties	

After that you can simply use them in your react application like that:

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[Use this component](#)[Initial project setup](#)

1. Pull in the latest components, run the following command in Terminal:

```
amplify pull --appId d3lljdw44nfd0i --envName staging
```



2. Import the component:

```
import { CardB } from './ui-components';
```



3. Render the component wherever you need it:

```
<CardB />
```

[Customize component in code](#)

This is a really great approach, especially for designers and developers to work more closely together.

Backend

For the backend development, the Admin UI is now Amplify Studio. You can create your data model and add additional services for that. Not too much changed here.

Sustainability Pillar

Werner Vogels introduced the new sustainability pillar in the AWS Well-Architected framework. The Well-Architected framework builds the basic pillars of building cloud applications. Sustainability was added because more and more companies are interested in how their applications affect the environment. The goal is to reduce the bad effects on the environment and that is why the sustainability pillar was introduced.

Final Words

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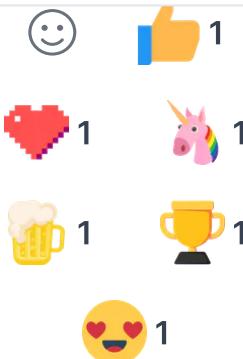
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