CLOUD NATIVE COMPUTING FOUNDATION

CLOUD NATIVE TRAIL MAP

The Cloud Native Landscape *l.cncf.io* has a large number of options. This Cloud Native Trail Map is a recommended process for leveraging open source, cloud native technologies. At each step, you can choose a vendor-supported offering or do it yourself, and everything after step #3 is optional based on your circumstances.

HELP ALONG THE WAY

A. Training and Certification

Consider training offerings from CNCF and then take the exam to become a Certified Kubernetes Administrator or a Certified Kubernetes Application Developer

cncf.io/training

B. Consulting Help

If you want assistance with Kubernetes and the surrounding ecosystem, consider leveraging a Kubernetes Certified Service Provider

cncf.io/kcsp

C. Join CNCF's End User Community

For companies that don't offer cloud native services externally

cncf.io/enduser

WHAT IS CLOUD NATIVE?

Cloud-native technologies, such as containers and microservices, empower organizations to develop and deploy scalable, agile applications and services in dynamic, distributed environments. By taking into account these characteristics, such systems are designed to be resilient, elastic, and loosely coupled, via manageable abstractions and declarative APIs, thereby enabling effective, reliable automation. This allows engineers to observe the applications and to safely make impactful changes, and results in processes and workflows that fully take advantage of these environments and minimize toil.

The Cloud Native Computing Foundation seeks to drive adoption of these techniques by fostering an ecosystem of open-source, vendor-neutral projects that align with these objectives, and which are portable to public, private, and hybrid clouds. We democratize the state-of-the-art patterns and practices to ensure innovations remain open and accessible for everyone.
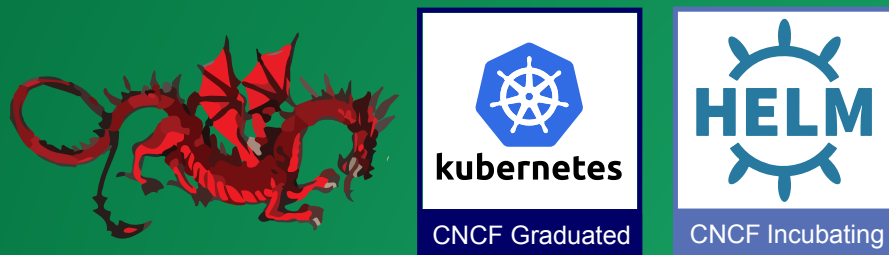
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1. CONTAINERIZATION

- Commonly done with Docker containers
- Any size application and dependencies (even PDP-11 code running on an emulator) can be containerized
- Over time, you should aspire towards splitting suitable applications and writing future functionality as microservices

2. CI/CD

- Setup Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery (CI/CD) so that changes to your source code automatically result in a new container being built, tested, and deployed to staging and eventually, perhaps, to production
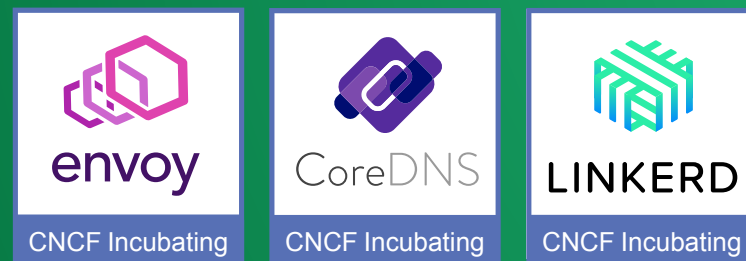- Setup automated rollouts, roll backs and testing

3. ORCHESTRATION & APPLICATION DEFINITION

- Kubernetes is the market-leading orchestration solution
- You should select a Certified Kubernetes Distribution, Hosted Platform, or Installer: *cncf.io/ck*
- Helm Charts help you define, install, and upgrade even the most complex Kubernetes application

kubernetes — CNCF Graduated

HELM — CNCF Incubating

4. OBSERVABILITY & ANALYSIS

- Pick solutions for monitoring, logging and tracing
- Consider CNCF projects Prometheus for monitoring, Fluentd for logging and Jaeger for Tracing
- For tracing, look for an OpenTracing-compatible implementation like Jaeger

Prometheus — CNCF Incubating

fluentd — CNCF Incubating

OPENTRACING — CNCF Incubating

JAEGER — CNCF Incubating

5. SERVICE MESH AND DISCOVERY

- CoreDNS is a fast and flexible tool that is useful for service discovery
- Envoy and Linkerd each enable service mesh architectures
- They offer health checking, routing, and load balancing

envoy — CNCF Incubating

CoreDNS — CNCF Incubating

LINKERD — CNCF Incubating

6. NETWORKING

To enable more flexible networking, use a CNI-compliant network project like Calico, Flannel, or Weave Net.
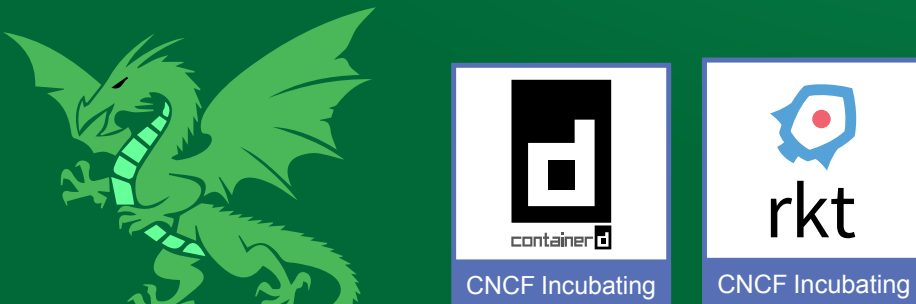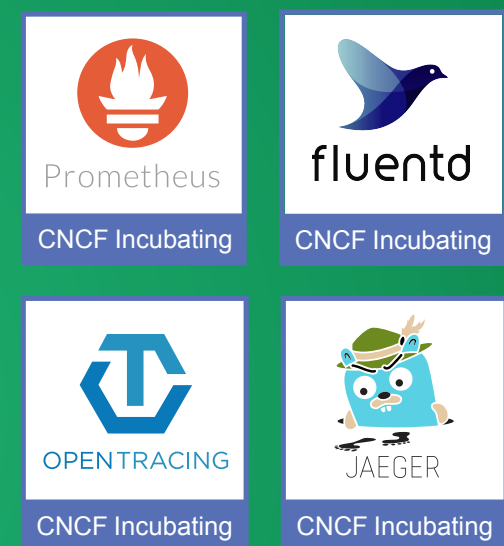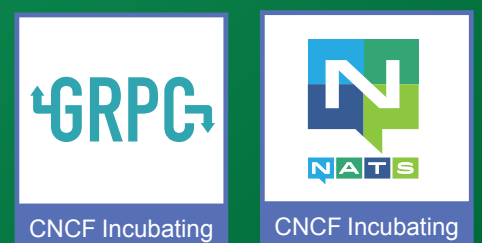
CNI — CNCF Incubating

7. DISTRIBUTED DATABASE

When you need more resiliency and scalability than you can get from a single database, Vitess is a good option for running MySQL at scale through sharding.

Vitess — CNCF Incubating

8. MESSAGING

When you need higher performance than JSON-REST, consider using gRPC. NATS is publish/subscribe message-oriented middleware.

gRPC — CNCF Incubating

NATS — CNCF Incubating

9. CONTAINER RUNTIME

You can use alternative container runtimes. The most common, all of which are OCI-compliant, are containerd, rkt and CRI-O.

containerd — CNCF Incubating

rkt — CNCF Incubating

10. SOFTWARE DISTRIBUTION

If you need to do secure software distribution, evaluate Notary, an implementation of The Update Framework.

Notary — CNCF Incubating

TUF — CNCF Incubating