Oracle Functions is a tool for allowing developers to run code using a serverless architecture. That means that developers can create containers for their code, and the code runs from inside the container without the developer needing to think about how server provisioning works. Oracle Functions is based on Docker and the open-source Fn Project, which Oracle supports.

Within the Public Safety project, we use Functions to run simple bits of glue code. When there is a temperature fluctuation, a Function is invoked to dispatch the drone and open a ticket in Netsuite. Once the drone has taken pictures, we use a Function to pass those pictures into the image recognition service so they can be identified as actual fires or false alarms. Whenever we need to update the Netsuite ticket about the alarm, we use a Function to do that. By using Oracle Functions, we’re able to focus on writing code, knowing that it will be deployed and run predictably every time without a lot of overhead spent on DevOps issues.