AWS Production Account

Tests

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1. Context

This document provides a detailed description how I tested my EBS data volume implementation on OpenRemote's AWS account.

2. Configure AWS account

Before running the CI/CD workflow, I configured the Aws account with the required IAM policies and provisioned/updated several CloudFormation stacks.

2.1. Provisioning / Updating CloudFormation Stacks

First, I provisioned the or-ssm CloudFormation stack to ensure the ssm documents are available in Amazon Systems Manager (SSM). When an new AWS account is provisioned using the provision_account workflow, these documents are automatically created during workflow execution. In this case the AWS account was already created. Therefore, I need to add these documents manually to ensure the workflow can execute them to attach/mount the EBS data volume to the instance.



Figure 1: The CloudFormation Stack or-ssm has been provisioned successfully

I also updated the existing or-dashboard-default CloudFormation stack to make the EBS data volume visible on the CloudWatch Dashboard.



2.2. Updating IAM Roles

In the CI/CD workflow, I've added the feature to create an DLM policy for automatic snapshot creation. Before this can be provisioned, the IAM role that's assumed by the CI/CD runner needs to have the approriate permissions. I added the following permissions to the developers-access-eu-west-1 role:

- DLMPolicy (Inline)
 - dlm:CreateLifecyclePolicy To create the Amazon Data Lifecycle Manager policy for automatic snapshot creation.
 - dlm:TagResource To tag the resources (volumes) that needs to be targeted by the DLM policy.
- IAMPassRole (Inline)
 - arn:aws:iam::xxxxx:role/developers-access-eu-west-1 To be able to pass this IAM role to the DLM service.
- AWSDataLifecycleManagerServiceRole (Policy) To give DLM permissions to take actions on AWS resources, for example to create snapshots from the BB data volume on behalf of the AWS user.

I also added the DLM service to the trusted entities to ensure DLM can assume this role.

```
"Effect": "Allow",
"Principal": {
    "Service": "dlm.amazonaws.com",
```

Figure 2: The DLM service is added to the trusted policies

3. Provisioning host

After configuring the AWS account, I was be able to run the provision_host workflow with my changes. Since the implementation is not merged in the master branch, I need to use the following Github CLI command to run the workflow from an different branch:

```
gh workflow run "provision host" --ref feature/ebs-volume-creation --field

→ ACCOUNT_NAME=openremote --field HOST=dennis.openremote.app
```

The workflow provisiones a new host in the openremote AWS account with the hostname (FQDN) dennis.openremote.app . The following services are provisioned: - An EC2 instance configured with Docker , Docker-Compose - An EBS Data Volume that's mounted to the /var/lib/docker/volumes directory - An DLM policy for automatically create snapshots from the EBS data volume - Several CloudWatch healthchecks to monitor the performance of the EC2 instance and the OpenRemote platform - An S3 bucket for storing the PGDUMP PostgreSQL backup file

After approximately 5 minutes, the workflow has finished execution and the host is ready to be used.

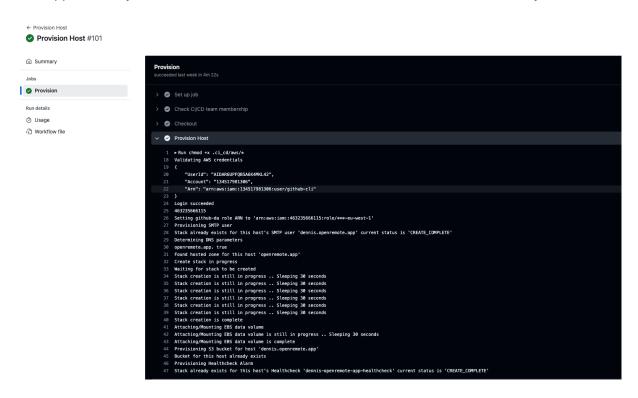


Figure 3: The Provision Host CI/CD workflow has been executed successfully and provisioned the EC2 instance in the AWS account

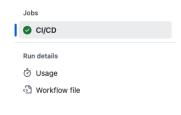
4. Tests in the AWS account

After provisioning the host in the AWS account I can start testing the EBS volume implementation.

4.1. Deploying OpenRemote to the new host

When the provision_host workflow is successfully executed, it creates an empty Ec2 instance. Before I can test my implementation I need to deploy OpenRemote on this virtual machine. I used the CI/CD workflow to deploy the branch feature/edit-map-layers to this instance. This takes around 10 minutes as it needs to build the Docker images first.

When this workflow is finished successfully, OpenRemote is running on the EC2 instance and accessible using the hostname (dennis.openremote.app)



```
✓ ✓ Do deployments

      temp/aws/cloudformation-create-ets.ymu
  340 temp/aws/smtp_credentials_generate.py
  341 temp/aws/start_stop_host.sh
  342 temp/aws/login.sh
  343 temp/aws/provision_account.sh
  344 temp/aws/cloudformation-create-ec2.vml
  345 temp/aws/cloudformation-healthcheck-alarm.vml
  346 temp/deployment.tar.gz
  347 temp/docker-compose.yml
  348 temp/host_init/
  349 temp/host_init/backup.sh
  350 temp/host_init/clean.sh
  351 temp/host_init/init.sh
  352 temp/host init/post init.sh
  353 temp/host_init/restart.sh
  354 temp/host_init/.gitignore
  355 Copying temp dir to host
  356 Warning: Permanently added 'dennis.openremote.app' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
  357 Running deployment on host
      Pseudo-terminal will not be allocated because stdin is not a terminal.
     Warning: Permanently added 'dennis.openremote.app' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
  359
          ~\_ ####_
  363
                           https://aws.amazon.com/linux/amazon-linux-2023
  364
  365
  370 Removing old temp deployment dir
  371 Extracting temp dir
      temp/
      temp/manager.tar.gz
       temp/env
```

Figure 4: The CI/CD workflow has been executed successfully and deployed OpenRemote to the EC2 instance

4.2. Testing Detach Volume

First, I tested the option to detach the EBS volume by executing the detach_volume ssm document using the volumeId . After the document is successfully executed I manually checked every step to make sure the tasks are executed correctly.

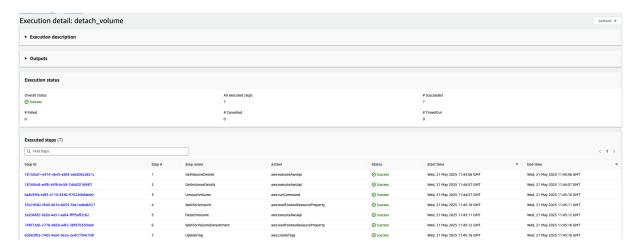


Figure 5: The Detach Volume SSM automation is successfully executed

4.2.1. Volume is detached from the EC2 instance

The EBS data volume is correctly detached from the EC2 instance. Only the root volume is still attached. The EBS data volume is also not showing up in the block devices list anymore.



Figure 6: The EBS data volume is detached from the EC2 instance

4.2.2. Volume is umounted

The EBS data volume is successfully umounted from the docker persistent volumes are no longer available by the filesystem.

Figure 7: The EBS data volume is umounted from the file system

4.2.3. Docker is successfully stopped

The Docker service and socket are successfully stopped. The Docker containers are no longer running and OpenRemote is shutdown safely.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-76-0-15 ~]$ docker ps
Cannot connect to the Docker daemon at unix:///var/run/docker.sock. Is the docker daemon running?
```

Figure 8: The Docker service and socket are successfully stopped

4.2.4. Entry in the File Systems Table

When the EBS volume is successfully detached, the system has removed the entry from the file systems table in the /etc/fstab file.

```
#UUID=cf693c2d-6ad0-4fa6-8f5e-6b46d31cd698 / xfs defaults,noatime 1 1
UUID=F332-4170 /boot/efi vfat defaults,noatime,uid=0,gid=0,umask=0077,shortname=winnt,x-systemd.automount 0 2
/swapfile swap swap defaults 0 0
```

Figure 9: The EBS data volume is removed from the File Systems Table

4.2.5. Volume not targeted by DLM Policy

The tag gets updated to or-data-not-in-use to make sure the EBS data volume is no longer targeted by the DLM policy. The policy only needs to target the EBS data volume that is currently attached to the instance.



Figure 10: The EBS data volume is not targeted by the DLM policy anymore

4.3. Testing Attach Volume

When the EBS volume is successfully detached from the EC2 instance I start testing the possibility to attach the EBS volume again using the attach_volume SSM document. After the document is successfully executed I manually go through every step to ensure it's processed correctly.

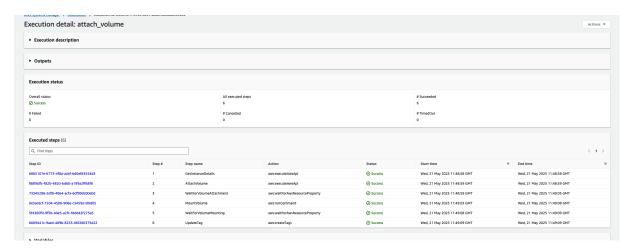


Figure 11: The Attach Volume SSM automation is successfully executed

4.3.1. Volume is attached to the EC2 instance

The EBS data volume is successfully attached to the EC2 instance.

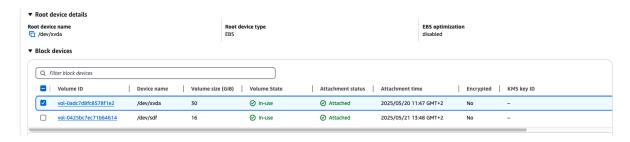


Figure 12: The EBS data volume is attached to the EC2 instance

4.3.2. Volume is mounted

The EBS data volume is successfully mounted to the /var/lib/docker/volumes directory.

Figure 13: The EBS data volume is mounted to the Docker volumes directory

4.3.3. Entry in the File Systems Table

After successfully attaching the EBS data volume to the EC2 instance, the script will add the block device to the file systems table in the /etc/fstab file.

```
GNU nano 8.3

#UUID=cf693c2d-6ad0-4fa6-8f5e-6b46d3lcd698 / xfs defaults, noatime 1 1

UUID=F332-4170 /boot/efi vfat defaults, noatime, uid=0, gid=0, umask=0077, shortname=winnt, x-systemd.automount 0 2

/swapfile swap swap defaults 0 0

UUID=F5a39fa0-a2ec-465d-ba54-2955649f02d6 /var/lib/docker/volumes xfs defaults, nofail 0 2
```

Figure 14: The EBS data volume is added to the File Systems Table

4.3.4. Volume is targeted by DLM Policy

The script has updated the tag to or-data-in-use to make sure the EBS volume is targeted by the DLM policy again. DLM will now create automatic snapshots for this volume.



Figure 15: The EBS Data volume is targeted by the DLM Policy

4.3.5. Docker is successfully started

The script enables the Docker socket and service. The existing containers are automatically trying to boot up. After a few minutes all the containers became healthy and OpenRemote is accesible.

```
[ec2-user*ip-10-76-0-15 -]$ docker ps

COMMAND

COMMAND

COMMAND

COMMAND

COMMAND

COMMAND

COMMAND

CREATED

STATUS

PORTS

38 minutes ago

Up About a minute (healthy)

38 control of the control of t
```

Figure 16: The Docker containers are healthy

When visiting the OpenRemote platform, all the data is visible and the platform is working as expected.

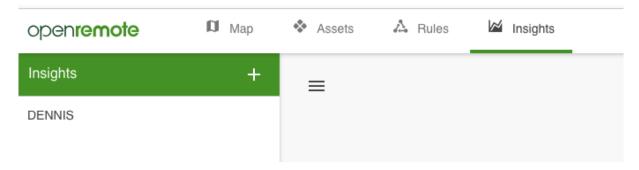


Figure 17: The IoT data is successfully loaded and available in the platform

4.4. Testing Replace Volume with/without Volume Deletion

In this section, I tested the option to replace an existing EBS data volume with an snapshot using the replace_volume ssm document. In this example, the script is configured to keep the original EBS data volume. After successfully executed the document, I checked every step manually to make sure all the tasks are executed properly.

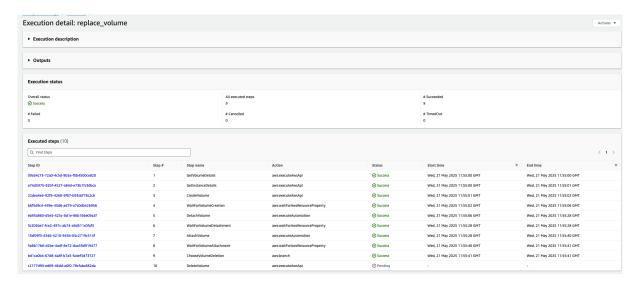


Figure 18: The Replace Volume SSM automation is successfully executed without deleting the current EBS data volume

4.4.1. Create new volume from snapshot

The script creates an new EBS data volume based off an existing snapshot an attaches this volume to the EC2 instance. The existing EBS data volume will be detached from the instance.

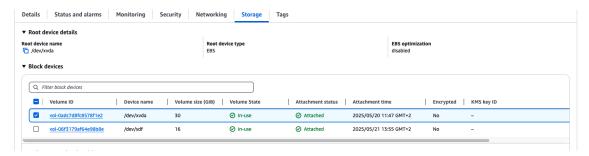


Figure 19: The current EBS data volume is replaced with the new EBS data volume that is based off an existing snapshot

4.4.2. Old volume detached

The current EBS data volume is successfully detached from the EC2 instance and is visible in the volumes overview

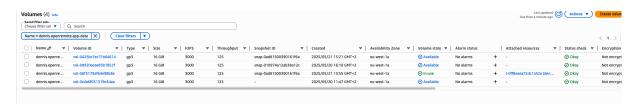


Figure 20: The current EBS data volume is detached from the EC2 instance

4.4.3. New volume mounted

The newly created EBS data volume is mounted to the /var/lib/docker/volumes directory. The snapshot data (docker volumes) are available in this directory.

Figure 21: The newly created EBS data volume is mounted to the Docker volumes directory

4.4.4. Entry in the File Systems Table

The newly created EBS data volume is added to the file systems table in the /etc/fstab file. The old volume is removed from this table.

```
GNU nano 8.3

#UIDD=cf693c2d-6ad0-4fa6-8f5e-6b46d31cd698 / xfs defaults,noatime 1 1

UUID=r332-4170 /boot/efi vfat defaults,noatime,uid=0,gid=0,umask=0077,shortname=winnt,x-systemd.automount 0 2

/swapfile swap swap defaults 0 0

UUID=f5a39fa0-a2ec-465d-ba54-2955649f02d6 /var/lib/docker/volumes xfs defaults,nofail 0 2
```

Figure 22: The newly created EBS data volume is added to the File Systems Table

4.4.5. New volume is targeted by DLM Policy

Only the newly created EBS data volume is targeted by the DLM policy using the tag or-data-in-use. The tag from the old volume is updated to or-data-not-in-use to ensure it's no longer targeted by the DLM policy.



Figure 23: The EBS Data volume is targeted by the DLM Policy

4.4.6. Docker is starting

The scripts starts the <code>Docker</code> service and socket. The containers are booting up again using the existing <code>docker</code> volumes from the snapshot that are mounted to the <code>/var/lib/docker/volumes</code> directory.

```
[ec2-user8ip-10-76-0-15 -]$ nano /etc/fatab

CREATED
STATUS

PORTS

ORMAND

CREATED
STATUS

PORTS

ORMAND

O.0.0.0180-380/tcp, 1:180-380/tcp, 0.0.0.0443-443/tcp, 1:1443-443/tcp, 1:1443-443/t
```

Figure 24: The Docker containers are healthy

After a few minutes, the containers are healthy and OpenRemote is accessible again. The data from the snapshot is successfully loaded.

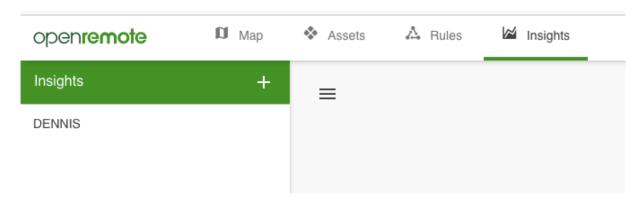


Figure 25: The IoT data is successfully loaded and available in the platform

4.4.7. Delete original EBS data volume

When the Deletevolume parameter is configured to true this step will be executed and the original data volume will be deleted

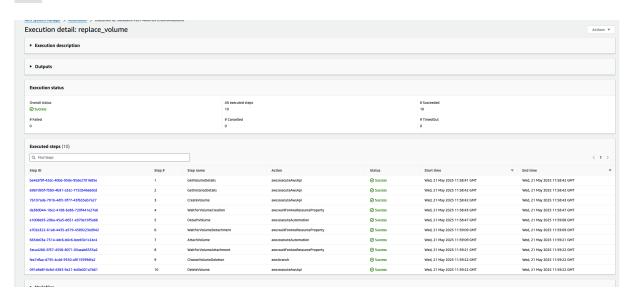


Figure 26: The Replace Volume SSM automation is successfully executed with the option to delete the original EBS data volume

5. Final changes to the implementation

After completing the tests and confirming everything is working as expected, I received one final comment from a team member to review. In the provision_host script, I added logic to create the default DLM IAM role if it doesn't already exist in the AWS account. The ARN of this role is then passed to the parameters section of the create-ec2 CloudFormation stack, ensuring the DLM policy has the necessary permissions to create snapshots on behalf of the user.

```
# Check for DLM IAM Role
echo "Check for DLM IAM Role"

ROLE_ARN=$(aws iam get-role --role-name AWSDataLifecycleManagerDefaultRole --query

→ "Role.Arn" --output text $ACCOUNT_PROFILE 2>/dev/null)

if [ -z "$ROLE_ARN" ]; then
ROLE=$(aws dlm create-default-role --resource-type snapshot --output text

→ $ACCOUNT_PROFILE)

if [ $? -ne 0 ]; then
echo "IAM Role creation has failed"
exit 1

else
echo "IAM Role creation is complete"

fi

ROLE_ARN=$(aws iam get-role --role-name AWSDataLifecycleManagerDefaultRole --query

→ "Role.Arn" --output text $ACCOUNT_PROFILE 2>/dev/null)

fi

echo "DLM IAM Role found"
```

Instead of creating this role, I added the policy inside the role (AWSDataLifecycleManagerServiceRole) to the already existing developers-access-eu-west-1 role. With this approach the check for the DLM role can be removed from the provision_host script and the developers-access-eu-west-1 arm can be passed to the parameters section.

To make this work, I added the DLM service to the trusted entities in the role's trust policy, allowing it to assume the role. I also included the role's ARN in the inline PassRole policy to allow CloudFormation to assign this role to the DLM policy when provisioning the host.

Final moment: Work is merged into the main codebase

On Thursday May 22, 2025 at 5:24 PM the EBS data volume implementation is merged into the master branch.

