



# Industrial Digital Transformation at Airbus Helicopters

DevOps Enterprise Summit  
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# Industrial Digital Transformation @ Airbus Helicopters



**Alexandre Barbier**  
Containers Product Manager &  
End to End monitoring  
**Airbus Helicopters**



**Jonathan Le Lous**  
CTO  
Head of Cloud Native Infra  
**Capgemini**

**AIRBUS**





# A CONTAINER REVOLUTION IS UNDERWAY

Containers are a “force for good” that allow companies to lower their carbon footprint, reduce costs in the process, and increase revenue with cloud-native driven innovation.

Containers are leading the way for IT Sustainability:

**10%-20%**

energy usage reduction by using low carbon kubernetes schedulers to target more efficient servers and datacentres.

[\(Bristol University and Leeds University\)](#)

**90%**

reduction in carbon footprint by actively moving workloads from virtual machines to containers.

[\(Nordstrom case study\)](#)

**75%**

of companies will be running production workloads in containers by 2022 (up 45% from 2020).

[\(Gartner\)](#)

**86%**

of businesses believe a cloud-native, application-driven development strategy is important to the company's success.  
[\(Red Hat cloud-native development outlook\)](#)

**15%**

of enterprise applications will run in a container environment by 2024, up from less than 5% in 2020,

[\(Gartner\)](#)

**3%**

of our worldwide energy consumption in 2021 was by data centres

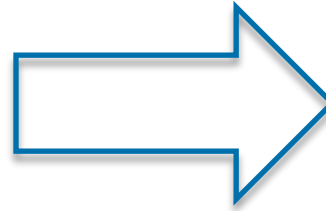


# Use cases for Containerization

**CLOUD NATIVE** is a term that covers both **application and platform development**. Containers are critical to both use cases and can be used to host, deploy, scale and operate products and applications.

**CLOUD TRANSFORMATION** Containers are critical to cloud transformation, **providing the unifying technology** on which to migrate, modernize and operate workloads in public or private clouds.

**IT MODERNIZATION** Containers **enable IT to deliver** the right products and services **to the business** rapidly and cost effectively.



**MULTI-CLOUD** Containers enable easy movement of workloads between locations and Containerization platforms **provide a standard way in which to develop, deploy, secure and operate** workloads.

**HYBRID CLOUD** Containers **enable easy movement of workloads** between locations and containerization platforms provide a standard way in which to develop, deploy, secure and operate workloads.

**FinOps** Containers provide a highly controllable way of **automating cost control**. Rules can be set up to control scaling and availability. Containers by design use server resources more efficiently.



# CHALLENGES TO ADOPTING Containerization

## TECHNICAL COMPLEXITY

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Setting up your **containerization platform** and using it to build and run **containers takes time and effort**. This is due to the complexity of Kubernetes and the tools used to build and run cloud native applications.

## LEGACY OPERATING AND OPERATIONS MODEL

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**Containerization is a software led approach** and collapses and blurs the world of application development and infrastructure provision. **Legacy operating models don't work** in this scenario, and it is important to define your new cloud operating and operations model before scaling containerization within your organisation.

## SECURITY COMPLEXITY

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**Security is complex in the Cloud Native world.** Security is a shared responsibility due to the complex nature of micro-service technologies and the cloud. Ensuring everything is secure and responsibilities are clear can be a difficult task and security teams can inhibit the use of the technology for many legitimate reasons.

## SKILLS SHORTAGE

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The **demand for platform engineers and cloud native developers** with container-based skills is extremely high. This slows or even blocks container adoption.

## EXISTING CULTURE

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Scaling containerization in an organization involves embracing **new ways of working and technology**. This leads to **fear of the unknown** and disrupting something intricate that “already works”. This has the effect of slowing down container adoption.

## STEEP LEARNING CURVE

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Containers imply new ways of working such as product-based delivery, agile, DevSecOps and site reliability engineering (SRE). This combined with technology complexity makes for a **steep learning curve for the platform and applications teams**. Not everyone succeeds.

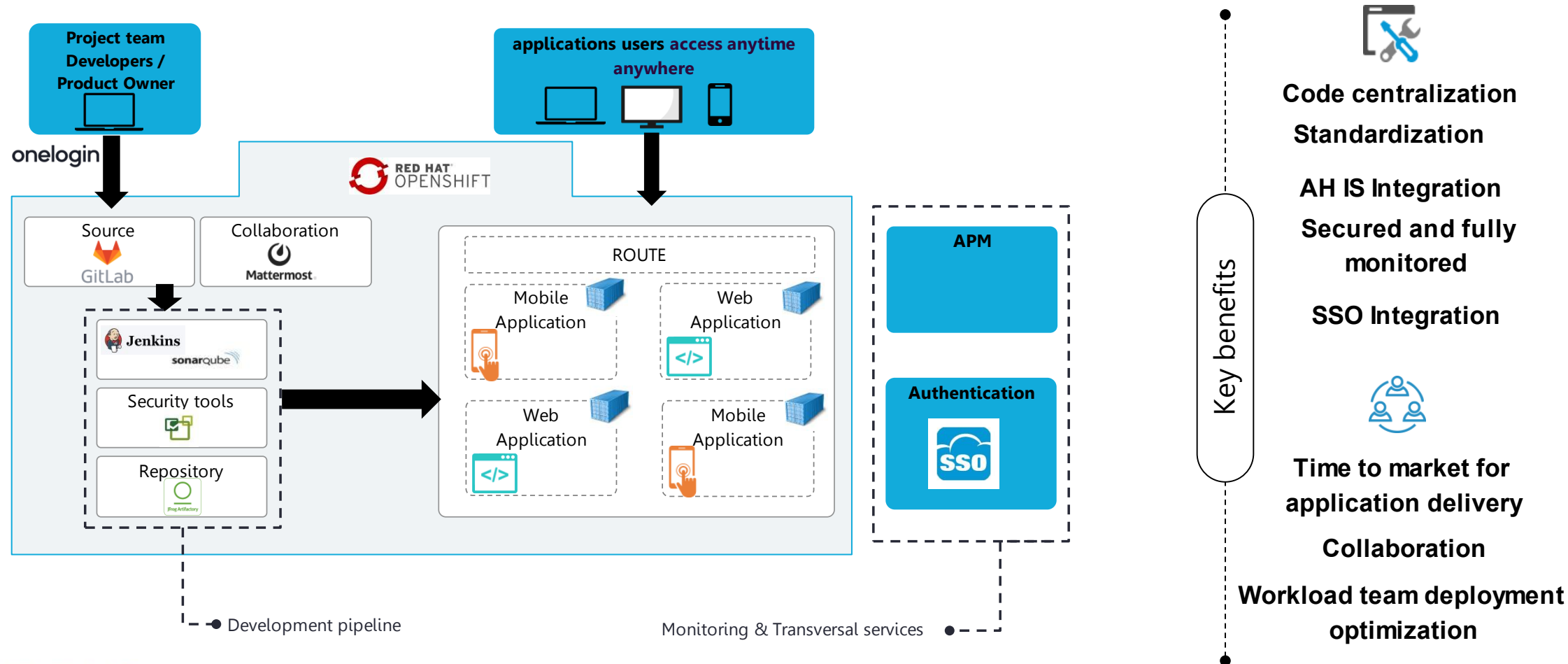
# Airbus Helicopters Digital Platform – Why

- Support Airbus Helicopters Digitalization journey
- Provide an agile way to design, develop, test and deploy new services
- Ease Onboarding of our partner ecosystem to accelerate the transformation
- Make the solution secure & easy to use for developers & application owners
- Hide the technical complexity for deploying a web application within Airbus Helicopters IS
- Evangelize a « DevSecOps » Culture to our Business and development teams
- Standardize technical stacks for a better obsolescence management
- Find a solution easy to deploy and to maintain with a «small » team



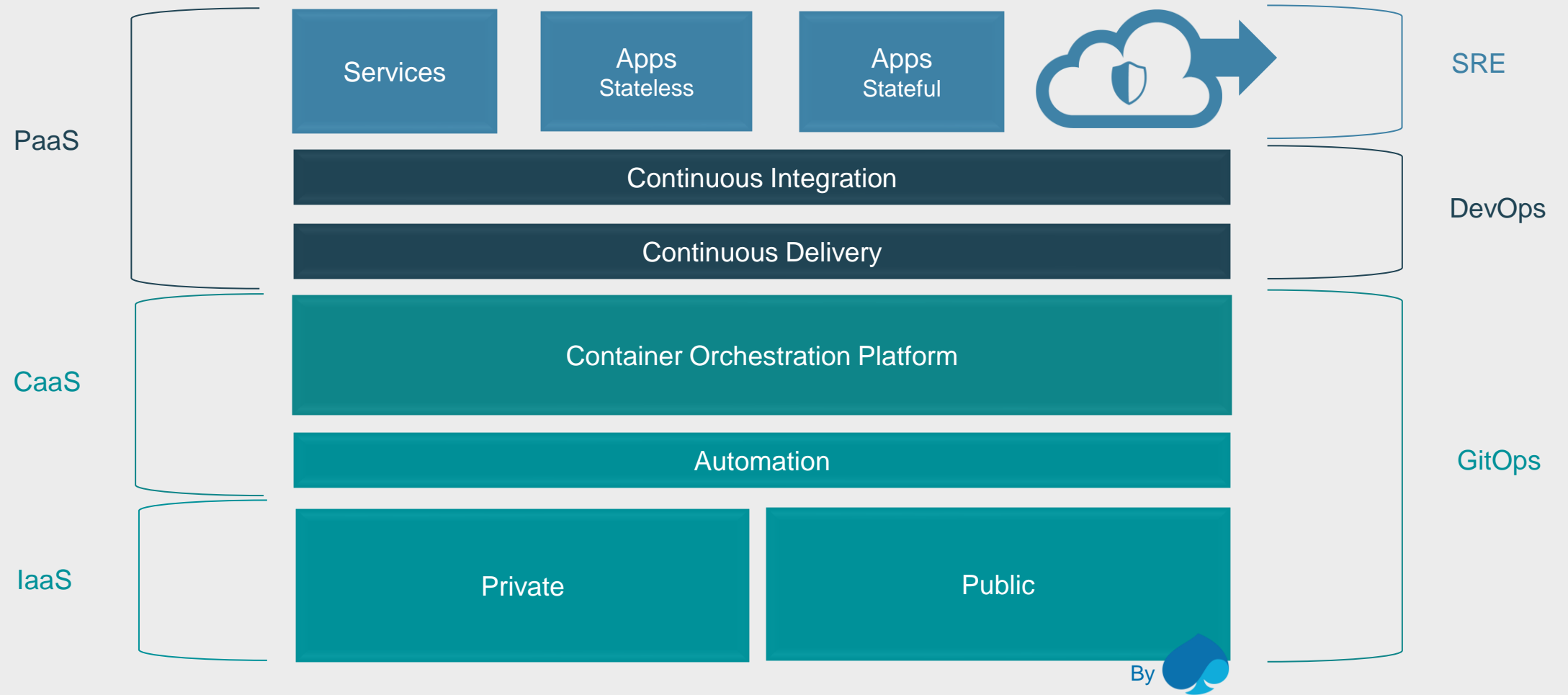
# Airbus Helicopters Digital Platform

## – What, Who, Where





# Cloud Native infrastructure





# Container Platform Features

## FULLY-MANAGED SERVICE

Support Model

Service Desk

Defined SLA

Billing

Cross Charging

Licensing

Open-source Support

Patching/Upgrades

Backup/Restore

Data Replication

Onboarding/Offboarding

Cluster Management

## SECURITY

Compliance

RBAC

TLS

Ingress/Egress

Hardening

Vulnerability Testing

Vulnerability Scanning

Certificate Management

Service Mesh

## DevOps TOOLING

CI/CD Pipelines

Test Automation

Packaging

ALM

Repositories

Alerting

Visualisation

Tracing

Logging

Metrics

Persistent Data

Integration

## CONTAINER ORCHESTRATION (KUBERNETES)

Resilience

Fault Tolerance

Discovery

Storage

Isolation

Auto-scaling

Health Monitoring

Configuration

Secrets

Registry

Scheduling

Deployment

## PUBLIC/PRIVATE CLOUD

Operating System

DRP

Networking

Storage

VPN

## A Comprehensive DevOps Application Platform for Multi Cloud



OpenShift **service mesh** with Istio to connect, secure and observe services



**Serverless** with Knative to enable hybrid serverless, FaaS, & event driven architectures



Pipelines with Tekton to provide Kubernetes-native **CI/CD pipelines**



**GitOps** with ArgoCD to enable declarative GitOps based continuous delivery



Build with Shipwright to **build images** from code using S2I + other & integrate with Github actions



**Developer console & CLI** enhancements to improve dev experience



CodeReady Workspaces with Eclipse Che for cloud native development & **collaboration**



IDE plugin integrations to meet the developer where they are



Languages and runtimes, API management, Integration, Messaging, Data services, Log management



Application level **observability** for developers to build and manage their apps

Kubernetes cluster services

Kubernetes (orchestration)

Linux (container host operating system)

Physical\*



Virtual



Private cloud



Public cloud



Edge



# Airbus Helicopters Digital Platform – Lessons learnt & Next steps

- A Platform have to be as agile as the projects are (Scaled Agile Framework® (SAFe))
- Standardization & full managed pipelines are covering 80% of the expectations
- Starting small on containerization & Kubernetes provide a smooth way to our customers to jump in this new “mode”
- OpenShift provide a set of tools on top of Kubernetes that help us to deliver the right level of services (ie. S2i)
- Image lifecycle is manageable via automatic building phase and updates are available in a short delivery cycle
- Migration to OpenShift 4.x is now done !
- Pipelines will be migrated from Jenkins to Tekton
- New services will be provided to support the transformation like AI/ML, 3D features, test automations and much more...

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