

# Architecture Guide - Azure DevOps VMSS with Microsoft Prebuilt Images

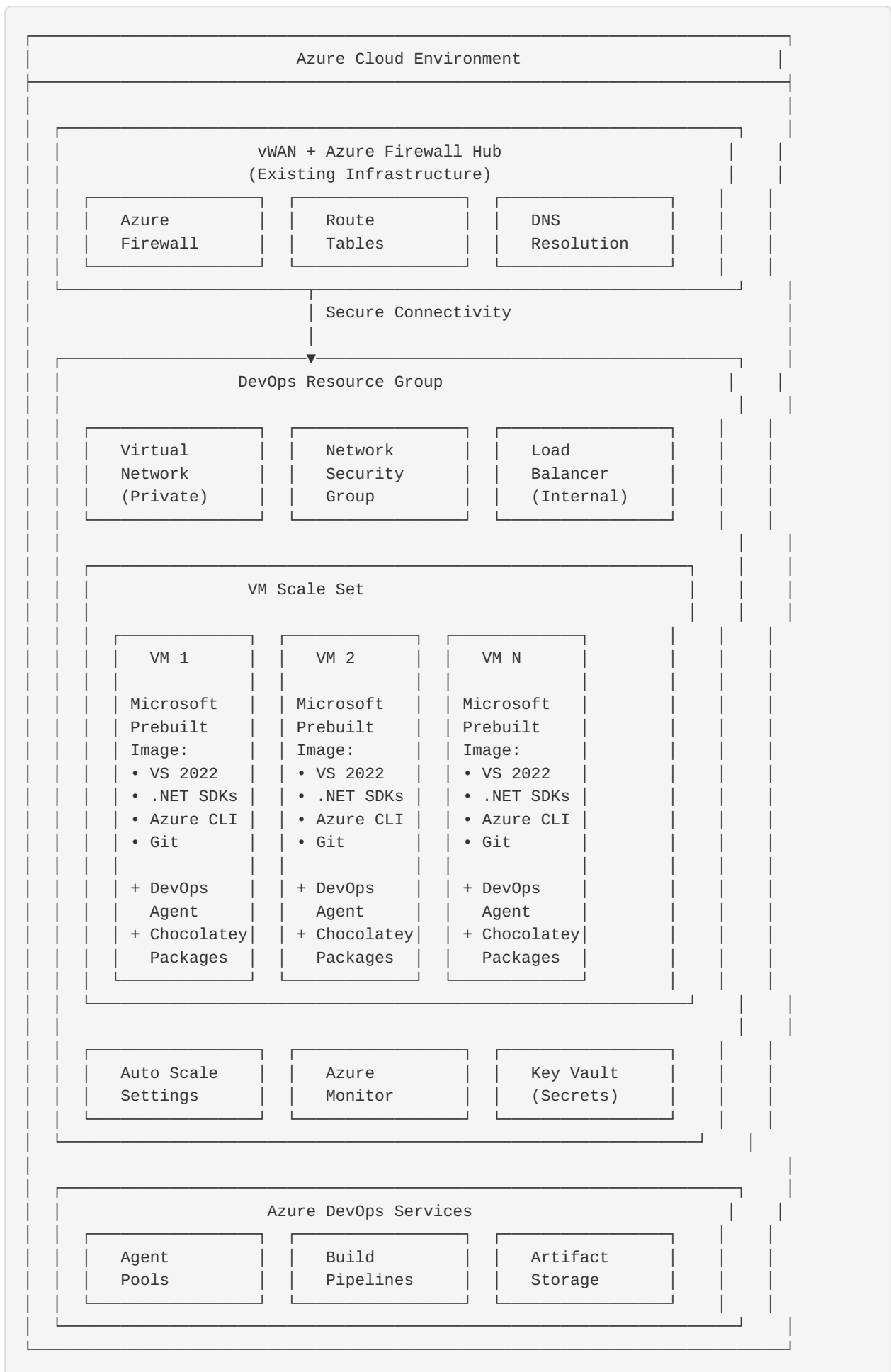
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This document provides a comprehensive overview of the architecture, design decisions, and technical implementation details for the Azure DevOps VMSS template with Microsoft prebuilt images and vWAN integration.

# Architecture Overview

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## High-Level Architecture



# Security Architecture

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## Zero Trust Network Model

The template implements a zero trust network architecture with the following principles:

### 1. Private IP Only Configuration

```
// No public IP addresses assigned to VMSS instances
publicIpAddressConfiguration: null

// All communication through private networks
ipConfigurations: [
  {
    name: "ipconfig1"
    properties: {
      subnet: {
        id: subnetId
      }
      privateIpAddressVersion: "IPv4"
      privateIPAllocationMethod: "Dynamic"
    }
  }
]
```

## 2. Network Security Groups (NSG)

```
// Restrictive NSG rules - VirtualNetwork scope only
securityRules: [
  {
    name: 'AllowVnetInbound'
    properties: {
      priority: 1000
      protocol: '*'
      access: 'Allow'
      direction: 'Inbound'
      sourceAddressPrefix: 'VirtualNetwork'
      destinationAddressPrefix: 'VirtualNetwork'
      sourcePortRange: '*'
      destinationPortRange: '*'
    }
  }
  {
    name: 'AllowAzureLoadBalancerInbound'
    properties: {
      priority: 1001
      protocol: '*'
      access: 'Allow'
      direction: 'Inbound'
      sourceAddressPrefix: 'AzureLoadBalancer'
      destinationAddressPrefix: '*'
      sourcePortRange: '*'
      destinationPortRange: '*'
    }
  }
  {
    name: 'DenyAllInbound'
    properties: {
      priority: 4096
      protocol: '*'
      access: 'Deny'
      direction: 'Inbound'
      sourceAddressPrefix: '*'
      destinationAddressPrefix: '*'
      sourcePortRange: '*'
      destinationPortRange: '*'
    }
  }
]
```

## 3. vWAN Integration

- **Centralized Connectivity:** All outbound traffic routes through Azure Firewall in vWAN hub
- **Secure Internet Access:** Azure Firewall provides controlled outbound connectivity
- **Network Segmentation:** DevOps workloads isolated in dedicated spoke network
- **Centralized Monitoring:** All network traffic logged and monitored centrally

# Identity and Access Management

## 1. Managed Identity Integration

```
identity: {
  type: 'SystemAssigned'
}
```

## 2. Key Vault Integration

```
// Secure secret management
keyVaultSecrets: [
  {
    name: 'adminPassword'
    value: adminPassword
  }
  {
    name: 'azureDevOpsPat'
    value: azureDevOpsPat
  }
]
```

## 3. Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

- **Principle of Least Privilege:** Minimal permissions for VMSS instances
- **Service Principal Authentication:** Secure Azure DevOps integration
- **Resource-Level Permissions:** Granular access control

# Compute Architecture

## Microsoft Prebuilt Images

### Image Selection Matrix

Image Type	Publisher	Offer	SKU	Use Case	VM Size
VS 2022 Enterprise	MicrosoftVisualStudio	visualstudio2022	vs-2022-ent-latest-ws2022	Full Development	D4s_v3+
VS 2022 Build Tools	MicrosoftVisualStudio	visualstudio2022	vs-2022-buildtools-latest-ws2022	CI/CD Builds	D2s_v3+
VS 2019 Enterprise	MicrosoftVisualStudio	visualstudio2019	vs-2019-ent-latest-ws2019	Legacy Projects	D4s_v3+
Windows Server 2022	MicrosoftWindowsServer	WindowsServer	2022-datacenter-azure-edition	Custom Tooling	D2s_v3+

## Image Configuration Logic

```
var imageConfigurations = {  
  'vs2022-enterprise': {  
    publisher: 'MicrosoftVisualStudio'  
    offer: 'visualstudio2022'  
    sku: 'vs-2022-ent-latest-ws2022'  
    version: 'latest'  
  }  
  'vs2022-buildtools': {  
    publisher: 'MicrosoftVisualStudio'  
    offer: 'visualstudio2022'  
    sku: 'vs-2022-buildtools-latest-ws2022'  
    version: 'latest'  
  }  
  'vs2019-enterprise': {  
    publisher: 'MicrosoftVisualStudio'  
    offer: 'visualstudio2019'  
    sku: 'vs-2019-ent-latest-ws2019'  
    version: 'latest'  
  }  
  'windowsserver-2022': {  
    publisher: 'MicrosoftWindowsServer'  
    offer: 'WindowsServer'  
    sku: '2022-datacenter-azure-edition'  
    version: 'latest'  
  }  
}
```

## **VM Scale Set Configuration**

### **1. Scaling Configuration**



```

sku: {
  name: vmSize
  tier: "Standard"
  capacity: instanceCount
}

// Auto-scaling settings
autoscaleSettings: {
  enabled: true
  profiles: [
    {
      name: "defaultProfile"
      capacity: {
        minimum: '1'
        maximum: "100"
        default: string(instanceCount)
      }
    }
  ]
  rules: [
    {
      metricTrigger: {
        metricName: "Percentage CPU"
        metricNamespace: "Microsoft.Compute/virtualMachineScaleSets"
        metricResourceUri: vmssId
        operator: "GreaterThan"
        statistic: "Average"
        threshold: 75
        timeAggregation: "Average"
        timeGrain: "PT1M"
        timeWindow: "PT5M"
      }
      scaleAction: {
        direction: "Increase"
        type: "ChangeCount"
        value: '1'
        cooldown: "PT5M"
      }
    }
  ]
  {
    metricTrigger: {
      metricName: "Percentage CPU"
      metricNamespace: "Microsoft.Compute/virtualMachineScaleSets"
      metricResourceUri: vmssId
      operator: "LessThan"
      statistic: "Average"
      threshold: 25
      timeAggregation: "Average"
      timeGrain: "PT1M"
      timeWindow: "PT10M"
    }
    scaleAction: {
      direction: "Decrease"
      type: "ChangeCount"
      value: '1'
      cooldown: "PT10M"
    }
  }
]
}

```

```
]
}
```

## 2. Storage Configuration

```
storageProfile: {}
  osDisk: {}
    createOption: 'FromImage'
    caching: 'ReadWrite'
    managedDisk: {}
      storageAccountType: 'Premium_LRS'
    }
    diskSizeGB: 128
  }
  imageReference: imageConfigurations[microsoftImageType]
}
```

## 3. Network Profile

```
networkProfile: {
  networkInterfaceConfigurations: [
    {
      name: 'nicConfig'
      properties: {
        primary: true
        networkSecurityGroup: {
          id: nsgId
        }
        ipConfigurations: [
          {
            name: 'ipconfig1'
            properties: {
              subnet: {
                id: subnetId
              }
              privateIPAddressVersion: 'IPv4'
              privateIPAllocationMethod: 'Dynamic'
              loadBalancerBackendAddressPools: [
                {
                  id: loadBalancerBackendPoolId
                }
              ]
            }
          }
        ]
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

# Network Architecture

## Network Topology

### 1. Virtual Network Design

```
// Hub-spoke topology with vWAN integration
virtualNetwork: {
  addressSpace: {
    addressPrefixes: [vnetAddressPrefix] // e.g., '10.0.0.0/16'
  }
  subnets: [
    {
      name: subnetName
      properties: {
        addressPrefix: subnetAddressPrefix // e.g., '10.0.1.0/24'
        networkSecurityGroup: {
          id: nsgId
        }
        routeTable: {
          id: routeTableId // Routes to Azure Firewall
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

## 2. Load Balancer Configuration

```
// Internal load balancer for health probes
loadBalancer: {
  sku: {
    name: 'Standard'
    tier: 'Regional'
  }
  properties: {
    frontendIPConfigurations: [
      {
        name: 'LoadBalancerFrontEnd'
        properties: {
          privateIPAllocationMethod: 'Dynamic'
          subnet: {
            id: subnetId
          }
        }
      }
    ]
    backendAddressPools: [
      {
        name: 'BackendPool'
      }
    ]
    probes: [
      {
        name: 'HealthProbe'
        properties: {
          protocol: 'Tcp'
          port: 80
          intervalInSeconds: 15
          numberOfProbes: 2
        }
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

### 3. Route Table Configuration

```
// Route all traffic through Azure Firewall
routeTable: {
  routes: [
    {
      name: "DefaultRoute"
      properties: {
        addressPrefix: "0.0.0.0/0"
        nextHopType: "VirtualAppliance"
        nextHopIpAddress: azureFirewallPrivateIP
      }
    }
    {
      name: "VnetLocal"
      properties: {
        addressPrefix: vnetAddressPrefix
        nextHopType: "VnetLocal"
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

## Network Security

### 1. Azure Firewall Rules (Required)

```
{
  "applicationRules": [
    {
      "name": "AllowAzureDevOps",
      "protocols": [
        {
          "protocolType": "Https",
          "port": 443
        }
      ],
      "targetFqdns": [
        "*.dev.azure.com",
        "*.visualstudio.com",
        "vstsagentpackage.azureedge.net",
        "login.microsoftonline.com"
      ],
      "sourceAddresses": ["10.0.1.0/24"]
    },
    {
      "name": "AllowChocolatey",
      "protocols": [
        {
          "protocolType": "Https",
          "port": 443
        }
      ],
      "targetFqdns": [
        "community.chocolatey.org",
        "chocolatey.org",
        "packages.chocolatey.org"
      ],
      "sourceAddresses": ["10.0.1.0/24"]
    }
  ]
}
```

## 2. Network Security Group Rules

```
securityRules: [  
  // Allow inbound from VNet only  
  {  
    name: 'AllowVnetInbound'  
    properties: {  
      priority: 1000  
      protocol: '*'  
      access: 'Allow'  
      direction: 'Inbound'  
      sourceAddressPrefix: 'VirtualNetwork'  
      destinationAddressPrefix: 'VirtualNetwork'  
      sourcePortRange: '*'  
      destinationPortRange: '*'  
    }  
  }  
  // Allow outbound to Internet (controlled by Azure Firewall)  
  {  
    name: 'AllowInternetOutbound'  
    properties: {  
      priority: 1000  
      protocol: '*'  
      access: 'Allow'  
      direction: 'Outbound'  
      sourceAddressPrefix: 'VirtualNetwork'  
      destinationAddressPrefix: 'Internet'  
      sourcePortRange: '*'  
      destinationPortRange: '*'  
    }  
  }  
]
```

# Configuration Management

## PowerShell Extension Architecture

### 1. Extension Configuration

```
extensionProfile: {
  extensions: [
    {
      name: 'ConfigureDevOpsAgent'
      properties: {
        publisher: 'Microsoft.Compute'
        type: 'CustomScriptExtension'
        typeHandlerVersion: '1.10'
        autoUpgradeMinorVersion: true
        settings: {
          fileUri: [
            '${_artifactsLocation}/scripts/configure-devops-agent.ps1${_artifactsLocationSasToken}'
          ]
        }
        protectedSettings: {
          commandToExecute: 'powershell -ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted -File configure-devops-agent.ps1 -AzureDevOpsUrl "${azureDevOpsUrl}" -PersonalAccessToken "${azureDevOpsPat}" -AgentPool "${agentPoolName}" -AgentName "BuildAgent" -ChocoPackages @("${join(chocoPackages, ',')}") -InstallChocolatey ${installChocolatey}'
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

### 2. Script Execution Flow

```
graph TD
  A[VM Instance Starts] --> B[PowerShell Extension Executes]
  B --> C{Install Chocolatey?}
  C -->|Yes| D[Install Chocolatey]
  C -->|No| E[Skip Chocolatey]
  D --> F[Install Custom Packages]
  E --> G[Verify Prebuilt Tools]
  F --> G
  G --> H[Download Azure DevOps Agent]
  H --> I[Configure Agent]
  I --> J[Start Agent Service]
  J --> K[Register with Agent Pool]
  K --> L[Agent Ready]
```



## Chocolatey Integration

### 1. Package Management Strategy

```
# Conditional Chocolatey installation
if ($InstallChocolatey) {
    # Install Chocolatey
    Set-ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Scope Process -Force
    [System.Net.ServicePointManager]::SecurityProtocol = [System.Net.ServicePointManager]::SecurityProtocol -bor 3072
    iex ((New-Object System.Net.WebClient).DownloadString('https://community.chocolatey.org/install.ps1'))

    # Install packages with version control
    foreach ($package in $ChocoPackages) {
        $installArgs = @("install", $package, "-y", "--no-progress")
        if ($ChocoPackageParams.ContainsKey($package)) {
            $installArgs += $ChocoPackageParams[$package].Split(' ')
        }
        & choco @installArgs
    }
}
```

### 2. Package Configuration Examples

```
{
  "chocoPackages": [
    "nodejs",
    "python",
    "docker-desktop",
    "terraform",
    "kubernetes-cli",
    "azure-cli"
  ],
  "chocoPackageParams": {
    "nodejs": "--version=18.17.0",
    "python": "--version=3.11.0",
    "terraform": "--version=1.5.0"
  }
}
```

# Monitoring and Observability

## Azure Monitor Integration

### 1. Metrics Collection

```
// Enable detailed monitoring
diagnosticSettings: {
  name: 'vmss-diagnostics'
  properties: {
    workspaceId: logAnalyticsWorkspaceId
    metrics: [
      {
        category: 'AllMetrics'
        enabled: true
        retentionPolicy: {
          enabled: true
          days: 30
        }
      }
    ]
  }
  logs: [
    {
      category: 'Administrative'
      enabled: true
      retentionPolicy: {
        enabled: true
        days: 30
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

### 2. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- **Agent Availability:** Percentage of agents online and ready
- **Build Queue Time:** Time builds wait for available agents
- **Resource Utilization:** CPU, memory, and disk usage across instances
- **Scaling Events:** Auto-scale operations and their triggers
- **Network Performance:** Latency and throughput to Azure DevOps services

### 3. Alerting Strategy

```
// Critical alerts
alerts: [
  {
    name: 'HighCPUUsage'
    condition: 'avg Percentage CPU > 85'
    severity: 'Warning'
    frequency: 'PT5M'
  }
  {
    name: 'LowAgentAvailability'
    condition: 'count agents < 1'
    severity: 'Critical'
    frequency: 'PT1M'
  }
  {
    name: 'ScalingFailure'
    condition: 'scaling operation failed'
    severity: 'Error'
    frequency: 'PT1M'
  }
]
```

## Deployment Architecture

### Infrastructure as Code (IaC) Strategy

#### 1. Bicep Template Structure

```
bicep/
├─ vmss-infrastructure.bicep      # Main template
├─ parameters.json              # Default parameters
├─ modules/
│   ├─ network.bicep            # Network resources
│   ├─ security.bicep           # Security configurations
│   ├─ compute.bicep            # VMSS and related resources
│   └─ monitoring.bicep         # Monitoring and alerting
└─ scripts/
    └─ configure-devops-agent.ps1 # Agent configuration script
```

## 2. Parameter Management

```
// Environment-specific parameters
@description('Environment-specific configuration')
param environmentConfig object = {
  development: {
    vmSize: 'Standard_D2s_v3'
    instanceCount: 1
    autoScaleEnabled: false
  }
  staging: {
    vmSize: 'Standard_D2s_v3'
    instanceCount: 2
    autoScaleEnabled: true
  }
  production: {
    vmSize: 'Standard_D4s_v3'
    instanceCount: 3
    autoScaleEnabled: true
  }
}
```

### 3. Deployment Pipeline

```
# Azure DevOps Pipeline
stages:
- stage: Validate
  jobs:
  - job: ValidateTemplate
    steps:
    - task: AzureCLI@2
      inputs:
        scriptType: 'bash'
        scriptLocation: 'inlineScript'
        inlineScript: |
          az deployment group validate \
            --resource-group $(resourceGroupName) \
            --template-file bicep/vmss-infrastructure.bicep \
            --parameters @bicep/parameters-$(environment).json

- stage: Deploy
  dependsOn: Validate
  jobs:
  - deployment: DeployInfrastructure
    environment: $(environment)
    strategy:
      runOnce:
        deploy:
          steps:
          - task: AzureCLI@2
            inputs:
              scriptType: 'bash'
              scriptLocation: 'inlineScript'
              inlineScript: |
                az deployment group create \
                  --resource-group $(resourceGroupName) \
                  --template-file bicep/vmss-infrastructure.bicep \
                  --parameters @bicep/parameters-$(environment).json \
                  --parameters adminPassword="$(adminPassword)" \
                  --parameters azureDevOpsPat="$(azureDevOpsPat)"
```

## Extensibility and Customization

### Template Customization Points

#### 1. Image Selection

```
// Add custom image types
var imageConfigurations = {
  // ... existing configurations
  'custom-dotnet': {
    publisher: 'YourPublisher'
    offer: 'YourOffer'
    sku: 'YourSKU'
    version: 'latest'
  }
}
```

## 2. Network Integration

```
// Support for different network topologies
param networkTopology string = 'vwan' // 'vwan', 'hub-spoke', 'standalone'

var networkConfigurations = {
  vwan: {
    useExistingVnet: true
    routeToFirewall: true
    publicIPEnabled: false
  }
  'hub-spoke': {
    useExistingVnet: true
    routeToFirewall: false
    publicIPEnabled: false
  }
  standalone: {
    useExistingVnet: false
    routeToFirewall: false
    publicIPEnabled: true
  }
}
```

## 3. Custom Extensions

```
// Support for additional VM extensions
param additionalExtensions array = []

var allExtensions = concat([
  {
    name: 'ConfigureDevOpsAgent'
    // ... configuration
  }
], additionalExtensions)
```

## Integration Patterns

### 1. CI/CD Integration

- **Azure DevOps Pipelines:** Native integration with agent pools
- **GitHub Actions:** Support for self-hosted runners
- **Jenkins:** Agent configuration for Jenkins builds
- **GitLab CI:** Custom runner registration

### 2. Monitoring Integration

- **Azure Monitor:** Native metrics and logs
- **Application Insights:** Application performance monitoring
- **Prometheus/Grafana:** Custom metrics collection
- **Splunk:** Log aggregation and analysis

### 3. Security Integration

- **Azure Security Center:** Security posture management
- **Azure Sentinel:** Security information and event management
- **Key Vault:** Secrets and certificate management

- **Azure AD:** Identity and access management

## Performance Optimization

### Scaling Strategies

#### 1. Predictive Scaling

```
// Schedule-based scaling for known patterns
scheduleBasedScaling: {
  profiles: [
    {
      name: 'BusinessHours'
      capacity: {
        minimum: '3'
        maximum: '10'
        default: '5'
      }
      recurrence: {
        frequency: 'Week'
        schedule: {
          timeZone: 'Pacific Standard Time'
          days: ['Monday', 'Tuesday', 'Wednesday', 'Thursday', 'Friday']
          hours: [8]
          minutes: [0]
        }
      }
    }
  ]
  {
    name: 'OffHours'
    capacity: {
      minimum: '1'
      maximum: '3'
      default: '1'
    }
    recurrence: {
      frequency: 'Week'
      schedule: {
        timeZone: 'Pacific Standard Time'
        days: ['Monday', 'Tuesday', 'Wednesday', 'Thursday', 'Friday']
        hours: [18]
        minutes: [0]
      }
    }
  }
]
}
```

## 2. Custom Metrics Scaling

```
// Scale based on Azure DevOps queue depth
customMetricScaling: {
  metricTrigger: {
    metricName: 'QueueLength'
    metricNamespace: 'AzureDevOps/AgentPools'
    operator: 'GreaterThan'
    threshold: 5
    statistic: 'Average'
    timeWindow: 'PT2M'
  }
  scaleAction: {
    direction: 'Increase'
    type: 'ChangeCount'
    value: '2'
    cooldown: 'PT3M'
  }
}
```

## Cost Optimization

### 1. Spot Instance Integration

```
// Use spot instances for non-critical workloads
spotInstanceConfiguration: {
  evictionPolicy: 'Deallocate'
  maxPrice: 0.05 // Maximum price per hour
}
```

### 2. Reserved Instance Planning

```
// Calculate reserved instance recommendations
reservedInstanceAnalysis: {
  baselineInstances: 2 // Always-on instances
  peakInstances: 10 // Maximum instances
  utilizationPattern: 'BusinessHours' // Usage pattern
  recommendedReservation: 3 // Recommended RI count
}
```

## Future Enhancements

### Planned Features

1. **Multi-Region Support:** Deploy agents across multiple Azure regions
2. **GPU Support:** Support for GPU-enabled VM sizes for specialized workloads
3. **Container Integration:** Support for containerized build agents
4. **Advanced Monitoring:** Integration with Azure Monitor Workbooks
5. **Cost Analytics:** Detailed cost tracking and optimization recommendations

### Extensibility Roadmap

1. **Plugin Architecture:** Support for custom plugins and extensions
2. **Template Marketplace:** Community-contributed templates and configurations



3. **Advanced Networking:** Support for Azure Virtual WAN 2.0 features
  4. **Security Enhancements:** Integration with Azure Defender and advanced threat protection
  5. **Compliance:** Built-in compliance templates for various standards (SOC 2, ISO 27001, etc.)
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This architecture guide provides a comprehensive overview of the technical implementation and design decisions. For specific implementation details, refer to the Bicep templates and PowerShell scripts in the repository.