

aws Cloud Finance Onboarding (CFO)







CLOUD FINANCE ONBOARDING (CFO): MODULE 1

Cloud Visibility & Accountability

Cost and Usage Visibility on AWS

- Cloud Cost Allocation
- Account Hierarchy Strategy
- Tagging Strategy
- Other Cost Allocation Models
- Improving Cloud Visibility & Accountability

AGENDA

Cost and Usage Visibility on AWS



First things first: establishing cost visibility

- A mechanism to orient and inform stakeholders
- Influence efficient cloud consumption behaviors
- Proactively identify concerning cost trends

Where can I find my AWS bills?

What AWS services are driving my costs?

How do I prioritize AWS cost reduction efforts?

Tool ONE: AWS Billing Dashboard

With the AWS Billing Dashboard, you can view your paid / unpaid bills, manage payment methods, monitor and analyze your costs and usage

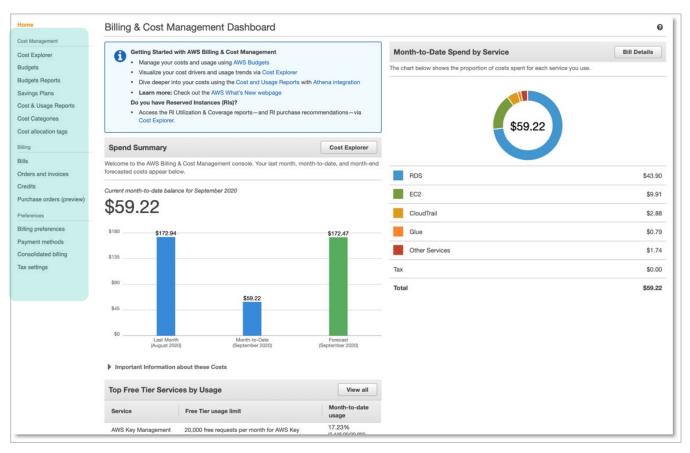
More specifically:

- Estimate and plan your AWS costs
- Receive alerts if your costs exceed or expected to exceed a threshold
- Assess your biggest investments in AWS resources

aws Tool ONE: AWS Billing Dashboard

Landing page

- Free Tier usage
- MTD spend by service
- MTD vs. Forecast* spend



https://console.aws.amazon.com/billing/home#/

Use AWS Cost Explorer for forecasting*

Tool TWO: AWS Cost Explorer

With the AWS Cost Explorer, visualize, understand, and manage your AWS costs and usage over time.

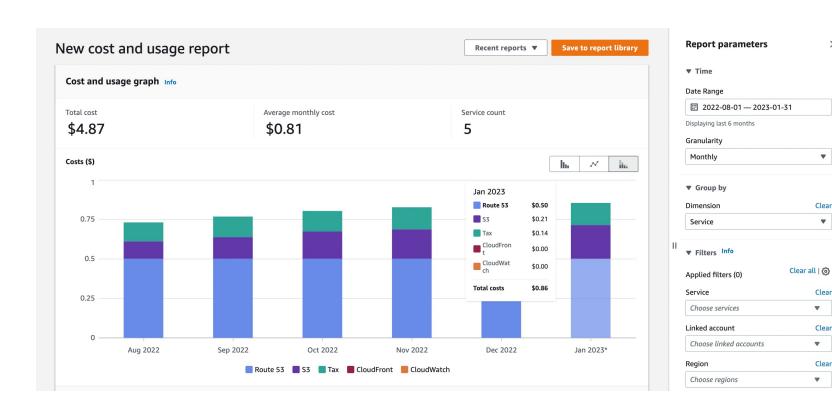
More specifically:

- Get costs and usage information, and business insights with preconfigured views
- Deep dive into your cost and usage data with filtering and grouping
- Forecast cost and usage for a future time range
- Create, save, and share custom reports to explore different sets of data

aws Tool TWO: AWS Cost Explorer

Landing page

- Views
 - UI: Graphs, tables
 - APIs
 - CSVs
- Default reports
 - Cost and usage reports
 - Reservation reports
 - Savings Plans reports



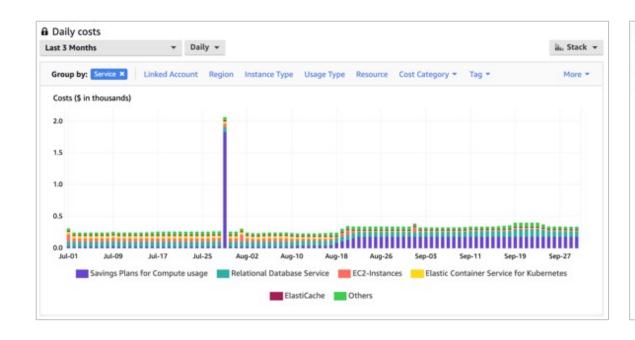
 \blacksquare

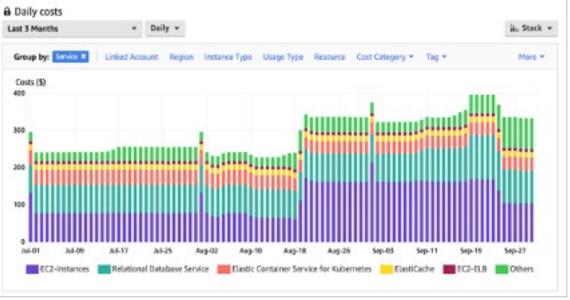


aws Tool TWO: AWS Cost Explorer

Unblended Costs View

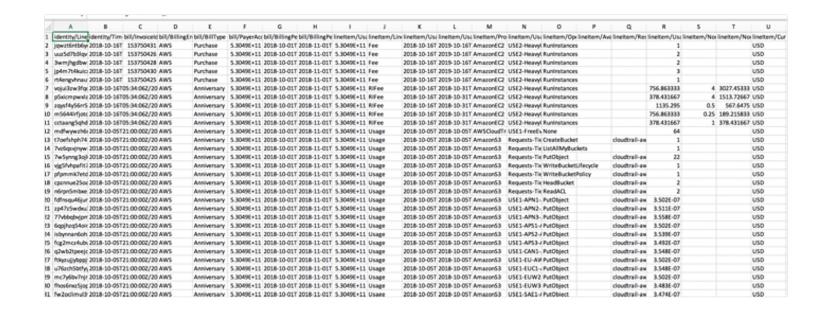
Amortized Costs View





aws AWS Cost & Usage Report (CUR)

- ✓ Most comprehensive set of cost and usage data available
- ✓ Enabled through billing console
- ✓ Updated to Amazon S3 continuously
- ✓ View reports using spreadsheet software or access from application using Amazon S3 API
- ✓ For cases when cost reporting needs are required in more depth





Tool THREE: Amazon Athena (with CUR)

Serverless query service that enables you to analyze data from your AWS CUR using standard SQL

Avoid creating your own data warehouse

SELECT line_item_product_code,
sum(line_item_blended_cost) AS cost, month
FROM mycostandusage_parquet
WHERE year='2018'
GROUP BY line_item_product_code, month
HAVING sum(line_item_blended_cost) > 0
ORDER BY line_item_product_code;

Based

on SQL

aws Tool FOUR: Cloud Intelligence Dashboards

The Cloud Intelligence Dashboards are customizable and accessible dashboards to help create the foundation of your own cost management and optimization (FinOps) tool.

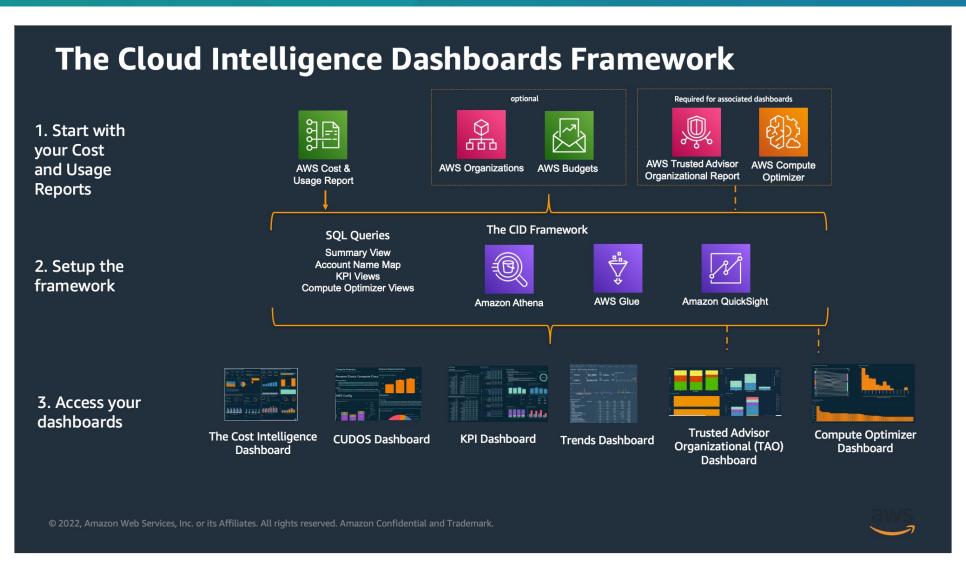
More specifically:

- Create chargeback/showback reports for business units, accounts, or cost centers.
- View resource-level detail: hourly AWS Lambda; single Amazon S3 bucket costs
- Quickly locate cost-optimization opportunities such as infrequently used S3 buckets, old EBS snapshots, and Graviton eligible instance usage



aws Tool FOUR: Cloud Intelligence Dashboards

3 steps to get started





Tool FOUR: Cloud Intelligence Dashboards

Introductions to install using AWS Well-Architected Labs

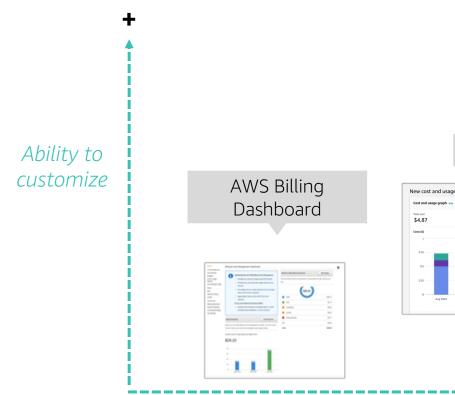
https://wellarchitectedlabs.com/cost/200_labs/200_enterprise_dashboards/





AWS provides services and tools to enable cost and usage visibility

AWS Cost Explorer







Cloud Intelligence

Cloud Cost Allocation

aws Cloud Cost Allocation

The process of defining which entity (people, team, business unit, product, customer) owns which part of the AWS bill, by using relevant allocation models, in order to establish ownership

- ✓ Enables intelligent cloud financial decision making
- ✓ Answers critical questions:
 - ➤ Who owns the spend?
 - > What product is incurring the spend?
 - ➤ What spend areas are growing fastest?
 - ➤ Who is responsible for optimizing spend?
 - > How much spend should be deducted from a cloud budget?



aws First Allocation, then Accounting

Cost Allocation Models

How to define who owns which part of the bill

Start w/ Native

Then w/ Apportioned

If needed ...

Accountbased

Equal Allocation

Tag-based

Fixed Allocation Telemetrybased

AWS Cost Categories Consumptionbased

Accounting Methods

How to use that information

Showback

Chargeback



Allocation: Essential Considerations

Account Hierarchy

Account structure should accurately reflect how AWS is used in the organization (business unit, product, environment)

This is your **starting point** for getting any successful showback or chargeback

Tagging

Tags help you drive **further granularity** by putting a **label on each individual resource**.

- Which cost center will pay for the resource?
- What application/environment does the resource belong to?

Stakeholder Alignment

Make sure Tech, Business, and Finance are part of the cost allocation discussion – from accounts and tag policy creation, to cost accounting

CFM Ownership

Ensure there is an identified owner (individual or team) responsible for driving the cost allocation process across stakeholder groups



Allocation: Gathering Requirements

Work backwards from stakeholders and desired outcomes



- > Finance (allocation units)
- Technology
- > Security
- > Business



- Cost allocability
- Deployment strategy
- > Governance
- Automation

This also establishes a baseline level of awareness

aws Accounting: Showback



The act of calculating and reporting incurred costs by a category of cost

 Example: The infrastructure engineering team was responsible for \$X of AWS spend last month



Costs incurred by a category of cost

> Example: The infrastructure team's showback was \$X spend last month

aws Accounting: Chargeback



The act of calculating and charging incurred costs to a category of cost

 Example: \$X was deducted from the infrastructure engineering team's AWS budget



Costs charged to a category of cost

Example: The infrastructure team's chargeback was \$X last month

Account Hierarchy Strategy

aws AWS Accounts

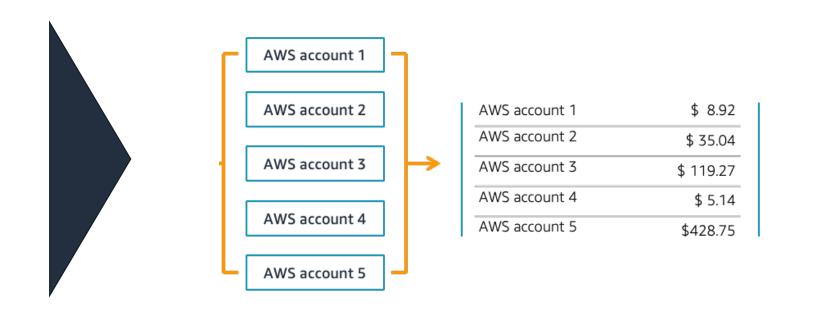
An AWS account is a container for your AWS resources. You create and manage your AWS resources in an AWS account, and the AWS account provides administrative capabilities for access and billing.

- ✓ The main access point to AWS
- ✓ You need an email address and a credit card
- ✓ For individuals and organizations alike
- ✓ It works like a container (folder) for all your AWS resources, workloads, and monthly bill

aws Multi-Account Strategy

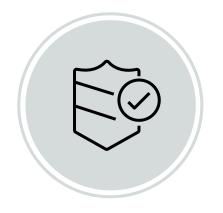
Using multiple AWS accounts is a best practice for scaling your environment, as it provides a natural billing boundary for costs, isolates resources for security, gives flexibility or individuals and teams, in addition to being adaptable for new business processes.

- ✓ Fiscal isolation
- ✓ Administrative isolation
- ✓ Minimizing blast radius
- ✓ AWS service limits
- ✓ Capacity reservations
- ✓ Maximize discount potential



aws AWS Organizations (1/2)

AWS Organizations lets you create (and centrally manage) multiple AWS accounts at no additional charge. With accounts in an organization, you can easily allocate resources, group accounts, and apply governance policies to accounts or groups.



Control AWS service use across accounts



Automate account creation



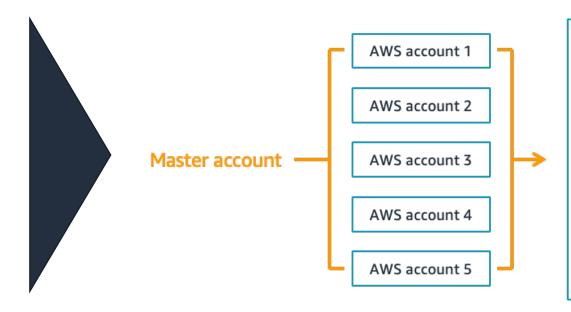
Consolidate billing and usage reporting

aws AWS Organizations (2/2)

Get set up in two simple steps:

- Designate a management account (payer); responsible for paying all charges of member (linked) accounts
- 2. Attach multiple member (linked) accounts

Moving from a 'standalone' set of accounts, to an AWS Organization with consolidated billing

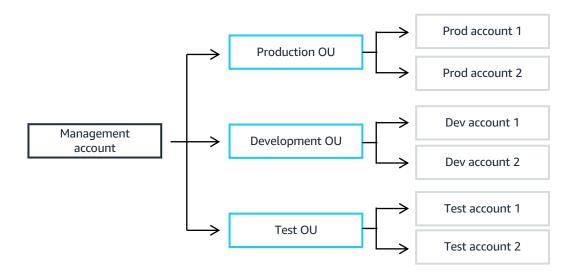


| Monthly consolidated bill | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| Master account | \$ 39.52 | | | |
| AWS account 1 | \$ 8.92 | | | |
| AWS account 2 | \$ 35.04 | | | |
| AWS account 3 | \$ 119.27 | | | |
| AWS account 4 | \$ 5.14 | | | |
| AWS account 5 | \$428.75 | | | |
| Total charged to paying account: | \$636.64 | | | |

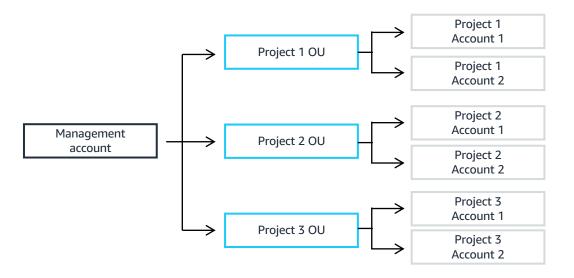


aws AWS Organizations: Examples (1/2)

Environment-lifecycle-based multi-account structure



Project-based multi-account structure





aws AWS Organizations: Examples (2/2)

Standalone accounts

Single-payer account structure

Multi-payer account structure

Member account 1

Member account 2

account

Member account 3 Management account 1

Member account 1

Member account 2

Member account 3

Management account 2

Member account 4

Member account 5

Member account 6

aws AWS Organizations: Key Benefits

- ✓ Free
- ✓ Single invoice
- ✓ Share Reserved Instance and Savings Plans financial benefits
- ✓ Volume pricing discounts
- ✓ Restrict credits

aws Account-based Cost Allocation



Account Hierarchy Strategy: Tips

An open conversation is always required between Tech, Business, and Finance, to evaluate the following key considerations:

- ✓ Who can create a new account?
- ✓ When should a new account be created?
- ✓ Do new accounts need to be linked to a management account?
- ✓ Is there a need for more than one management account?
- ✓ Is there a need for an account naming convention?
- ✓ I.e., digital-webapp01-prod
- ✓ What are the tax details for the account?
- ✓ Do accounts require special financial isolation/treatment?

Tagging Strategy

aws AWS Tags

Within an AWS Account, you can assign metadata to your AWS Resources in the form of tags.

Each tag is a label consisting of a user-defined key and value.

- ✓ Tags can help you manage, identify, organize, search for, and filter resources.
- ✓ You can create tags to categorize resources by purpose, owner, environment, or other criteria.
- ✓ There are also tags for cost allocation purposes



aws Tag-based Cost Allocation Report

AWS Cost Explorer and detailed billing reports let you break down AWS costs by tag. Typically, you use business tags such as cost center/business unit, customer, or project to associate AWS costs with traditional cost-allocation dimensions. The following is an example of a partial cost allocation report.

| Total Cost | user:Owner | user:Stack | user:Cost Center | user:Application |
|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| 0.95 | DbAdmin | Test | 80432 | Widget2 |
| 0.01 | DbAdmin | Test | 80432 | Widget2 |
| 3.84 | DbAdmin | Prod | 80432 | Widget2 |
| 6.00 | DbAdmin | Test | 78925 | Widget1 |
| 234.63 | SysEng | Prod | 78925 | Widget1 |
| 0.73 | DbAdmin | Test | 78925 | Widget1 |
| 0.00 | DbAdmin | Prod | 80432 | Portal |
| 2.47 | DbAdmin | Prod | 78925 | Portal |

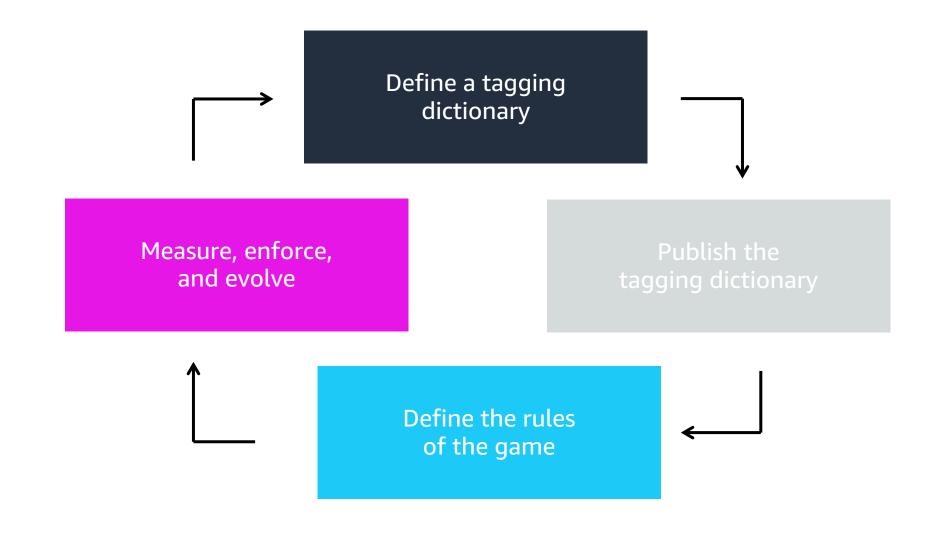
aws Tagging Governance

An effective tagging strategy uses **standardized** tags and applies them **consistently** and **programmatically** across AWS resources. You can use both **reactive** and **proactive** approaches for governing tags in your AWS environment.

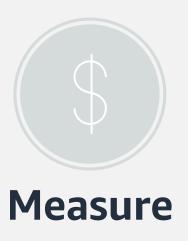
- Who can create a new tag value?
- Should there be a set of mandatory vs. optional tags?
- How are tags going to be enforced?
 - Proactive vs. reactive
- How to measure success?



aws Implementing a Tagging Strategy







Tagging KPIs

Tag coverage rate (per tag key)
Tag coverage rate (aggregate)
% of total spend tagged
% non-allocable spend

Outcome-based KPIs

resources terminated\$ savedTime saved (i.e., automating financial allocations)

aws Enforce (Proactive)



Proactive

Restrict non-compliant resources from being created

Top-down approach

Impedes business agility

Attains tag coverage rate targets

Enables accurate cost allocations

Minimizes resource waste

aws Enforce (Reactive)



Reactive

Fix existing, non-compliant resources

Relaxed approach

Enables business agility

Misses tag coverage rate targets

Increases non-allocable spend

Increased resource waste





Today's tagging dictionary is good for today

Are measures/KPIs improving over time?

Are the envisioned outcomes being realized?

Is the enforcement mechanism too strong, or weak?



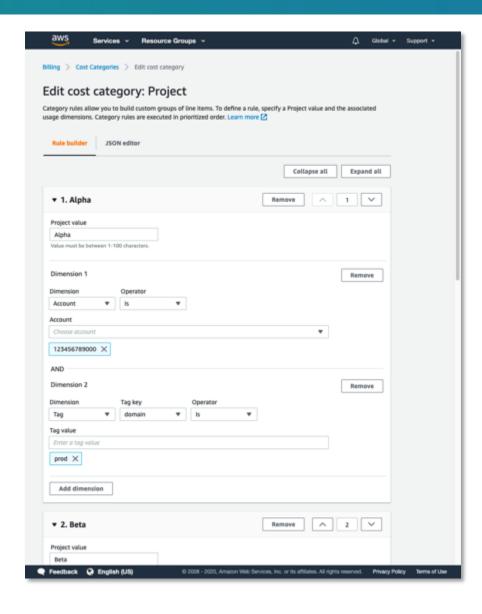
aws Tagging Enforcement Tools

| | Proactive enforcement | Reactive enforcement | Reporting |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Methods | Stakeholder approved tagging policy/dictionary | Resources with non-compliant tags are stopped and/or terminated | Awareness and gamification |
| AWS | AWS Organizations (<u>Service Control Policy</u>) AWS CloudFormation (<u>tags as code</u>) AWS Service Catalog (<u>TagOptions</u>) Amazon IAM (<u>tag read/write controls</u>) | AWS Tag Policies (supported services) AWS Config (required-tags rule) AWS auto-tagging solutions (link) Marketplace AMI cost allocation and tagging (link) | AWS Cost Categories AWS Cost Explorer AWS Budgets Amazon Quicksight (+ AWS CUR) AWS Resource Groups Amazon CloudWatch (tag alerts) AWS Config Dashboard |
| AWS Partners | Terraform (<u>tags as code</u>) Configuration Management (Puppet, Chef) AWS Cloud Management Competency Partners | AWS Cloud Management Competency Partners | AWS Cloud Management Competency Partners |
| Open source | GorillaStack (<u>auto-tag</u>) | Cloud Custodian GorillaStack (retro-tag) Graffiti Monkey (tag propagation) AWS Tagger (by Washington Post) | |
| DIY | Custom solutions via fill-in form integrated with AWS APIs | Custom enforcement solutions | Custom dashboards |

Other Cost Allocation Models

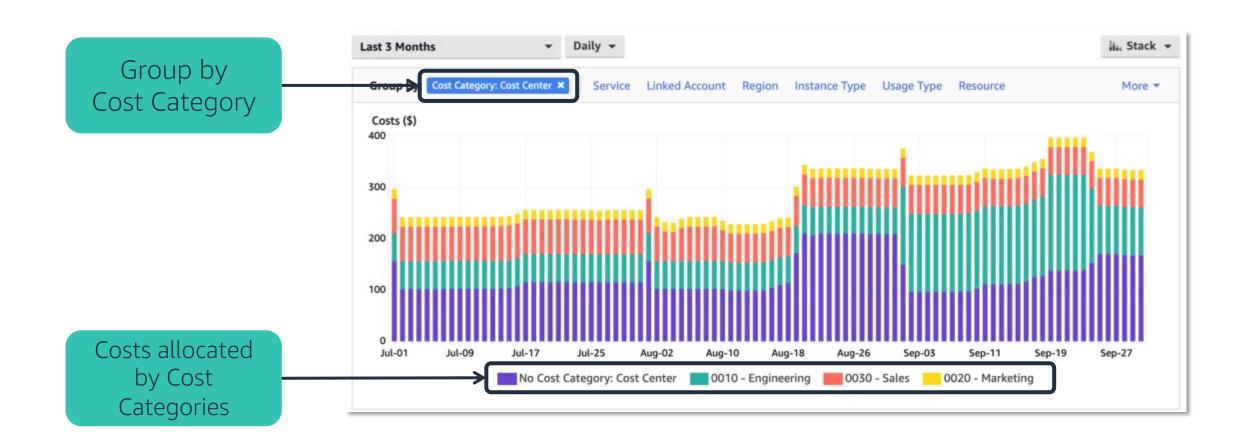
aws AWS Cost Categories

- ✓ Define custom rules to categorize your cost to your internal business and organizational structures
- ✓ Use dimensions such as account, tag, service, charge type, and even other cost categories
- ✓ Get an overview of your cost allocations within your Cost Categories
- ✓ Define split charge rules to equitably allocate your costs across your Cost Categories
- ✓ Set up integrations and use cost categories in AWS Cost Explorer, AWS Budgets, and AWS Cost and Usage Report (CUR)



aws

AWS Cost Categories-based Cost Allocation





Other resources and charge types



Consumptionbased

Telemetrybased

AWS Enterprise Support

Consumptionbased

Equal allocation

AWS Marketplace

Consumptionbased

Fixed allocation Telemetrybased

Credits and Discounts

Consumptionbased

Fixed allocation

Equal allocation



Customer Example: Finance Sector



Challenge

Provide application TCO capabilities that reconcile to the total monthly bill

Additional requirement to allocate AWS costs to respective Lines of Business (i.e. internal consumers)



Solution

Account structure with one management account and member accounts (with a 1:1 mapping to business applications)

Hybrid approach using Fixed and On-Demand ratio allocation methods

Calculation performed by 3rd party tool



Benefits

Fair allocation does not penalize early adopters

Accurate application TCO calculation

Increased accountability, and pilot for full chargeback

Exposed costs of data hygiene issues & untagged resources

| A | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Business Unit | Monthly Cost | % of Total Cost | | | |
| Wholesale | 100k | 50% | | | |
| Retail | 50k | 25% | | | |
| Operations | 30k | 15% | | | |
| Others | 20k | 10% | | | |
| Sub Total | 200k | 100% | | | |
| Savings Plans | 20k | | | | |
| AWS Premium Support | 10k | | | | |
| Untagged | 5k | | | | |
| Bill Total | 235k | | | | |

| В | С | D | A+B+C+D |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Allocated Savings Plans | Allocated Support Costs | Allocated Untagged | Chargeback to Business |
| 20k x 50% = 10k | 1k + (6k x 50%) = 4k | 5k x 50% = 2.5k | 116.5k |
| 20k x 25% = 5k | 1k + (6k x 25%) = 2.5k | 5k x 25% = 1.25k | 58.75k |
| 20k x 15% = 3k | 1k + (6k x 15%) = 1.9k | 5k x 15% = 0.75k | 35.65k |
| 20k x 10% = 2k | 1k + (6k x 10%) = 1.6k | 5k x 10% = 0.5k | 24.1k |
| 20k | | | |
| | 10k | | |
| | | 5k | |
| | | | 235k |



Cost Allocation Models

How to define who owns which part of the bill

Start w/ Native

Then w/ Apportioned

If needed ...

Accountbased Equal Allocation

Tag-based

Fixed Allocation

Telemetrybased

AWS Cost Categories

Consumptionbased

Accounting Methods

How to use that information

Showback

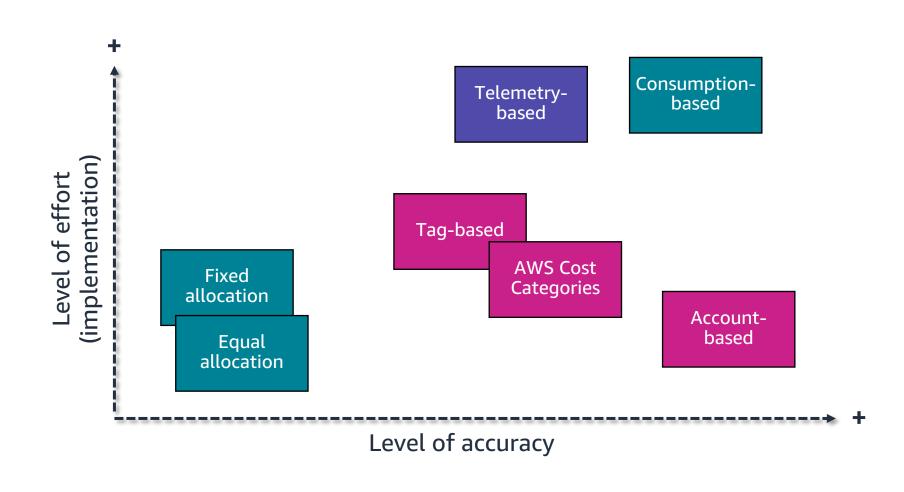
Chargeback



Choose (and evolve) your allocation model(s)

Start with a model(s) that aligns with level of effort to implement vs. desired accuracy

Adjust your approach as your data usage and sophistication needs evolve



'Real World' Best Practices (1/2)

- 'We have numerous shared applications, and each one with a separate methodology for allocating costs'
- 'For new shared applications (or for changing the methodology on one), we make sure to **first gain buy-in from** relevant/impacted organizations (e.g. no one should feel caught off guard); and this allows finance to align budgets as necessary'
- 'For new shared applications, we allocate based on roughly estimated percentages until we get more accurate data (e.g. assume a 50/30/20 split for the next six months while we research better ways to allocate costs)'
- 'For storage-heavy applications, each S3 bucket is initially mapped to a organization; and we then spread all
 costs (compute and storage) of the application based on storage consumption'
- 'For license based, we map users to organizations, so we can allocate costs based on the line of business'

'Real World' Best Practices (2/2)

- 'We have <u>ringfenced our workloads by Application</u>, so infrastructure resources like Amazon EC2 and Amazon S3 are <u>tagged with an Application name</u>'
- 'Infrastructure costs not tagged with an Application name (untagged by mistake, or untaggable like Amazon CloudWatch), are attributed to the Account where they sit
- 'Applications can span across multiple Accounts, especially for large shared Applications'
- 'We are constantly monitoring untagged costs to make sure everything is tagged properly'
- 'Account naming convention includes **terms like** <u>Prod</u>, <u>Dev</u>, <u>and QA</u>; including tags for those categories; and this has been especially helpful to properly <u>analyze costs in our non-production accounts</u>'
- 'Accounts and Applications have default cost centers / department IDs that are fully aligned with Finance'

Improving Cloud Visibility & Accountability

aws Where to start?











- ✓ Implement AWS Organizations and consolidate accounts
- Enforce a reactive tagging strategy
- Enable and understand Cost Explorer

- ✓ Control service usage across accounts
- Enforce a proactive tagging strategy
- Enable and understand the CUR
- Automate account creation and management
- KPIs, enforcement mechanisms and tagging dictionary evolution
- ✓ CUR integration with different tools (internal and external



Who is responsible for what?



- ✓ Define and deploy showback and chargeback strategies: when teams will only be informed of their incurred costs, and when teams will actually be charged for them
- Establish consolidated billing with AWS Organizations
- Define a cost allocation model that best suits your organization



FinOps Persona

- Set a cadence/meetings with Tech and Finance together to guarantee stakeholder alignment
- ✓ Convince the Finance department to consolidate their accounts
- ✓ Create AWS Cost Categories that are aligned with what the Finance department wants to see
- ✓ Implement Tagging KPIs
- Establish organizational cost accountability
- ✓ Deliver reports in a timely manner and enable alerting to not be caught by surprise by integrating the CUR with other services (Athena, QuickSight or Redshift)



- **Tech** Persona
- ✓ Implement a tagging strategy
- ✓ Tagging your resources making sure it includes 1) the cost center it relates to, 2) the application name,
 3) the team or person responsible for it, 4) expected date to have the product finished
- ✓ Automate AWS account creation and management with AWS Organizations
- ✓ Implement the necessary Tagging Enforcement Tools (Proactive enforcement, Reactive Enforcement and Reporting)

Thank you