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Spring Cloud Dependencies

Spring Cloud

Problem

- Spring Cloud
 - Is an umbrella project
 - It is huge
 - Release Management must synchronize large number of subprojects

Solution - Bill of Materials

- Spring Cloud Introduces the concept of *Release Train*.
- Each Release Train has an associated Bill of Materials (BOM).
- A Release Train (Spring Cloud version) is identified by a name:

`{Alphabetically increasing name}.SRXX`

- Example:

`Greenwich.SR3`

See <http://projects.spring.io/spring-cloud/> for more info

Spring Boot Starters Revisited

- Spring Cloud sub-projects that supply executable applications leverage Spring Boot.
- Use Maven Central or build tool dependency plugin to determine versions

Curating Dependencies

- Spring Cloud BOM and Spring Boot Starters help bootstrap development
- But there are problems lurking:
 - Integrating 3rd parties not already including in Spring project transitive dependencies?
 - Middleware or backing resources on different Spring project versions than client projects?
 - Bloated deployment artifacts (with large number of unused dependencies)
 - Potential masking of viral licenses
 - Potential masking of security vulnerabilities

Curating Dependencies - Solution

- Use Starters and BOMs to get up and running for green-field projects or MVPs
- Before product release (or when introducing 3rd party dependencies outside Spring ecosystem):
 - Analyze project dependencies (direct and transitive)
 - Analyze and resolve dependency conflicts
 - Exclude unnecessary dependencies