

Appendix A: Glossary of Key Terms

Please let me know if you find any errors or omissions.

Agility: The ability of AWS to foster innovation in organisations.

API An application programming interface provides programmatic access to resources in AWS.

API Gateway: A fully managed service that allows you to create and publish secure APIs to scale in AWS.

Artifact : A central resource for compliance-related information.

Auto Scaling: The automatic addition and subtraction of resources based on various factors, often the resource demand.

Automation: The automatic generation or performance of required IT tasks.

Availability: Ensuring data is available when needed.

Availability Zone A is a division of geographic locations within regions; each availability zone contains at least one separate and distinct data centre.

AWS Auditor Learning Path A Learning Path for AWS that focuses on those in auditor, compliance, and legal roles.

AWS Global Infrastructure: Customers use the resources owned by AWS around the globe.

AWS Partner Network The AWS global partner program seeks to help partners build successful AWS solutions.

AWS Professional Services: An organisation with a global team of experts that can help you with your desired business outcomes for AWS.

AWS Shared Responsibility model: does AWS follow the overall security model; this model divides the client responsibilities from those of Amazon.

Basic support plan The AWS support plan is included free of charge for every account.

Business support plan: The third tier of four tiers of support plans; this plan features a response time to your issues of 1 hour.

CapEx: Capital expenditures.

ClassicLink Allows the linking of EC2-Classic instances to a VPC in your account.

CloudFormation: makes it easy for developers and systems administrators to create and manage a collection of related AWS resources, provisioning and updating them in an orderly and predictable fashion.

CloudFront: A global content delivery network (CDN) service that accelerates the delivery of your websites, APIs, video content, or other web assets.

CloudTrail: A web service that records AWS API calls for your account and delivers log files to you.

CloudWatch: A monitoring service for AWS Cloud resources and the applications you run on AWS.

CodeDeploy: A fully managed code deployment service that helps you deploy software to EC2 instances.

Community cloud: A cloud provisioned for use by a select group of companies or organisations.

Compliance: Conformity in fulfilling specific requirements.

Confidentiality: Keeping data secure (often through encryption).

Developer support plan: The second possible tier of the four tiers of support; this is the first level of support plan that provides you with access to tech support.

Direct Connect: An alternative to a shared Internet connection to AWS, Direct Connect is an entirely private connection from your on-premises network to the AWS facilities.

DynamoDB: A fast and flexible NoSQL database service for all applications that need consistent, single-digit millisecond latency at any scale.

EBS: Elastic Block Store offers persistent block storage volumes for use with EC2 instances.

EC2: Elastic Compute Cloud makes virtual machines available in AWS and provides a managed environment for your Docker containers.

Edge Locations: Locations that deliver cached CloudFront content.

EFS: The Elastic File System provides simple, scalable file storage for use with Amazon EC2 instances in the AWS Cloud.

Elastic Beanstalk: A service that allows you to upload your code and have it automatically hosted by AWS.

Elastic Load Balancing: The AWS tool for distributing requests for a resource among various resources.

ElastiCache: A web service that makes it easy to deploy, operate, and scale an in-memory cache in the cloud.

Elasticity: The ability of the cloud to grow or shrink resources dynamically based on demand or other factors.

Enterprise support plan: The premier level of support available in AWS, features a response time of just 15 minutes to significant issues you are experiencing.

Federation: Permitting an account to use its access with another trusted service to access AWS.

Free Tier: A trial account for AWS that is entirely free, given certain constraints.

FT: Fault tolerance. The property that enables a system to continue operating correctly in the event of the failure of some (one or more faults within) of its components.

Glacier: A secure, durable, and extremely low-cost storage service for data archiving and long-term backup.

Groups: A collection of user accounts; permissions are assigned to groups.

HA: High availability. A characteristic of a system that aims to ensure an agreed level of operational performance, usually uptime, for a higher-than-normal period.

Hybrid cloud: Companies that host some cloud technologies privately and rely on public cloud resources for other technologies.

IaaS: Infrastructure as a Service.

IAM: Identity and Access Management enables you to securely control your users' access to AWS services and resources.

Integrity: Ensuring data is not manipulated at rest or in transit.

Lambda: The main serverless compute service of AWS.

MFA: Multi-factor authentication.

Network ACLs: Used to control traffic moving between subnets in your VPC.

Networking and Content Delivery: A service category with low-latency delivery of cached content to specific geographic locations.

On-demand instances: EC2 instances launched at a current price of compute time.

OpEx: Operational expenditures.

OpsWorks: *A configuration management service that uses Chef or Puppet, an automation platform that treats server configurations as code. (Deprecated 2023)*

Orchestration: The scheduling and coordination of automated tasks for an entire process or workflow.

PaaS: Platform as a Service.

Private cloud: Cloud technology is kept “in-house” and fully managed by the private organisation.

Public cloud: Massive cloud providers make various “as a Service” models available.

RDS: Relational Database Services make it easy to set up, operate, and scale a relational database in the cloud.

Redshift: A fast, fully managed, petabyte-scale data warehouse that makes it simple and cost-effective to analyse all your data using your existing business intelligence tools.

Region: A is a physical, geographic location where AWS creates multiple Availability Zones.

Reserved instances: Instances at a fixed price contractually reserved for your purposes.

Roles: Similar to user accounts but with no credentials; used to provide access from one AWS service to another.

Route 53: A highly available and scalable cloud Domain Name System (DNS) web service.

S3: The Simple Storage Service of AWS is flexible, object-based storage for various purposes.

SaaS: Software as a Service.

Savings Plans: These flexible pricing models can help you reduce your bill by up to 72% compared to on-demand prices in exchange for a one—or three-year spending commitment.

Security groups: Built-in firewalls associated with EC2 instances provide security at the protocol and port levels.

Security in the cloud: The reference to the client security responsibilities in the AWS Shared Responsibility model.

Security of the cloud: The reference to the Amazon security responsibilities in the AWS Shared Responsibility model.

Service Catalog: Allows you to create and maintain a catalogue of IT resources approved for use with AWS.

Simple Monthly Calculator: *A free AWS tool calculates your monthly AWS costs for various services. (deprecated 2023)*

Spot instances: Instances where you bid on unused capacity in AWS.

Systems Manager: A tool for grouping your resources for easy monitoring and configuration changes.

Trusted Advisor: A management tool that checks your configurations and provides modification advice to help you adhere to best practices.

Users: Entities created to represent individuals who need access to AWS.

VPC: The Virtual Private Cloud that provides the virtual network components in AWS.

VPC endpoint: Permits private connections from your VPC to supported AWS services.

VPC peering: A connection between multiple VPCs in AWS.

Whitepapers: Documents made available by Amazon that provide valuable best practices and architectures to follow.