

App Distribution Service for PCF Documentation

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App Distribution

Product Snapshot

The following table provides version and version-support information about App Distribution for PCF:

Element	Details
Version	v1.3.6
Release date	May 16, 2016
Compatible Ops Manager version(s)	v1.5.x and later
Compatible Elastic Runtime version(s)	v1.5.x and later
IaaS support	AWS (only for PCF v1.4.x and later) and vSphere

Consider the following compatibility information before upgrading:

Ops Manager Version	Supported Upgrades from Imported App Distribution Installation
1.3.x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.0 to 1.0.1.26
1.4.x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.0.1.28 only
1.5.x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.0.1.28 to 1.1.0.0 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.1.0
1.6.x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.1.0 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.2.0 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.3.0 1.2.1.0 to 1.2.2.0 1.2.x to 1.3.5
1.7.x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.3.5 to 1.3.6 1.3.5 to 1.3.8

Installation

Please follow these [instructions](#) to install via Ops Manager.

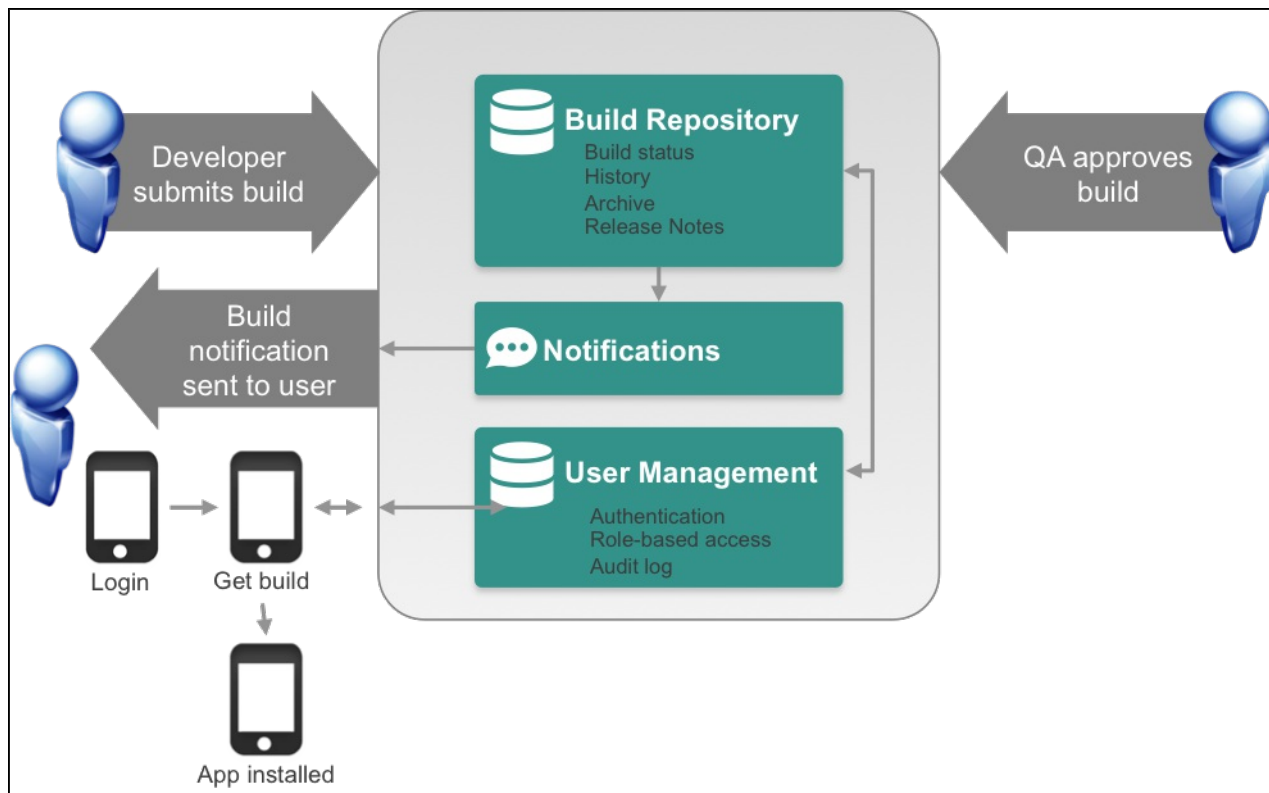
Backup and restore

Follow these [instructions](#) to backup and restore the MySQL database contents.

These [instructions] can be used to backup and restore the Redis database.

About

The [Pivotal App Distribution service](#) provides [Pivotal Cloud Foundry](#) users with a release process for testing and sharing mobile apps currently in development. Current mobile platforms supported include iOS, Android, BlackBerry, and Windows Phone.



A typical use case is as follows:

1. In the App Distribution web portal, a developer creates a 'release' of an app (currently in development) for QA testers. Developers can add release notes, known issues, lists of supported devices and OS versions, etc.
2. The QA testing team is notified of the release via email. They can then install (via over-the-air download) and test the app on device. Pending successful completion of testing, QA then approves the release for distribution.
3. Once approved, the developer can then distribute the release to a larger group of team members, which can include beta testers, project stakeholders, etc.

App Distribution Release Notes

Previous Releases

1.3.8

Updated to bosh stemcell v3146.12

1.3.6

Updated stemcell to version 3232.2

1.3.5

Maintenance release to remove NewRelic info

1.3.4

Updated stemcell to version 3146.10 to address [USN-2929-1](#) 

1.3.3

Updated stemcell to version 3146.9

1.3.0

APIs available for build automation (users can now call a set of curl commands to create a build, upload a test file, add release notes, released builds, etc.)

1.2.5

Updated Bosh stemcell to version 3146.2 in order to address the following:

[USN-2857-1](#) 

[USN-2842-1](#) 

[USN-2842-2](#) 

[USN-2836-1](#) 

[USN-2834-1](#) 

[USN-2830-1](#) 

[USN-2829-1](#) 

1.2.3

Updated stemcell to version 3130. This is a regular security upgrade that resolves the following issues:

[USN-2806-1](#)  Linux kernel (Vivid HWE) vulnerability

[USN-2798-1](#)  Linux kernel (Vivid HWE) vulnerabilities

1.2.2

Fix to disable verbose logging during installation process

1.2.1

- Support for PCF 1.6
- API to upload files to builds
- Minor bug fixes and UI updates

1.1.0

- Provided APIs that can be used by CI scripts to create a build and upload a file
- Minor UI updates - new login page, view login profile (from user id dropdown)

1.0.1.28

- Support for external MySQL and Redis services
- Support for PCF 1.4 on AWS

Known issues:

- On AWS, this version supports deployments in the US-East region. Multi-region support is coming in a future release.
- The experimental HTTPS-only feature in Elastic Runtime 1.5 may cause issues with this version of the product. Full support for HTTPS-only traffic is coming in a future release.



Note: BOSH Stemcell 2865.1 is required for installation on Ops Manager 1.5.x and above.

1.0.1.15

- Offline installation support
- Compatibility with PCF 1.4 (vSphere)

1.0.0

- Create a project from which app releases will be sent
- Pivotal Tracker integration (features delivered, bugs fixed, etc.)
- Create and share multiple app releases to testers
- Role based access:
 - Administrator - create/view all projects, add project users, and create app releases
 - Member - create app releases and add project users
 - Viewers - view app releases (must be a project member)

Installation

For installation, a [Pivotal Cloud Foundry](#) Administrator initially imports the [Pivotal App Distribution](#) package into Pivotal Cloud Foundry Operations Manager.

Installation Prerequisites

- Pivotal Cloud Foundry ([Elastic Runtime](#) and [Ops Mgr](#))
- [MySQL for PCF](#)
- SSL Certificate (for over-the-air installation of iOS apps)
- SMTP provider (for sending build notification emails)
- S3-compatible object store API (for storing release information, including application binary files)

NOTE: A typical enterprise deployment will require two application instances (AIs)

Installing via Ops Manager

To install the PCF App Distribution tile in Ops Manager, please follow the steps listed below:

1. Download the product file from [Pivotal Network](#)
2. Upload the product file to the Ops Manager Installation Dashboard (via the 'Import a Product' button).
3. Click **Add** next to the uploaded product description in the Available Products view to add this product to your staging area.
4. Click on the newly added tile to enter the required Tile Configuration settings as shown below.
5. Click **Apply Changes** to install the product.

Ops Manager settings

From step 4 above, go to the 'Settings' Tab after clicking on the App Distribution tile and update the following configuration settings

SMTP Settings

Required field values:

- 'From Email' - this is the email address that will be used to send releases
- SMTP server address
- SMTP server port number
- HELO domain (from which emails will be sent)
- SMTP server credentials (login & password)
- Select your authentication method (plain, login, or cram_md5).

Click **Save** to store the SMTP settings.

P

PCF Ops Manager

pivotalcf

[Installation Dashboard](#)

PCFMS App Distribution

Settings

Status

Credentials

Logs

Assign Networks

Assign Availability Zones

SMTP Settings

Storage Settings

SSL Settings

MySQL Settings

Redis Settings

Errands

Resource Config

Stemcell

SMTP Server configuration is required to enable invitations and build notifications to be sent via Email. SMTP Settings are mandatory.

From Email *

Address of SMTP server *

Port of SMTP server *

HELO domain *

SMTP server credentials

Username

Password

The credentials for the SMTP server that will send email notifications.

SMTP authentication

login

☐ SMTP Enable Automatic STARTTLS

Save

Storage Settings

Required field values:

- Bucket name
- Access Key
- Secret Key

P

PCF Ops Manager

pivotalcf

[Installation Dashboard](#)

PCFMS App Distribution

Settings

Status

Credentials

Logs

✓ Assign Networks

✓ Assign Availability Zones

✓ SMTP Settings

✓ Storage Settings

✓ SSL Settings

✓ MySQL Settings

✓ Redis Settings

✓ Errands

✓ Resource Config

✓ Stemcell

Settings for a S3 Compatible service. This is required and is used as a blob store to hold uploaded build files.

Bucket Name *

Access Key *

Secret Key *

Host

Region

Save

MySQL Settings

Select the MySQL Database to be used - PCF MySQL or an External MySQL service (PCF MySQL is the default setting)

If PCF MySQL is used then enter the appropriate service plan (typically '100mb-dev')

[Installation Dashboard](#)

PCFMS App Distribution

Settings

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✓ Assign Networks

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✓ Storage Settings

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✓ MySQL Settings

✓ Redis Settings

✓ Errands

✓ Resource Config

✓ Stemcell

Configuration details for MySQL.

MySQL Database Location *

Where to put the MySQL database.

☒ PCF MySQL Service

Service plan to use for the MySQL service. *

100mb-dev

Pivotal MySQL service plan

☐ External

MySQL Host *

The MySQL host used to connect to the server.

MySQL Port *

The MySQL port used to connect to the server.

MySQL Username *

The MySQL username used to connect to the server.

If an external MySQL service is to be used then enter the following settings

- MySQL Host
- MySQL Port
- MySQL Username
- MySQL Password
- MySQL Database

Backup and Restore MySQL

If MySQL for PCF is being used, follow these [instructions](#) to backup and restore the database

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1.3.6

[Installation Dashboard](#)

PCFMS App Distribution

Settings
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Assign Networks
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SMTP Settings
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Configuration details for MySQL.

MySQL Database Location *

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100mb-dev

Pivotal MySQL service plan

☒ External

MySQL Host *
The MySQL host used to connect to the server.

MySQL Port *
The MySQL port used to connect to the server.

MySQL Username *
The MySQL username used to connect to the server.

MySQL Password *

Secret

The MySQL password used to connect to the server.

MySQL Database *
The database used to connect to the server.

Save

Provision a service instance for App Distribution

- Log into the PCF console
- In the system org, go to the 'app-distribution' space
- Click on the 'Add Service' button:

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1.3.6

system > app-distribution admin

SPACE

app-distribution [Edit Space](#)

APPLICATIONS [Learn More](#)

STATUS	APP	INSTANCES	MEMORY
	app-distribution https://app-distributi...	1	1GB
	app-distribution-worker	1	1GB

SERVICES [Add Service](#)

SERVICE INSTANCE	SERVICE PLAN	BOUND APPS
------------------	--------------	------------

- Select 'App Distribution' from the Services Marketplace

system > Marketplace

Services Marketplace

App Autoscaler
Scales bound applications in response to load


MySQL for Pivotal Cloud Foundry
MySQL service for application development and testing

RabbitMQ for PCF
RabbitMQ is a robust and scalable high-performance multi-protocol messaging broker.

Redis for PCF
Redis service to provide a key-value store

App Distribution
Share and test developer versions of mobile applications.

- Select the 'development' plan (provisions a single App Distribution instance)



App Distribution

Share and test developer versions of mobile applications.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Provisioning a service instance creates an app distribution instance.

[Documentation](#) | [Support](#)

COMPANY

Pivotal Software


SERVICE PLANS

development

free

PLAN FEATURES

- ✓ Provisions a single App Distribution instance.

[Select this plan](#)


- On the next screen (configure instance), enter the following:

- Instance name: Enter a value (i.e. 'App Distribution')
- Add to space: 'app distribution'
- Bind to App: 'do not bind'

SERVICE PLAN

development

free

CONFIGURE INSTANCE

Instance Name

Add to Space


app-distribution

Bind to App



[do not bind]

Cancel

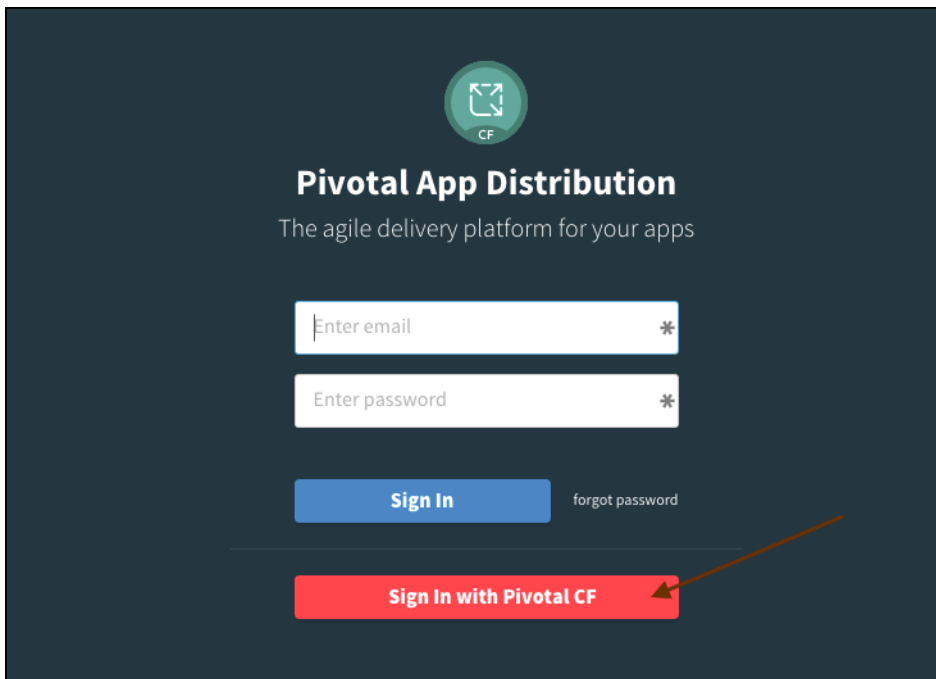
Add



- Click 'Add'. The browser will then redirect back to the PCF console page showing the newly provisioned service instance
- Click **Manage** under the instance name to access the App Distribution portal.

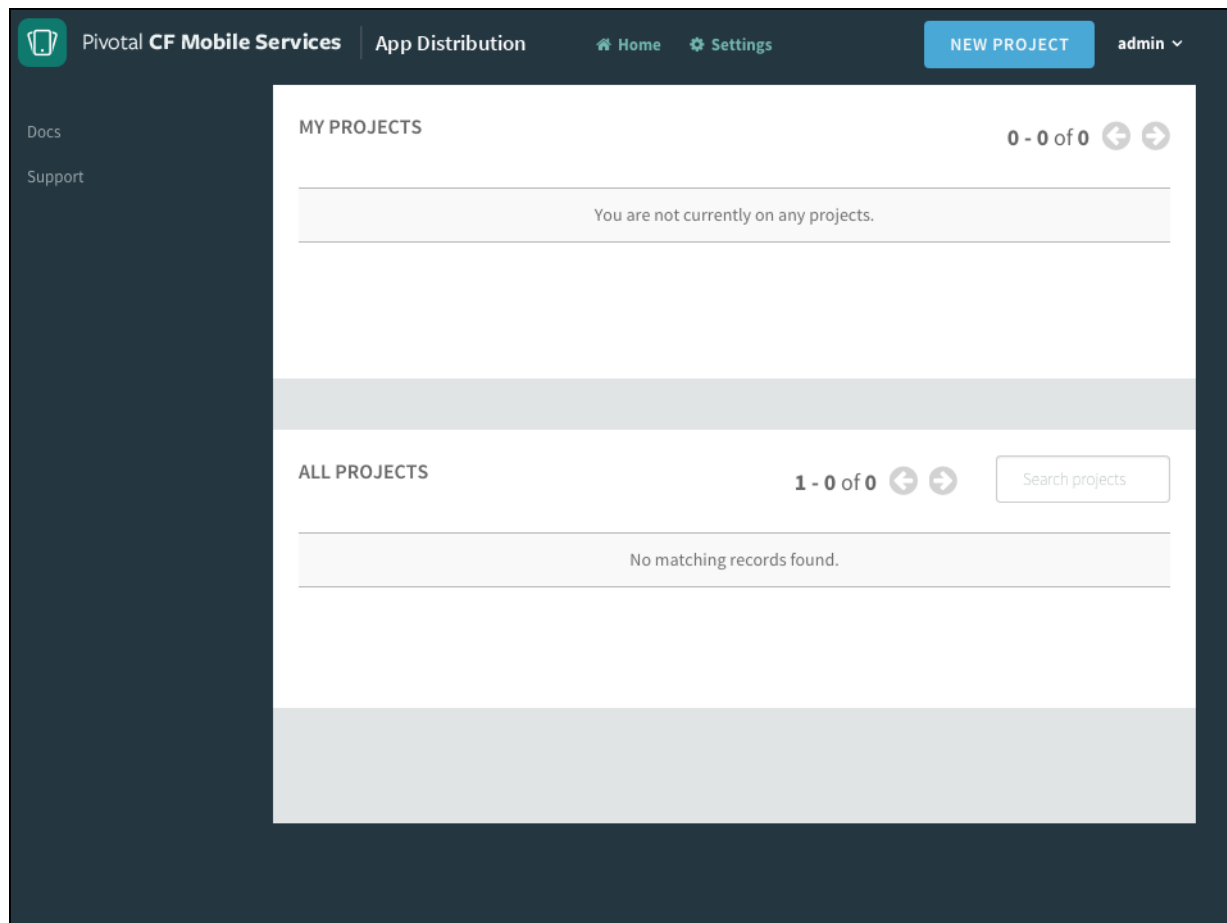
APPLICATIONS Learn More			
STATUS	APP	INSTANCES	MEMORY
	app-distribution https://app-distributi...	1	1GB >
	app-distribution-worker	1	1GB >
SERVICES Add Service			
SERVICE INSTANCE		SERVICE PLAN	BOUND APPS
push-app-distribution-mysql Manage Documentation Support Delete		MySQL for Pivotal Cloud Foundry 100 MB Dev	2
push-app-distribution-redis Documentation Support Delete		Redis for PCF Shared-VM	2
push-app-distribution-smtp Delete		User Provided	2
App Distribution Manage Documentation Support Delete		App Distribution development	0

- Click the 'sign in with Pivotal Cloud Foundry' link and enter the UAA admin credentials (found by accessing the Elastic Runtime tile's credentials tab under the 'UAA' section)




The login screen for Pivotal App Distribution is displayed. It features a dark blue background with a Pivotal Cloud Foundry (CF) logo at the top. The title 'Pivotal App Distribution' is prominently displayed, followed by the tagline 'The agile delivery platform for your apps'. Below this, there are two input fields: 'Enter email' and 'Enter password', both marked with an asterisk. A blue 'Sign In' button is positioned below the password field, with a 'forgot password' link next to it. At the bottom, there is a red button labeled 'Sign In with Pivotal CF', which is highlighted by an orange arrow.

- Upon successful login, the home page should appear as shown below:



- Refer to the [User Guide](#) for instructions on how to add users and create an app build release.

Create & Release Builds

 **Note:** Users can now use APIs for build automation (curl command to create a build, upload a file, release a build, etc.). Please reference [this link](#) for more information.

Create a project and add users to the project team

1. Click **New Project**. (i.e. setting up a new App project page from which the release will be sent)
2. Add Project Name, Client Name, Platform, Description, and project mailing list.
3. Add Pivotal Tracker and Token (if Tracker has been installed).
4. Add Users to the project and assign a role as described below:
 - Administrator - Can add users to a project, create releases
 - Member - Can create builds to send to QA and clients. Can also receive QA builds
 - Viewer - Can only view releases that have been approved by QA and released to the project team

Create & Release a build to QA

1. Click **add phase** and enter a phase name.
2. Click **new build** link.
3. Select the phase name from the drop down menu.
4. Click **browse files** to upload the appropriate mobile app binary file.
5. If testing a mobile web app, enter the URL and a label name (i.e url shortcut).
6. Click **add** to upload any additional files or urls (for testing, documentation, etc.).
7. In the QA Release Notes section, enter values for the required fields (indicated by '*').
8. Click **Save** at bottom right.
9. Click **Submit for Testing**.
10. Include project team members who will receive the build (sent via email).
11. Click **Release**.
12. Verify that the 'Pass' and 'Fail' buttons are displayed.

Install App as a QA tester

1. Access the build release email from the appropriate mobile device (note that installing over the air is available only for iOS and Android devices).
2. In the build release email message, click **Install Build**. This opens the Safari browser and displays the login page for the app distribution instance.
3. Upon successful login, the build page displays.
4. Click **Install** next to the appropriate build file.
5. The build file should then successfully download to the mobile device.
6. Once the build has passed testing, click **Pass**.

7. Verify that the 'Share Release' button is displayed.

Release build to project team

1. Add App files.
2. Add Release notes.
3. Click **Share Release**.
4. The project mailing list is selected by default. Select any additional team members if needed.
5. Click **Release**.
6. Selected project team members and anyone on the mailing list will receive the release email.