

Intent API – Support for MultiCloud Deployments

Infrastructure as a Code



THE CHALLENGE.

How easy is it to consume Cloud services from the large providers AWS, Azure, etc.?

.. well, very easy and quick over the Internet

But what if you need a real hybrid cloud?

.. Internet is not good enough

Private connectivity is available via Cloud exchange providers

.. but it takes time

Is there always the network in the way to reach busines agility?

.. it seems so, and

the IT provisioning processes are so slow and fragmented any change needs a half year project coordination of many enterprise silos and 3rd-partys budget, control, policies, guidelines.



INSIGHT.

What if a DevOps or application team could manage private network services like they enjoy using infrastructure as a code approaches, services, and APIs from the public cloud providers?

A cloud provider provides services has the **following characteristics**

- On-demand
- Self-service
- Secure / Identity Access Management
- Policy-controlled
- Abstraction
- Billing/Charging

And behind the scene there is

- Domain orchestration
- Virtualizations
- Service development with business rules and policies
- Infrastructure Life cycle management
- Multi-tenant management
- 24/7 infrastructure and service operation
- Telemetry and usage tracking



AGILITY AND VELOCITY.

All together enables real business agility and velocity for the consumers. The service domains of Cloud providers are delivered around usage patterns. The consumption and consume-ability come first. Consuming own infrastructure is much harder as own infrastructure relies typically on tools which either a narrow focus and complex e.g. a vendor specific CLI to configure a switch or an infrastructure vendor specific management system, not dealing well with 3rd parties.

The latest tooling can help experts to gain efficiency, but still may not improve the enterprise processes. Enterprise business policies are often only enforced by manual step in the delivery, which require expert reviews and multilevel implementation coordination.

"Consume-ability comes first, and not tooling and project management"



It is critical to enable new consumption models by identifying the real customer within an organization and design a solution starting the real need.

The need could be about inflating and destroying development environments on-demand, or differentiating based on environment types (prod, non-prod) different connectivity requirements.

How to make a cloud like experience for an internal customer?

OUR APPROACH.

First thing is to identify the domain and business value to be gained by automation.

It is about the "Why" by exploring questions like:

- What does takes so long?
- Where is the constraint in the overall process?
- Who is the user/consumer?
- What is the service?
- Who are the teams and silos involved in the current delivery?

The domain and potential usage patterns will be identified, but then the "How" is another critical point. Often buying and tool or investing into an own development is an enterprise culture and internal skills driven decision. Both options are possible, but we see often that a short prototype or combination of tooling and development can help to foster a solution.



CONSUME ABILITY COMES FIRST.

Business rules and consumption APIs are often not the strength of existing tools. Tools like Ansible or Terraform, Cisco's NSO, Atrinet's NetACE are brining southbound integration and provisioning workflows.

We see their strength in the integration into an overall service consumption layer, but typically develop on top the Enterprise specific service exposure, considering all aspects, which are not present in standard tools (business rules and policies, consumption oriented APIs). It is about providing IntentAPIs

Consume-ability comes first. The intent of a user can be very specific and fare away from the language and required orchestration in the infrastructure. A bridge is required to connect specific user intents via business rules and policies and orchestration implementations in generic tools.



INTERESTED? CONTACT US.

You can talk about anything. We're even looking forward to it! We are happy to answer any further questions about our services by email, telephone or in a video chat session.

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