Red Hat Container Certification

Building microservices is essential for cloud-native development, and containerizing them is the recommended practice. Containerizing your applications for Red Hat® OpenShift® deployments can create an important differentiator for your product and company.

Containers have surged in popularity

With good reason. Containers accelerate application delivery and horizontal scaling. They make it easier for teams to work together without worrying about different deployment environments. And containers can be an effective part of your security and application integration strategy.

However, the unregulated proliferation of containers within the enterprise can turn a good idea into an operational headache. IT must make sure that all software meets the highest standards of security and supportability and comes from trusted sources. Building containers on less-reliable Linux platforms introduces risk for any deployment.

Red Hat OpenShift

The Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform automates the container application lifecycle, integrates security into the container pipeline, and is designed with DevOps teams in mind.

Red Hat OpenShift has everything needed for hybrid cloud, enterprise-grade containers, and Kubernetes development and deployments. It includes the Red Hat Enterprise Linux® operating system, container runtime, CodeReady development tools, networking, monitoring, container registry, authentication, and authorization solutions. These components are tested together for unified operations on a complete Kubernetes platform spanning bare metal and cloud environments. Red Hat OpenShift supports the hybrid cloud by running across numerous public cloud platforms as well as on customers' premises.

Certify your containers with Red Hat

Red Hat Container Certification is an easy, self-service offering with all of the foundational elements for Red Hat partners to learn, build, certify, publish, and distribute their products using a cloud-native approach. It helps you take full advantage of the solid foundation of Red Hat Enterprise Linux and the scalable container platform of Red Hat OpenShift.

Red Hat certification means peace of mind for you and your customers. They can deploy a container solution stack with confidence, knowing that:

- All components come from a trusted source and the underlying packages have not been altered.

- The container image is free of known vulnerabilities in the platform components or layers.

- New vulnerabilities are promptly addressed through the continuous Red Hat Build Service.

- The container is compatible across Red Hat footprints—from bare metal to cloud. The complete stack is commercially supported by Red Hat and Red Hat partners.

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Enterprises that source application containers from Red Hat's certified registry greatly mitigate risk and security concerns associated with using containers from unknown sources. Container certification is also the readiness step for Red Hat operator certification.

Key Benefits of Red Hat OpenShift and containers

- Integrated Kubernetes platform including container host—optimal for running and managing your application.

- Greater value from operations and development teams throughout the application lifecycle.

- Customer confidence. Customers depend on and expect more secure, validated container content and services from the broad Red Hat ecosystem.

- Faster application development cycles in support of more frequent software deployments.

- Lower IT operations costs with simpler, automated installations and upgrades.

- Application portability across hybrid cloud and multi cloud footprints—your customers deploy where they want.

- Secure, always up-to-date Kubernetes application platform.

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Key benefits of Red Hat Universal Base Image

- Highest quality, most secure, and versatile container base image available to the marketplace.

- Standardized foundation based on the proven enter-prise-grade strengths of Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

- Streamlined application development, testing, and support.

- Greater choice and control over container re-distribution through multiple channels because of the unique Red Hat Universal Base Image end-user license agreement.

- Containerized applications are covered by Red Hat support when deployed on a Red Hat platform.

Red Hat certification means peace of mind for you and your customers.

Why certify your containers applications

Certifying your containerized applications to make sure customers are using secure, cloud-ready applications that Red Hat stands behind—for any hybrid-cloud deployment platform they want. And with Red Hat Universal Base Image, customers, partners, and open source community members can standardize on enterprise-grade container base images for all their container development needs. Red Hat Universal Base Image is built from Red Hat Enterprise Linux and has a special end-user license agreement where you can build your containerized application once and re-distribute it to multiple platforms—both Red Hat and non Red Hat.

Expanded and exclusive redistribution rights

Red Hat Connect Partner members can also now use and freely redistribute any Red Hat Enterprise Linux user space packages (except the kernel) necessary to build their software. This expanded access to Red Hat Enterprise Linux user space nearly triples the number of packages available to Red Hat Partner Connect members as compared to Red Hat Universal Base Images content alone.

Redistributing Red Hat Enterprise Linux user-space packages is an exclusive benefit for Red Hat Partner Connect members and requires Red Hat Container Certification.

Table 1: Solution for customer pain points

Customer pain point	How certification differentiates your product and company
Containerized applications built on unsupported operating systems (e.g., Alpine, CentOS, Ubuntu) create gaps in support coverage.	All certified containers are built on enterprise-grade Red Hat Enterprise Linux, and are supported by Red Hat when used on a Red Hat subscribed host.
It's challenging for application providers to fix underlying security vulnerabilities in a timely manner, leading to customer security risks.	Red Hat continuously scans all certified containers, and notifies you when your image contains a known vulnerability. And when you utilize Red Hat Build Service, secure updates are automatically published to save time and accelerate time to market.
Uncertainty about whether a containerized application was tested on the target deployment platform.	Red Hat confirms your containerized application functionality on a Red Hat Enterprise Linux host.
Most customers deploy on multiple public clouds as well as on-premise. They want the flexibility to choose.	Your application runs on Red Hat OpenShift and is hybrid-cloud ready. You build it once and customers can deploy where they like.
Customers don't know if a containerized app from a public repo has been meddled with or is really from your company.	Red Hat checks, validates, and certifies that your application is yours and is safe for your customers to use.

"Aqua Security's customers expect the company's solutions to be certified," said Upesh Patel, VP of Business Development for Aqua Security. "Certification assures them that the combined solution has been tested and validated on Red Hat OpenShift and is commercially supported by both Red Hat and Aqua Security."

What you get with Red Hat Container Certification

Versatile container development

Using Red Hat Universal Base Image (UBI), developers can build applications once so they can be securely and effectively deployed anywhere. This is a vast improvement over the prior model where apps needed to be built for each deployment platform. And now Red Hat Connect Partner members can use any of the other Red Hat Enterprise Linux packages that are not the kernel.

Flexible software redistribution

When you build with UBI base images, you have a choice to use UBI only content which is a subset of Red Hat Enterprise Linux packages, or you can build with any Red Hat Enterprise Linux user space packages—whichever is best suited to build your software. Regardless, Red Hat Partner Connect members can distribute their certified container images through Red Hat or non Red Hat container registries. Container distribution and promotion through the Red Hat ecosystem catalog.

Portability—across hybrid cloud environments and cloud providers

No customer lock-in for choosing cloud providers. Red Hat Container Certification allows customers to deploy your application across bare-metal, virtual, and all types of cloud environments.

Continuous monitoring for assured security

Red Hat continuously scans all certified containers and notifies partners when an image contains a new and/or known vulnerability. The Red Hat Build Service automatically updates and publishes your image, rapidly closing the risk window. And it saves your developers from having to do the work.

Better global customer support with Red Hat

Building containerized applications on unsupported operating systems, like Alpine, CentOS, and Ubuntu, can lead to gaps in support coverage. Red Hat certified containers are built on Red Hat Enterprise Linux and Red Hat Universal Base Images, and are therefore backed by enterprise support from the partners involved, leading to complete coverage of the software stack.

Improve your market awareness

In addition to boosting trust in your product, Red Hat Container Certification gives technology partners access to go-to-market benefits and resources like:

- Container distribution and promotion through the Red Hat ecosystem catalog.
- Rights to use the Red Hat Certified technology logo.
- Rights to redistribute outside of a Red Hat domain.
- Co-branded marketing materials.
- Qualification for additional go-to-market initiatives.

Resources

- To get started. Sign up (it's free) at Red Hat Partner Connect for technology partners.
- Certified products are published in the Red Hat ecosystem catalog.
- New to container development? Walk through the Red Hat Developer Developing on Containers Learning Guide and visit the Red Hat Developer Containers Topic page.
- Learn about Red Hat Universal Base Image.

About Red Hat

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to deliver reliable and high-performing Linux, hybrid cloud, container, and Kubernetes technologies. Red Hat helps customers integrate new and existing IT applications, develop cloud-native applications, standardize on our industry-leading operating system, and automate, secure, and manage complex environments. Award-winning support, training, and consulting services make Red Hat a trusted adviser to the Fortune 500. As a strategic partner to cloud providers, system integrators, application vendors, customers, and open source communities, Red Hat can help organizations prepare for the digital future.

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