OpenStack, Get it fast, Learn it fast
BootStack Direct

Canonical provides an OpenStack managed cloud offering called BootStack. Traditionally, the offering gives you an OpenStack private cloud, running where you choose, your datacentre or a service provider. Canonical’s expert engineering team takes on the responsibility to design, deploy, and operate the cloud. Many customers, though, only need assistance with expert design (what’s the best reference architecture for me?) and initial deployment. To enable our customers for continued success, Canonical introduces BootStack Direct.

BootStack Direct is an expert integrated OpenStack solution, based on Canonical OpenStack, that solves the one-time issues of designing your cloud and the initial deployment. Whereas a BootStack solution leaves the operations to us, BootStack Direct is a direct-transfer solution that includes training and support for your in-house staff. The operation of the cloud goes directly to you. BootStack Direct gets your OpenStack cloud up and running in days, not weeks or months, and prepares your staff as OpenStack operations experts.

Better together

Canonical’s cloud architects will consult with your team, jointly providing input and feedback, to deliver a stable, scalable and upgradeable OpenStack solution for your organisation. Canonical’s BootStack team will then deploy the solution, ensuring your team is aware of the guiding principles behind the decisions made along the way. Combining your team’s unique knowledge of your environment and needs with the BootStack team’s years of OpenStack expertise and supporting toolset, makes BootStack Direct ideal for first-time clouds and complex clouds, while creating standards and best practices.

Without OpenStack tools and standards, OpenStack clouds become unmanageable and nearly impossible to upgrade. OpenStack releases are every six months; the pace of innovation is rapid. Keeping up with the new methodologies, capabilities, and patches to resolve existing issues is dramatically simplified by using Canonical’s toolset, included with BootStack Direct.
Tools make hard jobs easier

Having tools, the right tools, makes any job easier. Installing, maintaining, and upgrading OpenStack is no different. Few people want to hammer nails with their hand, and it’s unlikely anyone wants to dig a hole with a rake. Canonical provides a toolset that is designed for OpenStack. Installing OpenStack without any tools or using scripting methodologies designed for general purpose computing, rarely lead to a successful cloud, up and running quickly and efficiently. When it’s time to upgrade, the standards and tools Canonical has put in place make it not only possible, but relatively easy for your operations team to deliver success.

Infrastructure automation

Canonical’s OpenStack Autopilot is a great way to deploy to a machine-learned reference architecture. That means Autopilot looks at the hardware available and makes intelligent decisions as to the best use of each server. That hardware information is provided by MaaS, Metal as a Service, another tool that Canonical built. MaaS addresses the bare metal provisioning and configuration of clouds, which could have hundreds or thousands of physical nodes. Without intelligent automation, successful deployment and operation would be nearly impossible.

The OpenStack Autopilot comes integrated with Landscape, which provides dashboard capabilities and systems management of the cloud, including Ubuntu as the host and guest operating system. Landscape and MaaS are complementary to OpenStack Horizon, which is the administrative and end-user portal for logical instance and logical network management, as opposed to the infrastructure of the cloud itself.
Applications and services in a scalable cloud

Canonical’s toolset does more than just automate the infrastructure. As application scalability becomes increasingly important, a tool is paramount to the success of scalable solutions. Juju is a tool that makes delivery of microservices-based architectures standard, repeatable, reliable, and fast. It’s a service modeling tool that provides a canvas for you to design a solution. From that canvas application dependencies are abstracted and handled for you. For example, database instances creation and association with their respective applications are all automated by Juju. Then Juju deploys the solution. Juju also allows you to save solution bundles and update their associated component services dynamically. Even the deployment of OpenStack core services is automated by Juju.

The best clouds are actually the easiest

The best clouds are based on standards, fit-for-purpose tools, expert knowledge, and a well-trained, well-supported, in-house staff that understands the guiding principles of microservices-based, scalable cloud architectures. BootStack Direct integrates the entire process, from design to deployment to training and in-house mastery of the solution.

If you want an OpenStack cloud up and running soon, please contact us at ubuntu.com/bootstack