

Azure Stack: an extension of Azure

Overview, Use cases and app patterns

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THE FUTURE OF CLOUD: THE INTELLIGENT CLOUD AND INTELLIGENT EDGE

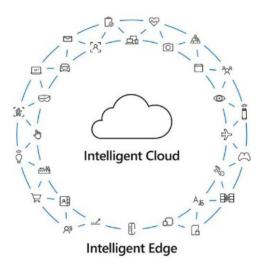
The next wave of computing that powers modern digital transformation is the intelligent cloud and intelligent edge.

The intelligent cloud is ubiquitous computing, enabled by the public cloud and artificial intelligence (AI) technology, for every type of intelligent application and system you can envision.

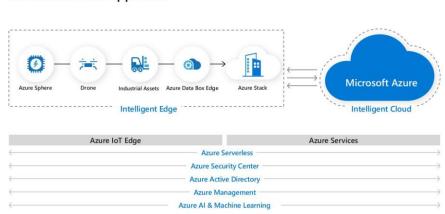
The intelligent edge is a continually expanding set of connected systems and devices that gather and analyze data—close to your users, the data, or both. Users get real-time insights and experiences, delivered by highly responsive and contextually aware apps.

Microsoft Azure is the most comprehensive and cloud consistent platform that supports a rich ecosystem to build smart applications that connect people & things together.

Every company in every industry around the world is being challenged to transform from an organization that uses digital



technology, to a digital organization. Application modernization is at the heart of digital transformation, with the opportunity to help companies engage customers, empower employees, optimize operations and transform products. Azure provides a rich platform for developers to build modern applications, and in fact most applications are moving to public cloud quickly. Some applications however face obstacles; latency, intermittent



connectivity, and regulation being primary examples. Azure Stack provides a way to run the same applications in on-premises environments. With a consistent cloud platform, organizations can confidently make technology decisions based on business requirements, rather than business decisions based on technology complications.

HYBRID AND EDGE APPLICATION INNOVATION WITH AZURE AND AZURE STACK

Azure Stack is an extension of Azure, bringing the agility and fast-paced innovation of cloud computing to onpremises environments. Organizations can now build modern applications across hybrid cloud environments, balancing the right amount of flexibility and control. Developers can build applications using a consistent set of Azure services and DevOps processes and tools, then collaborate with operations to deploy to the location that best meets the business, technical, and regulatory requirements. Developers can speed up new cloud application development by building on application components from the Azure Marketplace, including open source tools and technologies.

Microsoft Azure approach

USE CASES: AZURE AND AZURE STACK

Azure and Azure Stack unlock new hybrid use cases for both external facing and internal line of business applications:

Edge and disconnected solutions: Customers can address latency and connectivity requirements by processing data locally in Azure Stack and then aggregating in Azure for further analytics, with common application logic across both. There's lots of customer interest in this edge scenario across different contexts, including factory floors, cruise ships, and oil rigs.

Cloud applications that meet varied regulations: Customers can develop and deploy applications in Azure, with full flexibility to deploy on-premises on Azure Stack to meet regulatory or policy requirements, including data sovereignty, with no code changes needed. Illustrative application examples include global audit, financial reporting, foreign exchange trading, online gaming, and expense reporting. Many customers are looking to deploy different instances of the same application to Azure or Azure Stack, based on business and technical requirements. While Azure meets most requirements, Azure Stack complements the deployment approach where needed.

Cloud application model on-premises: Customers can use Azure services, containers, serverless, and microservice architectures to update and extend existing applications or build new ones. You can use consistent DevOps processes across Azure in the cloud and Azure Stack on-premises. We're seeing broad interest in application modernization, including for core mission-critical applications.

REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES

Finance	Healthcare	Transportation
A financial institution uses Azure	A healthcare provider uses Azure	Geospatial analytics for fleet
Stack to flexibly deploy apps	Stack for storing sensitive	management with sensors
across several geographies to	personal patient data locally and	interacting with Azure Stack to
assess risk based on local	uses anonymized data in Azure	enable real-time monitoring of
market conditions, meeting	to compute large scale	vehicles, drivers and road
rigorous regulatory	predictive analytics on overall	conditions.
requirements.	population health.	
Manufacturing	Energy	Insurance
Having operational service	A solar power company	Insurance fraud brings vast
centers around the world in	maintains power throughput for	financial loss to insurance
which expert engineers analyses	its customers or pay penalties. It	companies every year. Azure
the data being fed back from	implemented a streaming data	Stack can be used to analyze
their plants/engines. Sensors in	application on Azure Stack with	vast amounts of customer data
transportation vehicles,	IoT that monitors of all of panels	locally, identify patterns and
industrial equipment, and farm	in the field, and schedules	anomalies with a constant flow
machinery send data to Azure	service in real time, thereby	of data to detect fraud real-time.
Stack. Real-time monitoring of	minimizing the periods of low	Run predictive modeling
all equipment is done at the	throughput from each panel and	algorithms for analyzing and
edge with Azure Stack while,	the associated penalty payouts.	filtering of fraud instances.
complex large-scale predictive		Identifying links between
analytics algorithm to detect any		suspicious activities to recognize
potential defects in advance are		fraud schemes that were not
executed in Azure. Azure and		noticed before.
Azure Stack enables placing of		

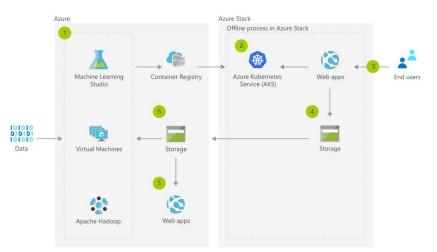
spare parts orders on track,	
preventing any equipment	
downtime proactively.	

HYBRID SOLUTIONS

Azure and Azure Stack enable three core promises for customers:

AI AT THE EDGE - DISCONNECTED

With the Azure AI tools and cloud platform, the next generation of AI-enabled hybrid applications can run where your data lives. With Azure Stack, bring a trained AI model to the edge and integrate it with your applications for low-latency intelligence, with no tool or process changes for local applications. With Azure Stack, you can ensure that your cloud solutions work even when disconnected from the internet.



- 1. Data scientists train a model using Azure Machine Learning and an HDInsight cluster. The model is containerized and put in to an Azure Container Registry.
- 2. The model is deployed via an offline installer to a Kubernetes cluster on Azure Stack.
- 3. End users provide data that is scored against the model.
- 4. Insights and anomalies from scoring are placed into storage for later upload.
- 5. Globally-relevant and compliant insights are available in the global app.
- 6. Data from edge scoring is used to improve the model.

HYBRID CI/CD WITH AZURE STACK

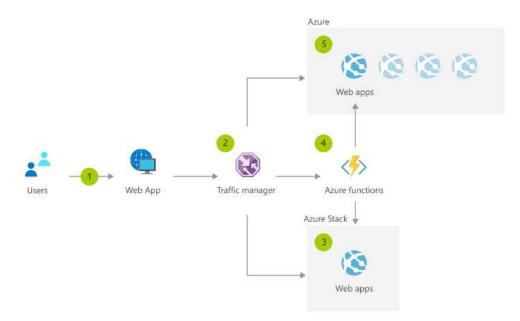
Implementing a continuous integration/continuous development (CI/CD) approach to deploying applications becomes difficult when on-premises applications are built and operated in different ways than cloud applications. Having a consistent set of development tools and processes across the Azure public cloud and on-premises Azure Stack environments makes it far easier for organizations to implement a practice of CI/CD. Apps and services deployed the right way in Azure and Azure Stack are essentially interchangeable and can run in either location.



- 1. Engineer makes changes to application code and ARM template.
- 2. Code and ARM template are checked into Visual Studio Team Services Git.
- 3. Continuous integration triggers application build and unit tests.
- 4. Continuous deployment trigger orchestrates deployment of application artifacts with environmentspecific parameters.
- 5. Deployment to App Service on both Azure and Azure Stack.

CROSS CLOUD SCALING WITH AZURE AND AZURE STACK

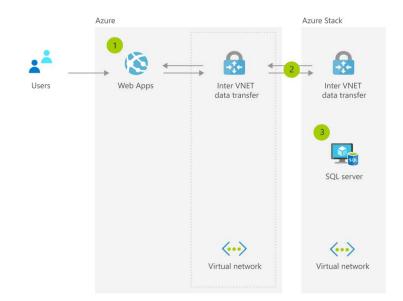
Modern software is increasingly connected and distributed. The consistency of Azure Stack with Azure infrastructure and platform services enable you to scale resources cross cloud to meet increased load as needed, and decrease resources as demand drops. Optimize cost and maximize resource efficiency while remaining compliant with cross cloud architecture.



- 1. A large number of users attempt to access a web app.
- 2. Traffic manager returns the Azure Stack DNS name.
- 3. Users access the Azure Stack web app.
- 4. Once a threshold is reached, a function starts the Azure Web App and enables the Azure Traffic Manager route.
- 5. Traffic is routed to Azure, which can automatically scale App Service.

CUSTOM DATA SOVEREIGNTY AND DATA GRAVITY REQUIREMENTS

Azure with Azure Stack enables organizations to make technology placement decisions based on business needs—simplifying meeting custom compliance, sovereignty, and data gravity requirements.

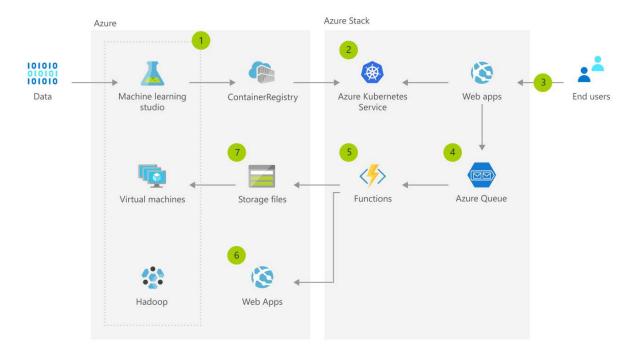


- 1. User enters data into Azure-based web app.
- 2. Application commits data to database over virtual network-to virtual network VPN connection to Azure Stack.
- 3. Data is stored in SQL database on virtual machine (VM).

AZURE STACK AI AT THE EDGE

With the Azure AI tools and cloud platform, the next generation of AI-enabled hybrid applications can run where your data lives. With Azure Stack, bring a trained AI model to the edge and integrate it with your applications for low-latency intelligence, with no tool or process changes for local applications.

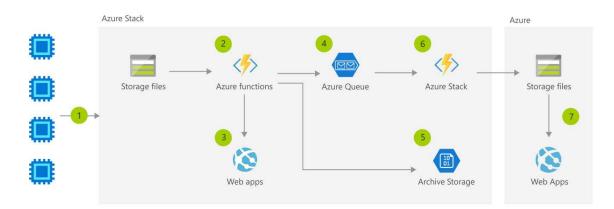
AI training with ML services in Azure Stack



- 1. Data scientists train a model using Azure Machine Learning Service . The model is containerized and put into an Azure Container Registry. Alternatively; a Cognitive Service that has been made available for execution in a container can be deployed to Azure Stack directly.
- 2. The model is deployed to a Kubernetes cluster on Azure Stack.
- 3. End users provide data that's scored against the model.
- 4. Insights and anomalies from scoring are placed into a queue.
- 5. A function sends compliant data and anomalies to Azure Storage.
- 6. Globally relevant and compliant insights are available in the global app.
- 7. Data from edge scoring is used to improve the model.

AZURE STACK TIERED DATA FOR ANALYTICS

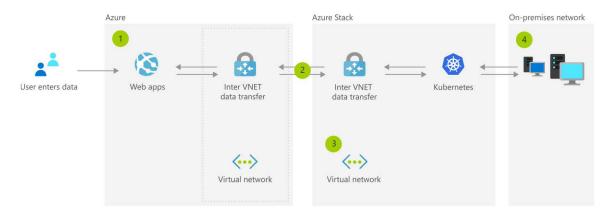
Easily tier data and applications on-premises and in Azure with architecture that supports greater efficiency in applications. Filter unnecessary data early in the process, easily bring cloud applications close to the data on-premises and analyze large scale aggregate data from multiple locations in Azure for fleet-level insights.



- 1. Data flows into a storage account.
- 2. Function on Azure Stack analyzes the data for anomalies or compliance.
- 3. Locally-relevant insights are displayed on the Azure Stack app.
- 4. Insights and anomalies are placed into a queue.
- 5. The bulk of the data is placed into an archive storage account.
- 6. Function sends data from queue to Azure Storage.
- 7. Globally-relevant and compliant insights are available in the global app.

UNLOCK LEGACY DATA

Use Azure Stack to update and extend your legacy application data with the latest cloud technology such as Azure web services, containers, serverless computing, and microservices architectures. This is a solution to create new applications while integrating and preserving legacy data in mainframe and core business process applications.



- 1. User enters data into Azure-based web app.
- 2. Application commits data to database over virtual network-to-virtual network VPN connection to Azure Stack.
- 3. Data is processed by applications running on a Kubernetes cluster on Azure Stack.
- 4. Kubernetes cluster communicates with legacy system on corporate network.

AZURE STACK PROMISE

Azure and Azure Stack enable three core promises for customers:

RUN YOUR OWN AUTONOMOUS CLOUD

Run your own autonomous cloud, completely or partially disconnected from the internet and public cloud. Operate Azure Stack yourself or with the help of a trusted managed service provider. Either way, you control access to your data.

CONSISTENT APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

Maximize developer productivity by empowering them to build and deploy applications the same way whether they run on Azure or Azure Stack. Implement a common DevOps approach across hybrid cloud environments. With a consistent platform for application development, customers can:

- Go faster by using the same application model, self-service portal, and APIs, as enabled by Azure Resource Manager.
- Easily transfer existing skills through a consistent development and deployment experience with Visual Studio.
- Adopt modern DevOps practices with support for open source tools (e.g., Jenkins) and Visual Studio.
- Rely on powerful automation tools, such as and Azure PowerShell DSC extensions.
- Speed up new cloud application development by using a range of open-source and community-driven software components from the Azure Marketplace in Azure Stack.
- Choose from multiple Linux distributions, Docker-integrated Containers (Linux and Windows Server), and Mesosphere.
- Use Pivotal Cloud Foundry and open source Cloud Foundry consistently across Azure and Azure Stack to rapidly build, deploy, and operate cloud applications that are easily portable across hybrid cloud environments.
- Just like Azure, Azure Stack supports a broad choice of open source application platforms, languages, and frameworks including Java, Python, Node.js, and PHP.

AZURE SERVICES AVAILABLE ON-PREMISES

Adopt hybrid cloud computing on your terms. Meet business and technical requirements, with the flexibility to choose the right combination of cloud and on-premises deployment models. With Azure Services available on-premises, customers can:

- Use the cloud computing model for Azure IaaS services that go much beyond traditional virtualization. For instance, Virtual Machine Scale Sets enable rapid deployments with scaling options for modern workloads (e.g., containerized applications).
- Incorporate consistent Azure PaaS services that simplify development and enable hybrid deployment choice and portability for cloud applications. Run high-productivity PaaS (Azure App Service) and Serverless computing (Azure Functions) in on-premises environments.
- Adopt common operational practices across Azure and Azure Stack: Deploy and operate Azure IaaS/ PaaS services using the same administrative experiences and tools as Azure.
- Use an Azure Active Directory (AAD) subscription to administer Azure Stack identities, including secure multitenant access (i.e., enabling users across multiple AAD tenants to access Azure Stack resources).
- Build for the future as Microsoft delivers continuous Azure innovation to Azure Stack, including new Azure services, updates to existing services, and additional Azure Marketplace applications.

INTEGRATED DELIVERY EXPERIENCE

Focus on optimizing business applications and services, with integrated systems that are designed to deliver consistent Azure innovation in a predictable manner. With an integrated delivery experience, customers can:

- Get up and running quickly with purpose-built Azure Stack integrated systems. They can be procured from HPE, Dell, and Lenovo initially (with Cisco and Huawei coming soon after) so you have flexibility and choice of hardware. These systems come fully ready to run and offer consistent, end-to-end customer support no matter who you call.
- Consume continuous innovation from Azure in a reliable manner with pre-validated software updates. These updates will be delivered to a predictable schedule and can be applied within a flexible time window, so they can be consumed to organizational maintenance schedules.
- Easily integrate Azure Stack into the datacenter, be it monitoring (System Center Operations Manager Management Pack or Nagios extension) or identity (with Active Directory Federation Services support).
- Ensure availability for workloads running on Azure Stack through integration with 3rd party backup partners, Azure Backup (for protection) and Azure Site Recovery (for BC/DR)
- Start as small as 4-server production systems and scale your environment over time.

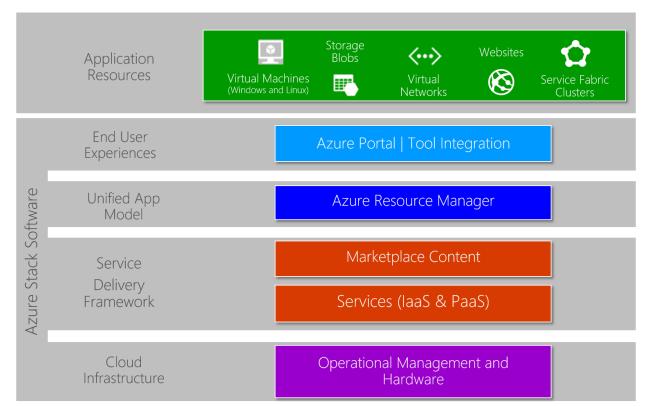
ONE AZURE ECOSYSTEM

Customers can speed up their Azure Stack initiatives by leveraging the rich Azure ecosystem:

- Download select <u>software and services</u> from the Marketplace to use in Azure Stack.
- Customers have the option of having Azure Stack delivered and operated as a fully managed service. Several partners will have in-market managed service offerings across Azure and Azure Stack shortly. These partners have been delivering managed services for Azure via the Cloud Solution Provider (CSP) program and are now extending their offerings to include hybrid solutions.
- Systems Integrators (SI) can help accelerate application modernization initiatives by building end-to-end Azure solutions for customers. They bring in-depth Azure skillsets, domain and industry knowledge, and process expertise (e.g., DevOps). Every Azure Stack cloud is an opportunity for an SI to design the solution, lead and influence system deployment, customize the included capabilities, and deliver operational activities.

HOW AZURE STACK WORKS

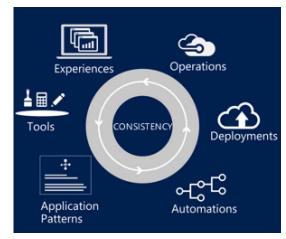
The graphic below provides a simplified view of the Azure Stack product architecture.



DEVELOPER AND IT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Developers and IT pros have an experience with Azure Stack that is consistent to that which they experience in Azure. This is fundamentally made possible because the Azure Stack portal environment is the same code as Azure. However, the real innovation of Azure Stack is the implementation of a consistent cloud API as Azure, so there is a consistent experience across clouds. Simply connecting to a portal to choose from preconfigured patterns is not enough; the definition of self-service has evolved to include programmatic access to the cloud API for the creation, deployment and operations of workloads in a cloud.

A consistent API surface area between Azure and Azure Stack is the path to a set of *experiences*, *tools*, *application patterns*, *automation capabilities*, *deployment and configuration*, and *operations* that work across clouds.



- **Experiences**: The first engagement with Azure and Azure Stack usually comes through the portal which provides a web-accessible conduit into the system.
- **Tools**: Customers can use the tools they use in Azure and know they will work in Azure Stack. Developers and Application teams can focus on solving business problems, rather than constant tooling and deployment transitions.

- **Application Patterns**: Programmatic and abundant access to resources are changing the way that applications are being designed, developed and operated. You can work with the resources in your application as a group mixing resources *across* laaS and PaaS services.
- Automation Capabilities: Having a consistent API means that developers and operations teams can invest in automating development, deployment and operational activities knowing that they will not have to be rewritten to be used with a cloud supplier that offers Azure services.
- **Deployment and Configuration**: Deployment and configuration can be simplified by using a single code base for apps and infrastructure.
- **Operations**: Templated deployments work for different environments such as testing, staging and production. Role based access control, usage and audit capabilities are standardized across all cloud resources in the deployment. Updates made to application resources can be performed in an incremental and non-destructive manner.

These are all examples of the breadth of impact enabled by this hybrid cloud platform. In each area, we believe Azure customers should be confident that their investments in people, processes and technologies will be transferable between Azure and Azure Stack.

UNIFIED APPLICATION MODEL

The key to our Azure cloud model is the **Azure Resource Manager**. In both Azure and Azure Stack, Azure Resource Manager plays two important roles. The first is by providing a single-entry point for users and tools to define their resources running in the cloud. The second is focused on enabling teams to create, organize and control their cloud application lifecycle.

SERVICE DELIVERY FRAMEWORK

A key principle of operating a cloud is constant innovation - new capabilities, new insights and new customer needs are the norm. Microsoft Azure is composed of over fifty services today and has an enormous amount of content in the Azure Marketplace. As Microsoft continues to innovate and release new Azure content and services, a way to deploy and manage new functionality throughout Azure datacenters was needed. Azure is fundamentally designed to enable the release of innovation on a regular and on-going cadence.

With Azure Stack, the framework we use to install and publish new content and services is the same. The only difference is that we've tuned the requirements for success when operated by customers instead of Microsoft.

MARKETPLACE CONTENT

When running a self-service cloud, curating a differentiated Marketplace for users is a key part of the value to customers. With Azure Stack, cloud operators will be able to create their own custom Marketplace content and add items directly from the Azure Marketplace to make them available to their users. Key Windows and Linux distributions along with other technologies, such as Blockchain, Mesos, and Cloud Foundry can all be made available in an Azure Stack Marketplace.

SERVICES

Azure services power the next generation of cloud applications and are a key component of every Azure Stack deployment. Azure Stack begins with the initial services required for getting started with application innovation initiatives by providing modern compute, storage, networking, and security services, as well as platform services, such as App Service and Functions. In Azure Stack, there are services that ship in the integrated system and services that can be "optional" services that can be added to an Azure Stack deployment to add new functionality.

When an Azure Stack operator chooses to add a service to their cloud they're growing the capabilities they can offer to their application teams. Microsoft will grow the list of services that can be installed to Azure Stack over time.

It is important to keep in mind that in Azure, services take dependencies on other services – they layer on top of each other. Each service in Azure is a candidate for being distributed through Azure Stack and we will listen to customer input and consider technical feasibility in determining the roadmap. For a detailed list of Azure services at availability and thereafter, see the sections below.

CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE

Like Azure, the cloud infrastructure with Azure Stack is a purpose built, preconfigured solution that provides the capacity and lifecycle management for the system. Our design point is to remove the complexity of building a cloud and focus on continuously delivering the services that applications depend on. Unlike Azure, Azure Stack is deployed, operated, and maintained by the customer. Accordingly, we have incorporated a set of principles in Azure Stack infrastructure design that simplify the operations experience so that operators and administrators can focus more on delivering Azure services and updates, rather than on infrastructure set-up and tuning.

INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

All the Azure Stack solution components such as machines, software infrastructure, services, and subscriptions exhibit management interfaces that are intuitive to the end customer.

Management Capabilities include:

- Intuitive experiences: A portal and command line experience surfaces the common actions an Azure Stack provider or operator needs to take, allowing them to make decisions quickly and intuitively.
- Monitoring and diagnostics: Monitoring, notifications and management capabilities that allow the management of infrastructure and service health, performance, and capacity that underlie tenant workloads.
- **Patching and updates**: Microsoft will provide customers with the ability to update their infrastructure software while minimizing the impact on business applications, services and workloads.
- **Business Continuity**: Azure Stack provides several capabilities that inform a broader business continuity strategy. This is applicable at two levels:
 - Guest / Tenant level protection and recovery for business applications and services
 - Infrastructure system backup, which stores metadata (e.g., subscriptions, tenant to host mapping) so customers can recover their cloud infrastructure (and workloads) from major failures
- Security and Privacy: Azure Stack has a secure by design approach thereby assuring a secure posture for a customer's cloud infrastructure.
- **Hardware lifecycle management:** Azure Stack will have validated workflows experience to enable incremental expansion and replacement of failed components.

DELIVERING CONTINUOUS INNOVATION - FUNCTIONALITY, ROADMAP, AND TIMING

Azure Stack is designed to stay consistent with Azure through continuous innovation. Like Azure, Azure Stack does planning and building at frequent intervals. This means that we prioritize capabilities based on customer feedback and deliver it as quickly as we can. These capabilities are grouped into 2 areas:

• Azure capabilities on Azure Stack - These focus on end-user facing functionality, such as Azure IaaS/PaaS services, Marketplace content, and DevOps tooling.

• Azure Stack infrastructure capabilities – These are focused on the infrastructure and operations lifecycle and include scale and hardware configurations.

Microsoft will continuously deliver additional capabilities in regular updates. These updates will continue to expand customer choice of IaaS and PaaS technologies when developing applications, as well as improve manageability and grow the footprint of Azure Stack.

TYPES OF UPDATES

With Azure Stack, we will deliver two major types of updates:

- Updates to Azure capabilities on Azure Stack These updates do not have a regular scheduled release pattern and can come anytime they are ready. They include new Marketplace content, DevOps tooling, updates to existing Azure services as well as new Azure Services that can be deployed to Azure Stack.
- Updates to Azure Stack infrastructure These updates are more structured and regular. They include new and updated Infrastructure Management capabilities, drivers and expanded scale points. They focus on improving the operational excellence of Azure Stack. We will also add new integrated system partners to expand choice for customers.

In addition, we will also have monthly security updates.

AZURE STACK CAPABILITIES

The following table summarizes Azure Stack functionality at initial availability (unless spelled out otherwise):

Azure	Azure laaS services
capabilities on	Azure Virtual Machines, Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets
Azure Stack	Azure Storage (blobs, tables, queues)
	Azure Networking – Virtual Networks, Load Balancer, VPN Gateway
	Azure Key Vault
	Azure PaaS services
	Azure App Service^: Web Apps, API Apps
	Azure Functions [^]
	• Standalone Azure Service Fabric clusters on IaaS VMs*, deployable to Azure Stack or Azure
	• Azure Container Service (ACS) Engine support (includes Docker Swarm, Mesosphere DC/OS, and
	Kubernetes container management templates)**
	MySQL RP^
	SQL Server RP^
	Azure Identity
	Azure Active Directory (AAD) multi-tenant support
	Active Directory Federation Services (ADFS) support
	Azure Marketplace Content - Key JaaS/PaaS workloads
	Microsoft SQL Server
	Cloud Foundry template
	Blockchain template
	Bitnami (validated open source stacks such as Wordpress, LAMP)
	 Kemp Technologies – Load Balancer and Web Application firewall
	 <u>More solutions</u> from the Azure Marketplace***
	Azure Marketplace Content – Images and extensions
	LINUX: RedHat, SuSE, CentOS, Debian, Canonical Ubuntu, CoreOS
	Windows Server
	Azure Docker Extension

	DSC Extension
	Chef Automate
	 <u>DevOps Tooling integration</u> Visual Studio Jenkins (open source) PowerShell Azure CLI 2.0 <u>Protection and recovery of business applications and services (e.g., IaaS VMs)</u> Integration with multiple solutions (e.g., Azure Backup and System Center Data Protection Manager) for backup and restore Integration with Azure Site Recovery (ASR) for replication and failover – this includes continuous replication with test failover and actual failover capabilities
Azure Stack infrastructure capabilities	 Infrastructure Scale: 4-16 nodes (physical servers) per Scale Unit; Single Scale Unit Certified and validated deployments, along with our hardware partners Monitoring, diagnostics (REST APIs for integration with multiple monitoring toolsets, including System Center Operations Manager and Nagios) Security and privacy: Below are some of the capabilities - Best practices from Microsoft Security Development Lifecycle, which takes a hardened-by-default approach Leverages several features from Windows Server, such as credential guard, device guard, and Windows Defender (antimalware) Formal assessment with a 3rd party assessor organization, with documentation on how Azure Stack infrastructure meets applicable controls**** for multiple compliance standards (targeting <u>PCI-DSS</u> and the CSA CCM matrix) Patch and updates: Capability needed to deliver pre-validated updates for Azure Stack software, including automated application that's designed to minimize disruption of customer workloads. Business Continuity: Includes the ability to recover cloud infrastructure (and workloads) through the infrastructure backup capability that stores critical system meta-data (e.g., subscription information, tenant to host mapping) Enabling field replacement of parts, along with our hardware partners

*** We expect most single VM solutions with BYOL terms that use available services in Azure Stack to work without changes.

**** Timing subject to change, given third party dependency

^Optional services

ROADMAP

To see the Azure Stack roadmap, go to <u>https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/roadmap/</u> and select Microsoft Azure Stack from the Product Category dropdown.

DELIVERY

Azure Stack has two deployment options:

- Azure Stack Integrated Systems These are multi-server systems meant for production use and are designed to get customers up and running quickly. Depending upon hardware preferences, customers can choose integrated systems from hardware partners. These systems come ready to run and offer consistent, integrated customer support. They will initially be available in 92 countries covering key markets across the world.
- Azure Stack Development Kit (ASDK) ASDK is a free single server deployment that's designed for trial and proof of concept purposes. The portal, Azure services, DevOps tools, and Marketplace content are the same across ASDK and integrated systems, so applications built against the ASDK will work when deployed to an integrated system.

	Availability Date	Country Availability
Azure Stack Development Kit	Available as web download	Global
Countries available		Country availability
Azure Stack Integrated Systems	 Can be ordered from our hardware partners: Avanade Cisco Dell EMC Fujitsu (ETA Q2 CY'19) Hewlett Packard Enterprise Huawei Lenovo Wortmann 	

The following table is a summary of the availability dates for Azure Stack.

EXTENDING CLOUD ECONOMICS TO ON-PREMISES WITH PAY-AS-YOU-USE PRICING

Aligned with the product promise, Azure Stack brings the cloud economic model to on-premises environments with pay-as-you-use pricing.

AZURE SERVICES PRICING

As in Azure, there are no upfront licensing fees for the usage of Azure services on Azure Stack; customers only pay when they use a service. Since customers take on the cost of ownership and operations, Azure Stack prices will be lower than Azure prices in many cases. The pay-as-you-use model can be added to existing Azure agreements, enabling customers to use the same subscriptions, monetary commitment, and invoice for both Azure and Azure Stack. The pay-as-you-use pricing is available for purchase in the Enterprise Agreement (EA) and Cloud Solution Provider (CSP) channels.

Azure services running on Azure Stack will be metered on the same units as Azure. For example:

Service		Meters
Azure Virtual Machines	Base virtual machine (VM)	vCPU/hour
	Windows Server VM*	vCPU/hour
Azure Storage	Blob storage	GB/month (no transaction fee)
	Table and Queue storage	GB/month (no transaction fee)
Azure App Service	Web Apps, API Apps, Functions	vCPU/hour

Customers can deploy Windows Server and SQL Server VMs using their existing Windows Server and SQL Server licenses in conjunction with Azure Stack. They have the choice of using Azure Stack native hourly meters or existing Windows Server licenses to deploy Windows VMs. If existing Windows Server licenses are used, only the consumption fee on Base VM usage will be charged.

Organizations that aren't always connected to Azure or are otherwise unable to transmit metering information may choose to use Azure Stack in a disconnected mode. For disconnected operating mode, we offer a capacity model pricing package—a fixed fee, annual subscription based on the number of physical cores in your system. Two capacity packages are available: the App Service package, which includes App Service, base virtual machines, and Azure Storage; and the IaaS package, which includes base virtual machines and Azure Storage. With the capacity model, customers can use existing on-premises licenses to deploy Windows Server and SQL Server VMs. The capacity model is available via EA only.

For pricing details, please refer to https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/overview/azure-stack/how-to-buy/

SUPPORT

Azure Stack enables a consistent, integrated support experience that covers the full system lifecycle. To fully support your Azure Stack system, customers need two support contracts— one with Microsoft (or their Cloud Solution Provider) for Azure services support and one with the hardware provider for system support. Our integrated support experience provides coordinated escalation and resolution, so customers get a consistent support experience no matter whom they call first. For customers who already have Premier, Azure, or Partner support with Microsoft, Azure Stack software support is included.

