IBM Cloud for VMware Cloud Foundation as a Service

Focus on high-priority business needs by offloading management of VMware environments to IBM Cloud

Highlights

Leverage flexibility
in consumption and
performance options

Address a wide range of
use cases with single-tenant
and multitenant models

Offload VMware
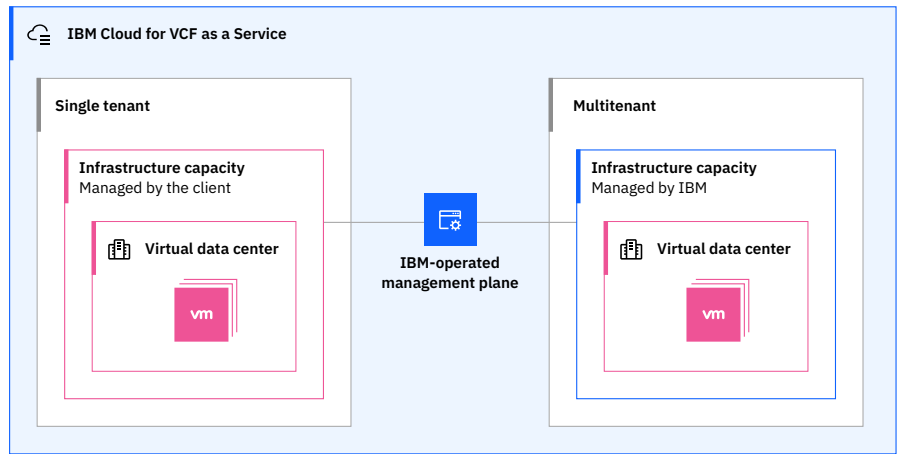capacity management
and Day-2 operations

Increase resiliency and
security for your workloads

Enterprises are increasingly looking to the cloud to modernize mission-critical infrastructure and applications for VMware workloads. Not only are they seeking security, speed, and scale, they also want to accelerate time to value and lower the cost of managing complex VMware environments.

IBM Cloud® for VMware Cloud Foundation as a Service (VCFaaS) is a hosted VMware Cloud Director service that supports the deployment of VMware virtual data centers and virtual machines. IBM® handles the monitoring, patching and maintenance of the management backplane and underlying hardware—with an SLA of 99.99% availability—so you can quickly deploy your VMware-based cloud computing environments.

IBM Cloud for VCFaaS offers compute resources either as dedicated hosts (single-tenant) or flexible virtual machines (multitenant), deployed on IBM Cloud Bare Metal Servers, with a wide range of storage options and billing plans. With the multitenant model, you can instantly deploy a virtual data center—starting as low as 1 vCPU, 1 GB of RAM and 20 GB of storage—and scale according to your business needs.

IBM remains the only hyperscaler cloud provider to offer a fully managed multitenant service for VMware workloads.

IBM Cloud for VCF as a Service

Single tenant

Infrastructure capacity
Managed by the client

Virtual data center

vm

IBM-operated management plane

Multitenant

Infrastructure capacity
Managed by IBM

Virtual data center

vm

Leverage flexibility in consumption and performance options

IBM Cloud for VCFaaS empowers you to deploy a highly configurable virtual data center with no minimum VM requirements. Alternatively, you can choose from a wide range of dedicated host profiles and storage options. IBM, as a market leader, also offers a large selection of storage performance options, in the categories of virual storage area network (vSAN) and file storage.

With the multitenant model, you can instantly deploy a virtual data center—starting as low as 1 vCPU, 1 GB of RAM and 20 GB of storage—and scale according to your business.

A single-tenant model offers software-defined data center (SDDC) management components that are dedicated to your instance and not shared with other clients. IBM grants you access to the highest number of host profile options, including a range of VMware-certified SAP configurations, which is uniquely offered by IBM.

Businesses that prefer a multitenant consumption model can spin up virtual machines in less than 20 minutes by using the on-demand billing model. You can use this flexibility to request resources on-demand with no up-front commitment or to take advantage of the solution's guaranteed capacity and discounted pricing with the reserved billing option. Clients adopting both consumption models receive a single, consolidated bill each month.

Address a wide range of use cases with single-tenant and multitenant models
IBM Cloud for VCFaaS ensures that you can right-size your VMware resources on the cloud.

The single-tenant consumption model is ideal for:

– Production applications and regulated workloads
– Workloads that may require strong isolation
– Mission-critical workloads

The multitenant consumption model is ideal for applications which may need on-demand availability or burst resourcing. Examples include:

– Development and testing environments
– Training environments
– Disaster recovery sites

Offload VMware Capacity Management and Day-2 Operations
Offload your VMware stack and infrastructure management, up until the hypervisor, to the IBM-hosted management plane with IBM Cloud for VCFaaS. IBM Cloud monitors, patches and maintains the VMware management backplane and underlying hardware while remaining committed to a 99.99% availability SLA that allows administrators to immediately onboard to an existing, highly available and secure management environment, accelerating time to value.

Businesses looking for VMware migration or application modernization also have the option of accessing the exceptional management services of IBM Consulting®, IBM Expert Labs or a business partner for end-to-end solution needs.

Increase resiliency and security for your workloads
Managed cloud services, especially multitenant solutions, typically raise security concerns. Challenges include securing access to management portals, APIs and the workload layer, and are further compounded by the potential of using your own keys to encrypt your data at rest in the cloud.

Starting with integrated backup service add-ons, customers can experience improved business resiliency through integrated implementation of backup policies. IBM aims to expand its add-on ecosystem by adding additional capabilities like integrated migration tooling, disaster recovery, supplemental backups, cyber-resiliency solutions and compliance tools.

IBM Cloud for VCFaaS offers full isolation of workloads from public internet for clients on the multitenant model, further enabling secure migration of workloads from on-premises, IBM Cloud for VMware Solutions or IBM Cloud VPC. IBM is the only vendor that offers Keep-Your-Own-Key, which is the highest-rated security achievable on public cloud.[1]

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Conclusion

IBM Cloud for VMware Cloud Foundation as a Service offers a transparent experience for operating and managing your VMware environments. This enables you to benefit from either single-tenant or multitenant models to run VMware workloads in IBM Cloud. IBM hosts and maintains the common management plane in each multi-zone region (MZR).

Dedicated single-tenant VMware sites provide extra isolation and support multiple host configuration options, including SAP-certified hardware options. The multitenant consumption model enables clients to deploy applications in a shared environment with no minimum number of VMs to be purchased.

With its flexible consumption models, IBM Cloud supports enterprises looking to drive growth, reduce costs, improve profitability and modernize at their own pace—all while prioritizing resiliency and efficiency.

Why IBM

IBM is a leading provider of global hybrid cloud and AI, and consulting expertise. We help clients in more than 175 countries capitalize on insights from their data, streamline business processes, reduce costs and gain the competitive edge in their industries.

More than 4,000 government and corporate entities in critical infrastructure areas such as financial services, telecommunications and healthcare rely on IBM hybrid cloud platform and Red Hat® OpenShift® to affect their digital transformations quickly, efficiently and securely.

For more information
Find out more here or contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner.

1. Encrypting data with your own keys,
   IBM, 04 January 2023.

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