THE INTEGRATION BETWEEN CLOUdera DATA PLATFORM (CDP) PRIVATE CLOUD AND RED HAT OPENSIGNED CONTAINER PLATFORM (OCP)
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The Public Sector Opportunity with Integrated Cloudera and Red Hat

In April 2020, Cloudera announced it chose Red Hat OpenShift (OCP) as the preferred container platform for Cloudera Data Platform (CDP) Private Cloud. This combination delivers a powerful, self-service analytics experience with enterprise-grade performance, granular security, and governance controls that are ready to meet the unique challenges of the public sector. Fierce Software is at the helm of delivering this combination to public sector customers.

Public sector programs with on-premise data management requirements are ideal for organizations looking to leverage this integration to accelerate their mission objectives since it delivers specific benefits.

THE PUBLIC SECTOR BENEFITS FROM THIS INTEGRATION IN A FEW SPECIFIC WAYS:

» It allows missions that need a private cloud deployment for their data to still get a dependable and resilient commercial-grade data platform experience.

» It allows missions to be more efficient by reducing infrastructure and platform-level duties, providing them with the option to invest most of their program dollars in higher-level skill sets and talent.

» It sharply reduces the technical risk associated with keeping platform components up to date and decreases the burden of operations and sustainment.

» It allows missions to reduce the risk of program failure by calling out the need for specific, certified skill sets in staffing requirements.
FIERCE IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING ITS PUBLIC SECTOR CUSTOMERS. For organizations that are starting their data transformation journey, Fierce has opened Fierce Innovation Lab to introduce leaders and teams to the CDP/OCP integration. With a hands-on look, organizations can set achievable expectations, write well-informed acquisitions, and prepare their teams to get value from their data.

This paper dives into how exactly the Cloudera CDP and Red Hat OCP integration helps public sector organizations meet the challenges of modernizing their data strategies, ultimately delivering on outcomes for citizens.
Enterprise Challenges Facing the Public Sector

PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS FACE MANY CHALLENGES IN MODERNIZING THEIR DATA STRATEGIES. THEY MUST:

» Analyze the massive amounts of data they capture.

» Create value from existing, historical data holdings.

» Find and retain the right talent.

» Manage costs.

» Maintain infrastructure.

» Stay on top of upgrades.

The Cloudera / Red Hat integration is the solution to these challenges.
Why Cloudera + Red Hat?

Cloudera’s CDP is a cloud-native solution that operates on Kubernetes. Cloudera wanted to bring those benefits of the public cloud to the private clouds and data centers. Red Hat OCP is prominent in the Kubernetes world with 45 percent of the market share and a brand synonymous with public sector grade security. This powerful partnership delivers the public cloud CDP experience to the private cloud, with the reliability the public sector should expect of commercial providers.
Attributes the Public Sector Should Expect of its Data Platform

A RAPID, SCRIPTED INSTALLATION EXPERIENCE

The CDP/OCP integration delivers a solution that needs minimal effort to move a public sector organization to an optimal private data platform experience. Both Cloudera and Red Hat have created automated installation scripts in addition to quick install guides. Leveraging the publicly available documentation, system administrators can rapidly and painlessly install the CDP and OCP base installations. With instructions every step of the way, the install experience is efficient and automated, returning priceless time to the mission.

WORRY-FREE, TIME-EFFICIENT UPGRADES

One of the greatest thorns in the side of any public sector’s IT department is staying on top of upgrading its software baseline. Knowing what upgrades are needed to keep pace with the latest version of the software is a time-consuming burden. For boutique installations of open source components in public sector organizations, this burden is a huge element of the sustainment cost. Organizations that do not keep up are quickly eclipsed by evolutions in the software. The CDP/OCP integration reduces the complexity of upgrades and significantly reduces the tech debt burden compared to boutique installations. The management experience allows users to see what version they are on and easily navigate to the new one. Managers can also perform upgrades in a rolling fashion to keep pace with upgrades and avoid security risks associated with using older versions. Public sector customers should not need to spend tons of money on upgrades, devote significant time to researching and installing new versions, or worry about being exposed to security vulnerabilities in old versions.
OPTIMAL DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF STAFF

Any technology solution should allow an organization to shift its employees and contractors to higher-level value-added tasks. For public sector organizations, this is especially important since the budget is often flat. Leveraging the CDP/OCP integration, public sector organizations can take their existing staff resources and devote their time and energy to more strategic work instead of managing the private cloud environment and data platform components. A modern data platform requires five higher-level staff skill sets across the data lifecycle.

- Data streaming
- Data engineering
- Data analysis
- Database administration
- Data science and reporting
Many of these higher-level roles are similar to system administrator roles and can be filled by existing staff. Both Cloudera and Red Hat provide training and workshops to ensure public sector program managers that their staff is well prepared to tackle mission requirements. By training and upgrading staff to fill the new data roles, organizations will not only save money but will cultivate an environment of promoting from within and supporting employee career development.

**EFFICIENT USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE RESOURCES**

The CDP/OCP integration helps organizations better manage their private cloud resources. The integrated solution allows managers to set controls that monitor and govern resource use. Resource limits are managed at the user and team levels. Once users cease to use resources, or if they move on from projects, those resources can shut down to be redistributed back to the team. The solution also automatically stops running resources if it detects that no one is using them. These capabilities enable public sector organizations to smartly collapse what they’re not using. Efficient management of private cloud resources means no excess expenditures on over-capacity and efficient use of program dollars.
Get Started on a Modernized Data Strategy with Fierce Innovation Lab

Fierce is making it easier for public sector customers to get started on the journey toward a modernized data strategy. Fierce Software’s proof-of-concept (POC) Lab is a complimentary offering for public sector customers to introduce their teams to the solution. Fierce Innovation Lab walks government organizations through the CDP/OCP solution, so they have the opportunity to experiment and learn its capabilities.
LEADERS, MANAGERS, AND TEAMS CAN EXPERIENCE THE CDP/OCP INTEGRATION TO BETTER LEARN THE TERMINOLOGY, UNDERSTAND THE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS, INFORM ACQUISITION REQUIREMENTS, AND BUILD THEIR STRATEGY FOR GETTING MORE VALUE FROM THEIR DATA.

Fierce Innovation Lab is built on PSSC Labs hardware, taking advantage of PSSC's high-performance computing systems to give public sector users the highest quality experience. The CDP/OCP integration on PSSC Labs hardware is a complete, "firm-fixed" solution. It delivers performance guarantees and budget predictability that is simply not available from public cloud providers.

Get in touch with Fierce Software to learn more. As the premier partner in both Cloudera and Red Hat for the public sector, our experts are ready to help you leverage this integration through POC Labs to modernize your agency’s data strategy today.