

Transportation Data Company Improves Operational Velocity With New Containerization Tech

Evaluating container orchestrators for faster application deployments, decreased costs, and improved security

CONTAINERIZATION

OPENSIFT

DEVOPS

Introduction

Looking to increase operational velocity, a leading data company in the transportation and logistics space decided to adopt containerization technology. With Level’s help, OpenShift and Docker could both be evaluated and presented to internal stakeholders to make the most informed decision on containerization adoption.

Challenge

The client’s biggest challenge in adopting containerization was cybersecurity. Because of the sensitive nature of the client’s data and messaging services, they housed their information within on-premise servers.

The client’s obstacles included:

- Maintaining data integrity with hardware constraints
- Slower deployment and server response times
- More IT support (employees) to maintain and manage servers
- Increased maintenance costs
- Limited ability to scale
- Higher risk of data loss



Many companies are hesitant to adopt containerization technology due to cybersecurity and data privacy issues. But this is a common misconception, as containerization can offer even more ways to secure applications from unwanted threats and potential risks.

Venkata Surya Lolla, CloudOps Consultant, Level



Approach

Level’s mission was to help the client make an informed decision about which containerization technology (OpenShift or Docker Swarm) would work best for their deployment processes.

Level’s approach included:

- **Internet Access (Strategy):** An internet connection is required to install both OpenShift and Docker. However, due to data privacy concerns, the Level team lacked an internet connection for installation. Level engineers strategized on how to best solve this problem while keeping cybersecurity a priority.
- **Disconnected Install (Implementation):** The Level team performed a “Disconnected Install” of OpenShift. The team also changed the Ansible playbook’s host file with settings like proxy, load balancers, DNS, etc. to install OpenShift of VMWare virtual machines (VMs).
- **Demonstrations:** Level and client teams met every week to present demonstrations and progress of both Docker and OpenShift to internal stakeholders.

Results

After being presented with both OpenShift and Docker Swarm, the client was able to make an informed decision on the best containerization technology for their business. With containerization in place, they could implement:

TEAM SIZE



x2

TIMELINE



5 weeks



Faster application start-up



Heightened security, flexibility, and scalability



Higher availability and lower cost



Quicker application deployments

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