App Distribution Service
for PCF Documentation

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App Distribution

Note: App Distribution is no longer supported because Pivotal no longer distributes it.

Product Snapshot

The following table provides version and version-support information about App Distribution for PCF:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Version</td>
<td>v1.3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release date</td>
<td>May 16, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compatible Ops Manager version(s)</td>
<td>v1.5.x and later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compatible Elastic Runtime version(s)</td>
<td>v1.5.x and later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IaaS support</td>
<td>AWS (only for PCF v1.4.x and later) and vSphere</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consider the following compatibility information before upgrading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ops Manager Version</th>
<th>Supported Upgrades from Imported App Distribution Installation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.3.x</td>
<td>• 1.0 to 1.0.1.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.x</td>
<td>• 1.0.1.28 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.x</td>
<td>• 1.0.1.28 to 1.1.0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6.x</td>
<td>• 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.1.0.0 to 1.2.3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.2.1.0 to 1.2.2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.2.x to 1.3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7.x</td>
<td>• 1.3.5 to 1.3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1.3.5 to 1.3.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Installation

Please follow these instructions to install via Ops Manager.

Backup and restore

Follow these instructions to backup and restore the MySQL database contents.

These [instructions] can be used to backup and restore the Redis database.

About

The Pivotal App Distribution service provides Pivotal Cloud Foundry users with a release process for testing and sharing mobile apps currently in development. Current mobile platforms supported include iOS, Android, BlackBerry, and Windows Phone.
A typical use case is as follows:

1. In the App Distribution web portal, a developer creates a ‘release’ of an app (currently in development) for QA testers. Developers can add release notes, known issues, lists of supported devices and OS versions, etc.

2. The QA testing team is notified of the release via email. They can then install (via over-the-air download) and test the app on device. Pending successful completion of testing, QA then approves the release for distribution.

3. Once approved, the developer can then distribute the release to a larger group of team members, which can include beta testers, project stakeholders, etc.
App Distribution Release Notes

Previous Releases

1.3.8
Updated to bosh stemcell v3146.12

1.3.6
Updated stemcell to version 3232.2

1.3.5
Maintenance release to remove NewRelic info

1.3.4
Updated stemcell to version 3146.10 to address USN-2929-1

1.3.3
Updated stemcell to version 3146.9

1.3.0
APIs available for build automation (users can now call a set of curl commands to create a build, upload a test file, add release notes, released builds, etc.)

1.2.5
Updated Bosh stemcell to version 3146.2 in order to address the following:

USN-2857-1
USN-2842-1
USN-2842-2
USN-2836-1
USN-2834-1
USN-2830-1
USN-2829-1

1.2.3
Updated stemcell to version 3130. This is a regular security upgrade that resolves the following issues:

USN-2806-1 Linux kernel (Vivid HWE) vulnerability
USN-2798-1 Linux kernel (Vivid HWE) vulnerabilities
1.2.2
Fix to disable verbose logging during installation process

1.2.1
• Support for PCF 1.6
• API to upload files to builds
• Minor bug fixes and UI updates

1.1.0
• Provided APIs that can be used by CI scripts to create a build and upload a file
• Minor UI updates - new login page, view login profile (from user id dropdown)

1.0.1.28
• Support for external MySQL and Redis services
• Support for PCF 1.4 on AWS

Known issues:
• On AWS, this version supports deployments in the US-East region. Multi-region support is coming in a future release.
• The experimental HTTPS-only feature in Elastic Runtime 1.5 may cause issues with this version of the product. Full support for HTTPS-only traffic is coming in a future release.

Note: BOSH Stemcell 2865.1 is required for installation on Ops Manager 1.5.x and above.

1.0.1.15
• Offline installation support
• Compatibility with PCF 1.4 (vSphere)

1.0.0
• Create a project from which app releases will be sent
• Pivotal Tracker integration (features delivered, bugs fixed, etc.)
• Create and share multiple app releases to testers
• Role based access:
  • Administrator - create/view all projects, add project users, and create app releases
  • Member - create app releases and add project users
  • Viewers - view app releases (must be a project member)
Installation

For installation, a Pivotal Cloud Foundry Administrator initially imports the Pivotal App Distribution package into Pivotal Cloud Foundry Operations Manager.

Installation Prerequisites

- Pivotal Cloud Foundry (Elastic Runtime and Ops Mgr)
- MySQL for PCF
- SSL Certificate (for over-the-air installation of iOS apps)
- SMTP provider (for sending build notification emails)
- S3-compatible object store API (for storing release information, including application binary files)

NOTE: A typical enterprise deployment will require two application instances (AIs)

Installing via Ops Manager

To install the PCF App Distribution tile in Ops Manager, please follow the steps listed below:

1. Download the product file from Pivotal Network

2. Upload the product file to the Ops Manager Installation Dashboard (via the 'Import a Product' button).

3. Click Add next to the uploaded product description in the Available Products view to add this product to your staging area.

4. Click on the newly added tile to enter the required Tile Configuration settings as shown below.

5. Click Apply Changes to install the product.

Ops Manager settings

From step 4 above, go to the 'Settings' Tab after clicking on the App Distribution tile and update the following configuration settings

SMTP Settings

Required field values:

- 'From Email' - this is the email address that will be used to send releases
- SMTP server address
- SMTP server port number
- HELO domain (from which emails will be sent)
- SMTP server credentials (login & password)
- Select your authentication method (plain, login, or cram_md5).

Click Save to store the SMTP settings.
Storage Settings

Required field values:

- Bucket name
- Access Key
- Secret Key
MySQL Settings

Select the MySQL Database to be used - PCF MySQL or an external MySQL service (PCF MySQL is the default setting)

If PCF MySQL is used then enter the appropriate service plan (typically `100mb-dev`)
If an external MySQL service is to be used then enter the following settings

- MySQL Host
- MySQL Port
- MySQL Username
- MySQL Password
- MySQL Database

Backup and Restore MySQL

If MySQL for PCF is being used, follow these instructions to backup and restore the database
Provision a service instance for App Distribution

- Log into the PCF console
- In the system.org, go to the 'app-distribution' space
- Click on the 'Add Service' button:
- Select 'App Distribution' from the Services Marketplace

- Select the 'development' plan (provisions a single App Distribution instance)
On the next screen (configure instance), enter the following:

1. Instance name: Enter a value (i.e. 'App Distribution')
2. Add to space: 'app distribution'
3. Bind to App: 'do not bind'

Click 'Add'. The browser will then redirect back to the PCF console page showing the newly provisioned service instance

Click Manage under the instance name to access the App Distribution portal.
Click the 'sign in with Pivotal Cloud Foundry' link and enter the UAA admin credentials (found by accessing the Elastic Runtime tile's credentials tab under the 'UAA' section).

Upon successful login, the home page should appear as shown below:
Refer to the User Guide for instructions on how to add users and create an app build release.
Create & Release Builds

Create a project and add users to the project team

1. Click New Project. (i.e. setting up a new App project page from which the release will be sent)
2. Add Project Name, Client Name, Platform, Description, and project mailing list.
3. Add Pivotal Tracker and Token (if Tracker has been installed).
4. Add Users to the project and assign a role as described below:
   - Administrator - Can add users to a project, create releases
   - Member - Can create builds to send to QA and clients. Can also receive QA builds
   - Viewer - Can only view releases that have been approved by QA and released to the project team

Create & Release a build to QA

1. Click add phase and enter a phase name.
2. Click new build link.
3. Select the phase name from the drop down menu.
4. Click browse files to upload the appropriate mobile app binary file.
5. If testing a mobile web app, enter the URL and a label name (i.e. url shortcut).
6. Click add to upload any additional files or urls (for testing, documentation, etc.).
7. In the QA Release Notes section, enter values for the required fields (indicated by ‘*’).
8. Click Save at bottom right.
9. Click Submit for Testing.
10. Include project team members who will receive the build (sent via email).
11. Click Release.
12. Verify that the ‘Pass’ and ‘Fail’ buttons are displayed.

Install App as a QA tester

1. Access the build release email from the appropriate mobile device (note that installing over the air is available only for iOS and Android devices).
2. In the build release email message, click Install Build. This opens the Safari browser and displays the login page for the app distribution instance.
3. Upon successful login, the build page displays.
4. Click Install next to the appropriate build file.
5. The build file should then successfully download to the mobile device.
6. Once the build has passed testing, click Pass.

Note: Users can now use APIs for build automation (curl command to create a build, upload a file, release a build, etc.). Please reference this link for more information.
7. Verify that the ‘Share Release’ button is displayed.

Release build to project team

1. Add App files.

2. Add Release notes.

3. Click **Share Release**.

4. The project mailing list is selected by default. Select any additional team members if needed.

5. Click **Release**.

6. Selected project team members and anyone on the mailing list will receive the release email.