

Azure Spring Apps Enterprise

June 2022

Introduction

Q. What is Azure Spring Apps Enterprise?

A. Azure Spring Apps Enterprise is a fully managed service for Spring from Microsoft, built in collaboration with VMware. Building upon the Spring framework and incorporating features from VMware Tanzu, Azure Spring Apps Enterprise is optimized for the needs of enterprise Spring developers. It enables more secure deployment and management of Spring apps with advanced configurability, flexibility, portability, and enterprise-ready VMware Spring Runtime 24x7 support.

Q. What are some typical use cases of Azure Spring Apps Enterprise?

A. Azure Spring Apps Enterprise makes it easy for teams to build and deploy Spring applications on Microsoft Azure, with a host of features to support enterprise applications. As a managed service, this offering may be particularly useful for:

- Customers with a large portfolio of Spring applications in production
- Customers seeking an upgrade from the Standard tier of Azure Spring Apps
- Customers that are net new to VMware Tanzu®, all-in on Azure, and don't have an ops team (or don't want to manage underlying infrastructure)
- Customers looking for a platform that includes extended Spring Support

Q. When does Azure Spring Apps Enterprise launch?

A. Azure Spring Apps Enterprise will be generally available in June 2022.

Q. What happened to Azure Spring Cloud?

A. It was announced at Microsoft Build on May 24, 2022 that Azure Spring Cloud was rebranded to Azure Spring Apps. The updated name reflects the expanded capabilities of the service

Background

¹ JVM Ecosystem Report 2021, Snyk ([link](#))

Q. What is Spring?

A. Spring is the most popular application development framework for Java, utilized by 58% of all Java developers¹. In 2020 alone, about 20 million projects were generated on start.spring.io, the initializer website used to start Spring projects.

Spring is an open-source framework that is curated and maintained by VMware. The framework was originally developed by Pivotal Software, which was [acquired](#) by VMware in 2019.

Q. What makes Spring so popular?

A. Spring is highly popular among developers for three core reasons:

- **Productive:** Spring is usable for practically any Java development task, and is simple, fully comprehensive, and modular. Moreover, it is known for its ability to be deployable, testable, and portable, and is supported by clear and well-documented resources.
- **Community-Focused:** Spring utilizes the permissive Apache 2.0 open-source license. Moreover, it is supported by a vibrant, passionate and committed community of Spring developers.
- **Trusted:** Spring is the premier dependency injection framework utilized by developers all around the world. It has been proven in production environments since 2004.

Q. What led to the creation of Azure Spring Apps?

A. Azure Spring Apps is a fully managed service for microservices, powered by Spring Cloud and Azure Kubernetes Service. The service solves some common challenges with Spring in an enterprise setting, such as managing application lifecycles and expending effort to manage cloud infrastructure for Spring Boot applications.

Q. What does the Azure Spring Apps offer look like?

A. Currently, there are three tiers of Azure Spring Apps on the market: Basic, Standard, and Azure Spring Apps Enterprise. The Basic Tier is primarily utilized for “tire-kicking”, i.e., individual dev / test scenarios. It includes a base unit capacity of 2 vCPU and 5 GB for processing and memory respectively. The Basic Tier includes open-source Spring

functionality around configuration management and service discovery & registry.

The Standard tier is primarily utilized for general purpose workloads for integration testing, pre-production, and production environments. It includes a base unit capacity of 8 vCPU and 16 GB for processing and memory respectively. The Standard tier includes open-source Spring functionality around items such as build service, configuration server and service registry.

Azure Spring Apps Enterprise is used for general purpose and enterprise-grade workloads for integration testing, pre-production, and production environments. It includes a base unit capacity of 16 vCPU and 32 GB for processing and memory respectively. Enterprise tier includes everything in Standard tier, as well as commercial Spring functionality and enterprise-specific features from VMware Tanzu.

Q. Why was the Enterprise tier created?

A. The Basic and Standard Tiers of Azure Spring Apps can be utilized in environments ranging from dev to production. However, they do not solve for core market dynamics in today's software development processes:

- Developers are **expecting managed services** that help put the pieces together in increasingly complex software dev processes
- Developers need a way to know **what they can and cannot use** from a tooling perspective
- IT teams are not always able to **manage deployments in the public cloud**

These dynamics may lead to customer pain points around managing dependencies, the need for long-term support options, and the ability to manage enterprise-grade workloads. VMware and Microsoft have collaborated to launch an Enterprise tier of the Azure Spring Apps offering to address these pain points and improve functionality for customers looking to deploy at enterprise scale.

Azure Spring Apps Enterprise

Q. What can customers get out of Azure Spring Apps Enterprise?

A. With the Enterprise tier, customers can enjoy:

- **More secure deployment and management of Spring applications:** Grow your Spring application portfolio while reducing operational toil with enterprise-grade features like API management & discovery, enhanced observability, and the convenience of managed infrastructure.
- **Portability and flexibility in workload management:** Seamlessly lift and shift Spring workloads between

Azure Spring Apps, public & private clouds, and on-premises.

- **Advanced configuration and integration:** Easily control your build dependencies or configure buildpacks to manage existing build environments and deploy non-Spring workloads in your environment.
- **Advanced and long-term support:** Ensure the security and stability of your Spring application portfolio with 24x7 VMware Spring Runtime support, including extended support after OSS End-of-Life and access to releases for critical bug fixes and security issues.

Q. What is the roadmap of commercial VMware Tanzu® components in the Enterprise tier?

A. With Azure Spring Apps Enterprise, customers can use fully managed VMware Tanzu on Azure. Customers can select which VMware Tanzu features they want to use in their environment during Enterprise instance creation. At General Availability, Azure Spring Apps Enterprise includes VMware Tanzu® Build Service™, Application Configuration Service for VMware Tanzu®, VMware Tanzu® Service Registry, Spring Cloud Gateway for VMware Tanzu®, and API portal for VMware Tanzu®.

Moving forward, the Enterprise tier is planned to include components such as Application Accelerator for VMware Tanzu®, Application Live View, and more.

Q. What kind of buildpack configurability does Azure Spring Apps Enterprise offer?

A. With the Enterprise tier, developers can fully customize their buildpack configurations by controlling the build dependencies used to create images and configuring buildpacks to match existing build environments. Teams can also use commercial buildpacks to package and deploy non-Spring workloads alongside their Spring applications. Moreover, developers are able to access the wider VMware Tanzu® Buildpacks ecosystem, and even utilize proprietary offline buildpacks along with partner integrations. Examples include: Dynatrace APM agent and Java specific partner functionality such as jprofiler or jrebel.

Q. Will I be able to lift-and-shift my workloads into Azure Spring Apps Enterprise directly?

A. Yes! With the Enterprise tier, users can easily move existing Spring Boot and .NET Core workloads between Azure Spring Apps, public & private clouds, and on-premises.

Q. Is enterprise support included in Enterprise tier?

A. Yes, Azure Spring Apps Enterprise includes access to VMware Tanzu® Support. For more details on entitlements and how to access support, please see the Support FAQ section below.

Q. How does the Enterprise tier differ from the Basic and Standard Tiers?

A. The Enterprise tier differs from the Basic and Standard tiers in that it specifically includes of VMware Tanzu capabilities. These include the following:

- Target scenario: The Enterprise tier is intended for general purpose workloads for Integration test, pre-production, and production with VMware Tanzu® components. The Standard Tier does not include VMware Tanzu® components, while the Basic Tier is intended to be used for individual dev / test scenarios.
- Spring value differentiation: The Enterprise tier includes Tanzu® Build Service™, Application Configuration Service for VMware Tanzu®, VMware Tanzu® Service Registry and many more proprietary VMware Tanzu® / Spring components on the roadmap. Conversely, both Standard and Basic Tiers only include open-source Spring components.
- Base unit capacity: The Enterprise tier offers 16 vCPU and 32 GB of base unit capacity, unlike the Standard Tier (8 vCPU, 16 GB) and Basic Tier (2 vCPU, 5 GB).
- Enterprise support: The Enterprise tier includes VMware Spring Runtime, a 24x7 support service that is not included in the other tiers. Moreover, with the Enterprise tier, customers are able to open tickets for bugs and CVEs encountered in Spring libraries.

Support

Q. What are my support options for Azure Spring Apps Enterprise?

- A. There are a few options available for customers seeking support for their Azure Spring Apps Enterprise environments:
1. For questions or concerns relating to [VMware Spring Runtime](#), please engage directly with [VMware Tanzu Support](#).
 2. For questions relating to the Microsoft Azure platform, billing, and subscription management, please engage directly with [Microsoft Support](#).
 3. If your concern or question is of complex nature or cannot be traced back to specifically to your Azure Platform or VMware Spring Runtime, you can engage either support team.

Q. How do I engage VMware Tanzu Support?

A. To submit a Service Request and engage [VMware Tanzu Support](#), you will first be required to register for Support using the [Tanzu Community Portal](#). Knowledge Base article

search (self-help) does not require registration and is available to the public.

Q. What information do I need to register for Support using the VMware Tanzu Support portal?

A. To register for VMware Tanzu Support, will need your Tanzu Customer Number (TCN) and an email tied to your organization. Your TCN is captured in the Order Confirmation Letter (OCL) communicated to your organization from VMware.

The Tanzu Customer Number can be shared with anyone in your organization that may need to register for support.

Q. When will I receive the Order Confirmation Letter, "OCL"?

A. Please allow 24 hours after the provisioning of the Azure Spring Apps Enterprise offering from Azure Marketplace to receive your OCL via email.

The OCL will be sent via email to the person responsible for subscribing to the Azure Spring Apps Enterprise offering from Azure Marketplace.

If you have not received the OCL 24 hours after the Azure Spring Apps Enterprise offering has been provisioned, please contact tanzu-azure@vmware.com

Q. What does VMware support for Azure Spring Apps Enterprise offering include?

A. The Azure Spring Apps Enterprise offering is currently Generally Available. Customers are entitled to [VMware Spring Runtime](#) support for the duration of their Enterprise subscription term.

For more information on VMware Tanzu Support:

- [VMware Tanzu Support Offering](#) (Premium Support Services)
- [VMware Tanzu Support Lifecycle Policy](#)
- [VMware Tanzu Support Community Onboarding](#)

Pricing

Q. What is the cost of Azure Spring Apps Enterprise?

A. Azure Spring Apps Enterprise includes the addition of commercially supported Spring Runtime and VMware Tanzu® components. As such, it is priced to include both a Infrastructure and Management fee from Microsoft and a VMware IP licensing fee. [Visit the Azure Spring Apps pricing page for more information.](#)

Get Started

Q. How do I learn more about the Enterprise tier?

A. To learn more about Azure Spring Apps and the Enterprise tier, please visit [this page](#) or search for Azure Spring Apps Enterprise directly on the Azure Marketplace.

Q. How do I purchase Azure Spring Apps Enterprise?

A. To get started with Azure Spring Apps Enterprise, please [visit the Azure Spring Apps Enterprise listing](#) on the Azure Marketplace.

Q. What is required to use Enterprise tier?

A. To get started with Enterprise tier, you will need an Azure Subscription. If you do not have an existing subscription, you will need to [create an Azure account](#).