

CNF CERTIFICATION: 4 KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR TELCOS

Deploy cloud-based applications with confidence

As demand rises and services become ever more complex, reliable certification of CNFs means telcos and their partners can better serve their customers, confident that their workloads are interoperable. With a broad ecosystem for telecommunications service providers, Red Hat unites vendors, applications, components, and technologies to help you build the right infrastructure for your business.

Casa Systems is excited to work with RedHat and Intel to advance industry-leading technologies and help us continue to deliver next-generation 5G networks solutions that exceed our customer's expectations. The certification of Casa's Axyom 5G SA Core serves as an important proof point to service providers and enterprises looking to accelerate the delivery of automated and orchestrated cloud-native software solutions in a multi-tenant, multi-vendor environment.

– Andrew Gibbs, VP Wireless Solutions

Here are four key considerations for telcos and their partners looking to harness the speed, security, and scalability of containers and CNFs.

Risk Mitigation

The evolving landscape of communications technologies present telcos and their partners with both opportunities and risks. Containerisation enables the rapid development and deployment of new services, and comprehensive accreditation allows telcos to assess vendors and mitigate the risks associated with testing and deploying CNFs. 'Certified CNF' status from Red Hat means vendors' CNFs and OpenShift Container Platform will interoperate as intended.

- Standards-based certification means telcos and their partners can go to market knowing that each other's applications are interoperable.
- OpenShift delivers a modern, scalable approach to securing the entire application platform stack, from OS to container to application.
- Flexible automation also boosts productivity, improves security, reduces delivery times, and removes compliance risk.

Speed

As consumer demand for services has increased, differentiation for telcos requires rapid innovation and deployment of applications. Adopting modern application development and delivery (including containerised microservices and DevOps + CI/CD) means reduced deployment time and continuous delivery pipeline. Automation allows for the standardisation of methodologies for configuration and deployment.

- Decoupling functions from hardware to a cloud-based environment increases the speed of development and deployment.
- The flexibility and scalability of a hybrid cloud approach can scale services and enable granular function management in a microservices-based environment.
- Certification addresses the complexity of containers, while Red Hat manages the patching and updating of the platforms you trust.

The Red Hat partner ecosystem

Red Hat certification delivers confidence that the CNFs or other network functions you use are tested and aligned with the platforms you trust, from OpenShift, and OpenStack, to Red Hat Enterprise Linux. Standards-based certification in an open source environment means integration, support, and interoperability.

- Red Hat enables an ecosystem of partners whose network functions run reliably and securely.
- Red Hat continually broadens this partner ecosystem in support of customer business needs. Red Hat's solutions are tested, certified, and supported.
- The 'openness' of the Red Hat ecosystem means flexibility and transparency between partners and supporting ecosystems, with the added advantage of interoperability and integration.

The future of telco services

To remain competitive, network infrastructure must be transformed to allow it to scale to meet demand. Containerisation and CNFs will be key to telcos delivering these flexible, scalable services into the future. To provide customers with a consistent experience from core to edge, telco's infrastructure needs to be modern, programmable, cloud-native, and open source.

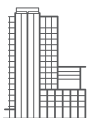
- Being able to test workloads and solutions means telcos and their partners can confidently choose components they know will work together reliably.
- By moving to a hybrid cloud model, telcos give themselves the flexibility and choice to meet increased demand wherever and whenever they need to.
- By combining future-ready platforms with certified CNFs, telcos and their partners can work together to embrace edge computing, 5G, and AI/ML.

Why Red Hat?

From hybrid cloud and cloud-native solutions, to automation and security, Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source solutions, within a large and robust ecosystem of enterprise hardware, software, and cloud and service providers. Red Hat's platforms and ecosystem connect agility with stability, and speed with security to simplify the transition to modern network infrastructure and business operations, including Red Hat Marketplace, which makes it easy to discover and access certified enterprise software to install on OpenShift.

Start your certification journey

- [Simplify and Accelerate CNF Testing Today \(Video\)](#)
- [Telco ecosystem ebook 'Become a digital service provider'](#)
- [Service Provider Transformation with an Open Ecosystem \(Video\)](#)
- [Nominate a CNF for Certification Today](#)



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About Red Hat

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to deliver reliable and high-performing Linux, hybrid cloud, container, and Kubernetes technologies. Red Hat helps customers integrate new and existing IT applications, develop cloud-native applications, standardize on our industry-leading operating system, and automate, secure, and manage complex environments. Award-winning support, training, and consulting services make Red Hat a trusted adviser to the Fortune 500. As a strategic partner to cloud providers, system integrators, application vendors, customers, and open source communities, Red Hat can help organizations prepare for the digital future.

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