

VMWARE PHOTON PLATFORM

Q. What is Photon Platform?

A. VMware Photon™ Platform is a container-optimized cloud platform which delivers on-demand tools and services for developers to build, test, and run modern applications while enabling IT to retain security, control and performance of data center infrastructure.

Purpose-built for cloud-native applications with integrated container infrastructure support, Photon Platform is a fully API-driven, multi-tenant platform which brings the scale, performance and features previously accessible only to hyper-scale web companies into enterprise data centers. It leverages industry-leading compute, networking, and storage technologies to bring best-in-class performance, reliability and ease-of-use for cloud-native workloads.

- Aggregates and exposes IaaS services for secure container and modern app runtimes via IaaS APIs
- Simplifies deployment and life cycle management of compute, networking, security, storage and operations functions
- Complete life-cycle management of advanced developer services (Kubernetes and Harbor)

• **Photon OS**

- A lightweight operating system optimized for containers

• **ESXi**

- Industry-leading hypervisor running on bare metal for virtualization

• **Networking**

- Networking virtualization based on NSX technology

• **Storage**

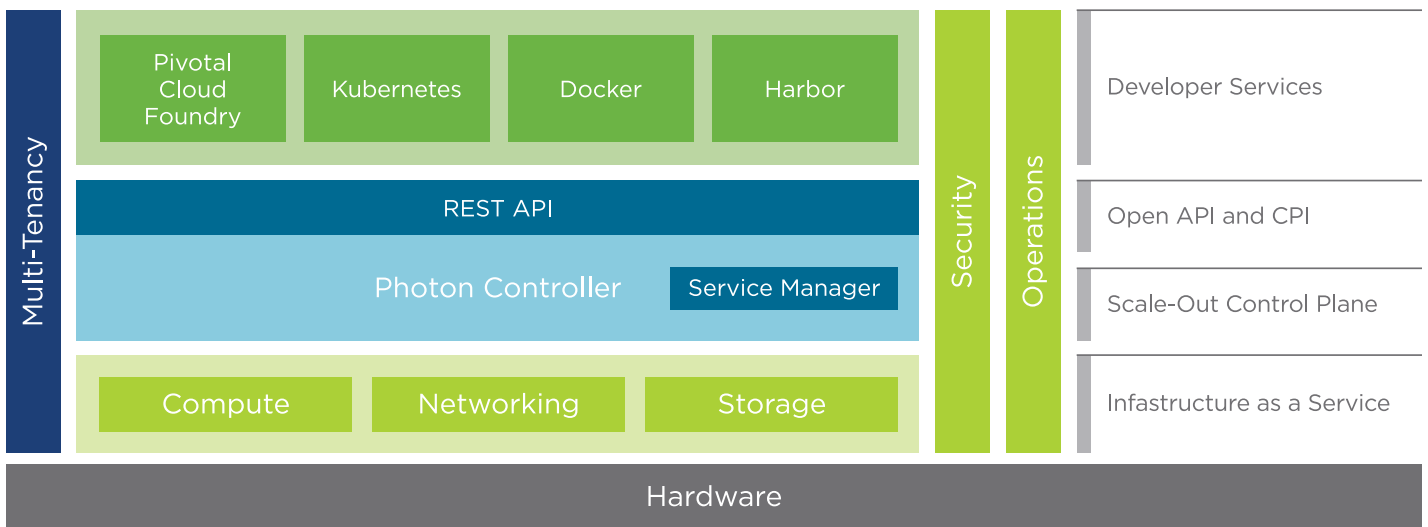
- Hyper-converged storage based on vSAN technology

Q. What are the major components of Photon Platform?

A. • **Photon Controller**

- A scale-out control plane that turns compute hosts into an easy-to-manage single system

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Q. What are the key features of Photon Platform?

- A. • Production-grade, fully supported Kubernetes distribution with full life-cycle management and pod-based network virtualization
- Comprehensive compute, storage, networking, security, and operations
 - Granular multi-tenancy and access management for resource isolation and security throughout the stack
 - Highly-available control plane for web scale deployments
 - Robust Docker registry via Harbor, an open-source container registry server designed for enterprise
 - Support for Docker containers, including enterprise service registry and authentication
 - Integration with Pivotal Cloud Foundry
 - Simple-to-use API and CLI tools
 - Rich HTML5 web interface for management and consumption
 - Optimized for high churn container environments and large number of concurrent API requests

Q. Is Photon Platform open-source?

- A. Photon Platform's control plane, directory services, Linux and Kubernetes distributions are open-source. The UI and underlying VMware vSphere® ESXi™, networking and storage components (based on NSX and vSAN technology) are closed source. You can download Photon Contoller, Photon OS and Project Lightwave from our github site here: <https://vmware.github.io/>

Q. When and how can I purchase Photon Platform?

- A. Photon Platform is sold as a single product — an end-to-end cloud infrastructure solution for your cloud-native deployment — including compute, networking, storage, security and operations. For pricing and packaging details, please contact VMware Sales.

Q. How do containers and Photon Platform relate?

- A. Photon Platform is purpose-built for containers and delivers a production-grade Kubernetes distribution for easy consumption by developers.

Q. What version of Kubernetes does Photon Platform support?

- A. Photon Platform v1.2 ships with Kubernetes v1.6.

Q. What is the minimum number of hosts required for deployment of Photon Platform?

- A. At least three management nodes and two compute nodes are recommended.

Q. How do I interact with Photon Platform?

- A. Photon Platform is primarily an API-driven platform. The API is easy to understand and use, and an SDK is provided in various languages. A feature-rich HTML5 interface, as well as a cross platform command line interface is also available and provides a high level view of the platform's current state.

Q. How scalable is Photon Platform?

- A. Photon Platform scales to thousands of nodes and hundreds of thousands of workloads.

Q. Is Photon Platform an IaaS? CaaS? PaaS?

- A. All three! Photon Platform provides a rich set of IaaS primitives like virtual machines, networks and disks. It also provides a Containers as a Service (CaaS) solution via instant access to production-grade Kubernetes deployments. Lifecycle management of Kubernetes allows for developers to quickly resize, deploy and destroy clusters as needed during their development workflow. Photon Platform additionally delivers services like the Harbor Container Registry on demand and works seamlessly with leading PaaS framework Pivotal Cloud Foundry.

Q. What are the differences between VMware vSphere® Integrated Containers™ (VIC) and Photon Platform?

- A. VIC is a feature of vSphere. It enables enterprise to run both containerized and traditional workloads in production side by side on your existing infrastructure, and extends all the enterprise capabilities of vSphere without requiring additional investment in re-tooling or re-architecting your existing infrastructure.

Photon Platform is a new container-optimized cloud platform. It is a fully API-driven, multi-tenant platform which scales quickly and massively, it is ideal for running the micro-service based cloud-native applications. If you are looking at building an on-prem, greenfield infrastructure stack for only running containerized cloud-native workloads, Photon Platform is the ideal choice.

Please contact our VMware sales team if you would like to learn more in details about these two offerings.

Q. Where to learn more about Photon Platform?

A. Please check our website at: <https://www.vmware.com/products/photon-platform.html>

