

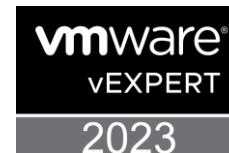


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**Automazione for Dummies:
come creare i VM Template
in automatico**

Paolo Romagnoli
Sr. Solution Architect AWS



Agenda

We (almost) automated anything

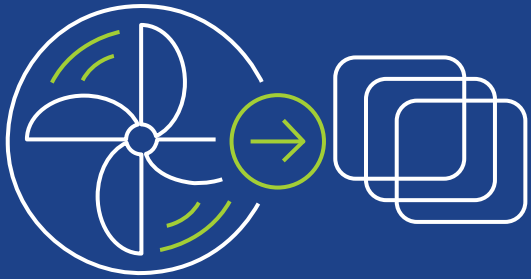
EC2 ImageBuilder

How it works

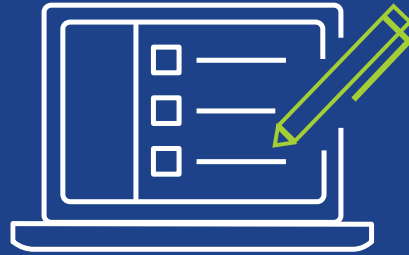
The solution

We (almost)
automated anything

Golden VM images



Template image.
Saves time & ensure
consistency



Pre-installed & pre-
configured with custom
software & settings

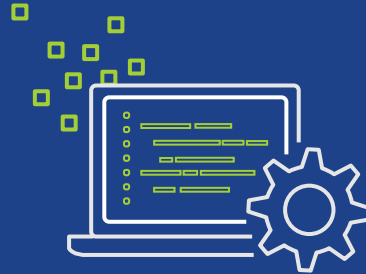


Hardened to meet IT
standards

How do admins build golden images today?



Manually build each
golden images



Build and maintain
custom automation



Build automation
with open source
frameworks

VMWare vRealize Automation Cloud Image Profiles lessons learned

Dana Gertsch | Cloud Assembly Services, Code Stream, vRealize
2 Minutes

← Virtually Jason

Notes about interesting problems that I've come across and their solutions. Focus on accompanying technologies that make it all possible!

Updating VM Templates with vRealize Orchestrator, Part

vmware VMware Cloud Management

Uploading VM Template OVAs to Con with vRealize Orchestrator guest OS using Aria Automation cloudConfig



Aria Automation | Cloud Automation | Code Stream | DevOps | vRealize
Code Stream

Build, test and release VM images with vRealize Automation Code Stream and Packer



vRA 8.3, Code Stream Pipelines and Hashicorp Packer = Automated Ce ...

Hashicorp Packer
BY PUBLISHED MARCH 5, 2021 - UPDATED MARCH 5, 2021

VMware CodeStream

vRealize Automation Cloud - Cloud
Assembly - Create a New Image Mapping

Automatic Update of vSphere Templates with Codestream

What's needed?



Quickly and easily build **automation** to create golden images without writing code



Easily **test** images with provided tests before deploying to production



Secure images with provided & custom settings to meet internal/industry standards



Distribute and share images easily with centralized enforcement



Limited **maintenance** of the automation pipeline

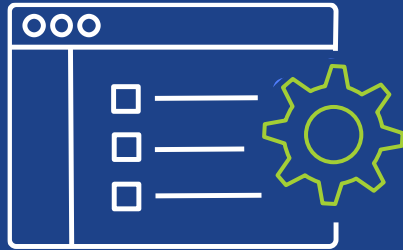
EC2 Image Builder

What it is



EC2 Image Builder features 1/2

Quickly and easily automate the creation, management, and deployment of up-to-date and compliant “golden” VM images



Automated pipelines to keep images secure and up-to-date



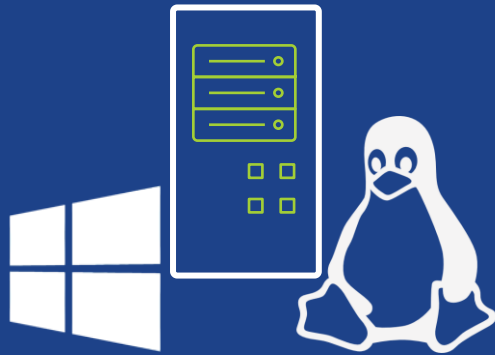
Minimize unnecessary exposure to security vulnerabilities



Validate and deploy high quality images into production

EC2 Image Builder features 2/2

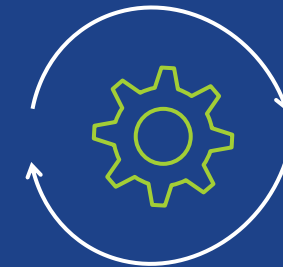
Centralized Policy Enforcement



Support for both AWS and on-premises as well as Windows and Linux image creation



Simplified sharing of images across AWS accounts



Fully managed service, you just focus defining your template automation

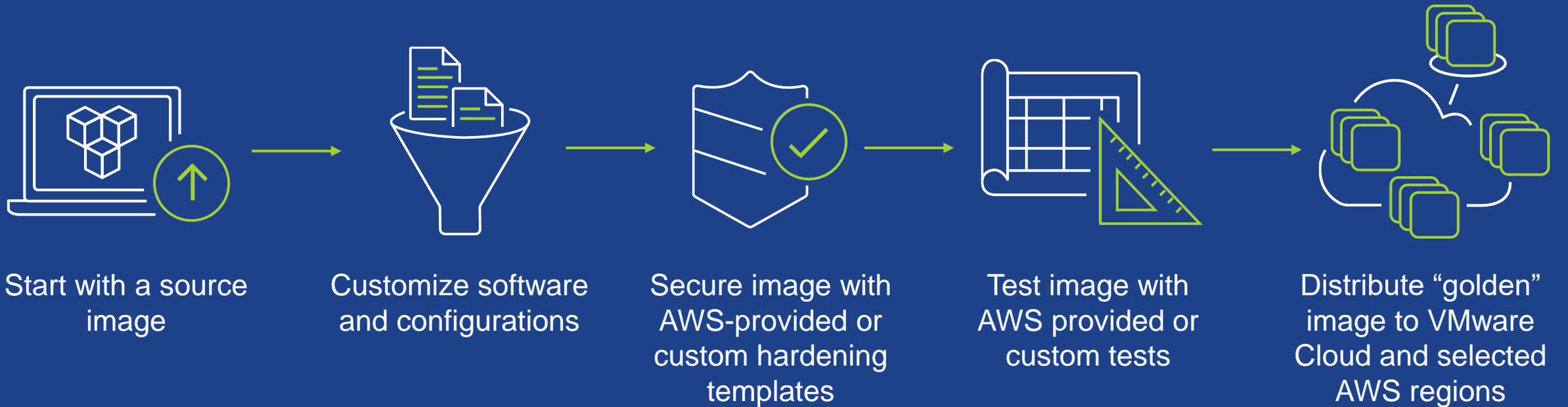
EC2 Image Builder

How it works



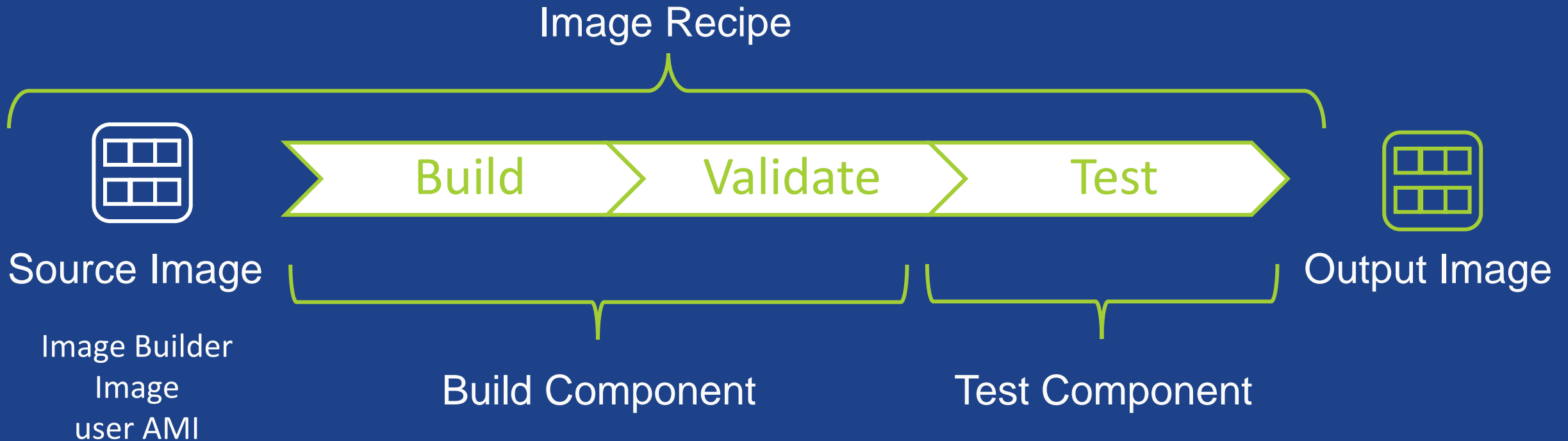
How it works

All EC2 Image Builder operations run in your AWS account



EC2 Image Builder - Image Recipe

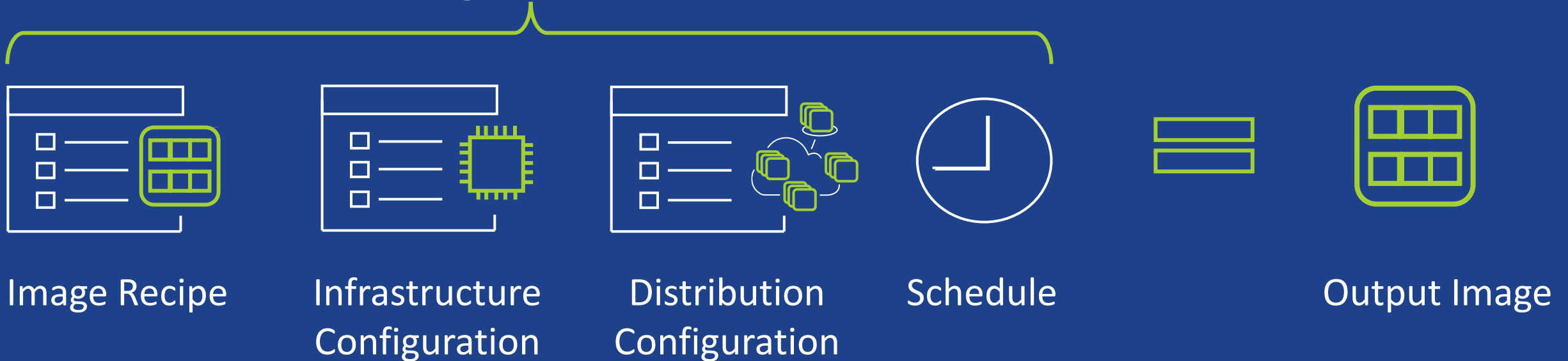
Image Recipe defines image configuration. It consists of source image and one or more components to be applied to the source image. Component describes how to build, validate, and test your image



EC2 Image Builder - Image Pipeline

An **Image Pipeline** is the automation configuration for building secure OS images. The Image Builder image pipeline is associated with an image recipe, infrastructure configuration, distribution configuration, and how the pipeline is triggered

Image Pipeline



EC2 Image Builder Components

Build components are orchestration documents that define a sequence of steps for downloading, installing, and configuring software packages. **Test components** are orchestration documents that define tests to run on software packages

- Phases
- Steps
- Supported Action
- Output Files

```
phases:  
-  
  name: 'build'  
  steps:  
  -  
    name: SampleS3Download  
    action: S3Download  
    timeoutSeconds: 60  
    onFailure: Abort  
    maxAttempts: 3  
    inputs:  
    -  
      source: 's3://sample-bucket/sample1.ps1'  
      destination: 'C:\Temp\sample1.ps1'  
    -  
      source: 's3://sample-bucket/sample2.ps1'  
      destination: 'C:\Temp\sample2.ps1'
```


Amazon provided components

Select from out of the box components or build your own. EC2 Image Builder provides **STIG components** to help you quickly build compliant images for STIG standards.

Select build components

Find components by name. Press enter to search all results. Amazon owned < 1 2 >

amazon-corretto-11-headless Version 1.0.0 <input type="checkbox"/>			
<small>Description</small> Installs Amazon Corretto 11 Headless			
<small>Owner</small> Amazon	<small>Platform</small> Linux	<small>Type</small> BUILD	<small>ARN</small> arn:aws:imagebuilder:us-east-1:aws:component/amazon-corretto-11-headless/1.0.0
update-linux Version 1.0.0 <input type="checkbox"/>			
<small>Description</small> Updates Linux with the latest security updates.			
<small>Owner</small> Amazon	<small>Platform</small> Linux	<small>Type</small> BUILD	<small>ARN</small> arn:aws:imagebuilder:us-east-1:aws:component/update-linux/1.0.0
stig-build-linux-medium Version 2.6.0 <input type="checkbox"/>			
<small>Description</small> Applies the medium and low severity STIG settings for Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) to Amazon Linux 2 instances. For more information, see https://docs.aws.amazon.com/imagebuilder/latest/userguide/image-builder-stig.html .			
<small>Owner</small>	<small>Platform</small>	<small>Type</small>	<small>ARN</small>

Cancel Choose

Cascade Pipeline - Always build latest version

Versioning your image with **Always build latest version option**. The downstream pipeline uses the latest version output image from the upstream pipeline



<input type="checkbox"/>	Recipe name	Version	Image OS	Source image
<input type="checkbox"/>	MyBasicLinuxRecipe	1.0.0	Linux	arn:aws:imagebuilder:us-east-1:aws:image/amazon-linux-2-x86/2020.1.8
<input type="checkbox"/>	MyBasicLinuxRecipe	1.0.1	Linux	arn:aws:imagebuilder:us-east-1:aws:image/amazon-linux-2-x86/2020.1.8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Web-Server2029-IIS	1.0.5	Windows	arn:aws:imagebuilder:us-east-1:aws:image/1.954587515180/image/windows2019-stig-low-recipe-6ef66b4c9974/x.x.x
<input type="checkbox"/>	Web-Server2029-IIS	1.0.7	Windows	arn:aws:imagebuilder:us-east-1:aws:image/1.954587515180/image/windows2019-stig-low-recipe-6ef66b4c9974/x.x.x
<input type="checkbox"/>	Web-Server2029-IIS	1.0.8	Windows	arn:aws:imagebuilder:us-east-1:aws:image/1.954587515180/image/windows2019-stig-low-recipe-6ef66b4c9974/x.x.x

VM Import/Export Processes

Among the others, allows to export an Amazon EC2 instance or an AMI to VMware vSphere among the others

Start an export image task

```
aws ec2 export-image --image-id ami-id --  
disk-image-format VMDK --s3-export-location  
S3Bucket=my-export-bucket,S3Prefix=exports/
```

Monitor an export image task

```
aws ec2 describe-export-image-tasks --export-  
image-task-ids export-ami-1234567890abcdef0
```

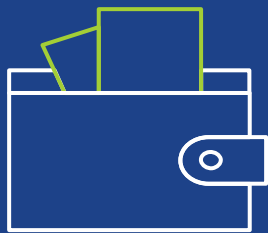
Cancel an export image task

```
aws ec2 cancel-export-task --export-task-id  
export-ami-1234567890abcdef0
```



- Export EC2 instances or AMIs to Citrix Xen, Microsoft Hyper-V, or VMware vSphere
- Import from OVA, VMDK, VHD/VHDX
- Import as AMI, EBS Snapshot or Instance

Pricing



No cost



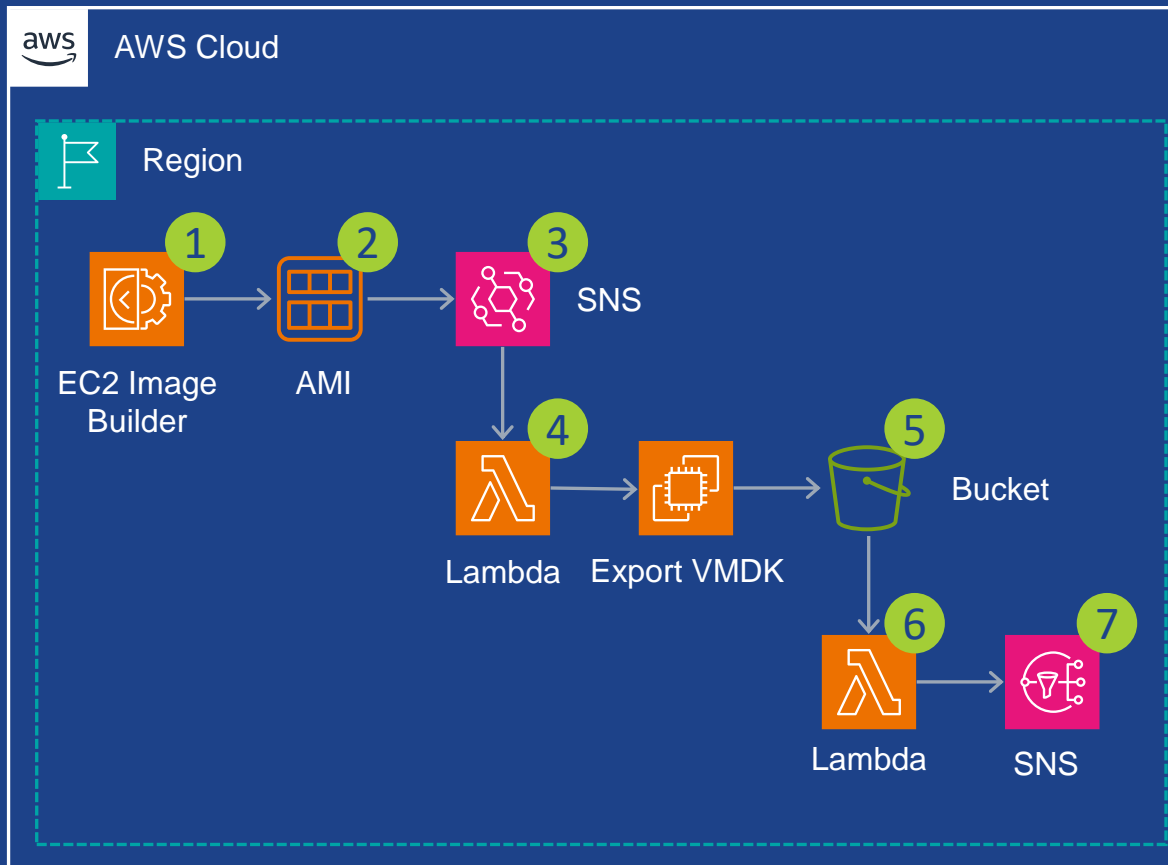
All operations run in
your AWS account



Pay for the resources
used in your account

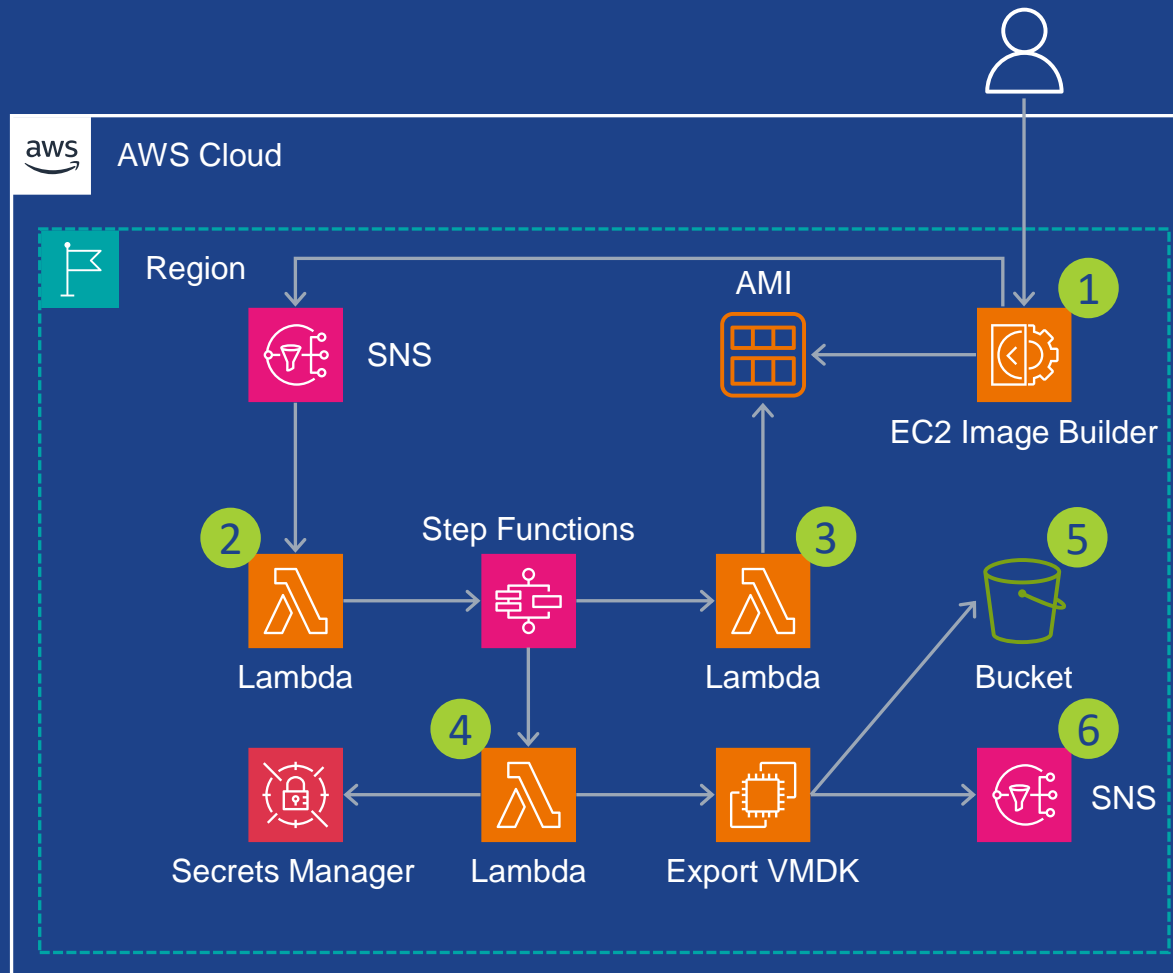
The solution

Simple EC2 Image Builder vmdk Export



- 1** The EC2 Image Builder pipeline is run to create, distribute and share the AMI
- 2** Once the AMI is available, an event is generated on EventBridge
- 3** A EventBridge rule configured to trigger a Lambda function execution
- 4** The Lambda function kick-off the .vmdk export process job execution
- 5** Once the VM export is completed the .vmdk file is available in S3 bucket
- 6** The S3 object creation event triggers the Lambda function that generates pre-signed S3 URL for the exported .vmdk and email message which it publishes to a SNS topic
- 7** SNS topic sends a email message containing the instructions on how to download the exported .vmdk file

Enterprise EC2 Image Builder vmdk Export



- 1 The EC2 Image Builder pipeline is run to create, distribute and share the AMI and a message is published to a SNS topic containing the ARN of the executing EC2 Image Builder pipeline
- 2 The SNS topic invokes a Step Functions State Machine via Lambda function
- 3 The State Machine using a Lambda function polls the AWS EC2 API to check when the AMI gets available
- 4 Once the AMI is available, the State Machine proceeds to begin the AMI export process and the State Machine polls the AWS EC2 API to determine when the VM export process has entered the Completed state
- 5 Once the VM export is completed, the State Machine creates a pre-signed S3 URL for the exported .vmdk file saved in S3
- 6 The Lambda function generates an email message which it publishes to a SNS topic that sends a email message containing the instructions on how to download the exported .vmdk file

Thanks

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