Alliance Organizations

Open Data Center Alliance and the Distributed Management Task Force (DMTF)

Background

The Open Data Center Alliance was formed in 2010 as a unique consortium of leading global IT organizations. They are led by a steering committee of senior IT executives from BMW, China Life, China Unicom, Deutsche Bank, JPMorgan Chase, Lockheed Martin, Marriott International, Inc., National Australia Bank, Terremark, Disney Technology Solutions and Services, and UBS. Intel Corporation serves as the organization's technical advisor. They came together to deliver a unified voice for emerging data center and cloud computing requirements.

Alliance Partner Mission

Their mission is to speed the migration to cloud computing by enabling the solution and service ecosystem to address IT requirements with the highest level of interoperability and standards. This includes:

- Identifying customer requirements for corporate adoption and deployment of cloud computing
- Defining usage models for these requirements based on open, industry-standard, multi-vendor solutions that support a vision of secure federation, automation, common management, and transparency
- Influencing industry innovation with:
  - Collective membership commitment to use Alliance usage models to guide corporate planning and purchasing of data center resources
  - Solution Provider member commitment to prioritize solution delivery based on Alliance Usage Model requirements
- Collaborating with industry standards bodies to define standards development aligned with Alliance priorities.

Alliance Benefits

The ODCA develops customer driven usage models and requirements – these requirements are intended to create an ecosystem of open, interchangeable and interoperable solutions and components. Key pre-requisites for this are standards that are widely adopted and allow for wide interoperability. The DMTF is a globally recognized body that develops the technology specifications for enterprise and cloud management. It will, therefore, be good for the two organizations to be able to coordinate requirements and customer driven usage models and ensure that the standards developed comprehend customer needs. This is a win-win for the entire ecosystem since technology/solution vendors who develop to these end-user qualified
Standards know that there is a ready market of customers and the customers then have a range of solutions to choose in order to meet performance and cost efficiency.

Standards Development

The DMTF and ODCA seek to collaborate on requirements and the development of key standards to the interoperable management of IT enterprise and of cloud environments. Both organizations currently plan to adopt appropriate existing standards and assist and support recognized bodies developing new standards relevant to cloud computing. Therefore an alliance between our organizations would help ensure alignment in the industry.

Milestones / Dates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Items, Deliverables and Milestones</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Review of Open Data Center Alliance Work by the DMTF:</td>
<td>Cycle 1 Usages: Q4, 2011</td>
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<td>• The ODCA will invite the DMTF to review usage and requirement document in progress – post 60% completion and ODCA internal review. The DMTF will provide guidance on level of actionable detail, completeness of requirements and clarity of requirements. In addition, the DMTF will educate the ODCA on standards (relevant to the requirements) that have been developed or are in development</td>
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<td>Review of DMTF Work by the Open Data Center Alliance:</td>
<td>SW License Mgmt: Q1, 2012</td>
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<td>• The DMTF will invite and allow delegated member of the ODCA to participate as non-voting members in the designated appropriate working groups and incubators</td>
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<td>• The DMTF will make available documents for early review to the ODCA via its Work In Progress and feedback portal processes</td>
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<td>Close collaboration on ODCA Licensing Usage Model and DMTF Software License Management Standards – <em>both projects are just starting</em></td>
<td>Q2, 2012</td>
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<td>• ODCA define requirements and review standards work products</td>
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<td>• Joint definition sessions with appropriate WGs or designated teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaboration on extension to OVF to support “VM interoperability” usage model requirements</td>
<td>Q1, 2012</td>
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Work Register Review Date

Work registers should be reviewed on a regular basis to update progress on the milestones and to adjust the work registers based on changes in objectives between the partner organizations. This section identifies the time frame when the work register will be reviewed. It should be less than two years from the date when the work register was initiated. The updated document should be approved by March 2012.
Resources Identified / Points of Contact:

ODCA
  • Ravi Subramaniam, ravi.subramaniam@intel.com

DMTF:
  • Winston Bumpus, president@dmtf.org

Corresponding ODCA Work Register Document

None.

Approved by the DMTF Board of Directors; Board Resolution 2011–10–10, on 10/25/2011.