

Provider

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Discussion

A Provider supplies or operates a resource, service, capability, interface, information source, or operational function for use by another party, system, component, or environment.

The Provider role may be fulfilled by an organization, organizational unit, system, service, software component, platform, or infrastructure operator.

A Provider may expose its capabilities through an [Application Programming Interface \(API\)](#), command-line interface, service interface, contract, repository, physical transfer process, or other defined interaction mechanism.

A [Cloud Provider](#) and an [Infrastructure Provider](#) are specialized Provider roles. Within the Crucible architecture, a [Provider Plugin](#) represents the capabilities of a Provider to the core orchestration functions.

Definition

entity that supplies or operates a resource, service, capability, interface, information source, or operational function for use by another entity

Source

Generalized from service architecture, cloud computing, infrastructure management, systems engineering, and software architecture usage and specialized for the Crucible architecture and operational model.

Note

A Provider identifies a role rather than a particular legal entity, technology, ownership model, or deployment arrangement.

The same entity may act as a Provider in one relationship and as a consumer in another relationship.

Example

A cloud organization supplies compute, networking, storage, identity, and image services to a deployment process. The organization acts as a Provider of those capabilities.

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