

Service Name

AWS Service Catalog

Service Overview

AWS Service Catalog enables organizations to create and manage catalogs of IT services that are approved for use on AWS. It allows IT administrators to centrally manage and distribute cloud resources as standardized products to end users through a self-service portal. The service provides governance controls, version management, and fine-grained access control while enabling users to quickly deploy approved AWS resources without requiring direct access to underlying services. Service Catalog supports CloudFormation templates, Terraform configurations, and AWS Marketplace products.

Key Use Cases

- **Self-service provisioning:** Enable end users to deploy approved AWS resources through a personalized portal without requiring extensive AWS knowledge or permissions
- **Governance and compliance:** Centrally manage and enforce organizational policies, constraints, and standardized configurations for cloud resource deployment
- **Multi-account resource management:** Share portfolios and products across multiple AWS accounts while maintaining centralized control and governance

Features

- **Product Management:** Create and manage IT service products using CloudFormation templates, Terraform configurations, or AWS Marketplace offerings
- **Portfolio Organization:** Organize products into portfolios with customizable access controls and configuration information
- **Version Control:** Manage multiple versions of products and automatically propagate updates across portfolios
- **Constraints and Governance:** Apply launch constraints, notification constraints, and template constraints to control resource deployment
- **AppRegistry:** Manage applications and their associated configurations, resources, and metadata
- **Service Actions:** Define custom actions that can be performed on provisioned products for operational tasks

Value Proposition

AWS Service Catalog provides unique value through standardization of cloud resources, enabling self-service discovery and launch of approved products, fine-grained access

control through IAM integration, and extensibility with version control. Organizations benefit from reduced operational overhead, consistent governance across multi-account environments, faster time-to-market for development teams, and improved compliance through pre-approved resource templates. The service eliminates the need for complex IAM permissions while maintaining security controls.

Service Integration

Service Catalog deeply integrates with AWS CloudFormation for infrastructure deployment, AWS IAM for access control and role-based permissions, AWS Organizations for multi-account governance, and AWS CloudFormation StackSets for cross-account deployments. It also supports HashiCorp Terraform for infrastructure as code, integrates with AWS Marketplace for third-party products, works with AWS Backup for data protection strategies, and connects with external systems like ServiceNow and Jira Service Desk through APIs.

Onboarding and Offboarding

Customers begin by completing prerequisites in Setting Up AWS Service Catalog, then can use the Getting Started Library templates or follow step-by-step tutorials. The process involves creating portfolios as an administrator, adding products using CloudFormation templates or Terraform configurations, setting constraints and permissions, and granting access to end users:

- End users access the Service Catalog console to browse and launch approved products
- The service includes comprehensive APIs, CLI support, and integration capabilities for programmatic management

Getting Started Guide:

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/servicecatalog/latest/adminguide/getstarted.html>

Data Removal

Data removal involves terminating provisioned products using `TerminateProvisionedProduct` API, which deletes associated CloudFormation stacks and resources. Administrators can delete products, portfolios, and associated constraints through the console or APIs. All provisioned resources are managed through underlying AWS services, so standard AWS data deletion processes apply to the actual infrastructure components deployed through Service Catalog.

Backup/Restore and Disaster Recovery

Service Catalog relies on underlying AWS services for backup and disaster recovery. Provisioned products inherit backup capabilities from their underlying resources (EC2, RDS, etc.). Organizations can implement AWS Backup policies for Service Catalog-

deployed resources and use AWS Elastic Disaster Recovery for comprehensive disaster recovery strategies. The service metadata and configurations can be replicated across regions.

Backup Capabilities

Service Catalog itself does not provide direct backup capabilities but enables backup through underlying AWS services. Provisioned products can leverage AWS Backup, service-specific backup features, and cross-region replication. Organizations should implement backup strategies for both Service Catalog configurations and the actual resources deployed through products.

Disaster Recovery

Service Catalog supports disaster recovery through integration with AWS Elastic Disaster Recovery and cross-region deployment capabilities. Organizations can deploy portfolios and products across multiple regions, use CloudFormation StackSets for multi-region provisioning, and implement disaster recovery strategies for underlying resources deployed through Service Catalog products.

Recovery Objectives

Service Catalog helps meet RPO and RTO objectives through automated provisioning, standardized recovery procedures, and integration with AWS disaster recovery services. Organizations can pre-define disaster recovery products, automate failover processes through Service Actions, and leverage the speed of infrastructure-as-code deployment to minimize recovery times during disaster scenarios.

Service Constraints

Service Quotas:

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/servicecatalog/latest/adminguide/limits.html>

FAQ: <https://aws.amazon.com/servicecatalog/faqs/>

Technical Requirements

Service Documentation:

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/servicecatalog/latest/adminguide/what-is_concepts.html

User Guide:

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/servicecatalog/latest/adminguide/introduction.html>

API Reference:

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/servicecatalog/latest/dg/API_Reference.html

Pricing Overview

Please see the AWS UK G Cloud 15 Pricing Document accompanying this service in the Digital Marketplace.

Public Pricing: <https://aws.amazon.com/servicecatalog/pricing/>

Cost Optimization

Service Catalog offers unique cost optimization through standardized resource templates that prevent resource sprawl, automated rightsizing through constraints, and centralized cost management. Organizations can implement budget controls through Service Catalog budgets, use tagging strategies for cost allocation, and leverage the free tier of 1,000 API calls per month. The pay-per-API-call pricing model with no upfront costs makes it cost-effective for organizations of all sizes.

Savings Considerations

Primary cost savings come from preventing unauthorized or oversized resource deployments through governance controls, reducing operational overhead through self-service provisioning, and eliminating duplicate infrastructure deployments. Organizations save on administrative costs through automated workflows, reduce training expenses by providing standardized deployment processes, and achieve better resource utilization through consistent templates and constraints. The service's integration with AWS Cost Management tools enables comprehensive cost tracking and optimization.