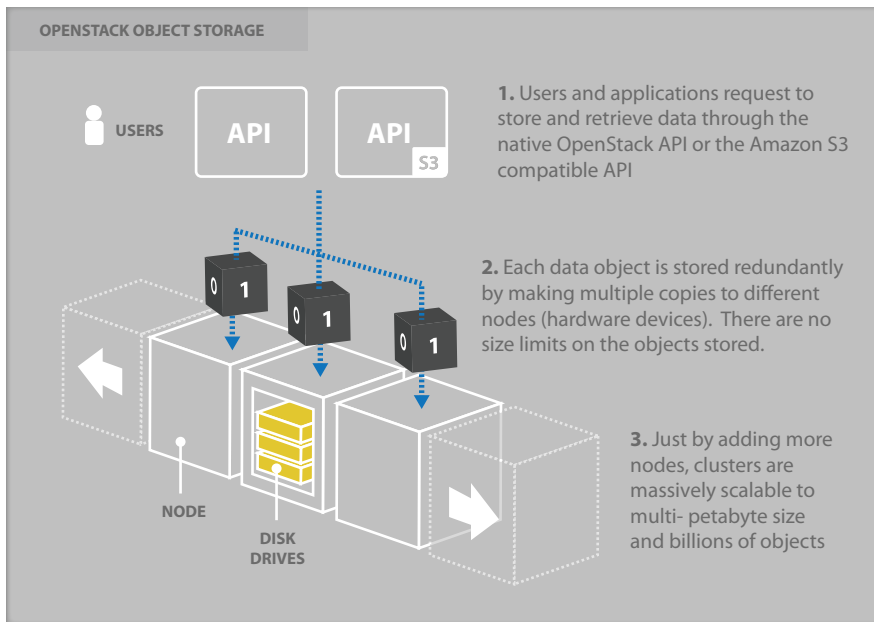


OpenStack Object Storage: An Overview

What is OpenStack Object Storage?

OpenStack Object Storage (code-named Swift) is open source software for creating redundant, scalable data storage using clusters of standardized servers to store petabytes of accessible data. It is not a file system or real-time data system, but rather a long-term storage system for large amounts of static data that can be retrieved, leveraged, and updated. Object Storage uses a distributed architecture with no central point of control, providing greater scalability, redundancy and permanence.

Objects are written to multiple hardware devices, with the OpenStack software responsible for ensuring data replication and integrity across the cluster. Storage clusters scale horizontally by adding new nodes. Should a node fail, OpenStack works to replicate its content from other active nodes. Because OpenStack uses software logic to ensure data replication and distribution across different devices, inexpensive commodity hard drives and servers can be used in lieu of more expensive equipment.



Popular Use Cases

Service providers offering IaaS storage platform

Integration with OpenStack Compute for storing server images

Enterprise Document storage / storage for SharePoint files

Cost-effective & long-term storage of log files, web images, or user data

OpenStack Overview

OpenStack is open source software to build private and public clouds. There are three main components:

OpenStack Compute: Provision and manage large networks of virtual machines

OpenStack Object Store: Create petabytes of reliable storage using standard servers

OpenStack Glance: Catalog and manage large libraries of server images

Why OpenStack?

- **Control and Flexibility.** Open source platform means you're never locked to a proprietary vendor, and modular design can integrate with legacy or third-party technologies to meet your business needs.
- **Industry Standard.** More than 60 leading companies from over a dozen countries are participating in OpenStack, including Cisco, Citrix, Dell, Intel and Microsoft, and new OpenStack clouds are coming online across the globe.
- **Proven Software.** Running the OpenStack cloud operating system means running the same software that today powers some of the largest public and private clouds in the world.
- **Compatible and Connected.** Compatibility with public OpenStack clouds means enterprises are prepared for the future—making it easy to migrate data and applications to public clouds when conditions are right—based on security policies, economics, and other key business criteria.

The OpenStack project is provided under the Apache 2.0 license.

