

The cover page features a background image of two men in an office setting. One man is seated at a desk, working on a laptop, while the other stands behind him. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal and orange geometric pattern of overlapping squares and rectangles. The title text is prominently displayed in white against the darker background.

AWS Config AWS Service Delivery Program Consulting Partner Validation Checklist

January 2019
Version 2.0



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Introduction

The goal of the AWS Service Delivery Program is to recognize APN Partners who demonstrate successful customer delivery and experience in specific AWS services. The AWS Service Delivery Validation Checklist is intended to prepare APN Partners who are interested in applying for AWS Service Delivery. This checklist provides the criteria necessary to achieve the designation(s) under the [AWS Service Delivery Program](#).

Expectations of Parties

Once APN Partners have applied to a designation within AWS Service Delivery, APN Partners undergo a validation of their capabilities known as the technical validation upon applying for any AWS Service Delivery designation, and every 12 months thereafter. AWS leverages in-house expertise and may leverage a third-party firm to facilitate the review.

AWS reserves the right to make changes to this document at any time. **It is expected that APN Partners will review this document in detail before submitting an AWS Service Delivery application, even if pre-requisites are met.** If items in this document are unclear and require further explanation, please contact your Partner Development Representative (PDR) or Partner Development Manager (PDM) as the first step. Your PDR/PDM will contact the Program Office if further assistance is required.

In order to begin the validation process, please follow the steps outlined below:

- Step #1: Review the Partner Validation Checklist and ensure all requirements are met
- Step #2: Submit an AWS Service Delivery Application through the APN Partner Central
 - Login to the APN Partner Central
 - Click "View My APN Account" in left navigation
 - On this page, first submit the following:
 - Your AWS Service Specific AWS Customer Case Study (2) with attached Architecture Diagrams
 - Your AWS Service Specific Consulting Practice
 - Next, scroll to AWS Service Deliveries and select the AWS service you want to apply for
 - Complete the Service Delivery Application
- Step #3: Email completed Self-Assessment to aws-service-delivery@amazon.com

Incomplete applications will not be considered and will be declined until all requirements are met.

Once your firm's application has been submitted through the APN Partner Central, the APN Team will review for completeness and for compliance with the prerequisites. Next, we send applications to in-house or third-party experts to complete a Technical Validation.

AWS recommends that APN Partners have individuals who are able to 1) provide evidence of compliance and 2) speak in-depth to the technical requirements about the AWS Service during the validation process.

Upon completion of the Technical Validation, APN Partners will receive a final status for the submitted application either confirming or not confirming the APN Partners' acceptance into the Service Delivery Designation. APN Partners may attain one or more AWS Service Delivery Designations. Attaining one designation does not guarantee approval into additional Service Delivery Designations.

AWS Service Delivery Program Prerequisites

AWS Service Delivery Partners have demonstrated success helping customers evaluate and use AWS services productively, at varying levels of complexity, and at scale by completing the below requirements.

The following items must be met before a Technical Validation review will be scheduled. These items will be validated by the AWS Service Delivery Program Manager; any deficiencies must be addressed prior to scheduling a validation review.

1.0 APN Program Requirements		Met Y/N
1.1 Program Guidelines	The APN Partner must read the Program guidelines and Definitions before submitting the application. Click here for Program details.	
1.2 Program Requirements	APN Partner is Select, Advanced, or Premier APN Consulting Partner (view requirements)	
2.0 AWS Customer Case Studies		
2.1 AWS Customer Case Studies	APN Partner has two (2) case studies demonstrating successful delivery of the AWS service(s) that are in production to their external customers, rather than in pilot or proof of concept stage. Note: <i>Public-facing references are encouraged over private references, as they may be used by AWS for marketing purposes. Evidence of a publicly referenceable case study must be provided in the form of a case study, white paper, blog post, or equivalent, and must be easily discoverable on the APN Partner's website. For best practice on how to write a Public Case Study See Here</i>	
	APN Partner provides for each reference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name of the customer ▪ AWS Account ID (Will be used to verify AWS service usage) ▪ Problem statement/definition ▪ What you proposed ▪ How AWS services were used as part of the solution ▪ Third party applications or solutions used ▪ Start and end dates of project ▪ Outcome(s)/results ▪ Lessons Learned 	
2.2 Architectural Diagrams	Submitted case studies must include architectural diagrams. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Architectural diagrams must detail how the solution interacts with the AWS Cloud; specifically, what AWS tools and services are used in the solution ▪ Diagrams must also include evidence of AWS best practices for architecture and security Note: <i>For best practice on how to build an accepted Architecture Diagram See Here</i>	
2.3 Partner Practice Landing Page	APN Partner must have an AWS-branded microsite that is related to or specific to AWS service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence must be provided in the form of a public reference to the APN Partner's solution, practice, or service-specific webpages. ▪ APN Partner microsite must be accessible from APN Partner home page; Home page is not acceptable as a microsite. Note: <i>For best practice on how to build an accepted Landing Page See Here</i>	
3.0 APN Partner Self-Assessment		
3.1 Program Validation Checklist Self-Assessment	APN Partner must conduct a self-assessment against designation requirements using the AWS Service Delivery Validation Checklist. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ APN Partner must complete all sections of the checklist. ▪ Completed self-assessment must be emailed to aws-service-delivery@amazon.com, using the following convention for the email subject line: "[APN Partner Name], Service Delivery Partner Completed Self-Assessment." 	

AWS Service Delivery Program Requirements

In preparation for the validation process, Partners should become familiar with the items outlined in this document, and prepare objective evidence, including but not limited to: prepared demonstration to show capabilities, process documentation, and/or actual customer examples.

AWS Config Approval Criteria

The AWS Service Delivery Program is guided by [AWS best practices](#) and [Well Architected Framework](#).

AWS Config Validation Checklist		Detailed Description of Evidence	Met Y/N
1.0 Case Study Requirements	<p>Each Case Study includes the following details regarding AWS Config:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of the customers AWS environment Summary of how AWS Config is being used (e.g. required by Central IT for auditability, operational troubleshooting, change management, etc.) Describe how Config Rules are being used (use cases, compliance frameworks, etc.) Summary of any integrations with AWS Config (CMDB, ITSM, etc) <p>At least one of the Case Studies must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of compliance monitoring using at least one managed Config Rule Evidence of compliance monitoring using at one custom Config Rule Must include at least three of the AWS Services found at: http://docs.aws.amazon.com/config/latest/developerguide/resource-config-reference.html 	Customer implementation description or documentation	
	<p>Each Case Study addresses at least one of the deployment patterns and one of the workload patterns:</p> <p>Deployment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable Config and a set of Config Rules programmatically (API, CLI, CloudFormation) across multiple accounts and regions Setup multi-account aggregation of Config Rule compliance Inventory discovery and collection integrated with external CMDB Track configuration changes using AWS Config Setting up appropriate permissions in multiple accounts for AWS IAM Roles in managed accounts (for multi-account scenarios) for deployment and management of AWS Config and AWS Config Rules. <p>Workload</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security Analysis using out-of-the-box AWS Config managed rules or custom rules using AWS Lambda. Solution must demonstrate how the AWS Config snapshot and history files are being utilized. Solution must encrypt all s3 buckets in use as part of the AWS config components. All s3 buckets should also have appropriate access rights applied to limit access to log data. Solution must enable configuration change recording in AWS Config for all AWS infrastructure components in use as part of the solution. Solution has a published support playbook or instruction mechanism that details how to access or provide dependent data directly from AWS Config in the event of a solution failure. 	Customer implementation description, documentation, and proof.	

2.0 AWS Service Requirements

A minimum of 5 best practices for AWS Config must be described in the Customer References:

- Enable AWS Config in all accounts and Regions.
- Record configuration changes to ALL resource types.
- Record global resources (such as IAM resources) only in one Region.
- Ensure that you have a secure Amazon S3 bucket to collect the configuration history and snapshot files.
- Specify an Amazon S3 bucket from another (central IT) account for centralized management of history files and snapshots.
- Specify an Amazon Simple Notification Service (Amazon SNS) topic from another (central IT) account for centralized management of configuration and compliance notifications.
- Use Amazon CloudWatch Events to filter AWS Config notifications and take action.
- Set the appropriate permissions for the IAM role assigned to AWS Config
- If you prefer to create an IAM role for AWS Config yourself, use the AWS managed policy AWSConfigRole and attach it to the IAM role.
- Ensure that the SNS topic permissions are restricted to only allow AWS Config to publish messages to it.
- Turn on periodic snapshots with a minimum frequency of once per day.
- Use the AWS CloudTrail Lookup API action to find the API events that occurred in the timeframe when the configuration change occurred.
- Create change-triggered custom rules for resource types supported in AWS Config.
- Create periodic rules for resource types not supported in AWS Config.
- Use the AWS Config [Rule Development Kit \(RDK\)](#) for authoring custom rules.
- Use the [AWS Config Rules repository](#), a community-based source of custom AWS Config rules.
- Use Annotations.
- **Don't delete and re-create a rule in the same month.**
- **Use the [data aggregation](#) feature to aggregate compliance results into a central account.**
- Create an organizations-based [aggregator](#) to aggregate AWS Config data from your entire organization.
- <https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/mt/aws-config-best-practices/>

AWS Resources

Title	Description
How to Build a Practice Landing Page	Provides guidance how to build a Practice/solution page that will meet the prerequisites of the Program.
How to Write a Public Case Study	Provides guidance how to build a Public Customer Case Study that will meet the prerequisites of the Program.
How to Build an Architecture Diagram	Provides guidance how to build a architecture diagrams that will meet the prerequisites of the Program.
Additional Link	View this doc for the latest developer guide and AWS Config resources.
Additional Link	AWS Landing Zone is a solution that helps customers more quickly set up a secure, multi-account AWS environment based on AWS best practices.

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