

Stacklet Platform for FinOps

Cost Governance for Continuous Usage Optimization



Solution Overview:

Stacklet Platform is a governance as code solution that provides insights and proactive guardrails for continuous cloud cost optimization. Stacklet enables FinOps and cloud engineering to quickly identify, prioritize, and remediate cloud waste. With the solution, teams can proactively establish guardrails that yield ongoing improvement.

Stacklet Platform is based on CNCF's Cloud Custodian open source project, which thousands of global brands use. With the platform's easy-to-use, declarative policy language, teams can visualize, codify, and automate cloud cost governance across the entire infrastructure lifecycle. Stacklet Platform automatically deploys policies via standard CI/CD pipeline workflows. If policy violations occur, the platform enables real-time detection, notification, and response. The platform can even automatically trigger a multi-step remediation workflow, including notifying resource owners through Slack, handling exceptions, and eventually guiding developers to take corrective action. Tagging and cost management policies can be enabled within infrastructure as code (IaC) artifacts. As a result, teams can enforce policies earlier in the life cycle, including at the build, commit, and deploy stages.

Benefits:

Proactively optimize costs. Leverage capabilities for automatically identifying, prioritizing, and remediating costly configurations and other incidents of cloud waste.

Rapidly reduce cost optimization backlogs. Employ out-of-the-box policies that enable you to gain prioritized insights and follow flexible remediation workflows.

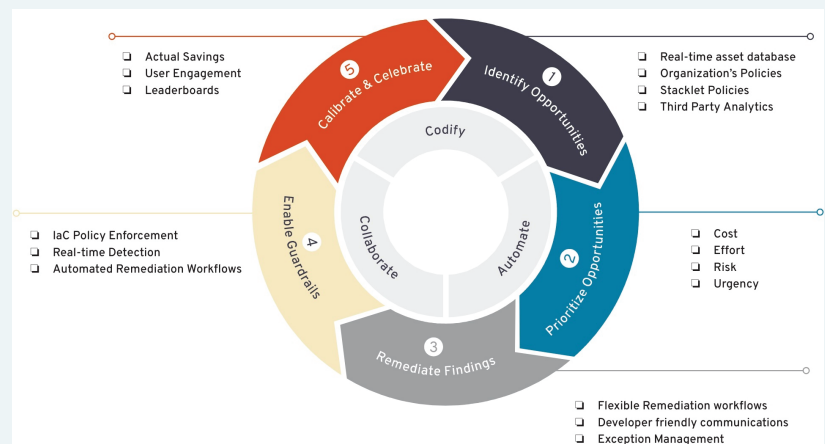
Prevent waste from returning. Establish policy guardrails that detect and kick-off notification and remediation workflows in real-time, so you can prevent violations.

Automate and scale cost governance. Reduce the time and operational overhead associated with cloud cost governance by automating a range of efforts, including identification, prioritization, remediation, and progress tracking.

Foster education and behavior change. Equip development teams with helpful notifications and automated remediation capabilities across the entire infrastructure lifecycle.

Stacklet's Cloud Usage Optimization Loop:

Stacklet's comprehensive, automated tagging enforcement plays a pivotal role throughout the cloud infrastructure lifecycle. This feature ensures that each resource is consistently and accurately labeled, laying the groundwork for effective management and optimization. With a robust tagging foundation in place, Stacklet supports an iterative cycle of cloud usage optimization:

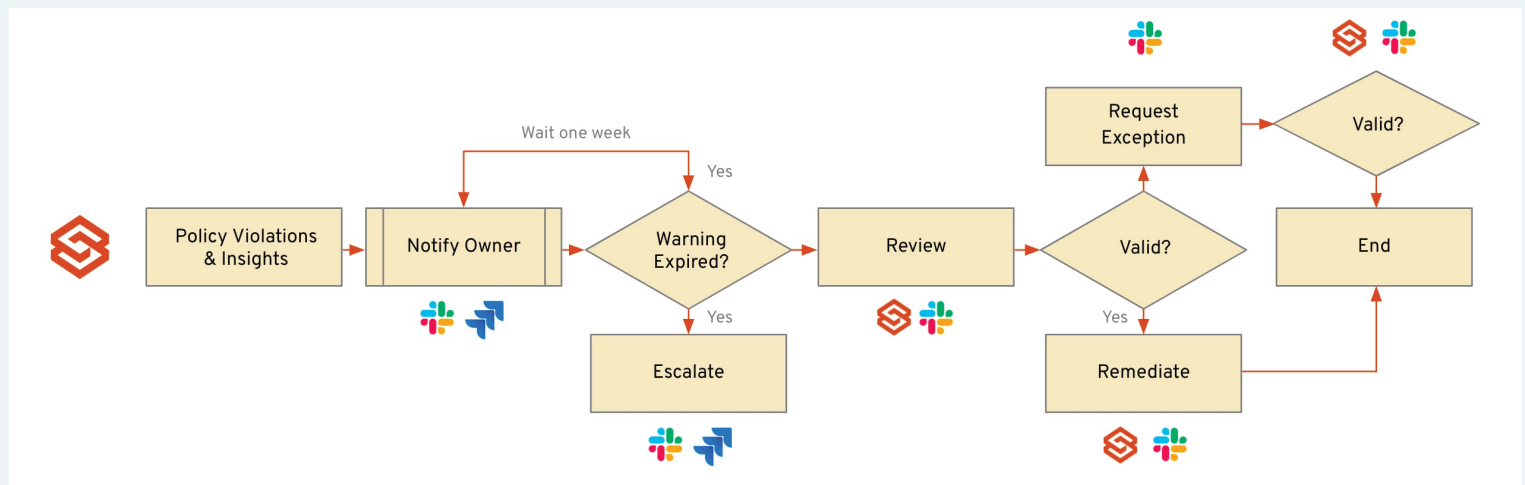


Identify Opportunities. Begin your cloud cost optimization journey by leveraging the Stacklet Platform's real-time insights into cost-saving opportunities. The solution creates an up-to-date asset inventory of your cloud resources. You can use Stacklet's best practice policies or implement your own to uncover new opportunities for improvement. As your cloud infrastructure evolves, Stacklet dynamically updates these policies based on actions taken by development teams and emerging insights. Additionally, Stacklet is enhancing its capabilities through integration with third-party tools for deeper insights into anomalies and potential cost risks, like budget overruns.

Prioritize actions. Instead of requiring you to start with raw costs and fish around for potential problems to solve, Stacklet enables you to immediately identify the issues that have the most significant impact on costs. With the platform, you can analyze cost-saving opportunities in the context of remediation effort and risk, so you can target the most effective areas first.

Remediate Findings. Stacklet Platform sets itself apart with its flexible, automated remediation capabilities. Once you've identified key opportunities, the platform provides multi-step remediation workflows, including notifications, exception management, recommendations, and direct actions on resources. These workflows can be seamlessly integrated with tools like Jira and Slack. Stacklet also extends its policy-based remediation to IaC artifacts used by development teams.

Sample Remediation Workflow with Stacklet



Enable Guardrails. Beyond immediate remediation, the Stacklet Platform's policy guardrails can help optimize cloud spending and prevent future waste. With these guardrails, you can automatically detect cost policy violations in real-time, whether in production or in IaC artifacts, and initiate remediation workflows. You can customize Stacklet policies through a simple, declarative language, so your team can easily tailor policies to your unique needs.

Calibrate and Celebrate. Stacklet Platform offers comprehensive visibility into the lifecycle of cost optimization opportunities. With the platform, you can measure the cost-saving impact of policies. The solution makes it easy to track metrics, such as lead time from opportunity identification to action. You can use these insights to create urgency among engineering teams. Stacklet Platform also provides leader dashboards, which are useful for identifying team bottlenecks and celebrating successes.

Unique Features

Cost governance as code via simple, expressive language. Codify and automate cloud cost governance with an easy-to-use language that engineers and non-engineers alike can understand. Stacklet Platform's policy language is highly expressive and human-readable and requires ten times fewer lines of code than traditional tools.

Flexible, automated remediation workflows. Stacklet policies allow you to trigger notifications and actions against non-compliant resources. Unlike other solutions, Stacklet Platform helps you rapidly reduce cost optimization backlogs. The solution provides out-of-the-box and customizable actions. These actions can trigger advanced, multi-step remediation workflows that you can use to automate your processes. For example, a policy could identify Amazon Relational Database Service (RDS) instances that are over 30 days old and that have had no connections in the last 14 days. If such instances are identified, the platform would notify the owners of these instances. If owners don't take action in seven days, the instances could be stopped automatically. Owners can also request exceptions in the same workflow.

Developer-centric, intelligent communications. Stacklet Platform automatically groups related notifications and routes them to the right stakeholders. The platform integrates with the workflows and collaboration tools that your development teams already use, such as Slack and Jira. The communications generated can include details on maintaining a consistent, error-free, and cost-efficient environment.

Real-time, contextual asset database. Gain a complete, contextualized, and accurate picture of all your cloud resources, configurations, and costs. Leverage real-time cloud asset management enriched with governance analytics to quickly identify, track, and report on tagging or cost optimization opportunities. This database can also be used as a high-fidelity data source for dashboarding and reporting tools.

laC cost governance. With Stacklet Platform's new laC governance capabilities, your development teams can use the same policy language to identify and fix issues related to tagging errors or costly configurations.

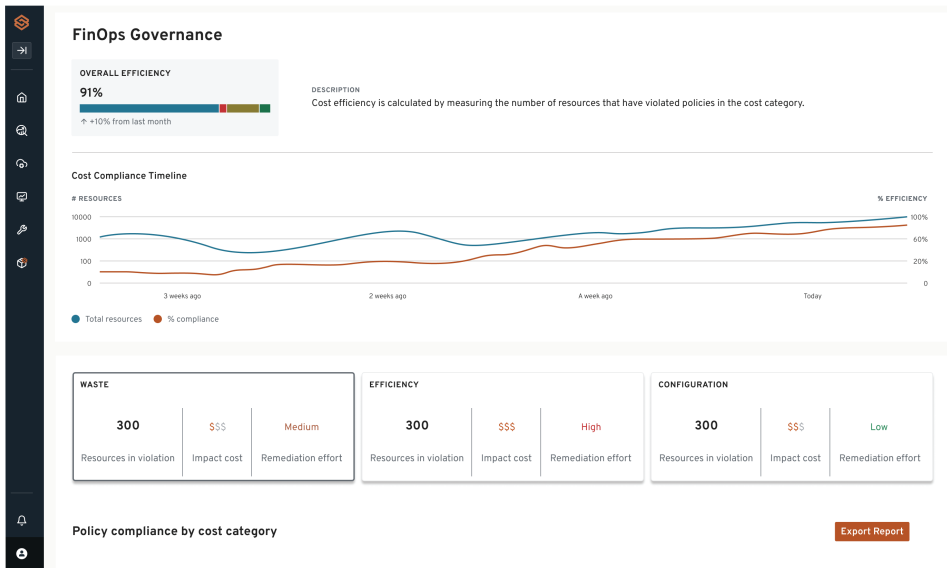
Cost governance insights. Harness actionable intelligence to identify cost optimization opportunities, improve cross-team collaboration, and speed remediation.

Ready-to-run policy packs. Get a set of best-practice policies that address common cost optimization use cases.

Battle-tested, open-source core. Employ a solution based on Cloud Custodian, the popular open-source project that is used by thousands of well-known brands around the world.

In the first month alone, our improved ability to deploy consistent policies yielded savings that exceeded the amount of our initial investment. In the first few months we easily achieved over 500% return on our investment in Stacklet.

Lindbergh Matillano, Director Cloud Cost Optimization at Avalara



Popular Use Cases

Tagging. Trying to optimize cloud resources that don't have proper tagging is like trying to run a Walmart without barcodes. Stacklet Platform helps you normalize your tags, remediate any violations, and establish policies that will inform your developers if they violate policies. Deliver information to developers in the platforms they're already using, such as Slack and Jira.

Unused resources. The platform can help you find unused resources in your environment, including old or unused Amazon Elastic Container Registry (ECR) images, Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) services, Amazon Redshift services, Amazon Machine Images (AMIs), Elasticsearch instances, Amazon DynamoDBs, RDS, NAT gateways, Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) instances, Amazon S3 services, Elastic Load Balancing (ELB) services, and more.

Underutilized resources. Stacklet Platform can help you identify underutilized resources based on metrics and configurations. The platform can help you rightsize resources that may be overprovisioned, while keeping your development teams informed every step of the way.

Off-hours policies for development environments. The platform makes it easy to enforce policies, such as automatically powering off development instances during off hours. Organizations can realize significant savings through this approach.

Cyclical resources and retention. With Stacklet Platform, you can enforce corporate policies using common dashboarding or BI tools.

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Creators and Maintainers



Sample Results

30% - 60%
Reduced annual run rate of services

Up to 80%
Reduction in manual governance workflows

Months to Days
Reduced time to capture cost opportunities



About Stacklet

Stacklet was founded by the creator and lead maintainer of Cloud Custodian, an open source cloud governance project used by thousands of well-known global brands today. Stacklet provides the commercial cloud governance platform that accelerates how the Global 2000 manages their security, asset visibility, operations, and cost optimization policies in the cloud.

<https://stacklet.io/get-demo-stacklet>

We will help you identify up to five cost optimization opportunities in under 90 minutes for free.

