



OpenStack at large retail enterprise - Boon or bane?

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METRO|NOM

About

METRO|NOM

About me

Thomas Lunkwitz (0x29 y)

- Product Owner for „Compute Cloud“ at METRONOM
 - Working at METRONOM and its precursor for 16 years
 - Career started as network specialist for WAN and LAN
 - Started with OpenStack as project in 2014
 - Product owner for OpenStack since 2017
- Volunteer at German Federal Agency of Technical Relief (THW)

“I am a METRONOMIAN”



About METRONOM

We set the pace in food and technology.

- METRONOM is the tech unit of METRO, a leading international wholesale and food specialist company
- Around 2.000 people working for METRONOM mainly in Berlin, Duesseldorf, Hannover, Brasov and Bucharest
- Our Vision:

Our culture, services and digital solutions are unmatched in the global wholesale business.

We revolutionize the entire industry – working with us is a privilege!



Boon and Bane – But why?

“Bane” because ...

- Previous structure of METRO IT was totally vendor driven
 - Open source was used only for niche products
- We were not contributing to or working in communities
- We had a lot of very good teams in different departments
 - These departments were more like Silos
- We were not really acting as one big team
- The world and especially the IT is changing very fast
- IT is becoming consumable like electricity

- **We are changing our culture and mindset**

“Boon” because ...

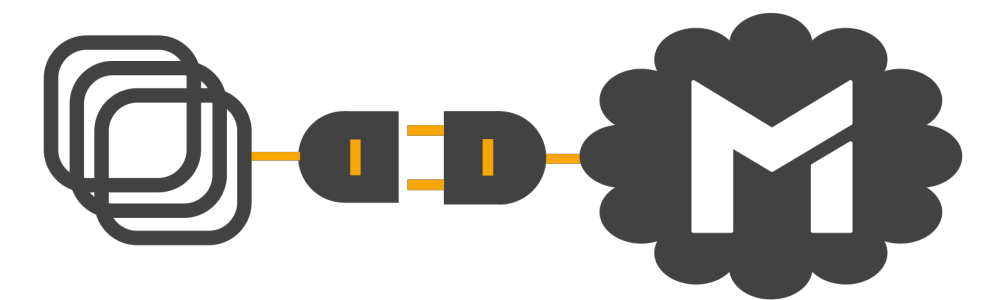
- Cloud is becoming more and more important in the IT market
- In future we will see many more features and software which are only available in the cloud
- Hybrid cloud approach will be the future
 - Using a public cloud environment brings flexibility and additional features
 - Not all data can or should be stored in the public cloud
 - Using an internal cloud based IaaS provides:
 - Safety
 - Alternative to public cloud providers
- OpenStack and cloud forces and supports us to change our culture and mindset
- **OpenStack is open and provides the open infrastructure we need**

Advantages of private cloud



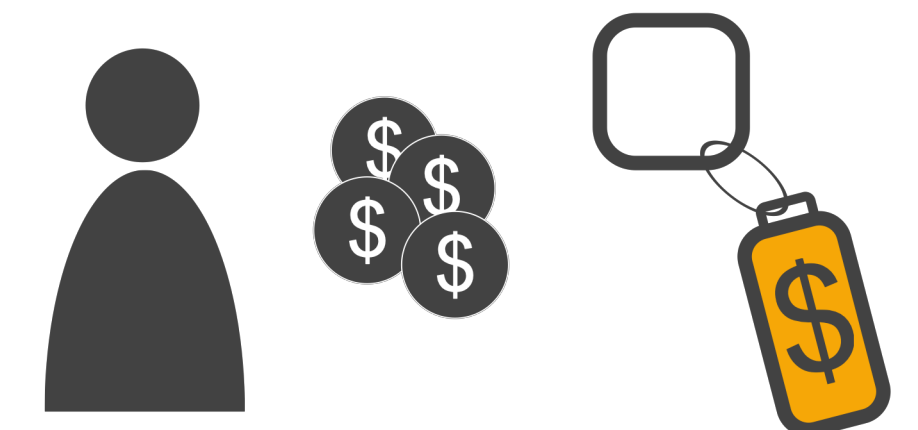
- Everything is consumable as self-service – easy to start

- Fully integrated into corporate network

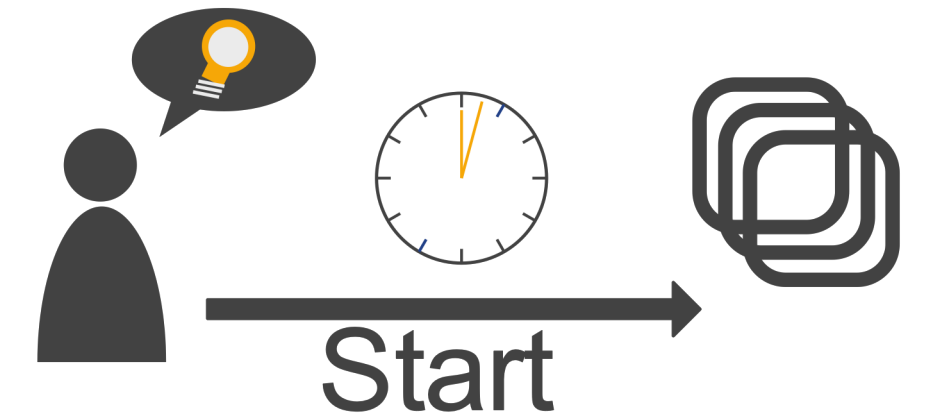


- Data protection and data privacy are guaranteed (on-premise)

- Cost effective (non-profit cost level) – pay-per-use

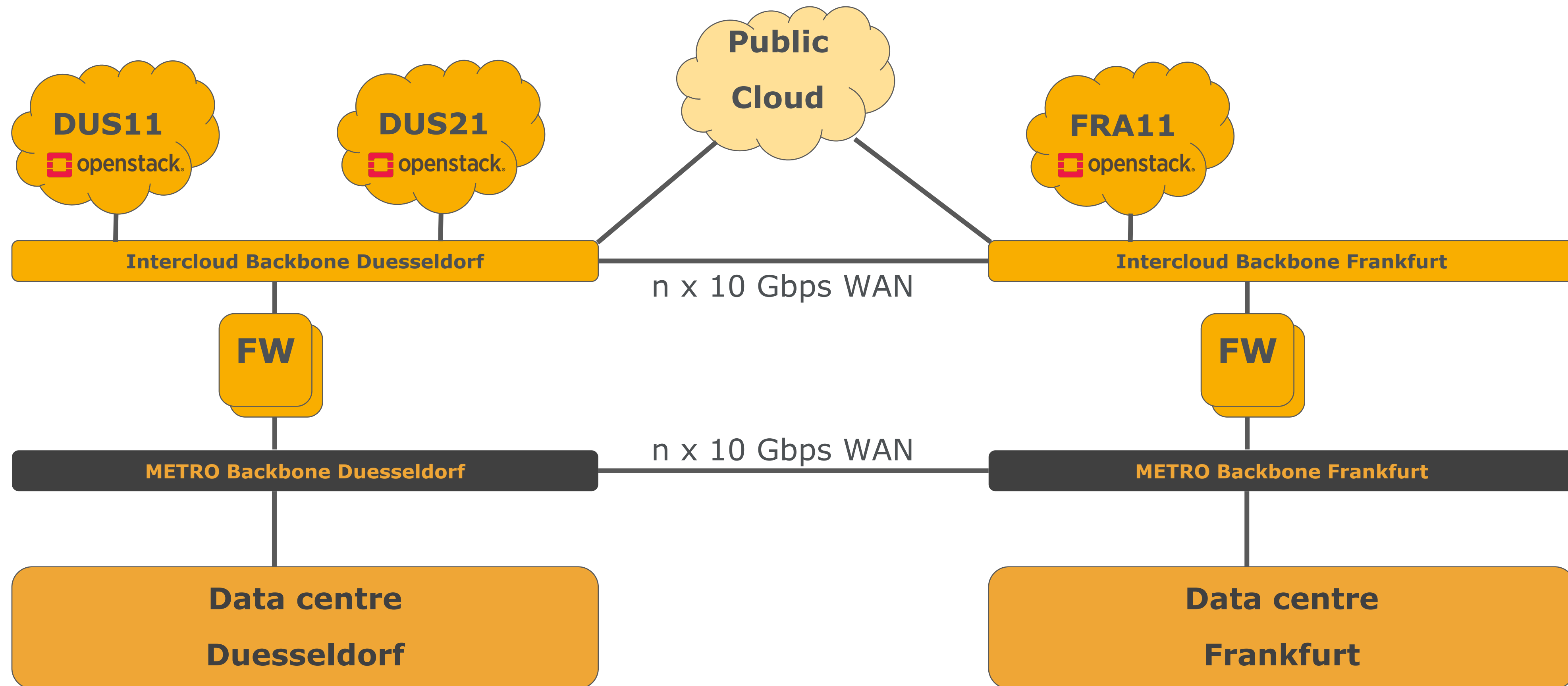
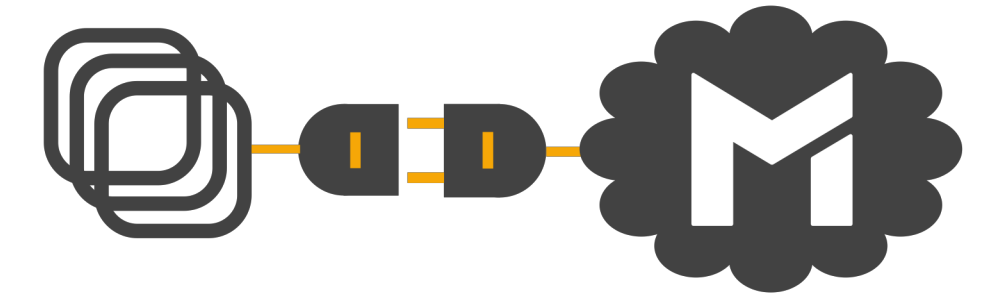


Consume infrastructure



- Everything is consumable as self-service – easy to start
 - As of today a tenant has to be requested by a webform
 - We will create the project and the users in OpenStack
 - Once the project and users are created, everything else is consumable as self-service
- We will work on a shop system, so that even a project can be created automatically
 - Idea is to implement a kind of web shop for infrastructure products
 - The shop system will be based on open source software
 - PoC is not started yet
- **From an idea to start in less then five minutes**

Fully integrated



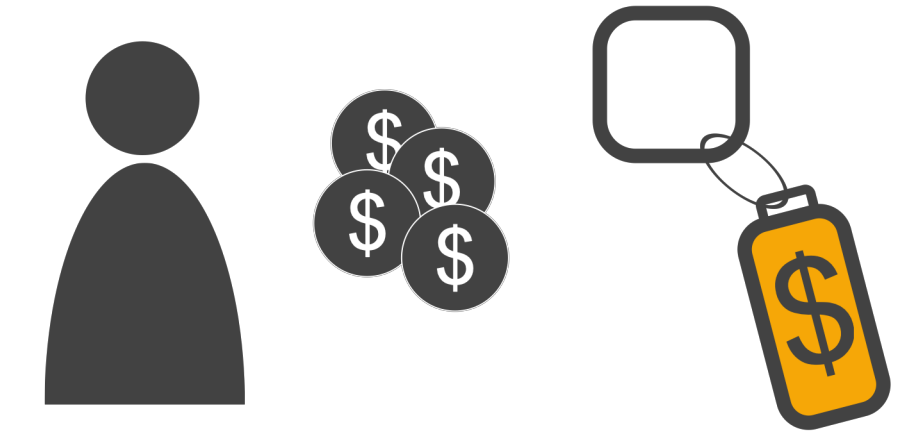
- Fully redundant and highly scalable infrastructure

Data protection and privacy



- Private cloud for METRO only
- All hardware is located in METRONOM or METRONOM managed data centres
 - Full physical access control by METRONOM
 - No issues in terms of GDPR and external service providers
- Data encryption is strongly recommended to our customers
- We provide block and object storage
 - Everything is provided in the context of the project
 - We do not provide any kind of shared storage
 - Local storage volumes will be overwritten when deleted
- **In future we will encrypt all data by default on hardware level**

Cost effectiveness



- METRONOM is a non-profit Tech of METRO
 - We charge only for our costs
- We reduce hardware costs by standardising our server flavours
- We charge on a pay-per-use model
 - Smallest unit is one hour
- We charge for
 - Instances
 - Storage
 - Public floating IPs

- **Full cost transparency for our customers by monthly reports**

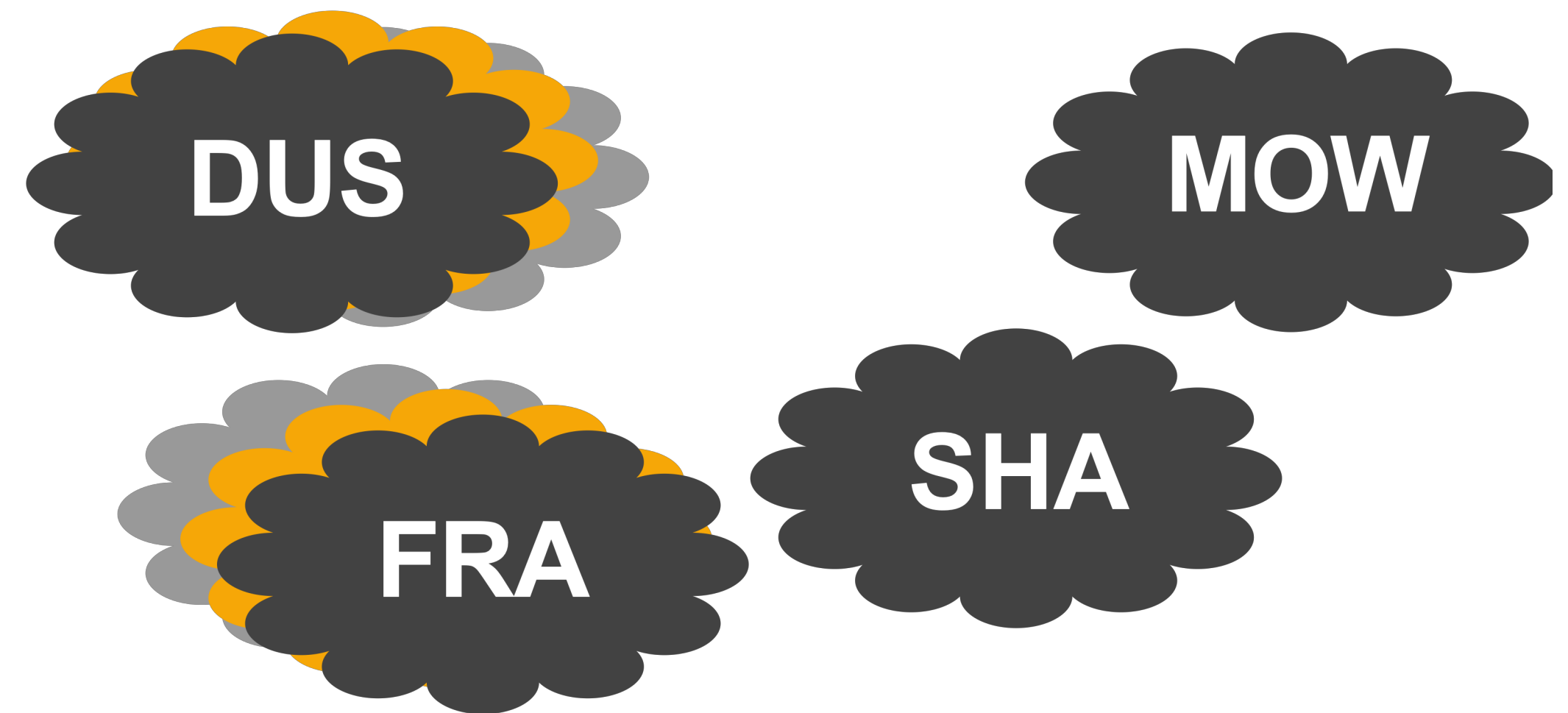


Our OpenStack Deployments

Three data centres in Germany and China

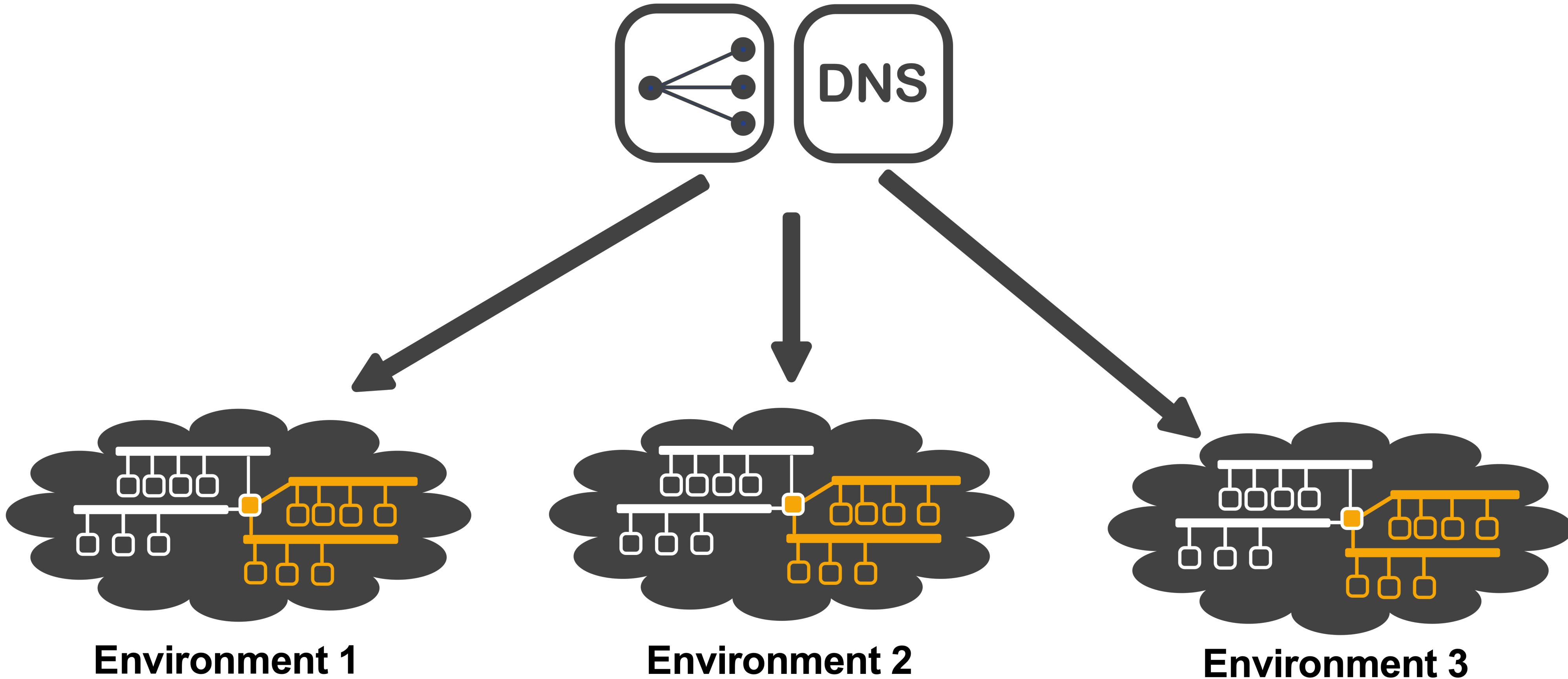
Our deployments

- We built 6 OpenStack fully independent environments
 - 2 based on Suse OpenStack Cloud 5 (Juno)
 - Those were the first productive environments from 2015
 - They will be decommissioned by the end of 2018
 - 4 based on OpenStack Ansible (Newton)
 - 2 in Duesseldorf
 - 1 in Frankfurt
 - 1 in Shanghai
 - Options for two more
 - 1 in Moscow
 - 1 in Frankfurt



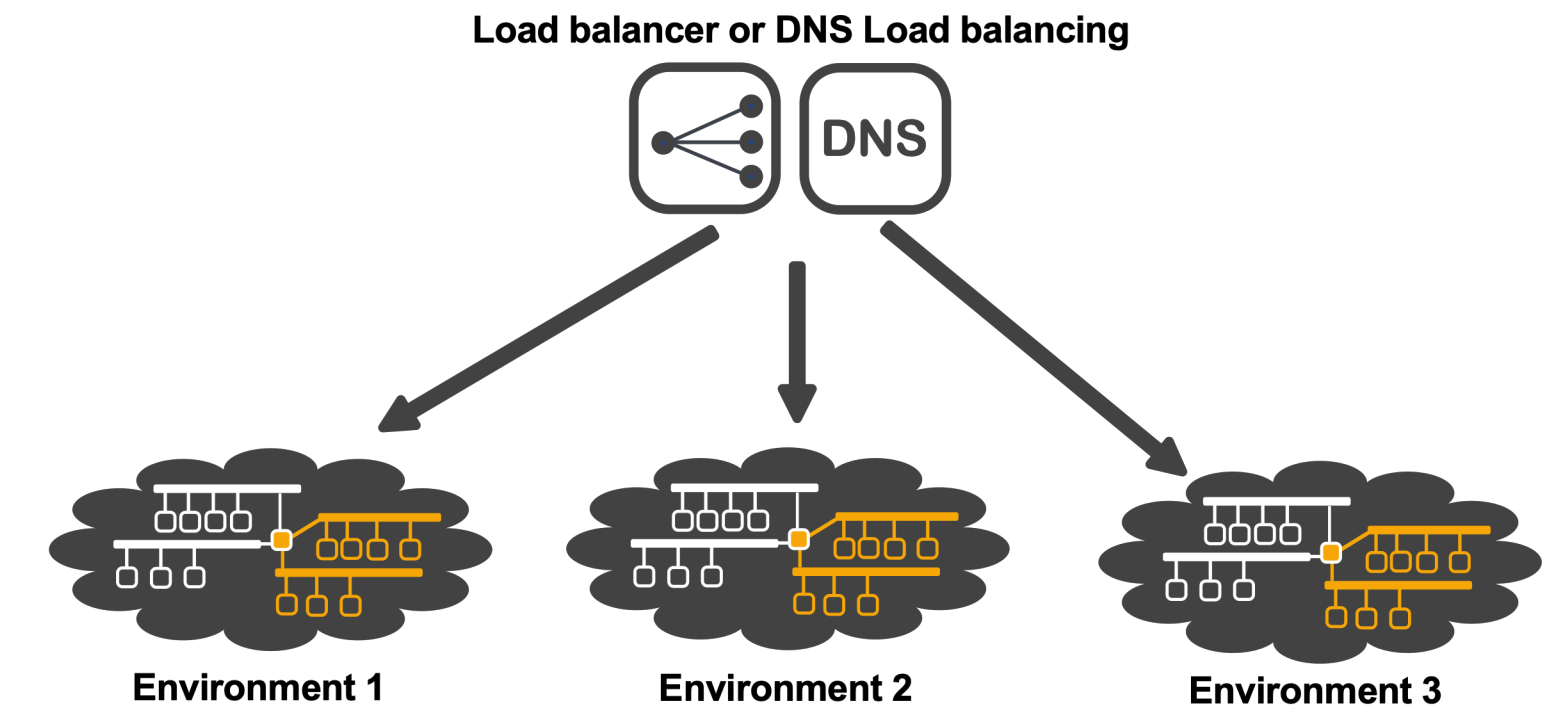
Design your application landscape

Load balancer or DNS Load balancing



Design your application landscape

- Prerequisites for our customers:
 - Be prepared for any kind of failure
 - A VM could fail and even be lost at any time
 - Even a compute host could fail and we probably will not repair it
 - It is strongly recommended to spread the application across multiple environments if it is needed in HA mode
- We “educate” our colleagues and customers to handle failures in the infrastructure more efficiently
- We offer support and consultancy **but we do not implement anything for them**

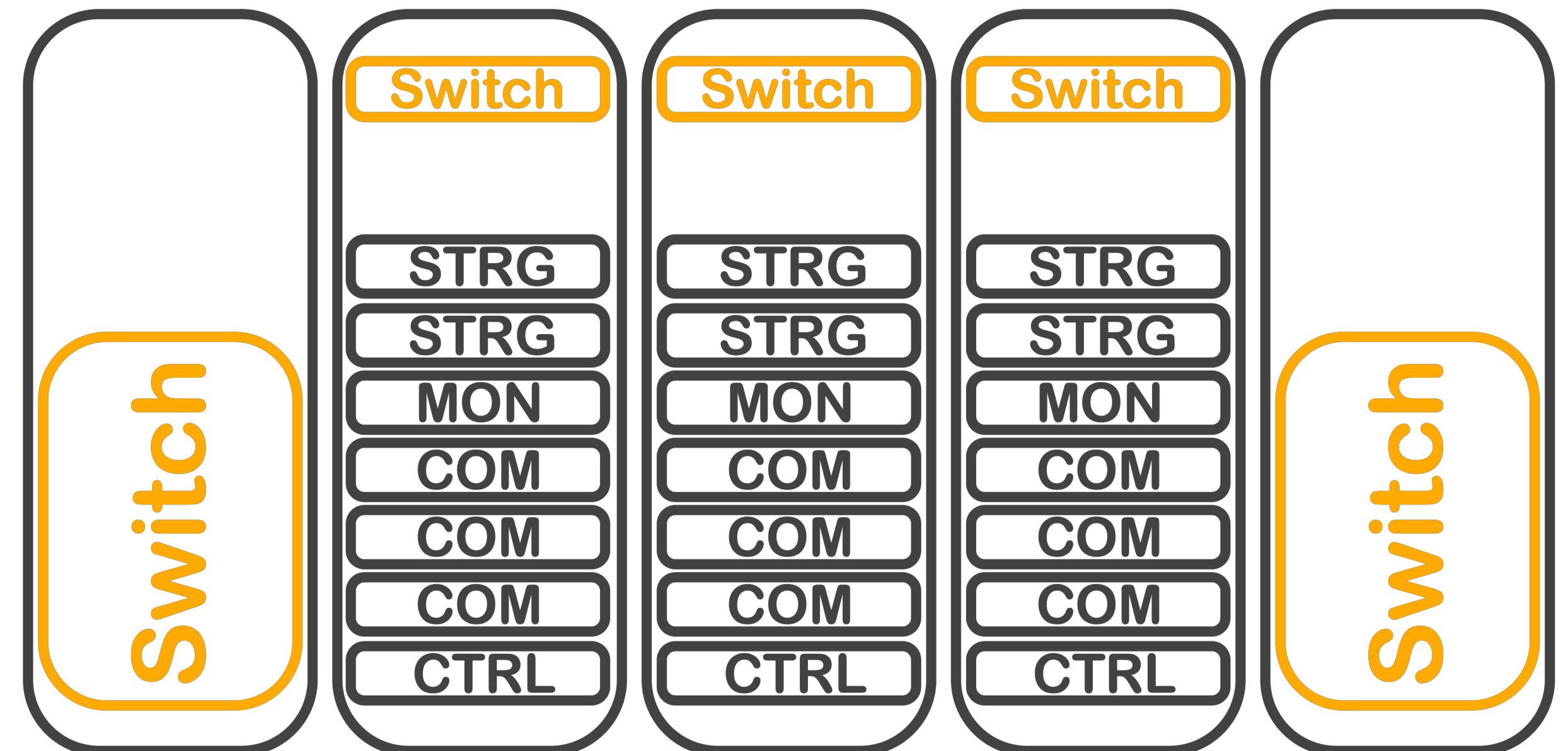


Software we use

- Ubuntu Server 16.04 LTS
- OpenStack Ansible (Newton)
- CEPH-Ansible (Jewel)
- OpenStack modules
 - Keystone
 - Nova
 - Neutron
 - Horizon
 - Cinder
 - Swift
 - Ceilometer (will be replaced)
 - Glance
 - Heat

Our architecture

- Everything is distributed over three racks
 - Per Rack
 - One controller
 - 1 to n compute hosts
 - One monitor node (Rados GW)
 - 1 to n storage hosts
 - Max. 32 nodes in total
 - Free spare RU for TOR Switches
- Actual end-of-the-row switch concept
 - Might change to TOR with Spine-Leaf architecture



Our network design

- Per controller / monitor / compute host
 - 1 x 1 Gbps Ethernet copper - Hardware management (iLo, CIMC, iBMC)
 - 2 x 1 Gbps Ethernet copper – OpenStack management (active/backup failover mode)
 - 2 x 10 Gbps Ethernet fibre – user traffic (active/active bond)
 - VxLAN with DVR

- Per storage host
 - 1 x 1 Gbps Ethernet copper - Hardware management (iLo, CIMC, iBMC)
 - 2 x 1 Gbps Ethernet copper – OpenStack management (active/backup failover mode)
 - 2 x 10 Gbps Ethernet fibre – storage traffic (active/active bond)
 - 2 x 10 Gbps Ethernet fibre – replication traffic (active/active bond)

Available resources and running VMs

Env.	Comp. Hosts	CPU (1:4)*			RAM (1:1)*	Storage (1:1)*			VMs
		Physical	Hyperthr.	vCPU		Local (in compute host)	CEPH HDD	CEPH SSD	
DUS10**	29	550	1.100	4.400	~ 14 TB	~ 60 TB	~ 51 TB	- / -	266
DUS11	18	360	720	2.880	~ 9 TB	~ 26 TB	~ 78 TB	~ 15 TB	179
DUS21	60	2.220	4.440	17.760	~ 30 TB	~ 160 TB	~ 131 TB	~ 41 TB	1.109
FFM10**	14	280	560	2.240	~ 6 TB	~ 30 TB	~ 46 TB	- / -	176
FRA11	33	660	1.320	5.280	~ 17 TB	~ 65 TB	~ 47 TB	~ 15 TB	264
SHA11	39	1.320	2.640	10.560	~ 20 TB	~ 129 TB	~ 35 TB	~ 27 TB	523
Total	193	5.390	10.780	43.210	~ 96 TB	~ 470 TB	~ 388 TB	~ 98 TB	2.517

*): Over commitment *physical:virtual*

**): Discontinued by end of 2018

Challenges

- Assure installation of an environment
 - Mirror all resources needed for an installation
 - Being able to install even without Internet
- Building a CI/CD pipeline
 - Assure that all environments are on the same version with same settings
 - Optimize monitoring and support process
- Major upgrade to Rocky or newer

It's all about people!

Culture, people and mindset



“People don’t buy what you do, they buy why you do it.” *Simon Sinek*

- Success is not only a question of technology, it is rather a question of **passion** and **people**
- We are hiring for **potential** and **personality**
- We work in self-organized teams

We drive innovation, not just follow!

Team, team, team

```
---
# Join the team
# METRONOM GmbH

- hosts: you
  pre_tasks:
    - name: Check Prerequisites
      assert:
        that:
          - NEW_JOB_WANTED == "True"

    - name: Set facts
      set_fact:
        flexible_working_hours: "True"
        employee_benefits: "True"
        teamwork: "True"

  tasks:
    - name: Check applicant soft skills
      soft_skills:
        skill: "{{ item }}"
        state: present
      with_items:
        - Teamplayer
        - Flexibility
        - Humor
      register: soft_skills_match

    - name: Check applicant Tech skills
      technical_skills:
        skill: "{{ item }}"
        match_type: regex
        state: present
      with_items:
        - Linux
        - Ansible|Puppet|Chef
        - Python|GO
        - Network|Docker|Kubernetes
      register: technical_skills_match

    - name: Prepare and send job application
      uri:
        target: "{{ WWW.METRONOM.COM/APPLY }}"
      when: soft_skills_match == True and
            technical_skills_match == True
```


Contact

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**Drop me a line!
I will respond within 48 hours.**



**Thank you for
your attention!**

Thomas Lunkwitz