Engagement Objectives

Ensuring your use case is implemented on Confluent Cloud optimally and it meets your business requirements and future and current service goals. Confluent Professional Services experts will work alongside your technical teams to assess your application and self-hosted Confluent Platform components health and overall capabilities, making recommendations to benefit your organization’s specific needs.

We assess your Kafka Client configurations against our established best practices. We look at your application architecture as a whole from different angles such as scalability, reliability, throughput, latency, hardware, monitoring, and capacity estimation. In conjunction with these configurations, we review your use cases and SLAs to understand the holistic view.

By engaging with Confluent Professional Services, you'll proactively ensure that your Confluent Platform deployments are in the best possible health while also learning about configuration and performance tuning best practices.

Benefits

• Confluent validation that your event streaming environment is configured as per vendor best practice recommendations
• Assurance that your deployment of Confluent Cloud Clients meets functional, performance and resilience requirements
• Knowledge transfer specific to your team’s level of understanding
• Targeted recommendations specific to your business and use case(s)
• Confidence in your mission-critical infrastructure and production readiness

Prerequisites

• Upcoming or an active Confluent Cloud project
• One or more staff having completed the Confluent Developer training

Who should attend?

• Software developers working with Apache Kafka and operations staff responsible for managing Kafka / Confluent components
Engagement Activities

Pre-engagement survey and kick-off call
- Align on the engagement expectations and goals
- Preparation of the final agenda
- Confirm logistics

On-site health check (example agenda):
- Use case review
  - Business purpose of your Confluent Cloud deployment
  - Discuss the volume and characteristics of the data in your cluster
  - Type and quantity of producers and consumers of this data
  - Review topic modeling and configuration settings
  - Review Kafka clients in use
- Production Health Check
  - Kafka client metrics, at peak and non-peak load
  - Client best practices for
    - Kafka Connect
    - ksqlDB
    - Confluent Rest Proxy
    - ConfluentSchema Registry
    - Kafka Streams
  - Propose configuration changes that could improve performance and/or reliability
  - Discuss troubleshooting strategies and Kafka client error handling
  - Discuss future planning as load increases
  - JVM tuning assessment
  - Monitoring assessment
    - Review the current monitoring setup
    - Identify gaps and recommend tools/improvements

Post-engagement
- Written summary of the recommendations
- Survey and a follow-up call

Knowledge Transfer and Documentation
Post-Healthcheck, the Confluent expert will provide a peer-reviewed report with a written summary of their analysis and recommendations, which may include:

1. Insight into any areas of concern
2. Proposed configuration changes to Kafka clients
3. Any other recommended changes to monitoring or configuration
4. Potential testing recommendations

Outcomes
- Agenda specific to your environment
- On-site engagement
- A peer-reviewed best practices and recommendations report
- Follow-up call to walk through the report

Out of Scope
- Architecture re-design
- Logging and Monitoring solution design
- Multi-datacenter and replication strategy
- Security strategy for clients outside of Confluent Cloud model
- Code Changes
- Deep dive of topics outside this description. Additional modules are available for any specific topics that need to be covered in depth

Terms & Conditions
This engagement is governed by the terms and conditions specified in your order with Confluent.