

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Confluent Platform Healthcheck

Engagement Objectives

Ensuring your current Confluent platform deployment is in optimal condition and ready to meet the ongoing requirements of your organization requires expertise and insight. Confluent Professional Services experts can work alongside your technical teams to assess your cluster's health and overall capabilities, making recommendations to benefit your organization's specific needs.

We forensically analyze system metrics, logs and consider a number of critical dimensions for Kafka deployments, such as scalability, reliability, throughput, latency, hardware, monitoring, and capacity estimation. In conjunction, we review your business use cases and SLAs to understand the holistic view.

By engaging with Confluent, 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 platform is configured as per vendor best practice recommendations
- Assurance that your deployment meets functional, performance and resilience requirements
- Knowledge transfer specific to your teams level of understanding
- Targeted recommendations specific to your business and use case(s)
- Confidence in your mission-critical infrastructure and production readiness

Prerequisites

- A Confluent Platform cluster currently in production or pre-production
- Monitoring tools already in place, to monitor the server, network, and Kafka (via JMX metrics)
- Kafka operational knowledge (minimum of a few months)
- One or more staff having completed the Confluent Operations training

Who Should Attend?

- Engineers and operations staff responsible for managing one or more active Kafka clusters
- Architects
- Product / Project Owner

Engagement Activities

Pre-engagement survey and kick-off call

- Align on engagement expectations and goals
- Preparation of final agenda
- Confirm logistics

On-Site Health Check (example agenda):

- Use case review
 - Business purpose of your Kafka deployment
 - Discuss the volume and characteristics of the data in your cluster
 - Type and quantity of producers and consumers of this data
 - Broker hardware, operating system, and configuration
 - Review programming languages used and related Kafka clients in use
- Production Health Check
 - Investigate server, network, and Kafka metrics, at peak and non-peak load
 - Investigate architecture and configuration changes that could improve performance and/or reliability
 - Discuss "what-if" scenarios around failure — what to do if a broker fails, how failure will impact your applications, if the consumer is lagging, etc.
 - Discuss future planning as load increases
 - JVM tuning assessment
 - ZooKeeper hardening and operationalization
 - Monitoring assessment
 - Review current monitoring plan
 - Identify gaps and recommend tools/improvements
 - Daemon log management

Post-engagement

- Written summary of recommendations
- Survey and follow-up call

Knowledge Transfer

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

1. The health of your Kafka cluster
2. Insight into any areas of concern
3. Proposed configuration changes to host systems and/or Kafka
4. Any other recommended changes such as monitoring
5. Potential testing recommendations

Outcomes

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

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