

Getting Started with vRealize Automation Service Broker

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What is vRealize Automation Service Broker

1

The vRealize Automation Service Broker provides a single point where you can request and manage catalog items.

As a cloud administrator, you create catalog items by importing released vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly blueprints and Amazon Web Services CloudFormation templates that your users can deploy to your cloud vendor regions or datastores.

As a user, you can request and monitor the provisioning process. After deployment, you manage the deployed catalog items throughout the deployment lifecycle.

The screenshot shows the vRealize Automation Service Broker interface. At the top, there's a dark header with the 'vm Service Broker' logo, a help icon, and a dropdown menu. Below the header, a navigation bar contains 'Catalog', 'Deployments', 'Content & Policies', and 'Infrastructure'. The main section is titled 'Catalog Items' with a '18 Items' badge and a filter icon. A search bar and a 'Sort: Name (ascending)' dropdown are also present. The catalog displays six items in a grid:

- vm prefix** (Extensibility actions): Projects: Wordpress - service ...
- VPC AutoScaling a...** (AWS CloudFormation Te...): Projects: amvmctestprj01
- VPC Single Instanc...** (AWS CloudFormation Te...): Projects: amvmctestprj01
- WordPress Bootstr...** (AWS CloudFormation Te...): Projects: amvmctestprj01
- WordPress-BP** (Cloud Assembly Blueprint): Projects: WordPress Project
- WordPress Single I...** (AWS CloudFormation Te...): Projects: amvmctestprj01

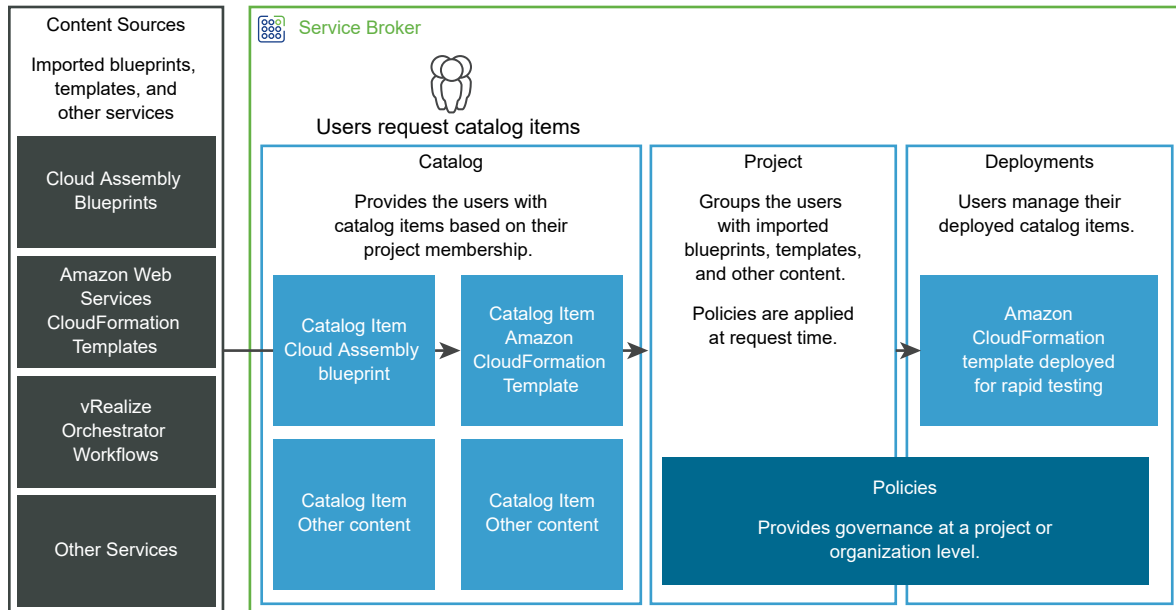
Each item card includes a description and a 'REQUEST' button. A vertical 'SUPPORT' button is visible on the right side of the interface.

This chapter includes the following topics:

■ What does vRealize Automation Service Broker do

What does vRealize Automation Service Broker do

The vRealize Automation Service Broker provides a simplified and efficient catalog that you provide to your users. You use the catalog to manage the available catalog items and the how and where they are deployed.



For a Service Broker administrator, generally referred to as a cloud administrator, vRealize Automation Service Broker is the streamlined user interface that you provide to your development operations and other teams. You import the machine and application blueprints and templates that you need, and add governance in the form of projects to control who can deploy what resources, and to control where the resources are deployed.

Before you begin with vRealize Automation Service Broker

2

Before you start working with vRealize Automation Service Broker, you need to have certain information available so that you can connect to your public and private clouds.

Use this checklist to help you set up before you begin on-boarding to the service.

Table 2-1.

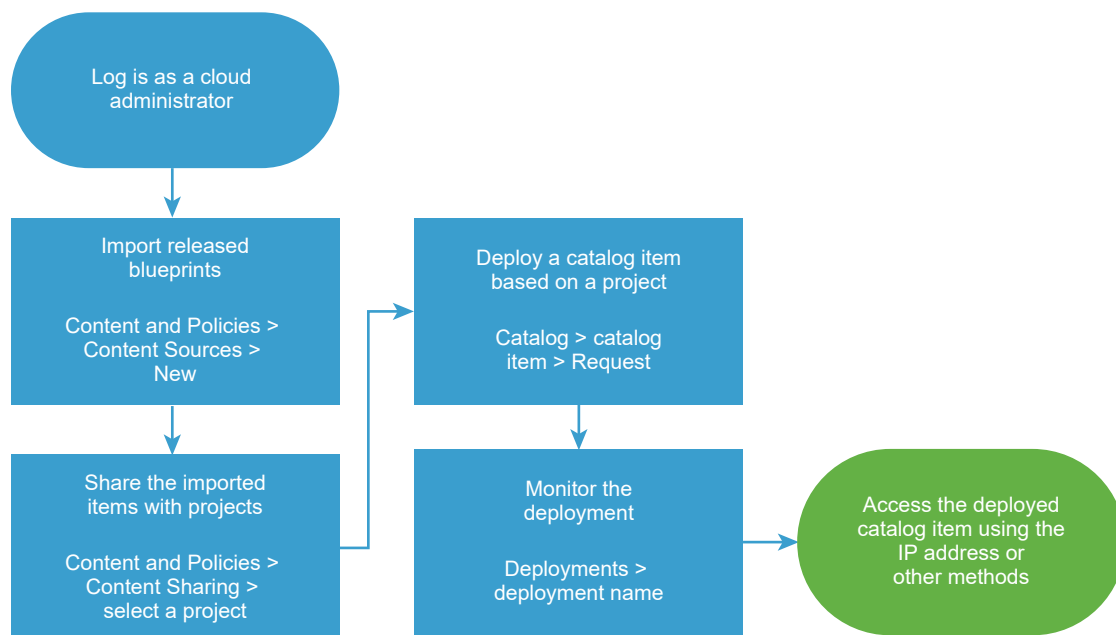
To...	You need...
Sign up for and log in to vRealize Automation Service Broker	A VMware ID. Set up a My VMware account by using your corporate email address.
Connect to VMware Cloud Services	HTTPS port 443 open to outgoing traffic with access through the firewall to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ *.vmwareidentity.com■ gaz.csp-vidm-prod.com■ *.vmware.com
Add a vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly blueprint content source	You can import vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly blueprints from an associated instance. <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Projects - Know who is a member of which projects in vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly. Projects determine who can see the imported blueprints.
Add an Amazon CloudFormation template source	You can import Amazon CloudFormation templates that are stored in Amazon S3 buckets. <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Projects - Know who is a member of which projects in vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly. Projects determine who can see the imported templates.■ Bucket name - You must know the name of the Amazon S3 buckets where the Amazon CloudFormation templates are stored.■ Bucket access key and secret key - If you are adding templates from private buckets, you must know the keys.■ Deployment target accounts and regions - You must know the cloud accounts and regions configured in vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly to which the templates are deployed.
Add an Amazon Web Services cloud account as a target region when you deploy a template	Provide a power user account with read and write privileges. <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 20-digit Access Key ID and corresponding Secret Access Key.

How do I set up vRealize Automation Service Broker

3

To set up and verify your vRealize Automation Service Broker instance, you import known working content from outside sources to make them available in the catalog, and then deploy catalog items to ensure that they are working.

As a cloud administrator, this is your first time using vRealize Automation Service Broker and you want to set it up, import content, and then deploy the content to ensure that you can connect to your cloud vendors before fully populating the catalog and inviting other users to join the service.



In this use case, you import released vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly blueprints. You can also import Amazon CloudFormation templates, but the process is not presented here. See [Add CloudFormation Templates to the Service Broker Catalog](#) in *Using and Managing vRealize Automation Service Broker*.

Prerequisites

- Log in a cloud administrator.
- Verify that the blueprints that you are importing are deployable and released in vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly before you import it. See [How to save different versions of a blueprint](#) in *Using and Managing vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly*.

Procedure

1 Import blueprints.

The screenshot shows the 'New Content Source' form in the vRealize Automation Service Broker. The form is titled 'New Content Source' and is part of the 'Content & Policies' section. It includes fields for 'Type' (set to 'Cloud Assembly Blueprint'), 'Name' (set to 'Cloud Assembly instance'), and 'Description' (set to 'Blueprints for multitier developers'). Below these fields is a section 'Get blueprints from' with a 'Source project' dropdown set to 'WordPress Project'. A 'VALIDATE' button is present, and a green success message states 'Content source validated successfully. 4 items found.' At the bottom, there is a 'Deploy blueprints to' section with a note 'Blueprints will be deployed to cloud zones in projects they are shared with.' and two buttons: 'CREATE & IMPORT' and 'CANCEL'.

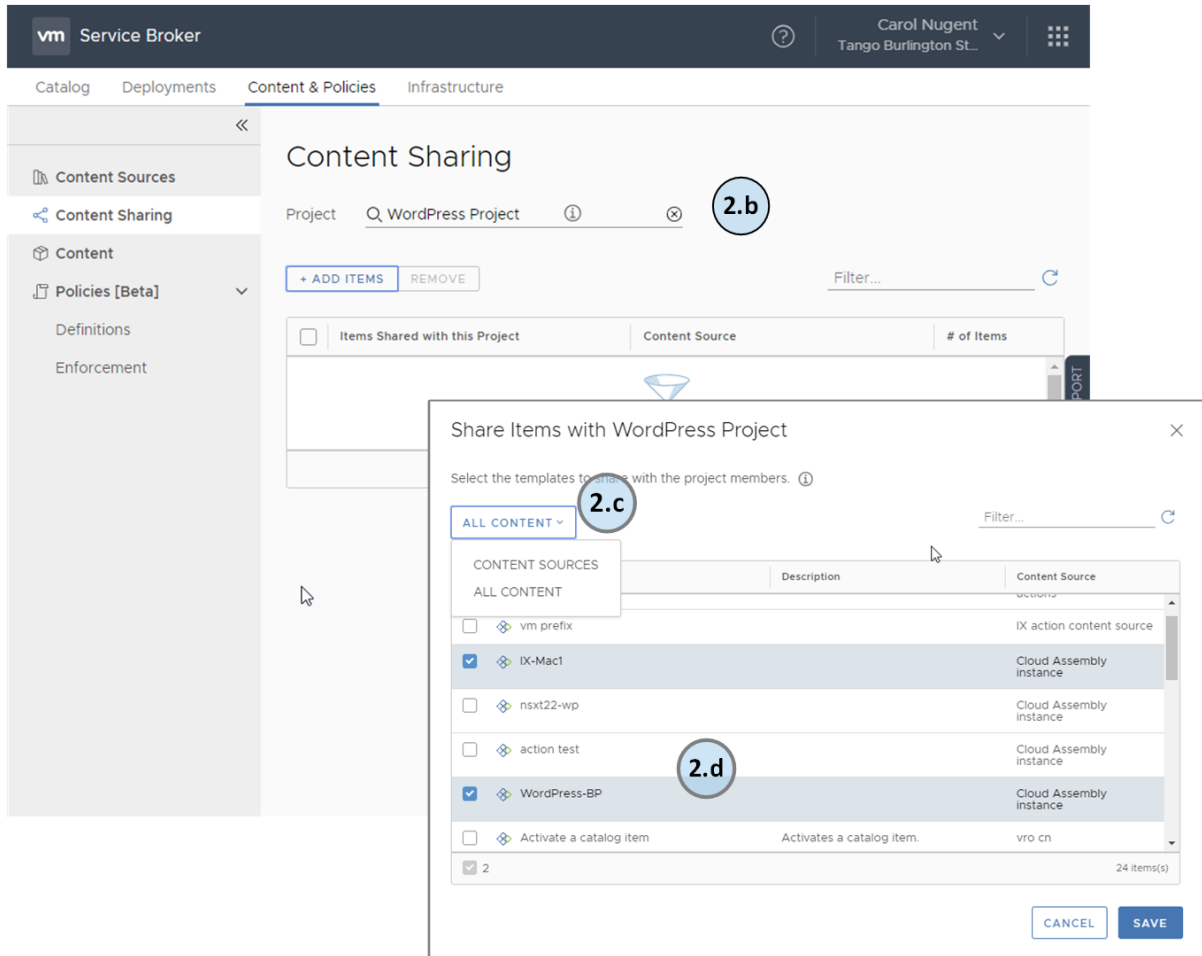
- a Select **Content and Policies > Content Sources**, and then click **New**.
- b In the **Type** drop-down menu, select **Cloud Assembly Blueprints**.
- c Select the project that is associated with your blueprints and click **Validate**.

The process verifies the connection and tells you the number of blueprints that will be imported

- d click **Create and Import**

2 Share the imported blueprints with a project.

Blueprints are associated with projects when they are created in vRealize Automation Cloud Assembly. Projects include a group of users and the account regions where the blueprints are deployed. In vRealize Automation Service Broker, you can share the blueprints with other users, but you must ensure that the target projects include the account regions with the cloud resources to support the deployment.



- a Select **Content and Policies > Content Sharing**.
- b Select the target project in the **Project** drop-down menu.
- c To select only particular blueprints, select **All Content** in the **Content Sources** drop-down menu.
- d Select the blueprints to share with this project, and click **Save**.

The list for the project now includes the blueprints and the imported blueprints are available in the catalog.

3 Deploy an imported blueprint.

The screenshot shows the vRealize Automation Service Broker interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Catalog', 'Deployments', 'Content & Policies', and 'Infrastructure'. The 'Catalog Items' section displays 23 items, sorted by Name (ascending). A 'New Request' modal is open for the 'WordPress Basic - IX' blueprint. The modal contains the following fields:

- Deployment Name ***: WordPress Team Testing
- Description**: Deployed for testing
- Project ***: WordPress Project
- Environment ***: env:test
- Database Tier Size ***: small
- Wordpress Cluster Size ***: 2
- Database Username ***: admin
- Database Password ***: password
- Wordpress Archive Disk Size ***: 4
- MySQL Data Disk Size ***: 4

At the bottom of the modal are 'SUBMIT' and 'CANCEL' buttons. The background shows several blueprint cards, including 'Rails Single Instance...', 'Release test for Se...', 'vm prefix', and 'WordPress Bootstr...'.

- Click **Catalog**.
- Locate the card for the blueprint that you want to deploy and click **Request** on the card.
- Complete the request form and click **Submit**.

The deployment process begins.

4 Monitor the deployment.

The screenshot displays the vRealize Automation Service Broker interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Catalog', 'Deployments', 'Content & Policies', and 'Infrastructure'. The 'Deployments' section shows a list of deployments, with a progress bar indicating '50% Completed' for the 'WordPress Team ...' deployment. Below this, a detailed view of the deployment shows '3 Resources' (mysql-mcm5444-82410883810 and wordpress-mcm5444-82410883810) both in 'Running' status. The bottom section shows a 'Topology' diagram with 'mysql' and 'wordpress' components connected to a 'wpnet' component. A sidebar on the right provides details for the 'mysql' resource, including its name, account, status, address, endpoint type, availability zone, tags, and an external link to the AWS console.

- Click **Deployments**, and then use the search and filter options to locate the deployed catalog item.
- When the deployment is completed, locate the IP address on the card or by click the name and viewing the details.

5 Access the deployed workload and verify that it is working.

The deployment might be an application or a single machine.

What else can I do with vRealize Automation Service Broker

4

As a cloud administrator who supports dev-ops teams, you use vRealize Automation Service Broker to provide a catalog of resources that your developers use to create development, test, and production environments.

In addition to the following suggestions, you can assign roles to your users. See [Administering vRealize Automation](#).

To learn about...	See in <i>Using and Managing VMware Service Broker...</i>
Importing CloudFormation templates and other catalog items.	Setting Up Service Broker for Your Organization
Requesting catalog items.	How Do I Work With the Catalog
Troubleshooting failed deployments.	What Can I Do If a Service Broker Deployment Fails