

AZURE ANNOUNCEMENTS NEWSLETTER

March 12th, 2021 – March 18th, 2021

Announcements Summary

Azure Architecture Center	Documentation Updates – 4 Updates
Media Services	General Availability – 1 Update
Monitor	Region Updates – 2 Updates
Trust Center	Security Updates – 1 Update
Virtual Machines	General Availability – 1 Update Preview Features – 1 Update

Total Announcements: 10

Announcements Details

Azure Service: Azure Architecture Center

Documentation Update

Multi-region web app with private connectivity to database: This example scenario discusses a highly available solution for a web app with private connectivity to a SQL database. A single-region architecture already exists for a web app with private database connectivity. This solution extends that base architecture by making it highly available.

Documentation: [Multi-region web app with private connectivity to database - Azure Example Scenarios | Microsoft Docs](#)

Documentation Update

An update to Community Jury: Community jury, an adaptation of the citizen jury, is a technique where diverse stakeholders impacted by a technology are provided an opportunity to learn about a project, deliberate together, and give feedback on use cases and product design. This technique allows project teams to understand the perceptions and concerns of impacted stakeholders for effective collaboration.

Documentation: [Community Jury - Azure Application Architecture Guide | Microsoft Docs](#)

Documentation Update

Update to Run SAP NetWeaver in Windows on Azure: This reference architecture shows a set of proven practices for running SAP NetWeaver in a Windows environment on Azure with high availability. The database is AnyDB, the SAP term for any supported database management system (DBMS) besides SAP HANA.

Documentation: [Run SAP NetWeaver in Windows on Azure - Azure Architecture Center | Microsoft Docs](#)

Documentation Update

Updated architecture documentation on Repeatable Infrastructure.

Announcement: [Repeatable Infrastructure - Azure Architecture Center | Microsoft Docs](#)

Documentation: [Azure Architecture Center - Azure Architecture Center | Microsoft Docs](#)

Azure Service: Media Services

General Availability

You can now take advantage of several built-in encoding presets for HEVC including a new Content Aware encoding preset. Using the new HEVC Content Aware encoding preset allows you to upload your source files and the encoder will evaluate and recommend the best adaptive bitrate ladder with the correct bitrates and number of output tracks needed to deliver your content. This helps you to reduce the overall video storage and delivery costs through the CDN by providing improved quality at the lower bitrates available through the HEVC codec.

Announcement: [General availability: Azure Media Services – HEVC encoding support in Standard Encoder | Azure updates | Microsoft Azure](#)

Documentation: [Pricing - Media Services | Microsoft Azure](#)

Azure Service: Monitor

Region Update

Azure Log Analytics is generally available in Australia Central 2 region.

Announcement: [General availability: Azure Log Analytics in Australia Central 2 | Azure updates | Microsoft Azure](#)

Documentation: [Azure Products by Region | Microsoft Azure](#)

Region Update

Azure Monitor Application Insights is now generally available for customers in Australia Central 2.

Announcement: [General availability: Application Insight in Australia Central 2 | Azure updates | Microsoft Azure](#)

Documentation: [Azure Products by Region | Microsoft Azure](#)

Azure Service: Trust Center

Security Update

Azure has partnered with Coalfire, an independent Qualified Security Assessor (QSA) company, to release the 2021 Azure PCI DSS 3.2.1 Package on the Service Trust Portal containing the following: Microsoft Azure Attestation of Compliance (AOC) Microsoft Azure Government Attestation of Compliance (AOC) Azure Shared Responsibility Matrix Azure Kubernetes Service Shared Responsibility Matrix.

Announcement: [Azure expands PCI DSS certification | Azure updates | Microsoft Azure](#)

Documentation: [Microsoft Azure Compliance Offerings](#)

Azure Service: Virtual Machines

General Availability

We are excited to announce Azure HBv3-series virtual machines (VMs) for high-performance computing (HPC) are generally available in the East US, South Central US, and West Europe Azure regions. HBv3 VMs will also be available in the West US3 and Southeast Asia regions soon.

Announcement: [More performance and choice with new Azure HBv3 virtual machines for HPC | Azure Blog and Updates | Microsoft Azure](#)

Documentation: [High Performance Computing – HPC | Microsoft Azure](#)

Preview Feature

Today, I am announcing that we are further broadening the confidential computing options available to Azure customers through our technology partnership with AMD, specifically by being the first major cloud provider to offer confidential virtual machines on the new AMD EPYC™ 7003 series processors. This new approach complements existing Azure confidential computing solutions such as confidential containers for Azure Kubernetes Service and opens the possibility to create new confidential applications without requiring code modifications which in turn substantially simplifies the process of creating confidential applications.

Announcement: [Azure and AMD announce landmark in confidential computing evolution | Azure Blog and Updates | Microsoft Azure](#)

Private Preview Registration: [Sign up for Private Preview of Azure Confidential VMs \(office.com\)](#)