

D2iQ Conductor: A Hands-on, Interactive Cloud Native Learning Platform

Overview

As organizations turn more and more to the cloud native universe for innovative open-source technologies, and in particular as Kubernetes becomes a central element in digital transformation strategies, many struggle to find talent with the necessary skills. One of the best ways to address this skills shortage and prepare your team for Day 2 operations is by enhancing the skills of the people you already have.

While there are many learning platforms that claim to re-skill IT staff, most lack content beyond basic Kubernetes. In person training is time consuming, difficult to schedule, takes people out of their jobs for days at a time, and is expensive and difficult to scale. Most online platforms lack the ability to provide the interactive, hands-on training that is the best way to learn technical skills. Thus your team is left to sift through open source documentation to service your Kubernetes distribution and the supporting services needed to make it run in production.

Fortunately, there is a new alternative: D2iQ's Conductor provides curated hands-on training in a real-world environment for the most popular technologies from the vast cloud-native landscape. D2iQ Conductor thus can provide your team with all of the knowledge and experience it needs for Day 2 cloud native success and can do so on demand and at scale.

D2iQ Conductor Introduction

D2iQ Conductor is an interactive training platform that leverages D2iQ's 10+ years of pioneering work in the world of distributed computing to provide a catalog of curated cloud native content focused on Kubernetes and adjacent technologies from the vast CNCF landscape. Content is provided in easily digestible, bite-sized chunks, accessible on demand to make it simple for learners to fit cloud native instruction into their busy schedules. Each lesson contains an assessment, to ensure that lessons are truly learned and to provide administrators with the ability to track learner progress.

In addition to text and video content, D2iQ Conductor provides a hands-on training environment backed by either a production grade Konvoy cluster or a KIND cluster to minimize resource consumption. Learners can access this environment directly through the browser without any additional setup. The platform automates all cluster management: clusters are brought up when needed by the learner and shut down when the learner is no longer active, so not a minute of cloud spend is wasted. Interactive labs give learners a way to immerse themselves in the technology in the safety of a guided environment without the risk of costly mistakes.

Key Benefits

Self-paced learning

Conductor allows learners to learn at their own pace, on their own time, with minimal disruption to their day to day work

Flexible deployment

Conductor provides options to empower deployment both on-premises and in the cloud with reliability

Learn by doing

Built in interactive labs allow learners to practice what they are learning in a controlled environment from within the learning platform

Deep expertise

D2iQ is a certified CNCF Service and Training Provider, which ensures that the content provided is of the highest quality and based on years of cloud native experience



D2iQ Conductor offers distinct capabilities for learners and administrators. Administrators can track learner progress and ensure training is completed before developers and operators are allowed to interact with the organization's production environment. Administrators also have several handy organizational tools for assigning learners to groups based on their departments, roles, projects, or any other salient characteristics.

Finally, the range of lessons provided spans core cloud native concepts and the basics of Kubernetes, as well as lessons targeted at particular Kubernetes distributions or critical addons for logging, monitoring, security, networking, and the like.

Meeting Organizational Requirements

Technical Leadership

Members of enterprise technical leadership teams have realized through experience that people with cloud native experience are hard to find and hard to retain. However, they also know that inexperienced and untrained staff can make costly production mistakes. They need to train and/or re-skill staff in a scalable way without interfering too much in their day to day work.

D2iQ's Conductor provides the technical leadership with the right content topics, length and on demand access to content to train their staff, not only in core Kubernetes, but also in many of the ancillary, addon technologies that are required to successfully use Kubernetes to run real business workloads in production. Conductor's hands-on training capability is particularly helpful, as they want their staff to learn the technology in a safe environment before deploying to their production environment. The admin tracking functionality of Conductor will provide technical leadership with the ability to ensure that operators and developers have completed certain courses before giving them access to operating in the organization's production environment.

Developers

Developers consume the cloud native services stood up by the architects and Operations team. They build the applications their businesses need to run and are the beneficiaries of the capabilities that services like Kubernetes deliver. They care about the speed of service delivery.

Developers can use D2iQ's Conductor to consume only the content relevant to them. They may not need to know all the in and outs of Kubernetes, but may be particularly interested in how to make reports in Grafana or how to instrument Prometheus. Developers can use the interactive environment to practice relevant concepts before doing anything in production. Development managers and teams responsible for company infrastructure can track course progress and ensure that developers don't get access to the platform before they are trained and ready to use it safely.

Drive Success on Day 2 From Day 1 With D2iQ

The Leading Independent Kubernetes Platform

As you look to leverage Kubernetes as a foundational platform to drive cloud native applications and services, you will need to be able to provide your team with the skills it needs to navigate this complex landscape. So, we designed D2iQ Conductor to provide you with an on demand, interactive, highly-scalable learning platform to provide your team with the knowledge and experience it needs to operate Kubernetes and its key addons in production. D2iQ is a cloud native pioneer with strong roots in the community and is one of only a handful of companies to have obtained CNCF certification as a training partner, solution provider, and pure upstream Kubernetes software distribution.

Whether you're in need of a guided, opinionated distribution that reduces time to market from months to days, management or operation of your production deployment, or someone to pick up the phone in the middle of the night, D2iQ can deliver a complete spectrum of technology solutions and services to enable an enterprise Kubernetes experience that is ready to meet Day 2 operational expectations.

Features and Benefits

Features	Benefits
On Demand Access	Learners can access content on their own time, at their own pace, to better fit skills-building into their busy schedules.
CNCF Certified Partner	D2iQ is a CNCF certified Kubernetes distribution, Service Provider and Training Partner, which ensures that content is developed and curated by experts with deep, practical experience in the relevant technologies.
Content Beyond Core Kubernetes	Kubernetes is more than just Kubernetes, so Conductor provides access in one convenient place to training on key add-on technologies needed to actually run business workloads in production.
Administrator View	Manage learner onboarding to the platform, create and manage learner groups, and track learner progress.
Real Time Exercise Validation	Ensure that lessons are truly being learned with inline, real time assessments.
Choice of Deployment Environment	Deploy D2iQ Conductor on prem or in the cloud to best meet your organization's particular needs.
Hands-on Learning With a Real Cluster	Interactive labs spin up real clusters (KIND—Kubernetes in Docker—or production-grade Konvoy) from within the learner's browser to provide a seamless, yet realistic learning experience.



To learn more about about how D2iQ can be your partner in the cloud native journey, go to www.D2iQ.com.