

Prepare to Perform with Backstage Software Templates

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## Agenda

- 1. Application complexity in a CNCF world
- 2. What is Backstage?
- 3. Backstage Software Templates ("Golden Paths"):
  - a. Inputs
  - b. Scaffolding
  - c. Outputs
- 4. Q&A





# Let's build an app!





# I'll just grab my editor and compiler...





...and Podman (ok, probably Docker) ...and a container registry ...and a place to run containers

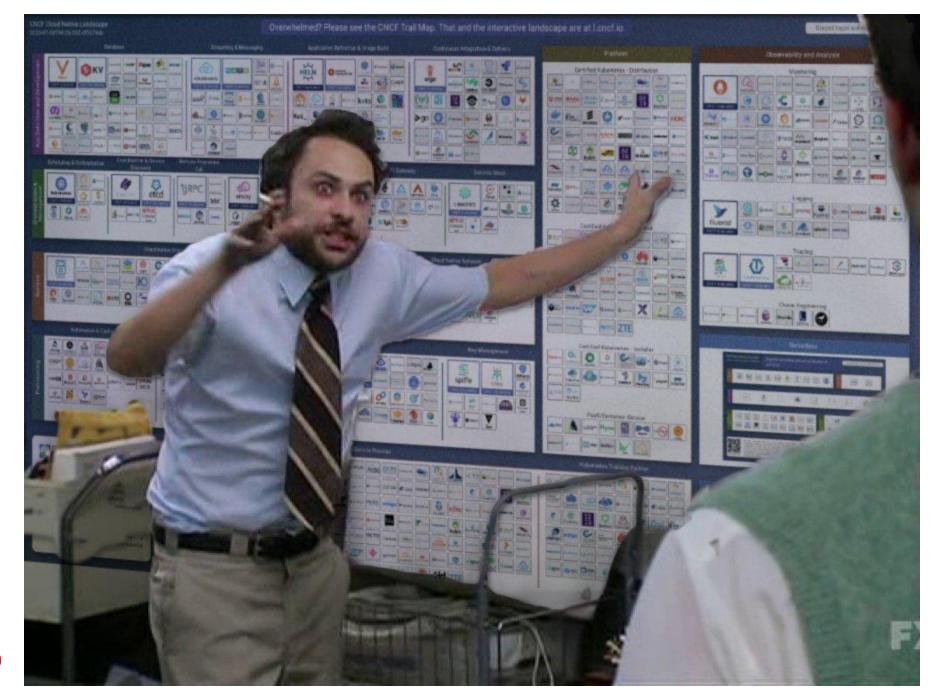




...and CD to deploy it ...and a LOT of YAML ...and a place to store the code (and the YAML) ...and don't forget to shift security "left"









# Just one more YAML?





Found this posted at a tech conference:



#### Developers are under pressure: And their productivity is slowing down.

Organizations are looking for a platform to reduce toil and increase productivity. 39%

Increasing workload / demand from other teams lead to increased overhead.<sup>1</sup>

**76**%

More than three-quarters of organizations say the cognitive load is so high that it is a source low productivity.<sup>1</sup>

37%

Adapting to the pressures of digital transformation is third biggest challenge.<sup>1</sup>

35%

Learning skills to adapt to new technologies and approaches <sup>1</sup>



#### Pillars of an Internal Development Platform (IDP)

Code Time **Build Time** Onboarding Run Time



#### Internal Developer Platform (IDP)

An Internal Developer Platform (IDP) is built by a platform team to build golden paths and enable developer self-service.

An IDP consists of many different techs and tools, glued together in a way that lowers cognitive load on developers without abstracting away context and underlying technologies.

Following best practices, platform teams treat their platform as a product and build it based on user research, maintain and continuously improve it.



# What is Backstage?





#### An open platform for building developer portals



http://backstage.io

Allowing developers to focus on coding, rather than navigating to all the different tools

Lowering the cognitive load and unlocking productivity

Happy developers make happy code!





#### Adopters of Backstage







































#### Backstage Core Features



	Centralized Software Catalog	Keep track of application ownership and metadata for all the software in your organization (services, websites, libraries, data pipelines, etc.)
6 □ 6 0 0 0 0 0 0	Plugins	Extend functionality and provide customization
ے د ک	Software Templates (Golden Path Templates)	Quickly spin up new projects and standardize your tooling with your organization's best practices
	Tech Docs	Easily create, maintain, and find technical documentation using a "docs as code" approach
	Search	Find the right information across your entire Backstage ecosystem



#### Plugins Enhance Developer Portals



125+ community plugins, some examples:

- ► SCM
- CI/CD
- Monitoring
- Issue tracking
- Code quality





# Red Hat Developer Hub

an enterprise-grade, open developer platform for building developer portals,

containing a supported and opinionated framework

developers.redhat.com/rhdh





#### Red Hat Developer Hub - Enterprise IDP based on Backstage



RHDH based on CNCF project backstage.io

**Backstage OSS community** 



- Secure build and distribution of Backstage by Red Hat
- 24x7 Enterprise support
- Simpler life cycle management via Helm Chart and Operator
- Dynamic Plugin architecture to allow easier extensibility with plugins
- Robust enterprise level RBAC for administration and user control
- Growing set of plugins for extensibility (15+ including ArgoCD, Tekton, Quay, Artifactory, Application Topology, Multi-cluster view, etc)
- Additional Certified Plugins from 3rd party ISVs
- Orchestration capabilities

### developers.redhat.com/rhdh



## Backstage Software Templates

https://backstage.io/docs/features/software-templates/





# Q: What is a "Golden Path"?





#### Golden Path: <undefined>

- a self-service workflow
- a means of reducing cognitive load for developers
  - without abstracting away context and underlying tools and technologies
- a way to get started with a new project while following existing best practices



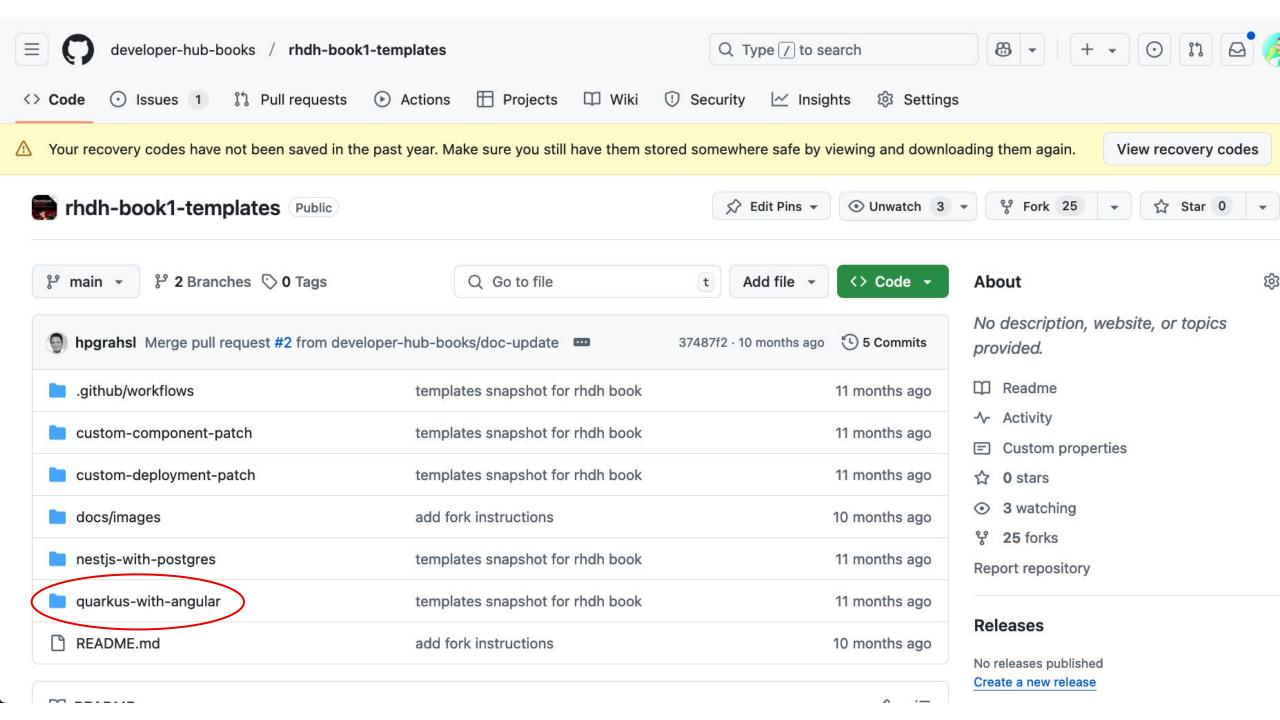


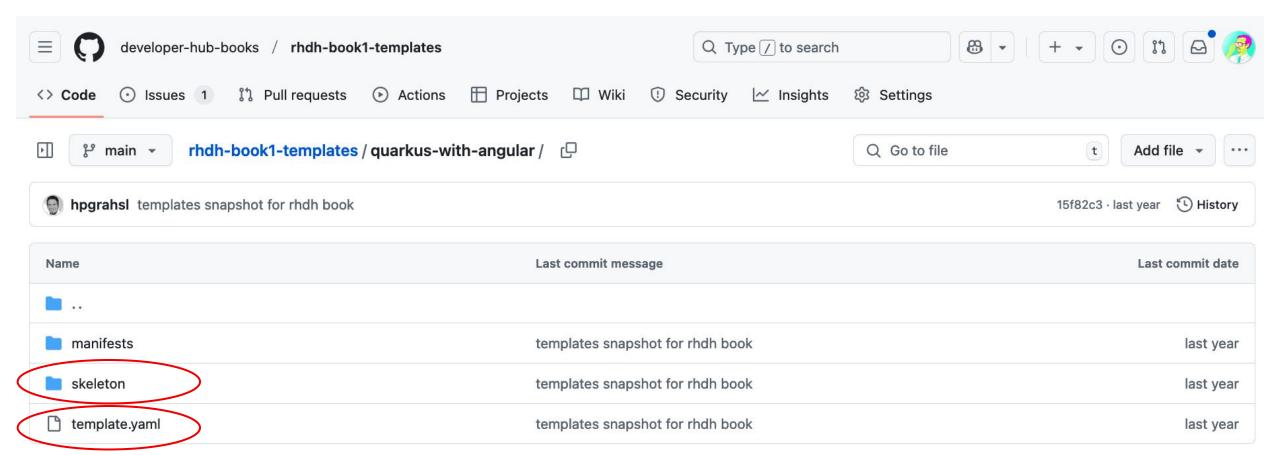


## Template Example 1

github.com/developer-hub-books/rhdh-book1-templates



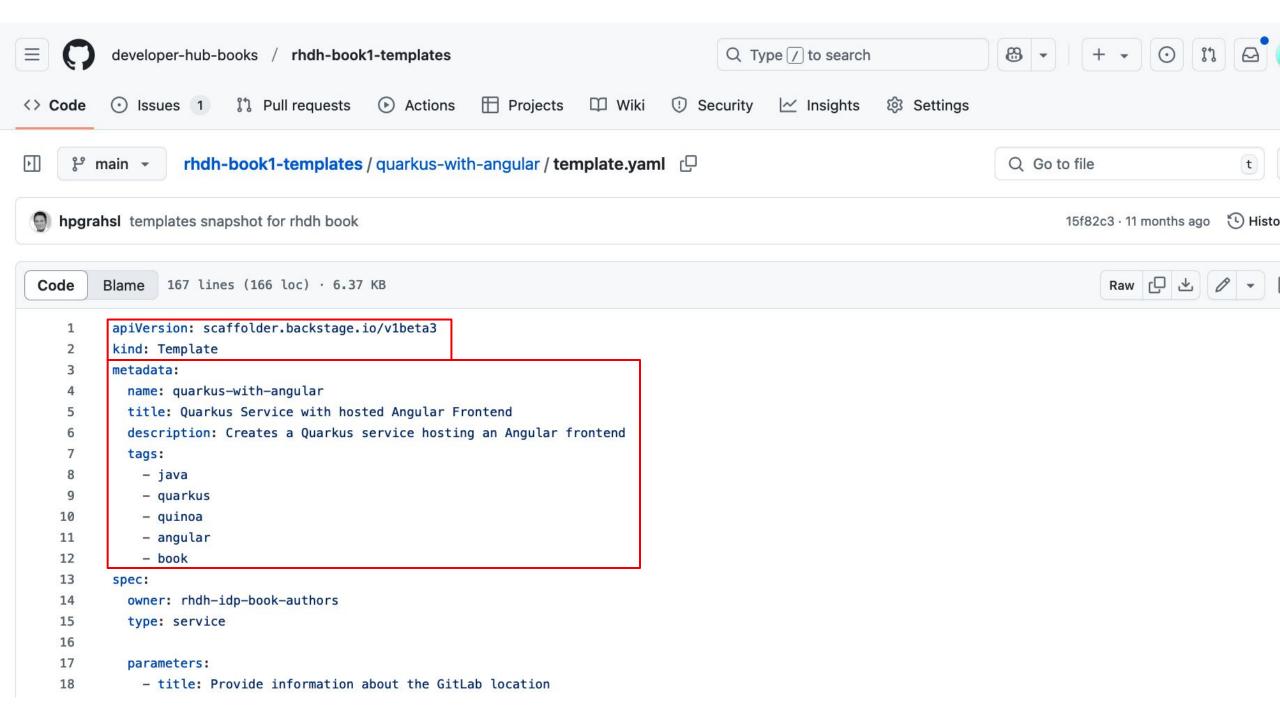




#### Template Attributes

- Group, Version, Kind (OpenAPI spec)
- Metadata
- Spec
  - Parameters (paginated form inputs)
  - Steps (templating, registration, deployment)
  - Output (repos, catalog-info, yamls, links)





template

rhdh-idp-book-authors

book

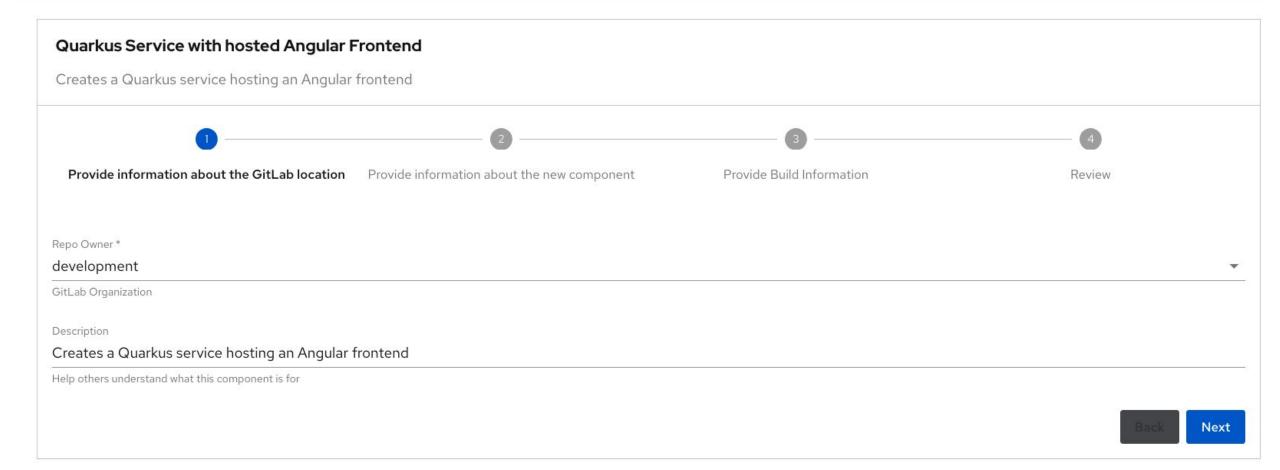
! Administration >

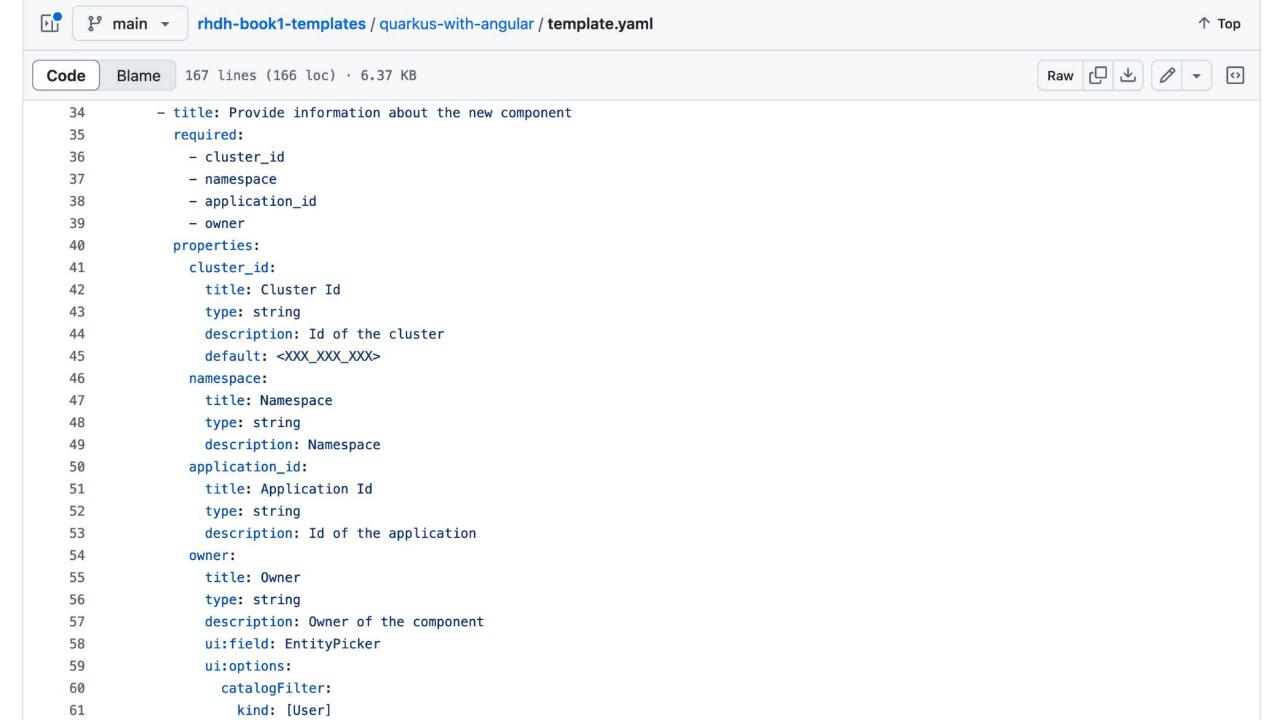
Settings

patch

Choose

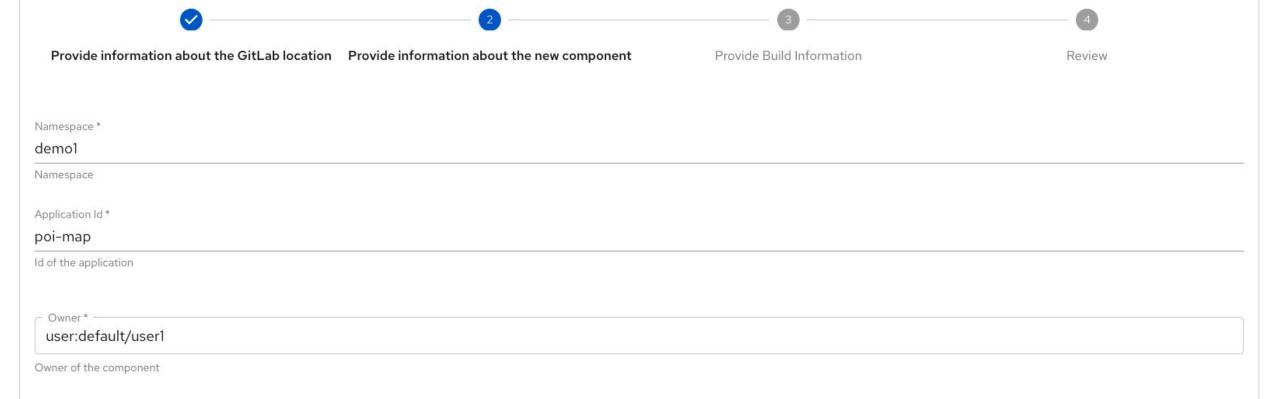
```
main 🔻
                    rhdh-book1-templates / quarkus-with-angular / template.yaml
                  167 lines (166 loc) · 6.37 KB
Code
         Blame
   13
          spec:
   14
             owner: rhdh-idp-book-authors
   15
             type: service
   16
   17
             parameters:
              - title: Provide information about the GitLab location
   18
   19
                 required:
   20
                   - gitlabGroup
   21
                 properties:
   22
                   gitlabGroup:
   23
                     title: Repo Owner
   24
                     type: string
   25
                     description: GitLab Organization
   26
                     default: development
   27
                     enum:
   28
                       - development
                   description:
   29
   30
                     title: Description
   31
                     type: string
   32
                     description: Help others understand what this component is for
   33
                     default: Creates a Quarkus service hosting an Angular frontend
```





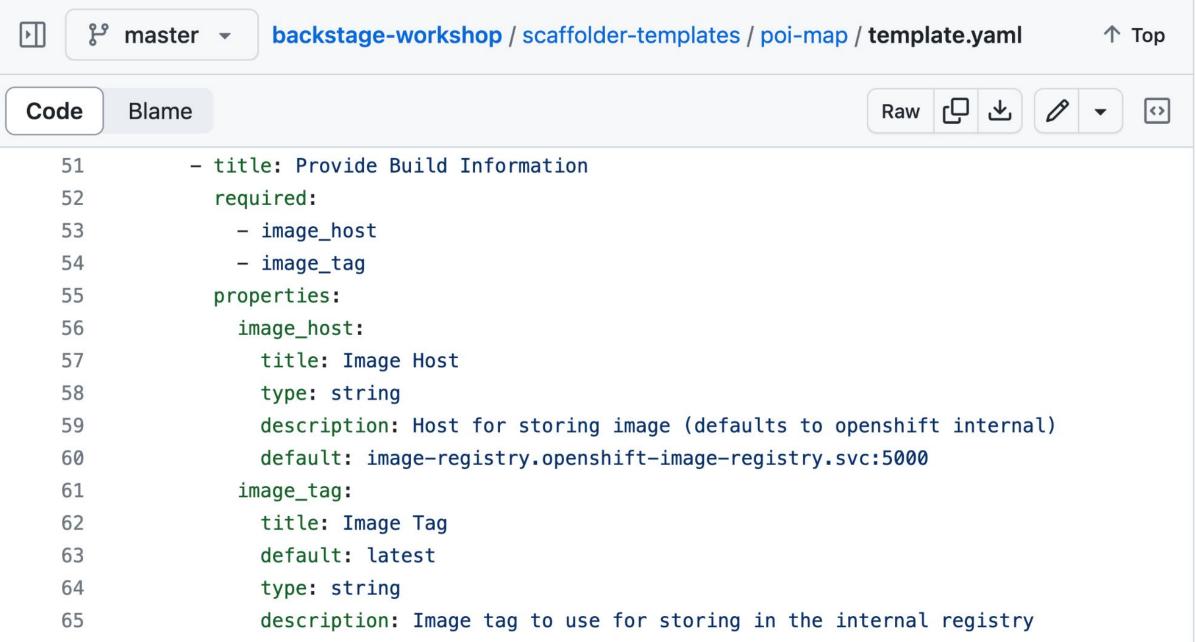
#### Quarkus Service with hosted Angular Frontend

Creates a Quarkus service hosting an Angular frontend



Back

Next

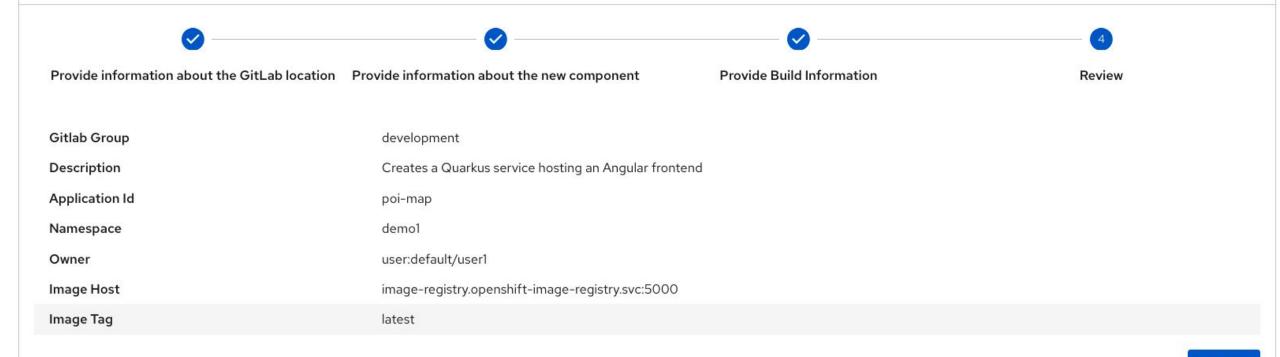




#### Quarkus Service with hosted Angular Frontend Creates a Quarkus service hosting an Angular frontend Provide information about the GitLab location Provide information about the new component **Provide Build Information** Review Image Host \* image-registry.openshift-image-registry.svc:5000 Host for storing image (defaults to openshift internal) Image Tag \* latest Image tag to use for storing in the internal registry Review Back

#### Quarkus Service with hosted Angular Frontend

Creates a Quarkus service hosting an Angular frontend



Create

Back

#### Template step actions:

- 1. fetch:template
- 2. publish:gitlab
- 3. fetch:template
- 4. publish:gitlab
- 5. catalog:register
- 6. catalog:register
- 7. argocd:create-resources



```
77
         steps:
78
            - id: templateSource
              name: Generating the source code component
79
              action: fetch:template
80
81
              input:
                url: ./skeleton
82
83
                targetPath: ./source
                values:
84
85
                  git_host: gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.cluster_id}}
86
                  gitlabGroup: ${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}
                  repoName: ${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.application_id}}
87
                  owner: ${{parameters.owner}}
88
                  cluster_id: ${{parameters.cluster_id}}
89
90
                  namespace: ${{parameters.namespace}}
                  component_id: ${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.application_id}}
91
                  description: ${{parameters.description}}
92
            - id: publishSource
93
              name: Publishing to Source Code Repository
94
              action: publish:gitlab
95
96
              input:
97
                sourcePath: ./source
98
                description: ${{parameters.description}}
99
                repoUrl: gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.cluster id}}?owner=${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}&repo=${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.applic
                defaultBranch: main
100
101
                protectDefaultBranch: false
                repoVisibility: public
102
```



```
protectDefaultBranch: false
101
102
                         repoVisibility: public
103
                   id: templateGitops
104
                      name: Generating the deployment resources and artefacts
                      action: fetch:template
105
                      input:
106
107
                         url: ./manifests
108
                         copyWithoutTemplating: []
109
                         values:
110
                            qit host: gitlab-qitlab${{parameters.cluster id}}
111
                            component_id: ${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.application_id}}
                            description: ${{parameters.description}}
112
113
                            destination: https://gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.cluster_id}}/${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}/${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.approximation: https://gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.approximation: https://gitlab.gitlab.gitlab}}}} } }
                            source_repository: https://gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.cluster_id}}/${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}/${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}/$
114
                            repository_name: ${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.application_id}}
115
116
                            git owner: ${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}
                            cluster: ${{parameters.cluster_id}}
117
                            namespace: ${{parameters.namespace}}
118
                            image host: ${{parameters.image host}}
119
120
                            image_name: ${{parameters.namespace}}/${{parameters.application_id}}
                            image_tag: ${{parameters.image_tag}}
121
122
                            application id: ${{parameters.application id}}
                         targetPath: ./tenant-gitops
123
                  - id: publishGitops
124
125
                      name: Publishing to Deployment Resource Repository
                      action: publish:gitlab
126
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     Red Hat
127
                      input:
128
                         repoUrl: gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.cluster_id}}?owner=${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}&repo=${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.applications}}
```

repoUrl: gitlab-gitlab\${{parameters.cluster\_id}}?owner=\${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}&repo=\${{parameters.namespace}}-\${{parameters.ap

description: \${{parameters.description}}

defaultBranch: main

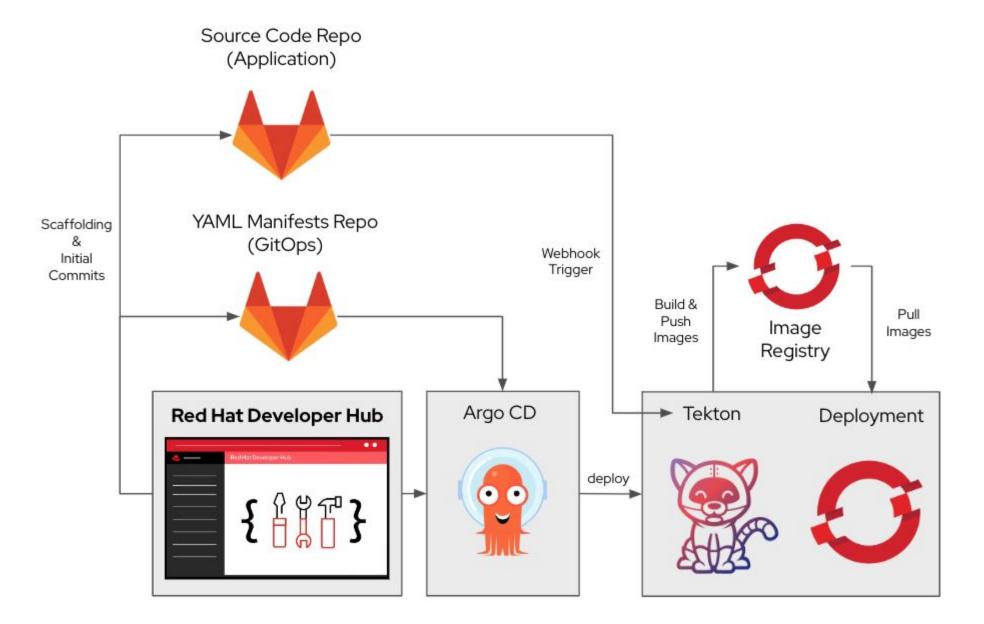
99

100

```
120
                  image_name: ${{parameters.namespace}}/${{parameters.application_id}}
                  image tag: ${{parameters.image tag}}
121
                  application id: ${{parameters.application id}}
122
123
                targetPath: ./tenant-gitops
124
            id: publishGitops
              name: Publishing to Deployment Resource Repository
125
              action: publish:gitlab
126
127
              input:
                repoUrl: gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.cluster_id}}?owner=${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}&repo=${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.applications}}
128
129
                title: gitops resources for ${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.application_id}}
                description: gitops resources for ${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.application_id}}
130
                sourcePath: ./tenant-gitops
131
132
                defaultBranch: main
133
                protectDefaultBranch: false
                repoVisibility: public
134
            - id: registerSource1
135
136
              name: Register Ouarkus Service Component
137
              action: catalog:register
138
              input:
                repoContentsUrl: ${{steps.publishSource.output.repoContentsUrl}}
139
140
                catalogInfoPath: /catalog-info.yaml
            - id: registerSource2
141
142
              name: Register Angular Frontend Component
              action: catalog:register
143
144
              input:
145
                repoContentsUrl: ${{steps.publishSource.output.repoContentsUrl}}
146
                catalogInfoPath: /src/main/angular/catalog-info.yaml
            - id: createArgoResources
147
148
              name: Create ArgoCD Resources
                                                                                                                                           Red Hat
              action: argocd:create-resources
149
150
              input:
```

```
140
                catalogInfoPath: /catalog-info.yaml
            - id: registerSource2
141
142
              name: Register Angular Frontend Component
143
              action: catalog:register
144
              input:
                repoContentsUrl: ${{steps.publishSource.output.repoContentsUrl}}
145
146
                catalogInfoPath: /src/main/angular/catalog-info.yaml
            id: createArgoResources
147
148
              name: Create ArgoCD Resources
              action: argocd:create-resources
149
150
              input:
151
                appName: ${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.application_id}}-bootstrap
152
                argoInstance: main
153
                namespace: janus-argocd
                repoUrl: https://gitlab-gitlab${{parameters.cluster_id}}/${{parameters.gitlabGroup}}/${{parameters.namespace}}-${{parameters.applicati
154
155
                path: 'argocd/'
156
          output:
157
            links:
             - title: Source Code Repository
158
159
                url: ${{steps.publishSource.output.remoteUrl}}
160
             - title: Pipeline status
                url: https://console-openshift-console${{parameters.cluster_id}}/dev-pipelines/ns/${{parameters.namespace}}/
161
162
              - title: Open Quarkus Service Component
163
                icon: catalog
                entityRef: ${{steps.registerSource1.output.entityRef}}
164
165
              - title: Open Angular Frontend Component
166
                icon: catalog
167
                entityRef: ${{steps.registerSource2.output.entityRef}}
```



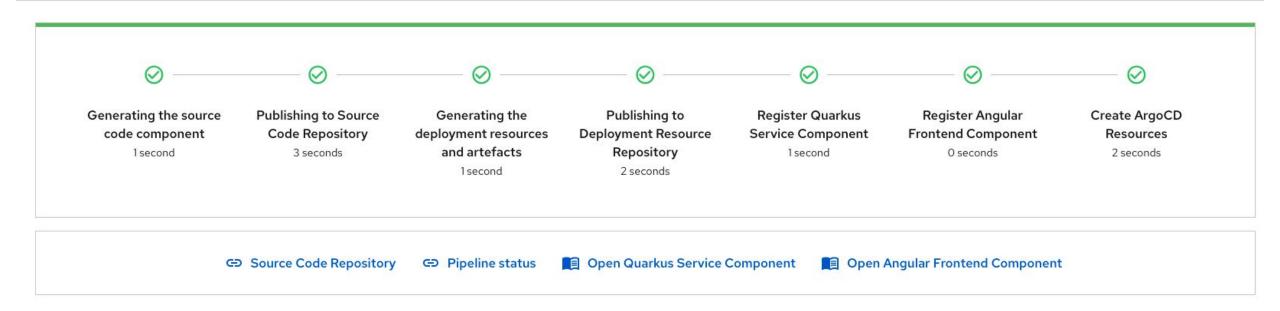




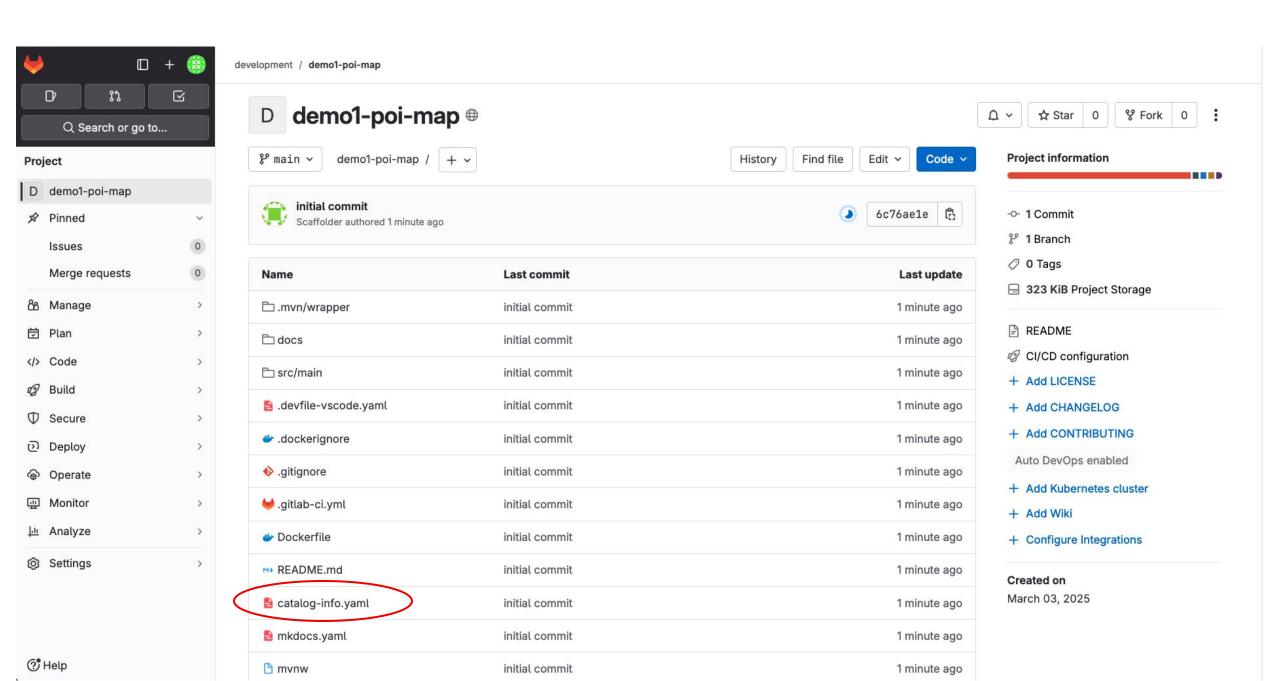


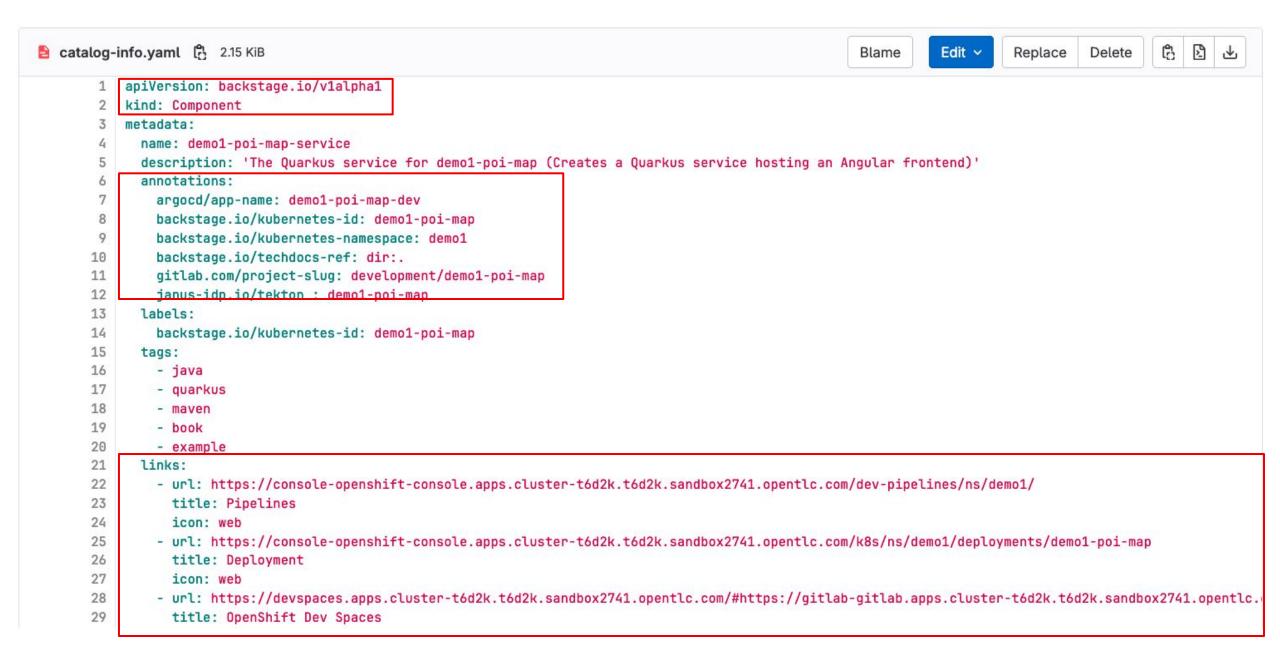
### Run of quarkus-with-angular

Task b675a2b4-0c70-471b-8841-2b353ca2f948

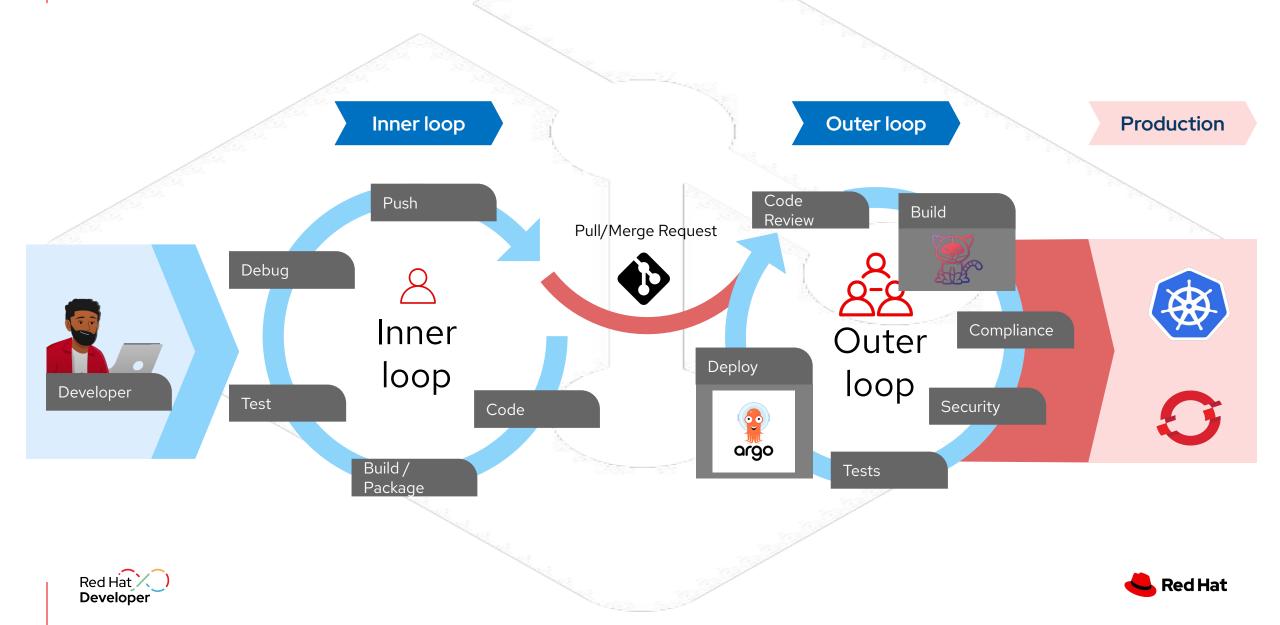


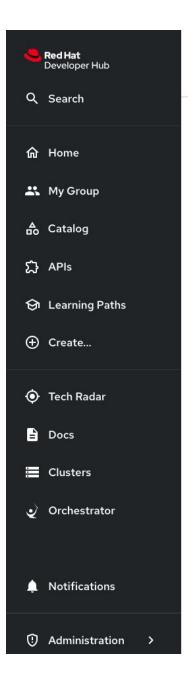






## Continuous Developer Flow





### My Org Catalog

Kind

Type

all

Personal

My Org

All

Owner

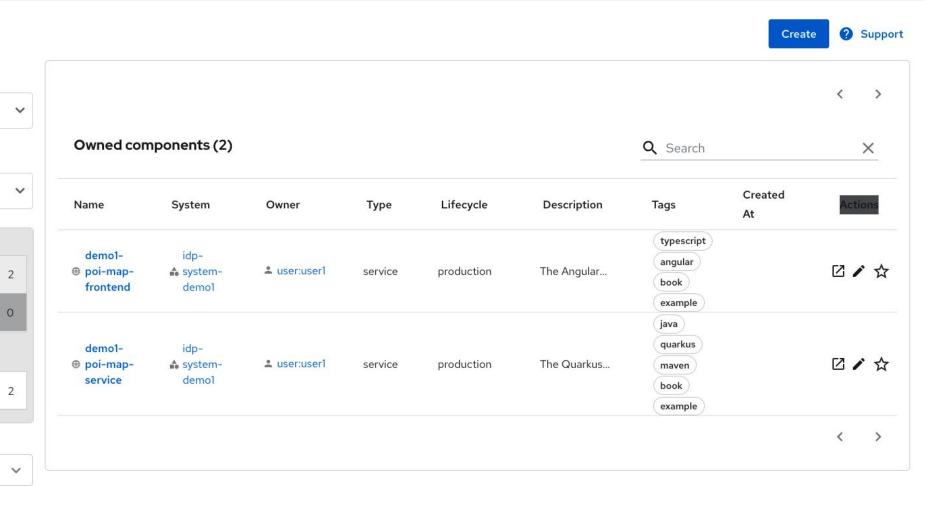
Lifecycle

V

Owned

★ Starred

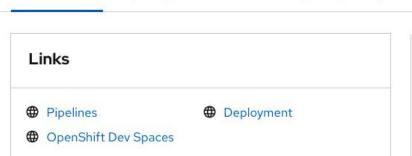
Component



Overview

### demo1-poi-map-service ☆

Topology



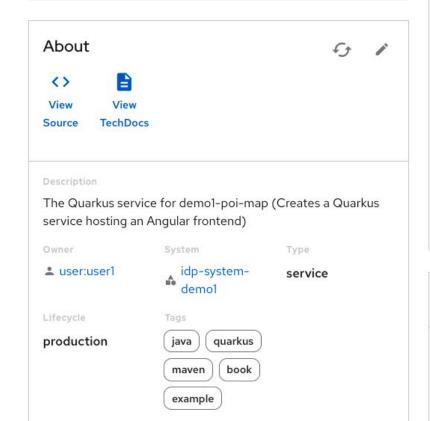
Issues

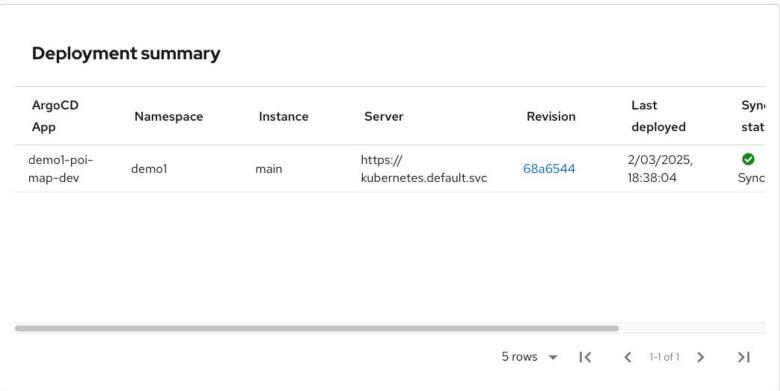
Pull/Merge Requests

CD

Kubernetes

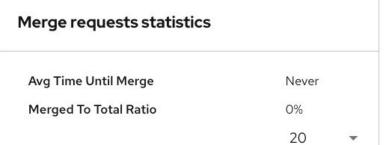
Api



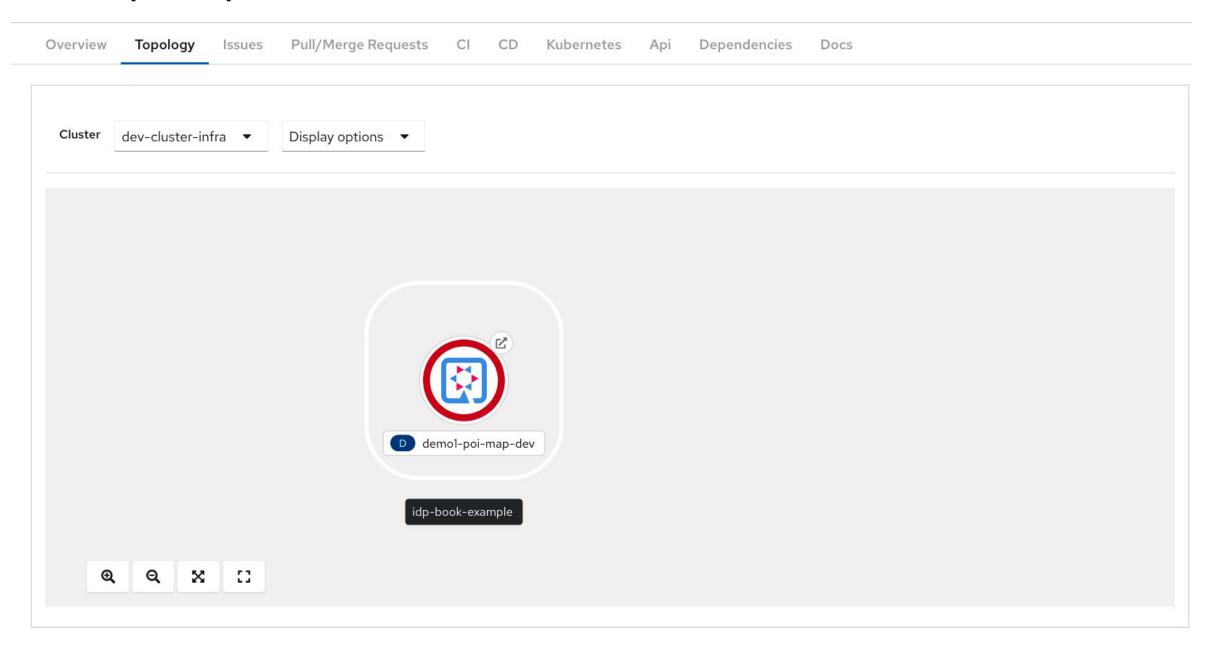


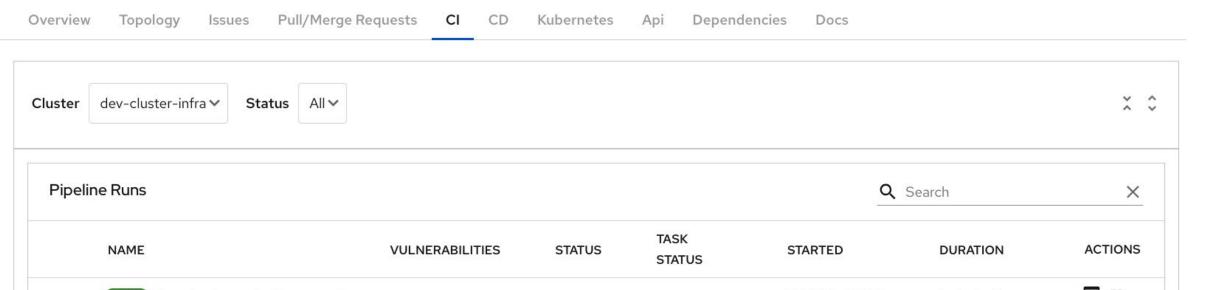
Docs

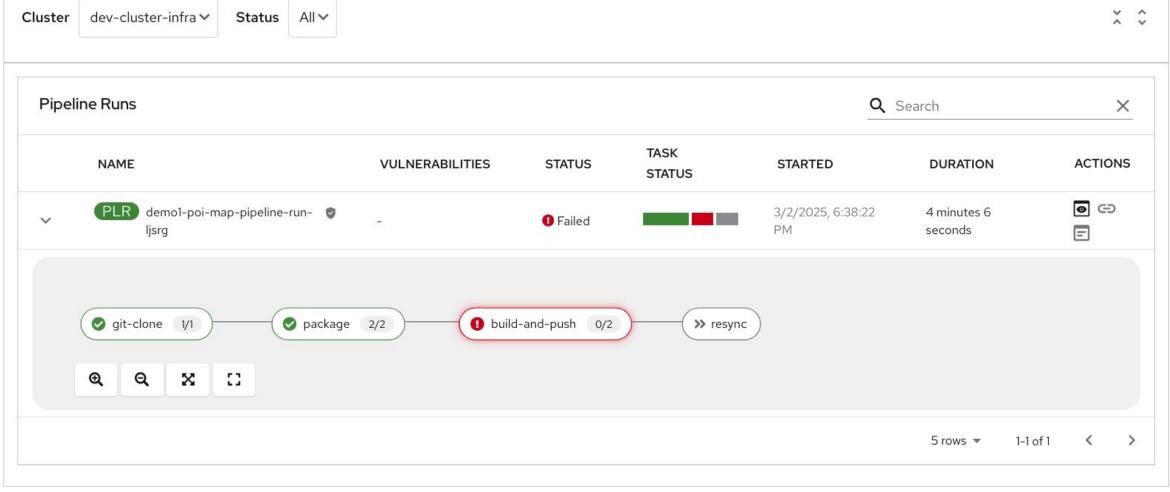
Dependencies



## demo1-poi-map-service ☆



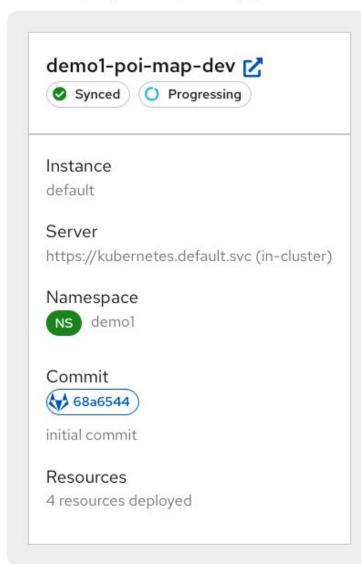




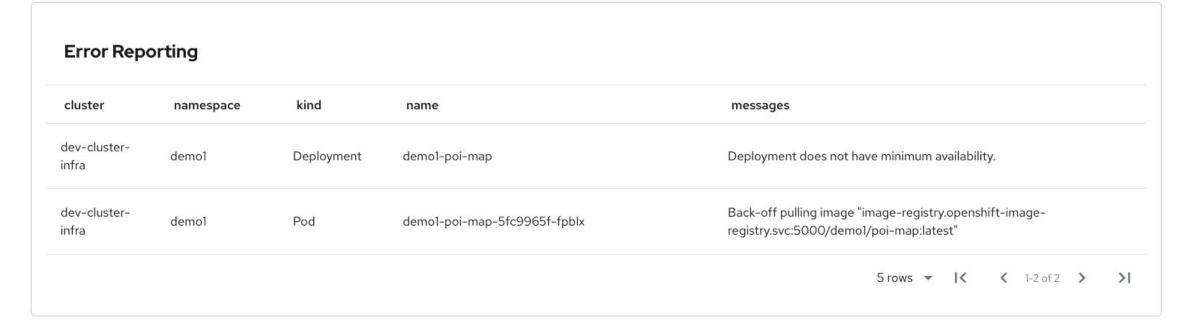


## Deployment lifecycle

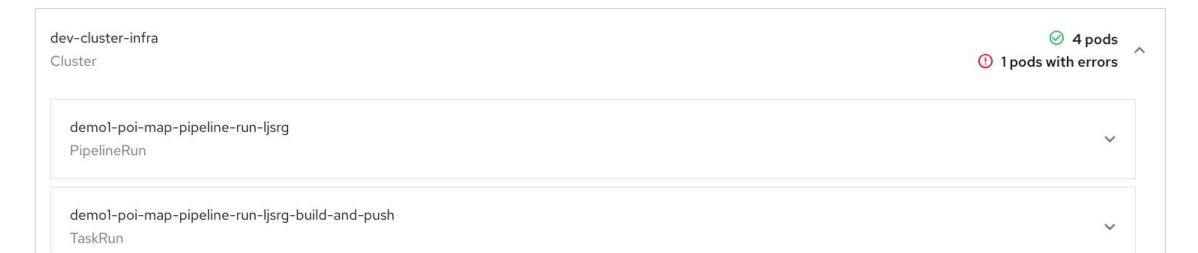
Review deployed components/systems in the namespace using ArgoCD plugin



Overview Topology Issues Pull/Merge Requests CI CD Kubernetes Api Dependencies Docs



#### **Your Clusters**



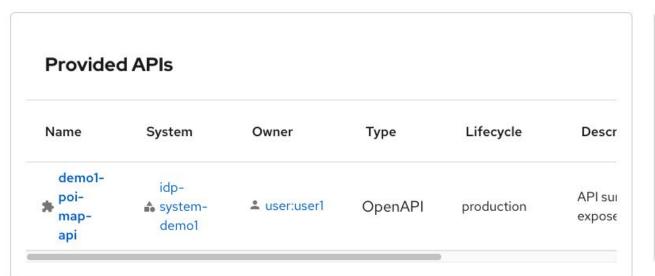
Owner

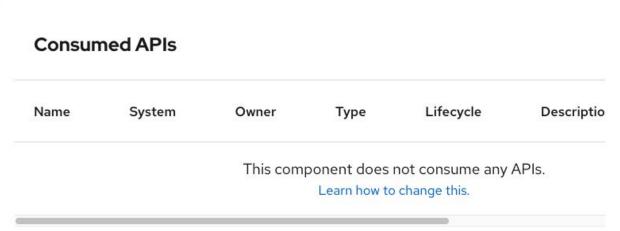
user:user1

**Lifecycle** production

### demo1-poi-map-service ☆

Overview Topology Issues Pull/Merge Requests CI CD Kubernetes **Api** Dependencies Docs



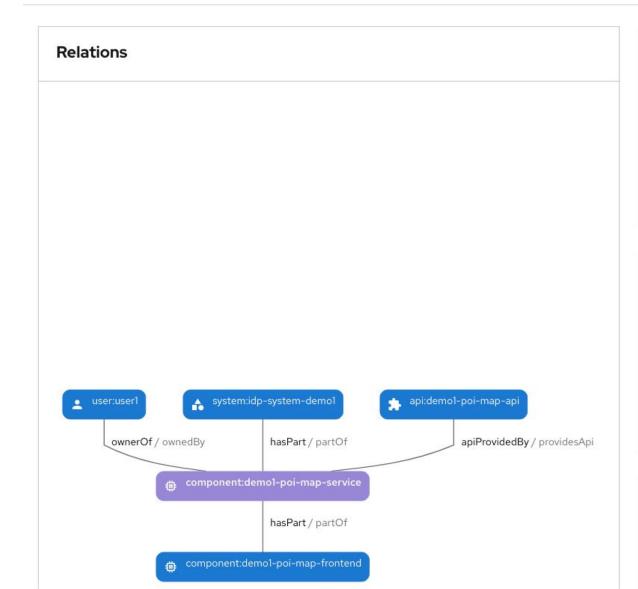


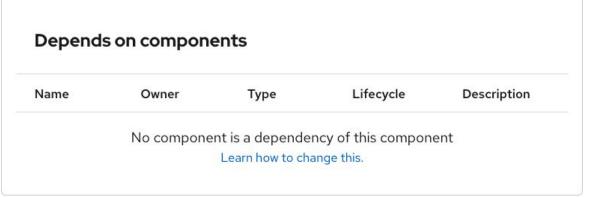


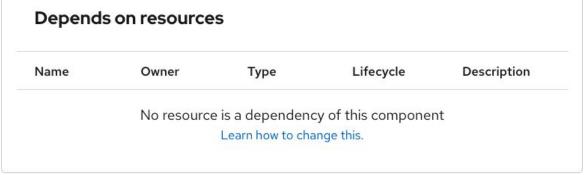
#### r Lifed

### demo1-poi-map-service ☆

Overview Topology Issues Pull/Merge Requests CI CD Kubernetes Api Dependencies Docs









Owner

user:user1

**Lifecycle** production

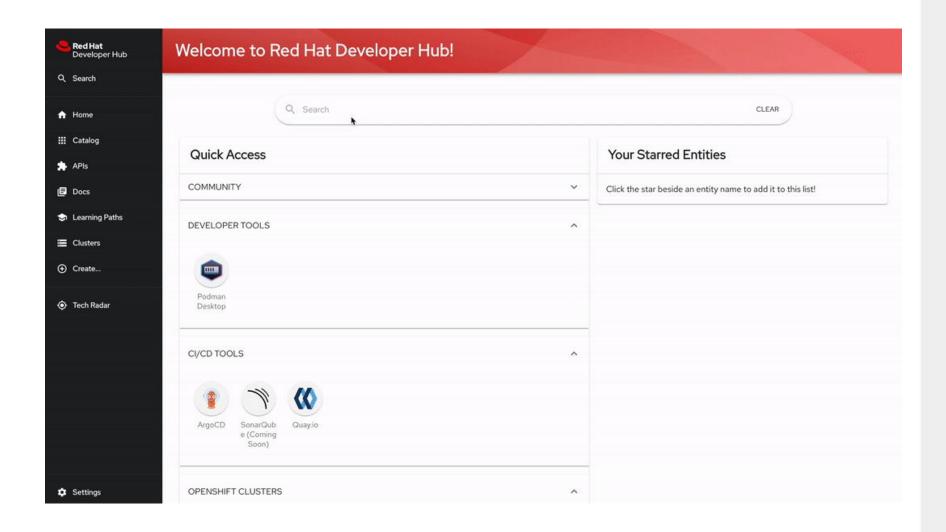
## demo1-poi-map-service ☆

Overview Topology Issues Pull/Merge Requests CI CD Kubernetes Api Dependencies **Docs** 

demo1-poi-map-docs
Overview

TODO: write your component's documentation here...









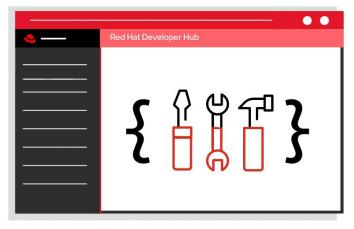


## Empowering engineering to deliver business value faster.

**Single pane** of glass to increase engineering productivity. **Self-service** with guardrails for cloud-native development.

Best practices with GitOps and automation. Real-time view of application and infrastructure health and security.





Authentication **Application** & Authorization Topology for with Keycloak Kubernetes **Red Hat** GitOps with Container Plug-ins for Argo CD Image Registry Backstage for Quay **Pipelines** Multi Cluster GA with Tekton View with OCM









Backstage

Includes supported plugin bundle



Authorization with Keycloak



Argo CD



Pipelines with Tekton



**Application Topology** for Kubernetes



Container Image Registry for Quay



Multi Cluster View with Open Cluster Manager (OCM)

Integrates with industry standards and technologies through a broad ecosystem of community plugins.















Based on Backstage, an open source platform for building developer portals.



#### Red Hat Developer Hub - supported when deployed on

Customer-managed Red Hat OpenShift



**Red Hat** OpenShift Container Platform



Managed Red Hat OpenShift services









Google Cloud

Managed Kubernetes Services









# Template Example 2

## Further down the path

https://github.com/developer-hub-books/rhdh-book1-templates

https://github.com/developer-hub-books/rhdh-book1-templates/blob/main/custom-component-patch/template.yaml



#### **Software Templates**

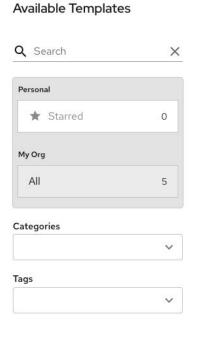
Create new software components using standard templates in your organization

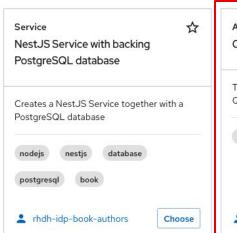
**Templates** 

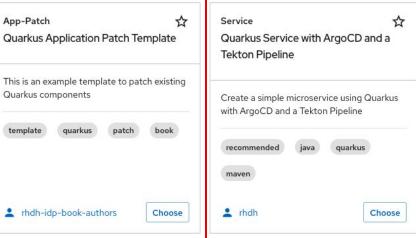
Red Hat Developer Hub Q Search **分** Home My Group ♣ Catalog ♠ APIs **♦** Learning Paths ① Create... Tech Radar **■** Docs Clusters Orchestrator ▲ Notifications

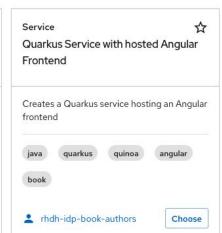
! Administration >

Settings







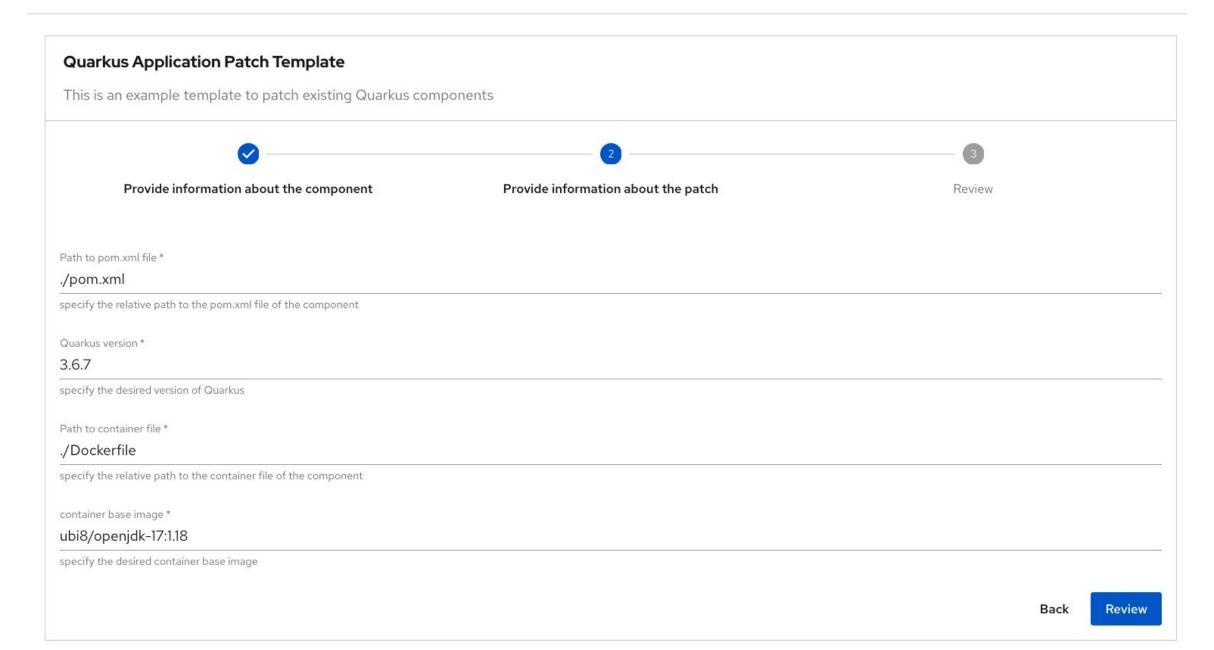


**Register Existing Component** 



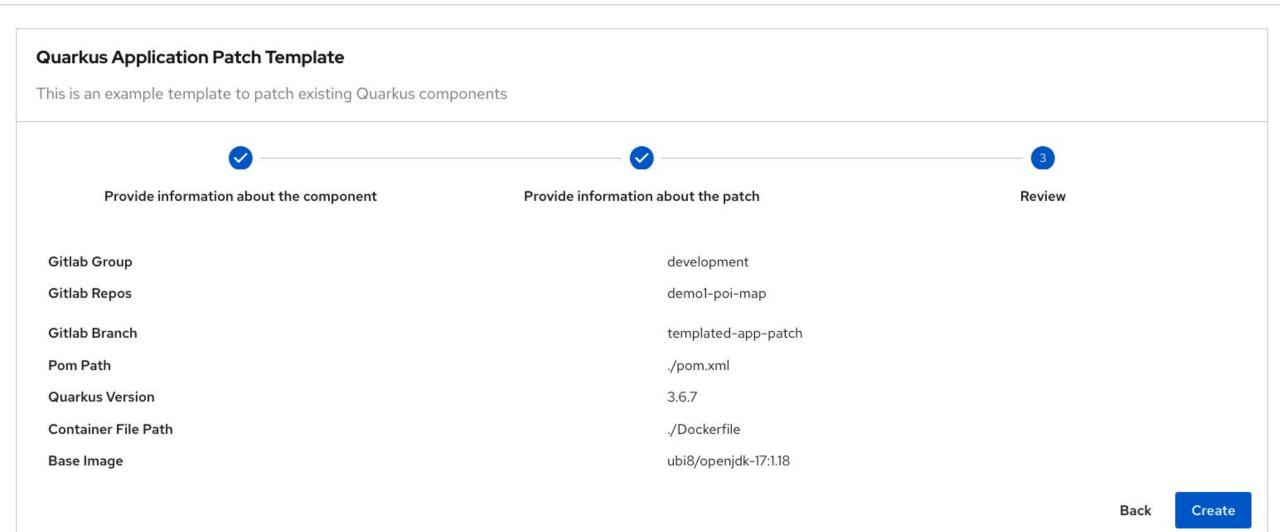
## **Quarkus Application Patch Template** This is an example template to patch existing Quarkus components Provide information about the component Provide information about the patch Review GitLab repo owner \* development the group/owner of the existing GitLab repo GitLab repo names the names of the existing GitLab repos to apply the patch on repo name \* demo1-poi-map GitLab Branch templated-app-patch the name of the source branch for the merge request Back Next

Create new software components using standard templates in your organization



## **Software Templates**

Create new software components using standard templates in your organization



## Template step actions:

- 1. fetch:plain
- 2. roadiehq:utils:fs:replace
- 3. publish:gitlab:merge-request
- 4. debug:log



```
76
         steps:
          - id: fetch-repo
77
            name: Fetch repo(s)
78
            each: ${{ parameters.gitlabRepos }}
79
            action: fetch:plain
80
            input:
81
              url: https://gitlab-gitlab${{ parameters.clusterId }}/${{ parameters.gitlabGroup }}/${{ each.value }}
82
              targetPath: ./${{ each.value }}
83
```

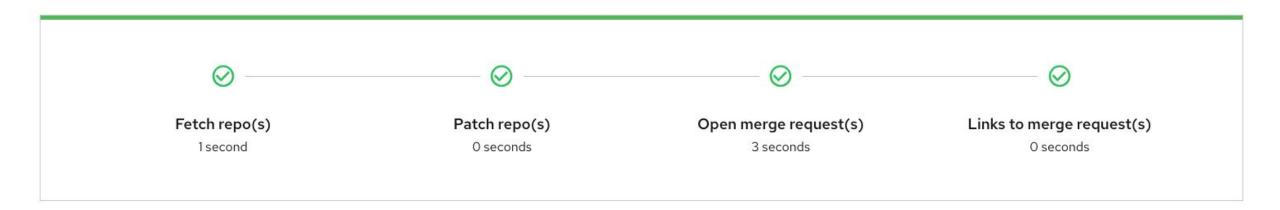
```
84
            - id: patch-content
              name: Patch repo(s)
85
              each: ${{ parameters.gitlabRepos }}
86
87
             action: roadiehq:utils:fs:replace
              input:
88
                files:
89
                  - file: ./${{ each.value }}/${{ parameters.pomPath }}
90
                    find: '3.4.2'
91
                    replaceWith: ${{ parameters.quarkusVersion }}
92
                  - file: ./${{ each.value }}/${{ parameters.containerFilePath }}
93
                    find: 'ubi8/openjdk-17:1.16'
94
                    replaceWith: ${{ parameters.baseImage }}
95
                  - file: ./${{ each.value }}/${{ parameters.pomPath }}
96
                    # NOTE:
 97
                   # The following find & replace is an obvious hack and only shown here for demo purposes :)
98
99
                    # Ideally, there'd be more robust actions that would at least allow to find and replace by means of regex.
100
                    # Or better yet, actions that provide proper XML parsing options similar to other available
                    # functionalities to manipulate JSON or YAML file respectively.
101
                    find: "<dependency>\n
                                                                                                                              </dependency>"
102
                                              <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>\n
                                                                                    <artifactId>quarkus-arc</artifactId>\n
103
                    replaceWith:
104
                      <dependency>
105
                        <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>
106
                        <artifactId>quarkus-arc</artifactId>
107
                      </dependency>
108
                      <dependency>
109
                        <groupId>io.quarkus</groupId>
                        <artifactId>quarkus-smallrye-health</artifactId>
110
                      </dependency>
111
```

```
112
            - id: open-mr
113
              name: Open merge request(s)
114
              each: ${{ parameters.gitlabRepos }}
115
              action: publish:gitlab:merge-request
              input:
116
117
                repoUrl: gitlab-gitlab${{ parameters.clusterId }}?repo=${{ each.value }}&owner=${{ parameters.gitlabGroup }}
                title: custom patches for quarkus component
118
                description: custom patches for quarkus component
119
120
                branchName: ${{ parameters.gitlabBranch }}
                sourcePath: ./${{ each.value }}
121
                commitAction: update
122
123
            - id: log-mr
              name: Links to merge request(s)
124
              action: debug:log
125
              input:
126
                message: "find opened merge request(s) here"
127
                extra: ${{ steps['open-mr'].output.mergeRequestUrl }}
128
```



## Run of quarkus-app-patch

Task 7e9ba408-44db-42dd-b53c-910f10ca3dbe



## demo1-poi-map-service ☆

Owner user:user1 Lifecycle production

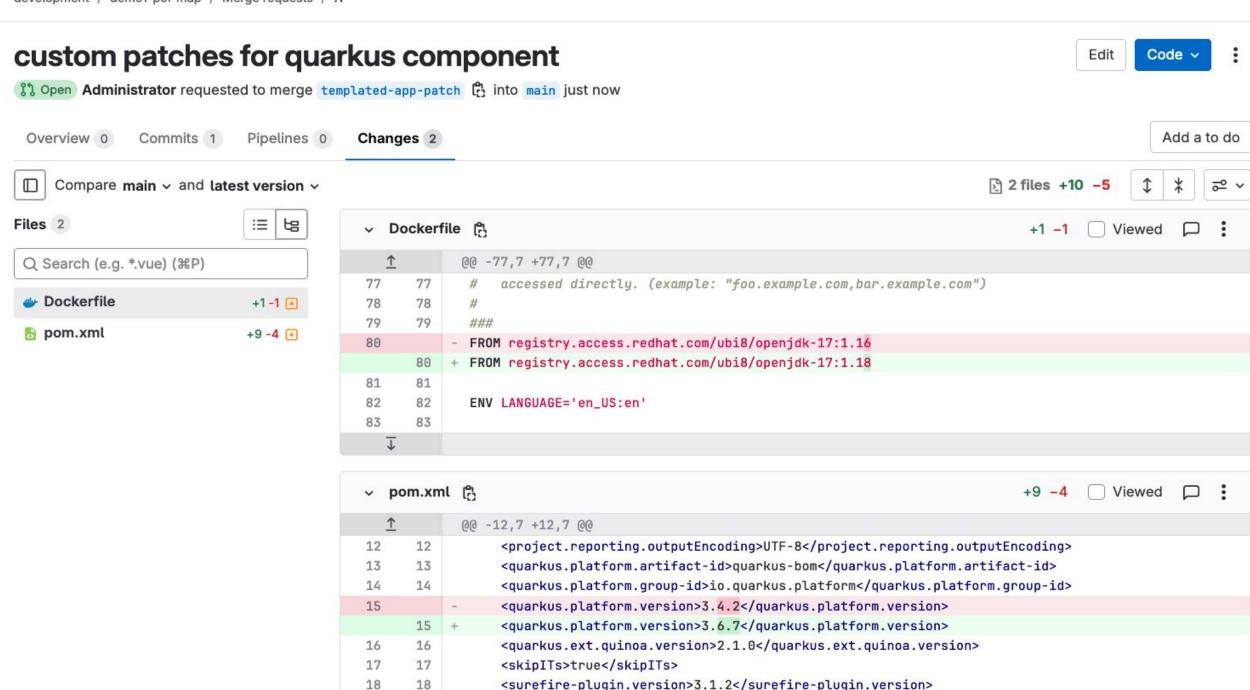
Pull/Merge Requests CI CD Kubernetes Dependencies Overview Topology Api Issues Docs



**∓** Filter

×

ID	Title	Creator	State	Created At	Duration
1	Custom patches for quarkus component	root	opened	a few seconds ago	1s

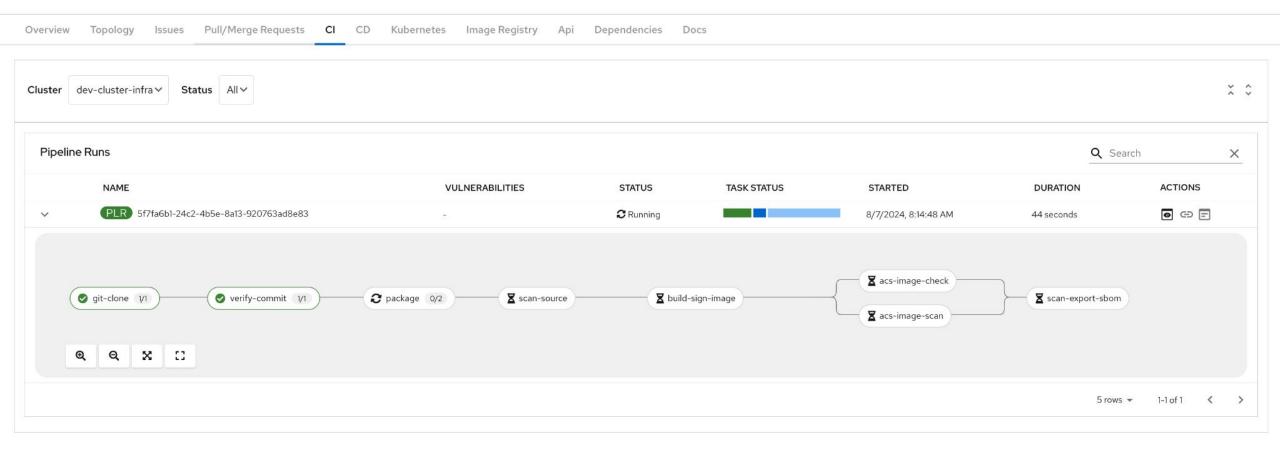


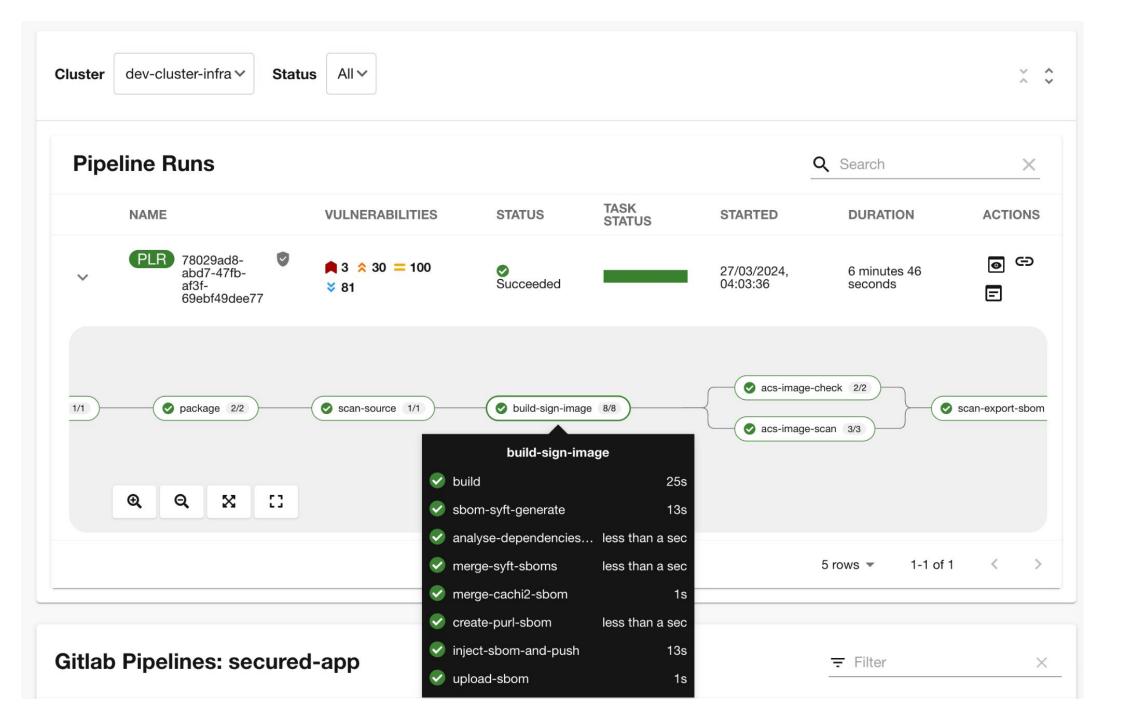


Trusted Application Pipeline
Template output example



#### secured-app ☆





Owner 🚢 user1

**Lifecycle** production

#### secured-app ☆

Pull/Merge Requests CI CD **Image Registry** Dependencies Overview Topology Issues Kubernetes Docs

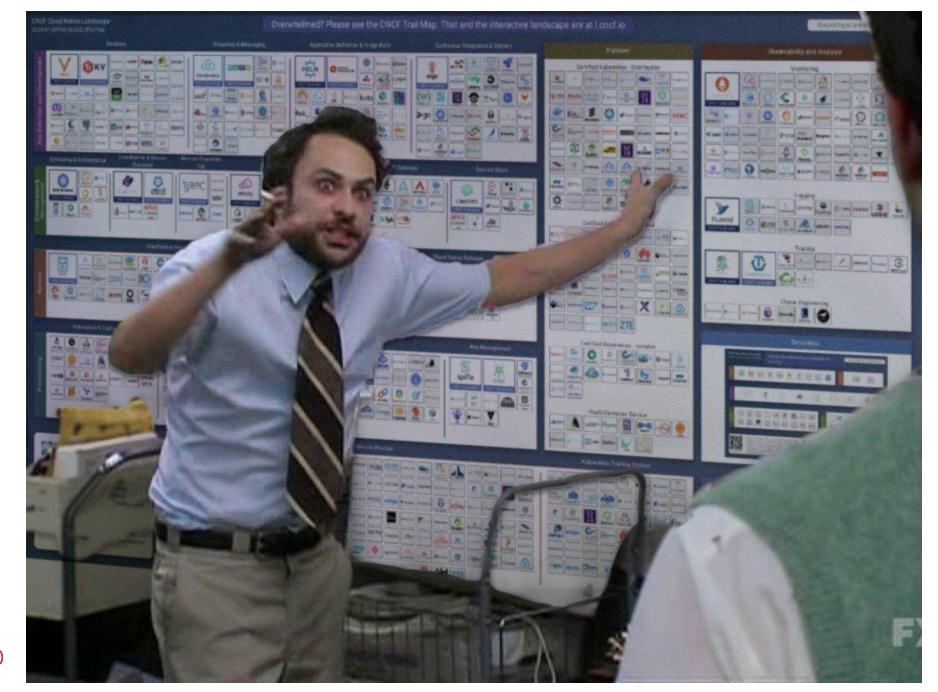
Quay repository: quayadmin/secured-app				₹ F	er X
Гад	Last Modified	Security Scan	Size	Expires	Manifest
ha256- b423616428099dcad47cf33cdd912fd361a075aef37af327d860c15901bc5a7.att	Aug 7, 2024, 8:20 AM	Unsupported	65.8 kB	Never	<b>sha256</b> 19f654cadd50
ha256- b423616428099dcad47cf33cdd912fd361a075aef37af327d860c15901bc5a7.sig	Aug 7, 2024, 8:19 AM	Unsupported	291 B	Never	<b>sha256</b> b25b45c5acbb
ha256- b423616428099dcad47cf33cdd912fd361a075aef37af327d860c15901bc5a7.sbom	Aug 7, 2024, 8:19 AM	Unsupported	1.5 MB	Never	<b>sha256</b> 2dae989efce5
atest	Aug 7, 2024, 8:19 AM	High: 53, Medium: 111, Low: 11	180 MB	Never	<b>sha256</b> 4b4236164280

#### Summary





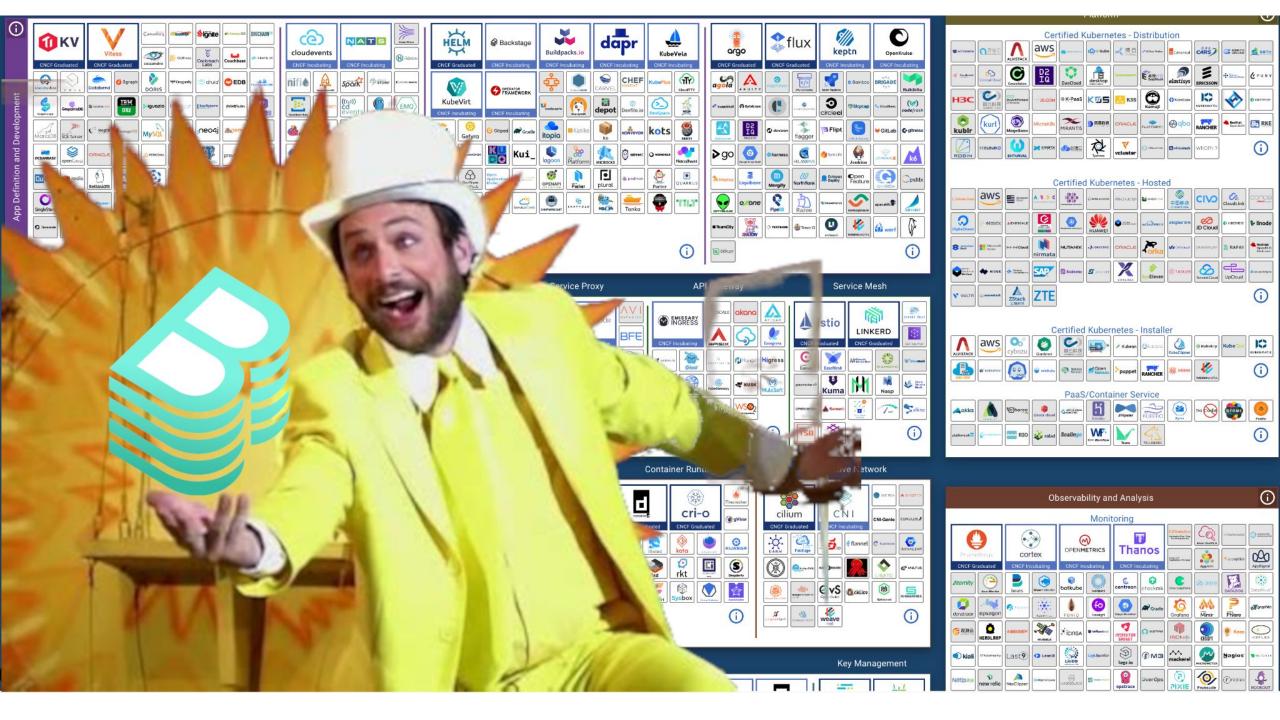






### ONLY one more YAML??





#### Summary

Backstage plugins help provide a real-time view of application & infrastructure health & security

Backstage helps answer two very important questions:

- 1. What do I have running?
- 2. How do I use it?

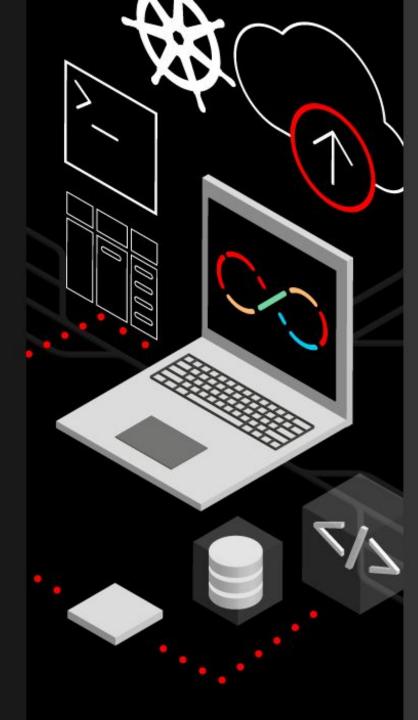


#### Summary

Backstage Software Templates provide:

- Best practices with GitOps & automation
- Self-service with guardrails for cloud-native development
- YAML for Platform Engineers to simplify SDLC for Developers

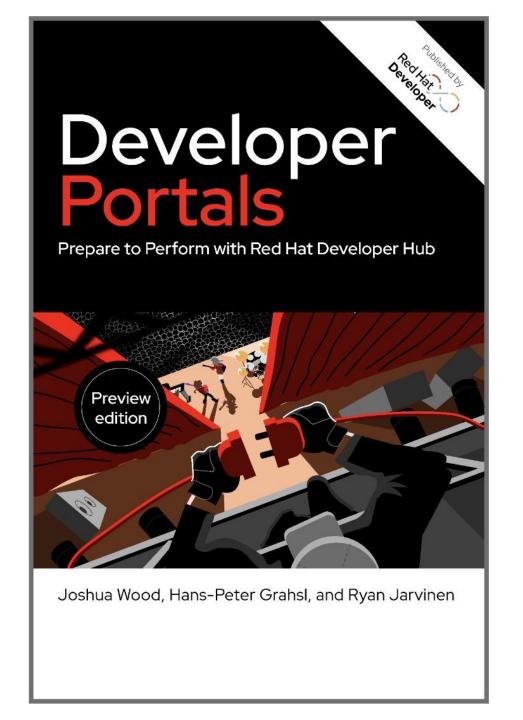




# RHDH Template Library:

red.ht/software-templates







red.ht/backstage-book



# developers.redhat.com/rhdh







Q&A



# Thank You!

Ryan Jarvinen

ryanj@redhat.com





