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## Highlights

- Lifecycle Resource Management Framework – standardised state model and interface for rapid on-boarding and high levels of automation
  - Lifecycle Continuous Integration and Deployment - automatically test and certify VNFs and services across development, test and production environments
  - Intent driven orchestration – automatically create, update and migrate services across multiple data centres based on current topology
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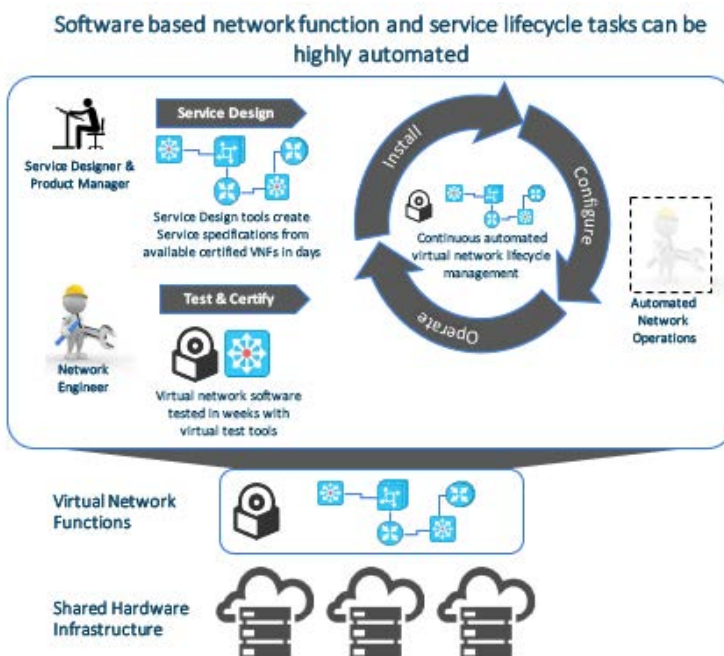
# IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager

*IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager provides a complete NFV DevOps tool chain delivering superior operational lifecycle automation*

Automation is key to operationalizing network function virtualization (NFV) and software-defined networking (SDN) and achieving the promised benefits of higher service agility and lower operational costs. NFV brings a significant operational paradigm shift for service providers. Today's physical network appliances require highly manual processes to manage their end-to-end lifecycle. Testing, installation, configuration, and problem management of network appliances all revolve around manual activities that often require a physical truck roll or a human to run each lifecycle process.

NFV's software paradigm promises fully automated lifecycle processes for bringing network services into production and maintaining them thereafter. Virtual network functions (VNF) allow a much simpler set of lifecycle tasks enabling near full automation of the creation and healing of virtual services than is possible with their physical counterparts.

The IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager is a comprehensive services design, testing and automated deployment platform addressing the challenges and complexities of the NFV paradigm. It delivers an end-to-end automated service lifecycle solution from initial design to production, as depicted in the following figure.



To achieve NFV's promised levels of automation, Agile Lifecycle Manager provides a complete DevOps toolchain that manages the end to end lifecycle of virtual network services, from release management of VNF software packages to the continuous orchestration or running VNF and services instances.

Third party VNF software must be wrapped in a well-tested standard lifecycle interface to ensure no errors during production; Service bundles of multi-vendor VNFs must be tested for interoperability and performance; and finally, when put into production services and VNFs must constantly be created, configured, updated, scaled, healed, and migrated with no human intervention.

IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager leverages a difference based intent engine that uses a standard set of lifecycle transitions that have been simplified in execution through the use of state based processing. This lifecycle manager optimizes lifecycle management for cloud enabled service of today and cloud native services of tomorrow's network or IT services to hyperscale with resiliency without the use of process automation scripting.

Using a service lifecycle approach allows for the unification of OSS from idea through devops to operational life of a service for today's network and IT applications for rapid enablement of new services, continuous integration of new function and releases of a multi-vendor open environment and achieves agile DevOps for network and IT services.

IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager is enabled by closed loop processing with cognitive service operations that provides a scalable operations environment that reacts to lifecycle requirements and proactively avoids service issues. IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager increases resiliency of hybrid cloud services, decreases the time to value and provides revenue growth through enabling service innovation.

## Why IBM?

IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager automates manual operations by instructing all of the product elements to work together - managing their lifecycle in order of dependency, and ensuring that any damaged components are replaced or healed without human interaction. This lowers the total cost of ownership required to manage the entire lifecycle of the products and services, and decreases the margin of error, thus scaling the factory.

With IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager, service providers can effectively streamline service delivery, minimize complexity, and deliver innovative new services to customers today and into the future.

IBM is known as an industry leader in operations management space and continues to invest heavily in maintaining that position.<sup>1</sup>

## For more information

To learn more about IBM Agile Lifecycle Manager, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or see the following website:

[ibm.com/us-en/marketplace/agile-lifecycle-manager](https://ibm.com/us-en/marketplace/agile-lifecycle-manager)



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1 *IBM named a leader again in the Gartner MQ for Operations Support Systems 2016*  
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