

Redhat Forum – London 2018



# Engineering the Bank

Designing, delivering and maintaining an Operational Platform for  
Clydesdale Bank, Yorkshire Bank & B.





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# What will we cover?

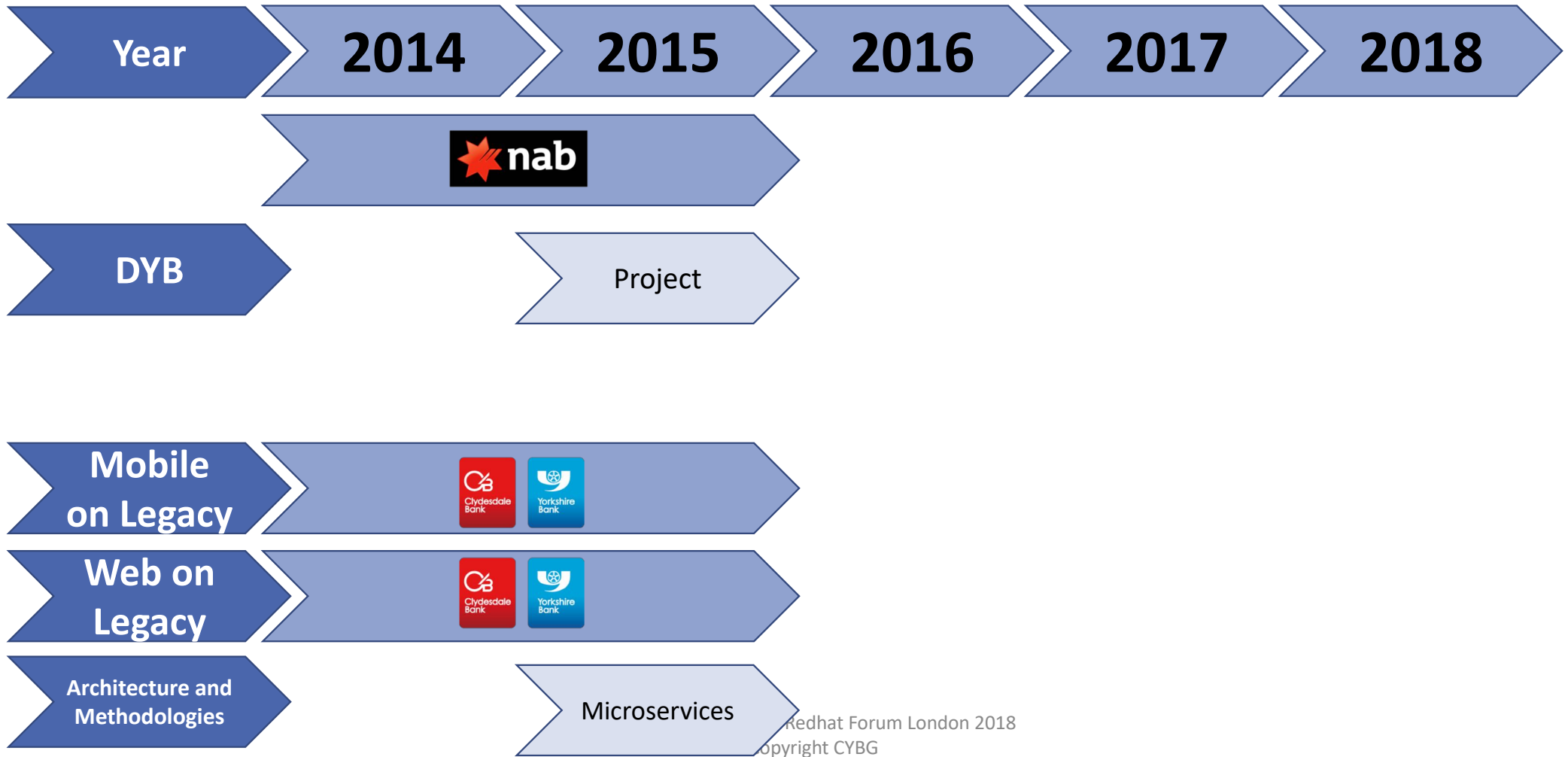
- Who are CYBG?
- Where we started?
- What did we do?
- What did we learn?
- How did we use those lessons learned?
- Evolution of the Platform Engineering Team
- Current challenges and future plans

# Who are CYBG?

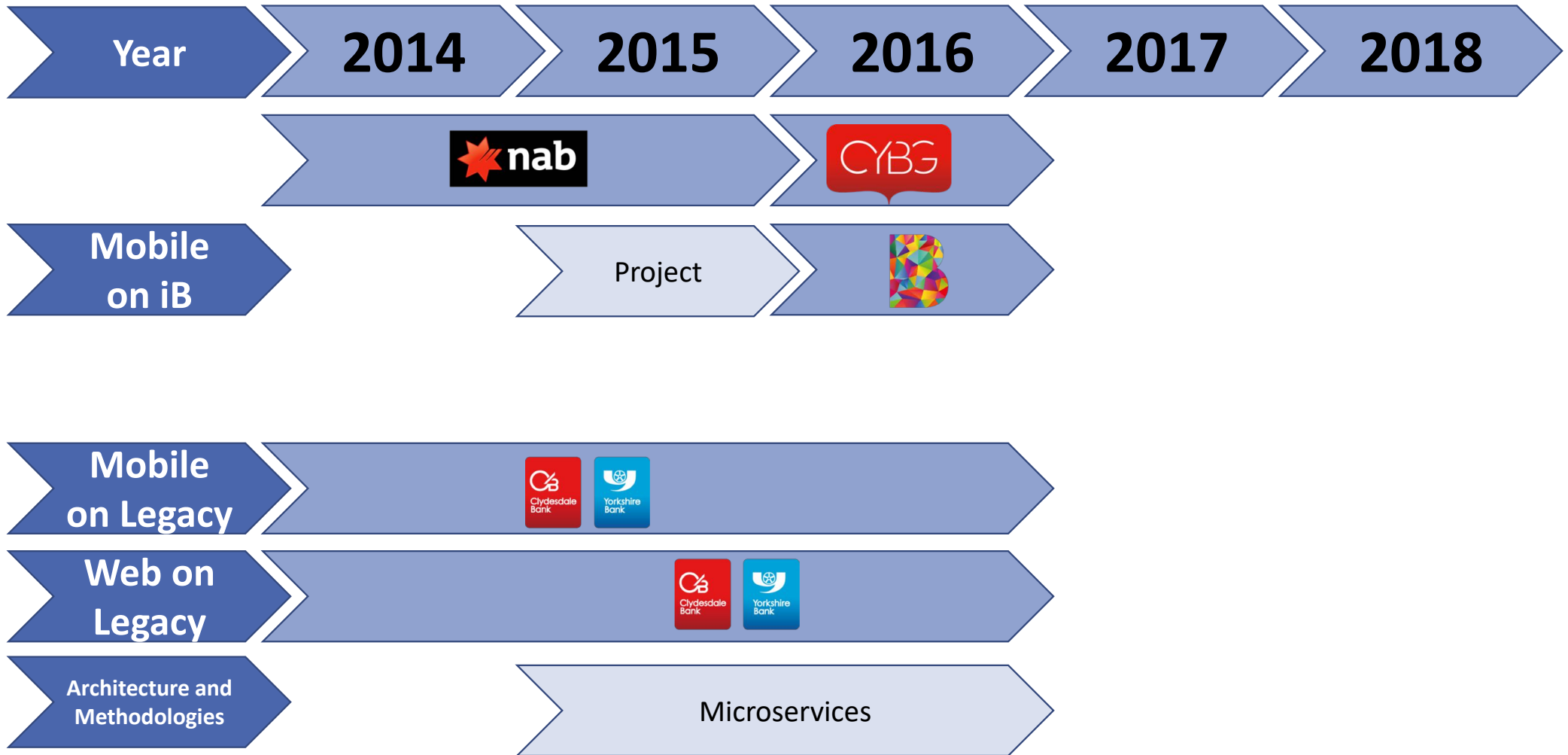
- An independent UK banking group
- Listed on the LSE and ASX
- Serving customers since 1838
- Over 160 branches and a network of business and private banking centre
- 2.7m customers



# Where we started



# What did we do?

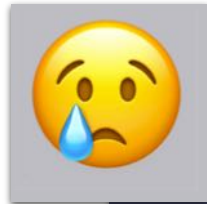


# What did we learn?



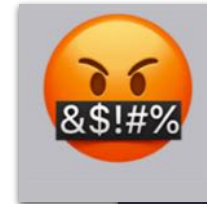
## The Good

- Modern Architecture
- Small deployable components
- Scalability at a component level
- Component start up times
- Separation of functions
- Teams can work on different parts of the platform without getting in each others way



## The Bad

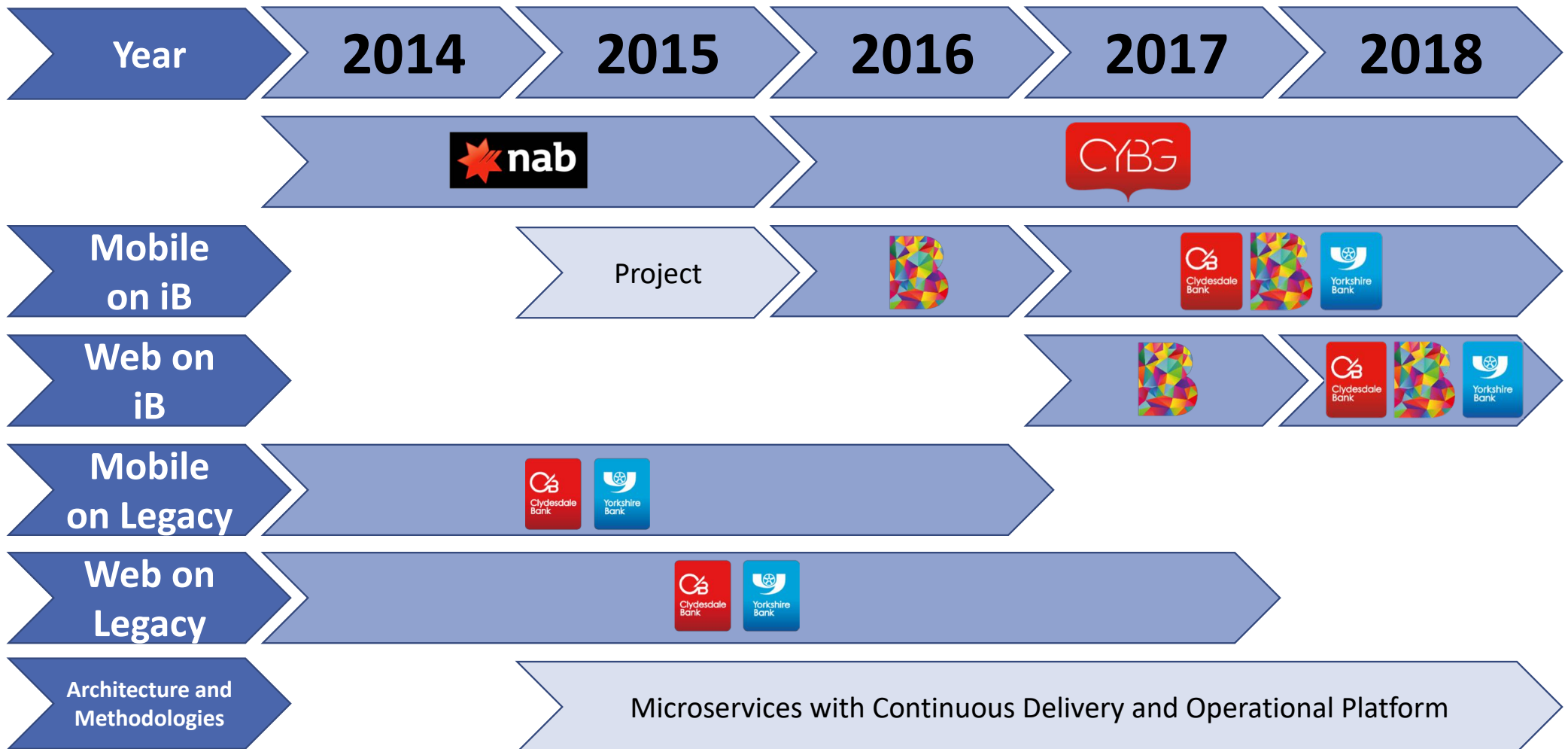
- Dependency management between components was hard
- Configuration management between the different components got messy
- Versioning was the perfect mixture of art and science that was not always well understood



## The Ugly

- Required Deployment Strategies (i.e still monolithic)
- Lots of effort to manage deployments
- Time taken to get 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> line support ready for each release
- Lots of effort to mitigate the bad

# What did we do?

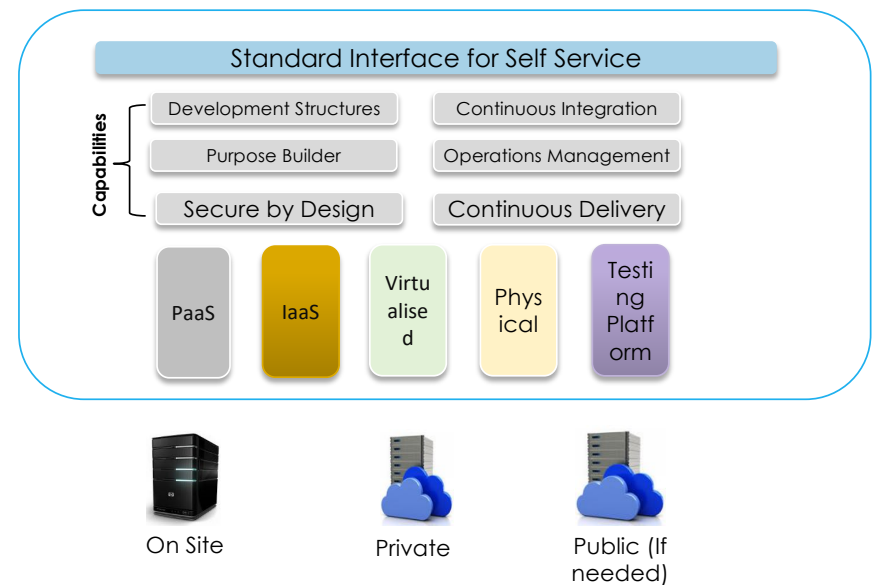




# What is the Operational Platform?

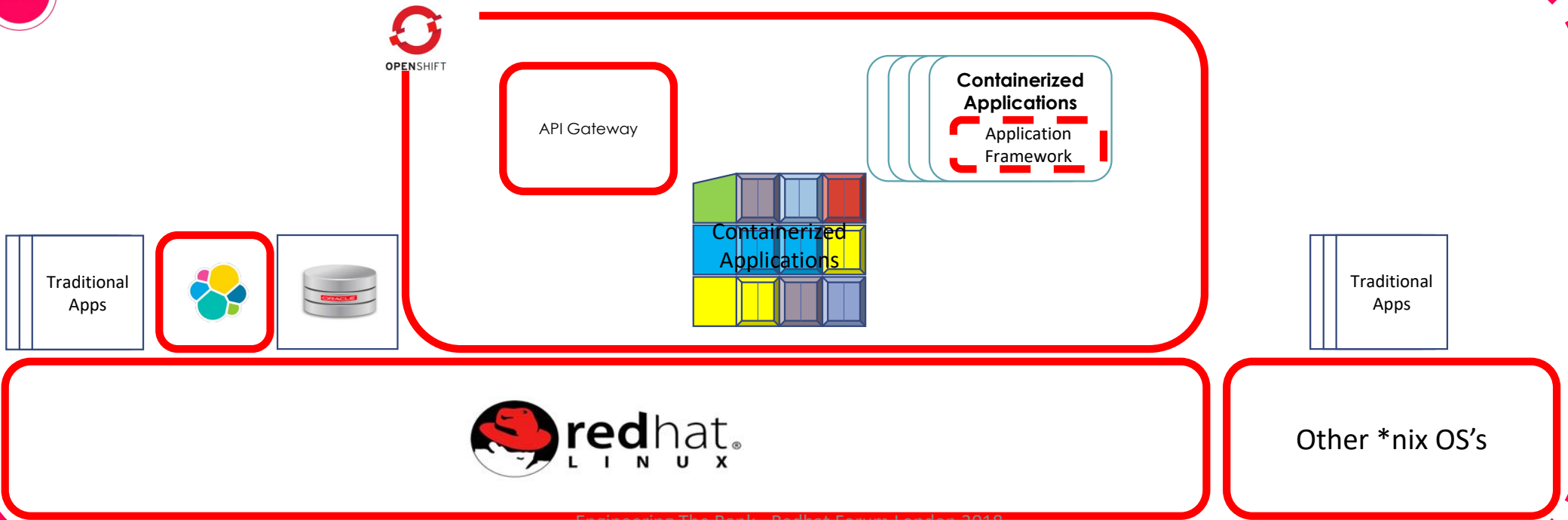
A Platform is a component which does not provide any business functionality but allows applications to be run on it

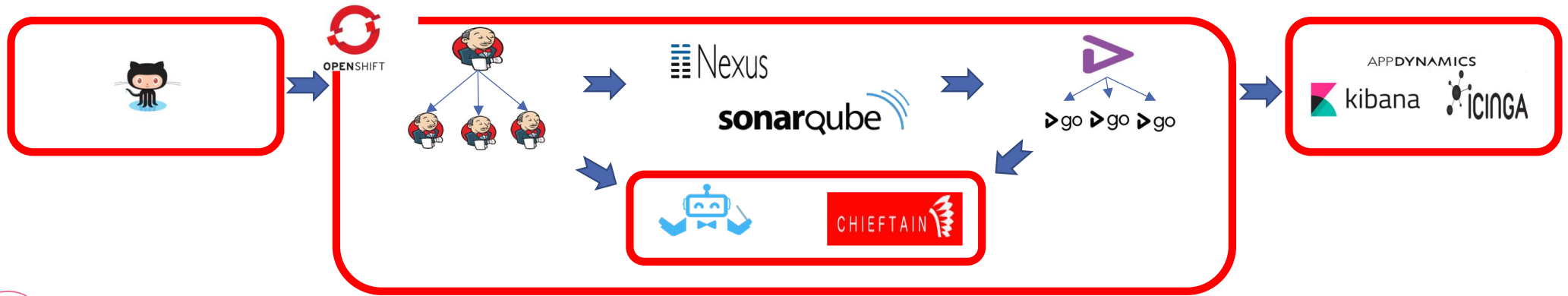
A set of capabilities designed to provide end to end management of software in a reliable, efficient and secure manner.



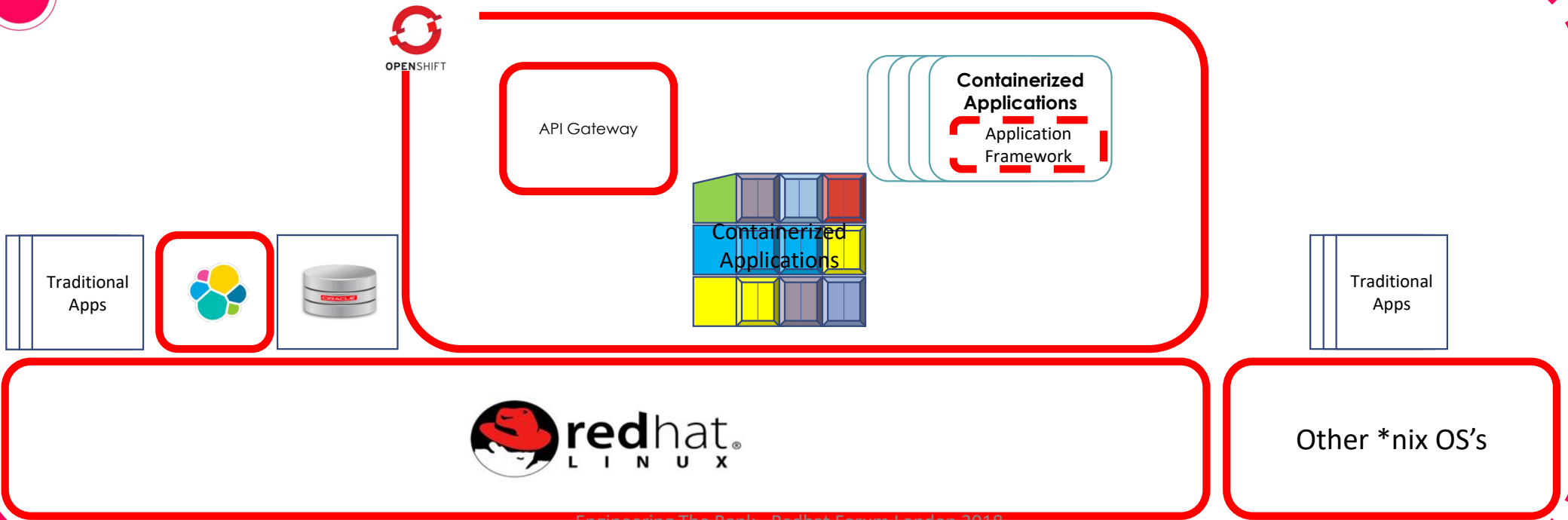


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# redhat. at the Core



Primary \*nix operating system on the platform is Redhat Enterprise Linux

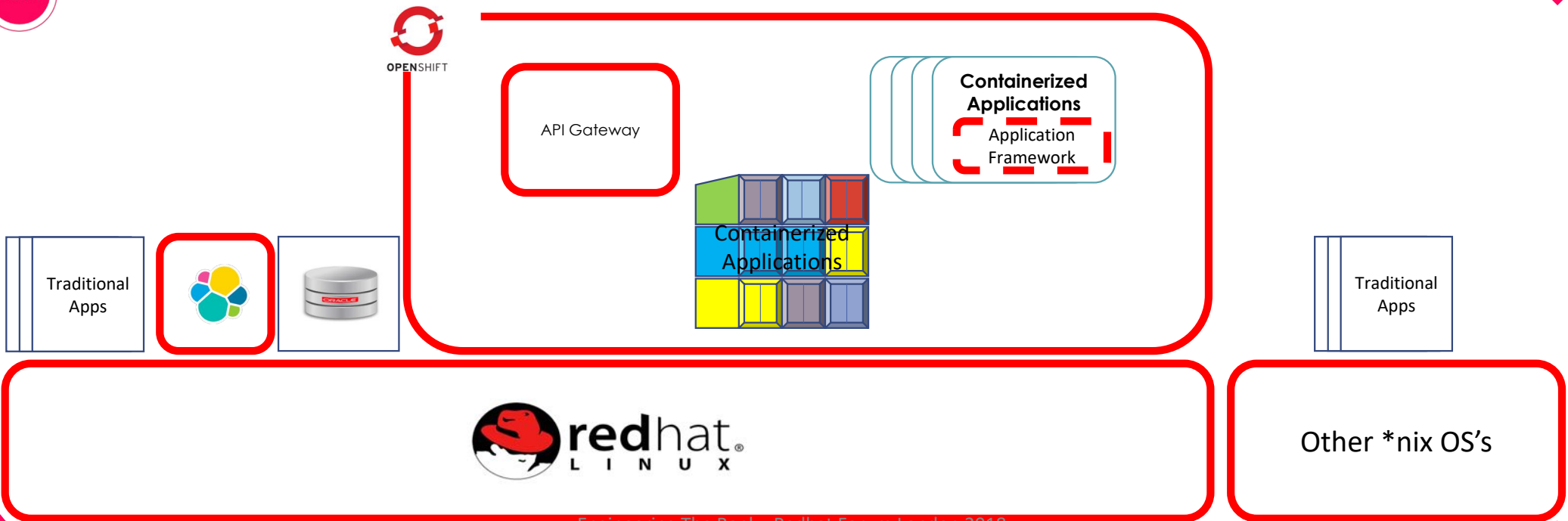
OpenShift is our Kubernetes implementation of choice.

- Implemented primarily for its operational features
  - Scaling
  - Geographical load balancing
  - Health monitoring
  - Templates

Satellite and Cloudforms used for provisioning and management of our estate.



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## What is Chieftain?

System of record for storing component configuration which can be provided in a standard format.

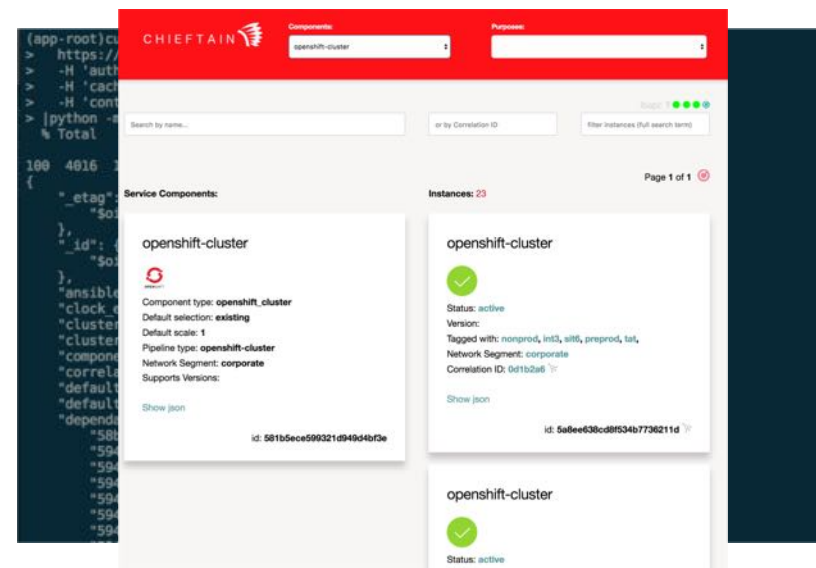
Use of JSON to return information in a structured format.

Auto population of dependency information without having to know all the details about dependencies.

## Common Questions

What about all the other “Configuration Managers”, Chef, Ansible, Puppet, Salt Stack etc?

What about all the CMDB providers?



# Composer & Elements



## What is composer?

Environment builder, deploy orchestrator.  
Component Dependency Resolver



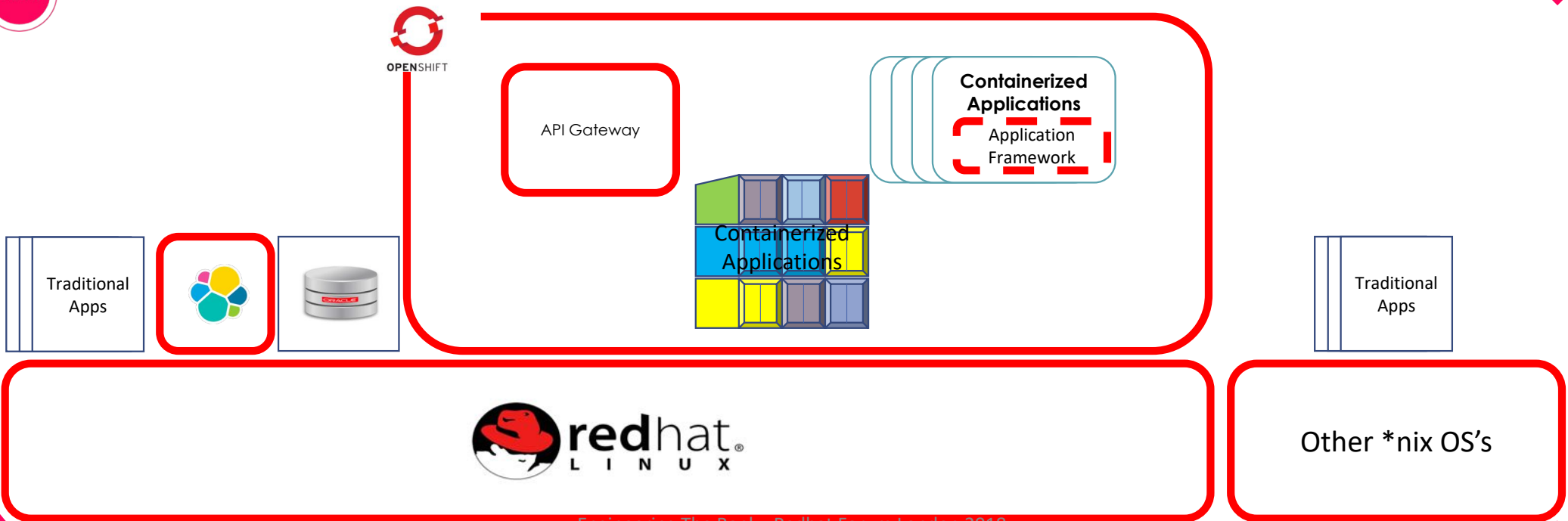
## What are elements?

Library of scripts used by Composer to build and deploy  
to any environment or platform.









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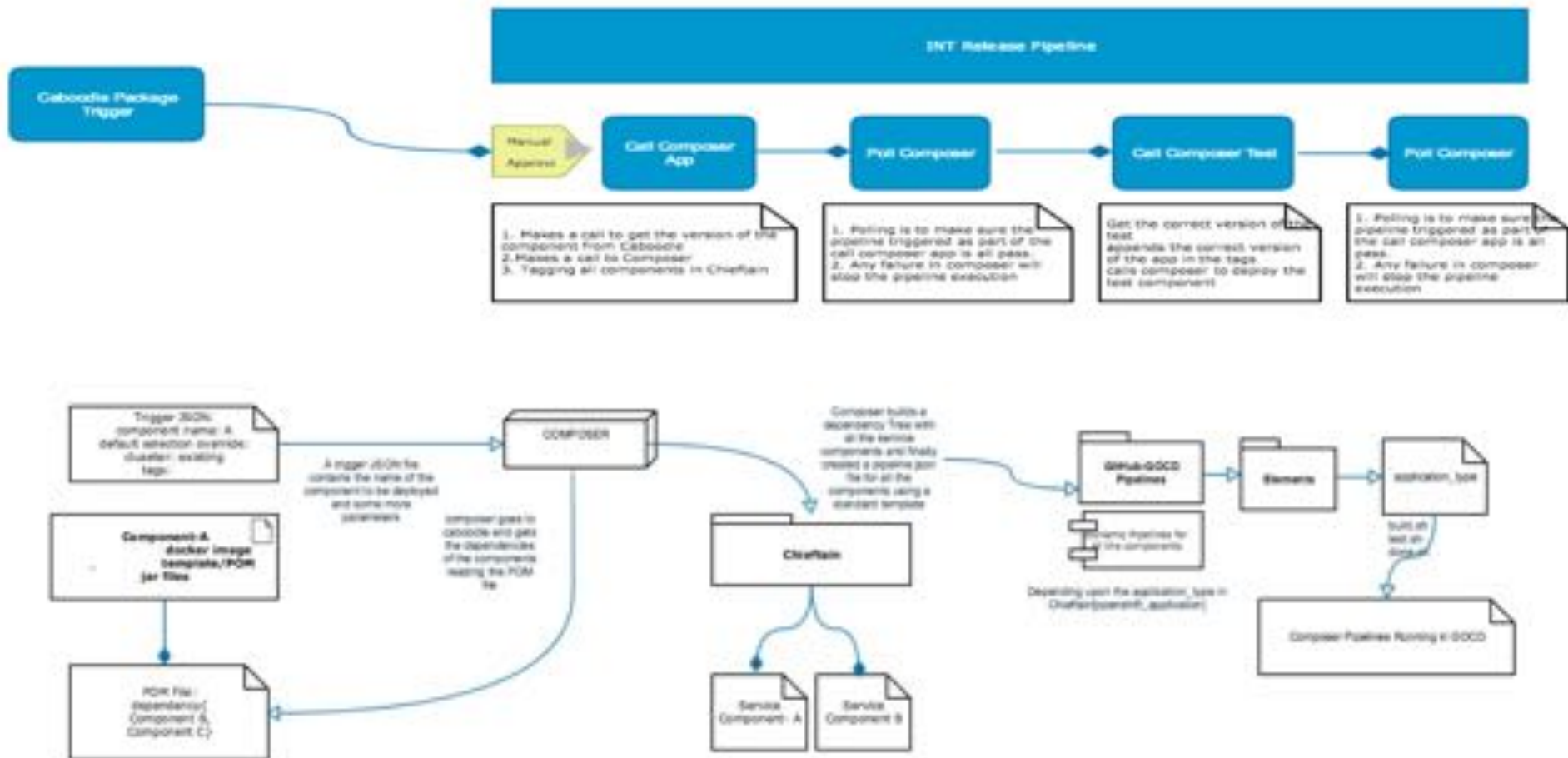


# Continuous Integration and Delivery with Composer



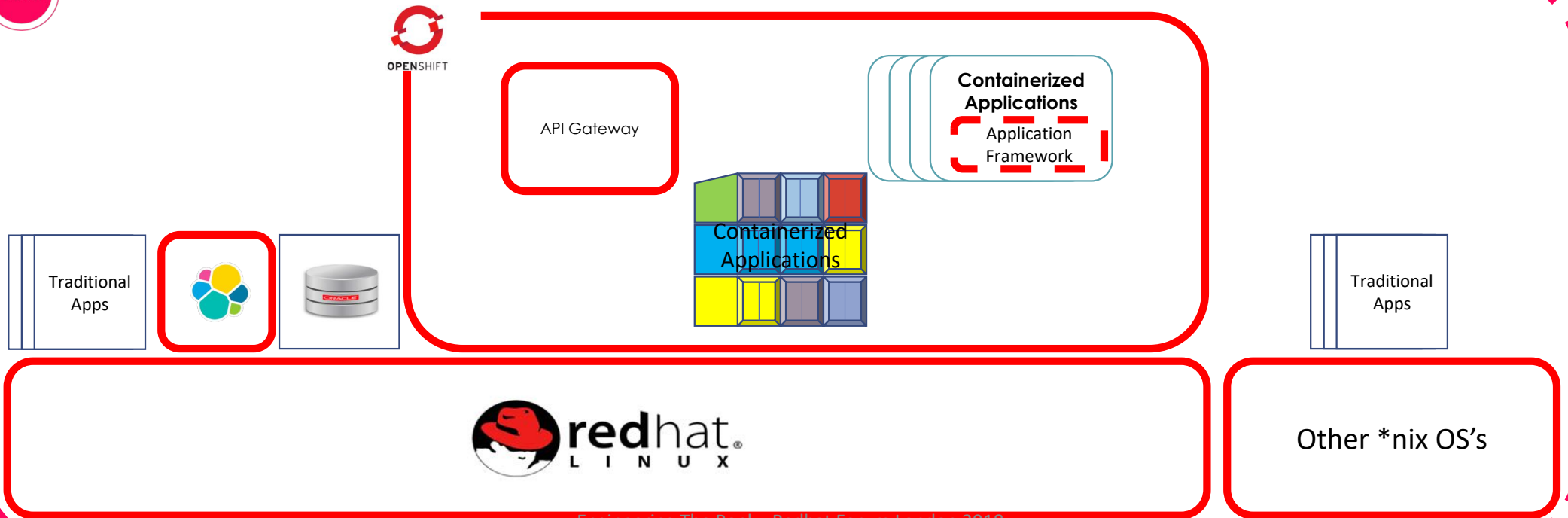
	CI Builds – Build PR's and Release Candidates Every build gets its own full functioning environment to run Developer written Integration Tests
	Storage of artifacts as well as opensource vulnerability scanning
	Code Quality Checks
	CD - Route to live pipelines on a per component basis

# Continuous Delivery Pipelines





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# API Gateway and Application Frameworks

## API Gateway

- Built on Open Source technology from Spring
- Took inspiration from Fabric8 for integrating with OpenShift to get service location
- Dynamically registers Microservices as they start taking event from Kubernetes then interrogating microservice for details about itself

## Application Frameworks

- Based on Open Source technology
  - Java
  - Python and JS
- Integrates tightly with Kubernetes to provide operational imperatives
  - Restarts, liveness, health, metrics
- Integrates with API Gateway
- Monitoring bundled in as part of build
- Component dependency management out of the box
- Standard repo structure



What does all this mean for delivery?

# Delivery of a Prototype in 2017



52 Builds

89 UAT Releases

36 Production Releases

3 Months



# Delivery of a Prototype in 2018

94 Builds - (99 Integration Deploys)

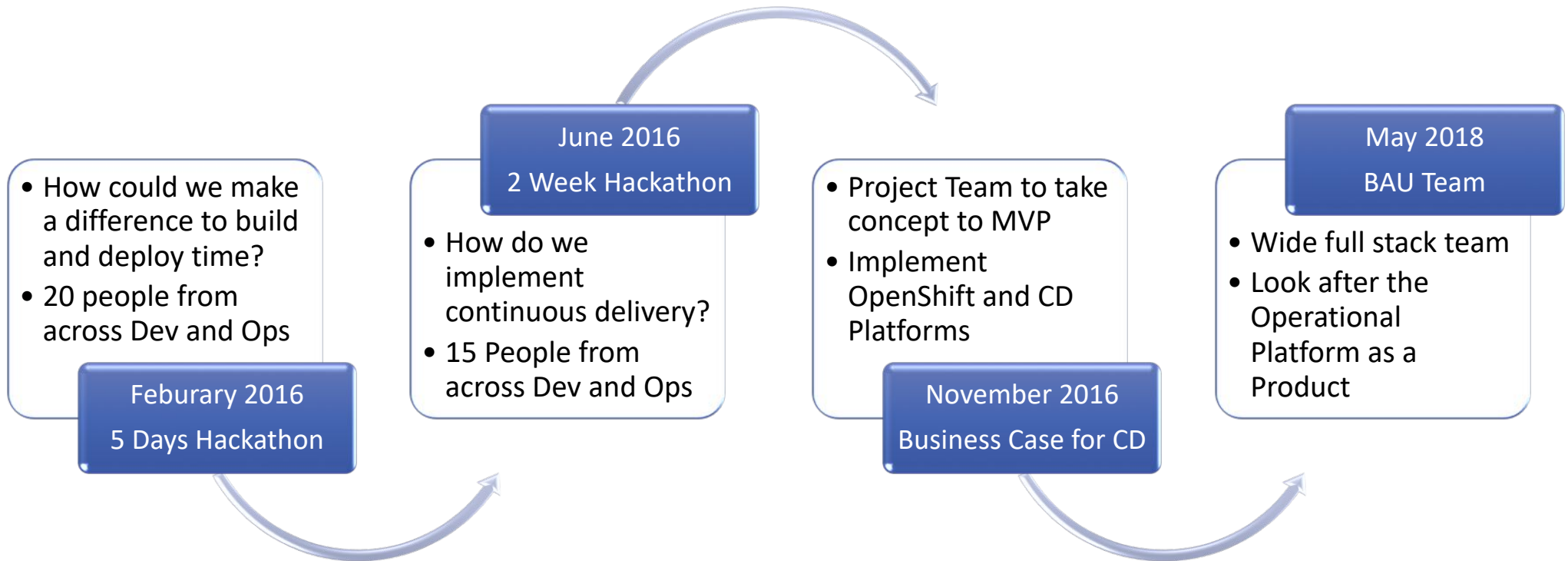
74 UAT Releases

0 Production Releases

1 Month

Latency during deployments is now measured in minutes 😊

# Evolution of the Team







# How Redhat helped us

- Professional Services
  - Architecture – Helped us get the design right, then validated once it was implemented
  - Engineering – On site engineer at various different times, helped with automation but also helped out across the project as needed – really bought in to our self managed team
  - On going support through the usual support channels
- Continually providing us with new ideas about different technologies
  - Through blogs and publications
  - Attending Redhat conferences
  - On going and regular relationship discussions
- Encouraged us to take part in opensource
  - Showing the art of the possible
- Inspiring us with their use of Open Organization

# What Next?



Thank you for your time.  
Questions?

