

# VMware Marketplace

## Platform Validation

July 2021

### Q: What is Platform Validation?

A: Platform validation provides real-time and automated validation of the most recent version of an application on the latest version of VMware platforms and vice versa, published on [VMware Marketplace](#). Platform validation alleviates the need for manual compatibility testing efforts, while highlighting interoperability issues real time. Platform validation consists of two components:

1. Validation at core platform level – application independent testing on predefined target platforms with a focus on generic application lifecycle and platform tests
2. Validation at application level – application specific tests provided by the publisher, which range from probing the live web app to lower-level checks executed inside the container

### Q: Why did VMware Marketplace team develop Platform Validation?

A: VMware developed Platform Validation keeping in mind the needs of both our customers and publishing partners on VMware Marketplace: For Customers, Platform Validation provides the guarantee that latest application versions will work on the latest deployment platform version, every single time. For Partners, Platform Validation lends the ability to present customers with the latest versions of interoperable applications that they can take advantage of at any given time. Additionally, Platform Validation also gives publishers the flexibility to define custom test scenarios on their apps, for an extra boost of confidence that their app will always work as expected

### Q: What kind of solutions can be validated through Platform Validation?

A: In the current release of VMware Marketplace 5.6, Platform Validation validates Kubernetes helm chart solutions deployable on VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid. In future releases, the Platform Validation functionality will be extended to virtual machines and other VMware deployment environments as well.

### Q: What functionality does the latest release include?

A: With this release of Platform Validation, publishers can:

- Trigger automated platform validation of their product (Helm Chart) through a self-service interface against VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid and view test results with associated output logs
- View the history of all past test executions, as the Marketplace keeps a persistent audit trail of the execution runs for each individual version of the Helm Chart uploaded
- Publish the product on the VMware Marketplace once platform tests are executed successfully

### Q: How is Platform Validation related to the existing validation programs, such as Partner Ready?

A: The Platform Validation process is an automated version of the Partner and VMware Ready validation programs. In the current release of VMware Marketplace 5.6, Platform Validation validates Kubernetes helm chart solutions deployable on VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid for TKG validations, and solutions that are validated through Platform Validation are eligible for the “Partner Ready for VMware Tanzu” badge. Other VMware Validation programs will be merged with the Platform Validation program in future releases.

### Q: Do partners need to validate against both Partner Ready / VMware Ready AND Platform Validation or just one of the two?

A: No, partners are required to go through only one program. However, in the current release of VMware Marketplace 5.6, Platform Validation is available only for Kubernetes helm chart solutions deployable on VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid solutions, hence solutions deployable on Tanzu Kubernetes Grid need not go through the manual validation program and will be eligible for a Partner Ready / VMware Ready stamp once they have successfully gone through the Platform Validation process.

### Q: Do partners get the Tanzu validated badge if they go through Platform Validation?

A: Yes

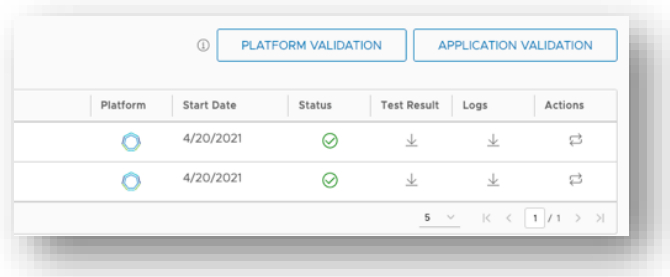
### Q: How is Platform Validation triggered? Is it mandatory?

A: Platform validation is triggered in one of the following two ways:

- First, it is automatically triggered whenever a publisher publishes a brand-new asset or a newer version of their

existing asset. A successful platform validation is mandatory for a solution to be approved for publishing on VMware Marketplace

- Second, it can also be manually accessed by the publisher by visiting a new section on their listing called the self-service validation section, where they can define, run, visualize, and troubleshoot new and existing platform and application validation for their solutions (see snapshot below)



New Validation Section visible to publishers on their listing

**Q: Who is the intended user of Platform Validation?**

A: The primary intended users are publishing partners looking to deploy validated assets on the Marketplace. These validated assets, in turn will be used by VMware Marketplace users.

**Q: How can partners integrate Platform Validation in their CI/CD pipeline?**

A: At present, Partners cannot automatically integrate their CI/CD pipeline with VMware Platform Validation. For every new release of the Partner Application, the Partner must use the Marketplace’s UI to upload their application(s) and trigger platform validation. In future, VMware might provide CLI / API interface to automatically integrate Partners CI/CD pipelines.

**Q: Does Platform Validation have any SLA? (i.e., how long does it take for solutions to appear)?**

A: Platform Validation runs two types of tests (1) VMware validations tests suite (2) Partner provided application specific test suites. (1) is mandatory for listing on VMware Marketplace and (2) is optional. For (1), it might take anywhere from 4 to 12 hours based on the jobs in the Platform Validation Pipeline.

**Q: What are the customer benefits from having Platform Validation in our feature set?**

A: For customers, Platform Validation ensures they have access to the latest version of any solution on the latest version of VMware deployment platforms and guarantees that the latest version chosen will work as expected on their chosen VMware endpoint.

**Q: What is the end-to-end process that a partner goes through for Platform Validation, from the point of expressing interest to completing validation?**

A: If you are a new partner on Marketplace, then start with the “Publish with Us” button on the Marketplace to open the Technology Alliance Partner (TAP) Onboarding workflow. This workflow guides you although the TAP agreement and Enrollment. If you are already onboarded on VMware Marketplace, then you can Publish the Solution by starting with “Publish->Solution->Distributable Solution” workflow. This workflow guides you to upload all marketing, support and technical assets related to your solution/ application. At the end of the process, your solution is validated by VMware and published on VMware Marketplace for all VMware Customers to access.

For more information, please view the *Platform Validation Guidelines for Publishers* located in Partner Solution Resources section on the [VMware Marketplace webpage](#).