



Education

# **Open Source and Standards: A Marriage Made in IT Heaven**

Hope Hines, Olocity

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- This session will cover the best practices necessary for identifying the need for open source, evaluating open source options and integrating solutions based on standards like SMI-S and CDMI. The presentation also will examine the risks and benefits companies face when developing and deploying products, and why open source *and* standards are a marriage made in IT heaven.

- The Problem
- Reasons for Governments
- Reasons for Businesses
- Benefits of Using Standards
- Costing Models
- Sample Solutions
- Questions to ask

- Too costly for developing proprietary applications
- Complexity of deploying and integrating solutions
- Vendor lock-in
- No single pane of glass

# Reasons for Governments

## ➤ Security

- ◆ It has been shown statistically that security increases by the number of users and developers of OSS.

## ➤ Procurement time

- ◆ Government procurement of proprietary software can take up to 3 years for approval

## ➤ No vendor lock-in or lock-out

- ◆ Since open source software (OSS) is in the public domain it eliminates the vendor lock-in and also provides multiple vendor support i.e. Linux

## ➤ Reduced cost

- ◆ Using OSS increases the competition for professional services which results in lower cost for support contracts.

## ➤ Increased quality

- ◆ With increased usage of the OSS more reviews of the source code are conducted

## ➤ Collaborative environment

- ◆ By participating in OSS communities it allows governments to input their requirements for the software.

- **Commitments made by U.K. to its citizens and Free Software Developers**
  - ◆ Ensure that the Government adopts open standards
  - ◆ Ensure that open source solutions are considered properly
  - ◆ Embed an open source culture of sharing
  - ◆ Ensure that there are no procedural barriers to the adoption of open source products
  - ◆ Ensure that systems integrators and proprietary software suppliers demonstrate flexibility and ability to re-use their solutions and products as is inherent in open source.



## ➤ “Open Source Gains While Proprietary Software Declines” by Matt Asay

- ◆ Reduce costs by 87% (while meeting or exceeding expectations)
- ◆ Improve quality by 92%
- ◆ Ease integration and customization by 86%

- ◆ Footnote: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-13505\\_3-10223005-16.htm](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13505_3-10223005-16.htm)

- Quicken pace of innovation by 82%
- Improve support by 84%
- Increase standards compliance by 91%
- Decrease time to market by 82%

# A Perspective on Standards

*“It is relatively easy to sit alone and develop a proprietary solution that fits exactly what a single company wants to achieve. It's much harder to develop a standard that suits every voting member. Arguments, blockages, concessions and complications are all part of this process.*

*Does that mean the multi-vendor standardization process is flawed? Not at all! In fact, I would argue just the opposite. A standard that has the approval of all interested parties in that space has a far greater chance of acceptance and survival than does the rogue standard created by a single, uncooperative vendor.”*

By Michi Henning, Managing Director, Triodia Technologies

# Benefits for Using Standards I

- Greatly reduces IP infringement fears
- Interoperability – no vendor lock-in
- Enables more choices and competition for end users when selecting products
- Decreases time to market for products

## ➤ Increases of Ease of Use

- ◆ Establishes common terms for common capabilities across multiple vendors

## ➤ Reduces costs for developing products

- ◆ By reducing number of development teams for each proprietary interface

## ➤ Increases innovation

## ➤ Vendor Extensions to standards

- ◆ Provides for socialization and validation of potential new standards material

## ➤ Open Source Applications

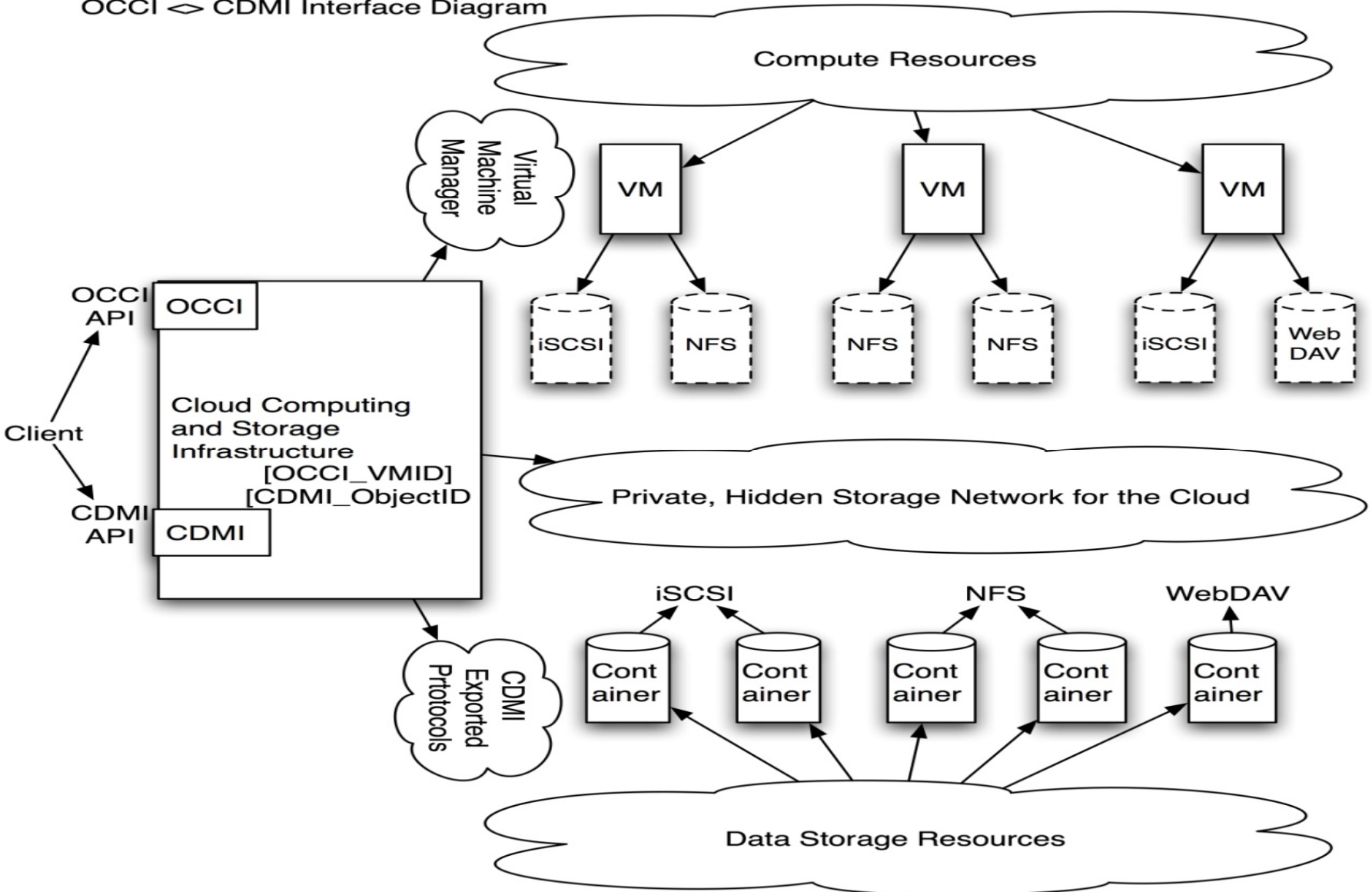
- ◆ Free
- ◆ Open Core – subscriptions

## ➤ Proprietary Applications

- ◆ Price per number of ports
- ◆ Price per number of devices
- ◆ Price per modules/capabilities

# OCCI and CDMI

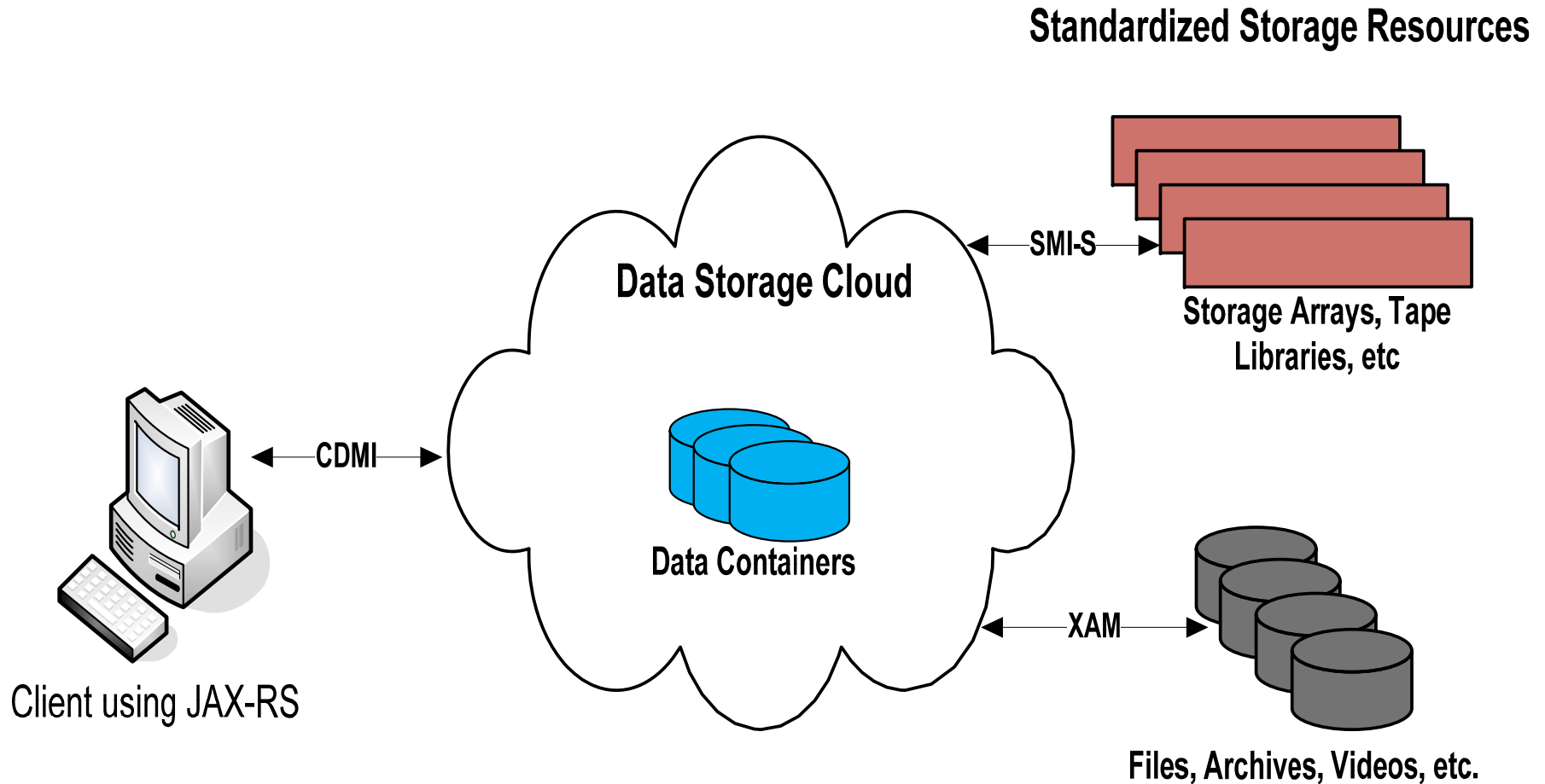
OCCI <-> CDMI Interface Diagram



- Open Grid Forum (OGF) and SNIA joint collaboration
- Open Cloud Computing Interface (OCCI) provides the access for managing the user accounts
- Cloud Data Management Interface (CDMI) provides the access for managing and configuring the storage resources
- Joint demonstrations coming up



# Open Source and Standards



# Open Source & Standards Integrations

- Client uses JAX-RS for web services
- CDMI for accessing storage resources
- XAM for controlling data path
- SMI-S for configuring and provisioning the backend storage

- Ask your vendor why they are still developing to multiple proprietary interfaces when they could be saving money and time by developing to a standard interface
- Ask why they belong to standard organizations but don't implement or promote standard based product lines

- Are the vendors' members standard organizations?
- Are they actively engaged in technical working groups working on the standards?
  - ◆ Such as in the SNIA they should also be authors of the standards being developed i.e. CDMI
  - ◆ Can verify by looking at the authors listed in the specifications at  
[http://www.snia.org/tech\\_activities/publicreview/](http://www.snia.org/tech_activities/publicreview/)

- Do they actively participate in interoperability testing for the standards
  - ◆ Vendors equipment in interoperability labs is available for testing more than 75% of the time
  - ◆ Ask for uptime report of vendor's equipment in labs i.e. SNIA SMI-Lab
  
- Do conformance testing and test more than minimum capabilities for passing conformance testing for compliance to standards such as SMI-S
  - ◆ Compare testing done by storage vendors for SMI-S at [http://www.snia.org/forums/smi/tech\\_programs/ctp/conformingproviders](http://www.snia.org/forums/smi/tech_programs/ctp/conformingproviders)

# Power of the End User I

- Require standards and OSS in RFQs and RFPs
  
- Verify vendors are implementing standards (don't take the vendors word for it)
  
- Get involved in standard organizations and open source projects
  - ◆ Provide feedback to companies implementing open source/standard based products.

- The number one way to change the situation and give the power back to you as the customer is to vote with your **wallet**.
  
- Only buy products compliant to standards and using open source.

- Please send any questions or comments on this presentation to SNIA: [trackstoragegmt@snia.org](mailto:trackstoragegmt@snia.org)

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