



Orchestral.ai

Composer vs StackStorm

# Orchestral.ai

*Conquering Complexity in Enterprise IT*





# Composer vs StackStorm

## How Does Composer Compare to StackStorm?

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### What is StackStorm?

StackStorm is an open-source, event-driven, automation & orchestration platform that connects various tools, services, devices and APIs together to automate common IT tasks and processes. With StackStorm, users can create complex workflows and rules that trigger actions in response to wide range of events such as monitoring metrics, system alerts, resource utilization, etc.

By automating routine tasks and processes, StackStorm enables users to streamline operations, reduce manual errors and free up IT staff to focus on more strategic initiatives. StackStorm also supports a wide range of integrations with widely-used IT tools and services, including infrastructure automation tools like Ansible and Chef, monitoring tools like Nagios and Prometheus and collaboration tools like Slack and JIRA. Overall, StackStorm is a uniquely powerful platform that enables IT teams to save time, improve efficiency and reduce costs by automating and orchestrating workflows of arbitrarily high complexity.

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### Open Source Considerations

While open source StackStorm (and open source software more generally) offers numerous benefits, IT teams at large organizations often have concerns regarding its deployment in production infrastructure. Some of the most serious of these concerns include:

- **Security vulnerabilities:** Open source software can be more vulnerable to security breaches due to its public nature. Anyone can access the source code, which may expose potential weaknesses to attackers. Additionally, open source projects may not receive the same level of security support as proprietary software.
- **Quality and reliability:** Open source software varies widely in terms of quality, and IT teams may have concerns about the software's reliability in a production environment. The lack of a dedicated development team or support staff can also impact the software's stability and performance.



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## Open Source Considerations (continued)

- **Integration and compatibility:** Open source software may not always be compatible with existing systems, applications, and infrastructure. Integrating open source components into a large organization's production environment can be challenging, especially when trying to maintain seamless interoperability with other proprietary systems.
- **Support and maintenance:** Many open source projects lack the dedicated resources and support infrastructure that come with commercially available software. This can lead to difficulties in obtaining timely assistance with issues, updates, or patches, which can be a significant concern for organizations relying on the software in their production infrastructure.
- **Legal and compliance risks:** Open source software often comes with various licenses that dictate how it can be used, modified, and distributed. Navigating these licenses and ensuring compliance can be complex, especially for large organizations subject to various regulatory requirements. Additionally, there's a risk of intellectual property (IP) infringement if the open source software includes unattributed or improperly licensed code.

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## What is Composer?

Composer is the only commercially available, enterprise-grade version of StackStorm specifically intended for enterprise production deployments with a full complement of support, training, integration and onboarding services provided by the Orchestral team.

And, while Orchestral is a huge fan of the open source StackStorm and we encourage users to download and give it try in sandboxed environments, we also understand the valid concerns (as detailed above) that many organizations may have about deploying open source software in their production environments. It is for this reason that Composer was created, i.e. to provide an enterprise-grade, highly-scalable, highly-secure automation and orchestration platform designed to work with whatever infrastructure you currently have in place, i.e. requiring no "fork-lift" upgrades.



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## What is Composer? (continued)

However, Composer is a whole lot more than just "StackStorm on Steroids". Beyond security hardening of the StackStorm core, Composer extends the scope of integration packs to include packs not available in the open source. These include:

- **Security Pack (Palo Alto)**
- **Salesforce**
- **Cloudsmith (Package Cloud)**
- **Cisco Essentials (Cisco CLI)**
- **Premier ServiceNow Pack**
- **Premier Linux Pack**
- **Ruckus Wireless Pack**
- **Ruckus ICX Pack**
- **Versa Director Pack**
- **SuseManager Pack**
- **Enhanced vSphere Pack**
- **IBM Storage Automation Pack**
- **Brocade SAN Automation Pack**

Composer has been designed to be not only security-hardened and highly extensible through custom integration packs but also highly flexible through Composer applications for network automation and resource arbitration that leverage the Composer core to provide first of a kind capabilities.



# How Do Composer and StackStorm Compare?

FEATURES		
Announced	01 May 2020	06 May 2014
Status	Available, Release 6.3.0	Available, Release 3.8
Release Cycle	Quarterly with Expedited Hot Fixes	Community-Driven, Ranging from 3-6 Months
Event-Driven Automation & Orchestration	👍	👍
Hundreds of Available Integration Packs	👍	👍
Enterprise Integration Packs	👍	👎
Enterprise-Grade Scalability	👍	👎
Enterprise-Grade Security Hardening	👍	👎
Advanced Auth Module for Enhanced RBAC/LDAP	👍	👎
SSL/TLS Enhancements	👍	👎
Enhanced Canvas UI Elements	👍	👎
Network Automation Application	👍	👎
Resource Arbitration Application	👍	👎
Enterprise-Grade VM & Kubernetes HA Deployments	👍	👎
Zero-Touch Support	👍	👎
Dedicated Worldwide Premier Support	👍	👎
Training & Documentation via Client Success Center (CSC)	👍	👎
Proprietary Advanced Features (Roadmap)	👍	👎



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## Getting Started

Orchestral's solutions are available as free 30-day Proof of Value evaluations. To get started, just click the "FREE TRIAL" button at the top of this page and complete the Trial Request Form. If you'd like to see a demo first, just click the "Book a Demo" button below to book a date/time that works best for you. Otherwise, you can get started by emailing us at [info@orchestral.ai](mailto:info@orchestral.ai).

## About Us

Orchestral's mission is to enable IT infrastructure & operations teams to more effectively manage the complex mission critical processes that their organizations depend upon for day-to-day operations. We accomplish this today with our Composer platform as an enterprise-grade version of the open source StackStorm project with extensions, enhancements, integrations, training and support not available from the open source community.



**Orchestral.ai**  
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Contact us at [info@orchestral.ai](mailto:info@orchestral.ai) to schedule a demo and discover the ways we can help you conquer complexity.

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