Proposal to Transition from Payara Platform Community to Payara Platform Enterprise

Background

Our current application relies on **Payara Platform Community Edition**, which has served as a reliable foundation for our Java EE/Jakarta EE workloads. However, as the complexity and business criticality of our applications grow, we are beginning to encounter limitations and risks associated with using this edition.

To ensure our systems remain reliable, secure and well-supported, I recommend we consider upgrading to **Payara Platform Enterprise**. Here is what we can get by transitioning:

1. Production-Grade Stability & Support

- Payara Platform Community is primarily designed for development and experimentation. It receives only **monthly releases** and lacks long-term support.
- Payara Platform Enterprise offers monthly releases plus **hot patching, security fixes and a stability-first release model,** which is essential for production environments.

2. Security & Compliance

- Payara Platform Community is a community-driven project that does not need to align with any cyber security regulations or industry standards. Its use in mission-critical, production environments may **not comply** with current regulations, such as the CRA.
- Payara Platform Enterprise includes **regular (monthly) and immediate security patches,** addressing vulnerabilities that could otherwise

3. Performance Monitoring Enhancements

- Designed for testing and experimentation, Payara Platform Community offers limited tools for performance monitoring, observability, diagnostics and troubleshooting.
- Payara Platform Enterprise provides access to **Payara InSight, Diagnostic Tool, performance tuning assistance, as well as monitoring and troubleshooting features** that help us optimize applications proactively and maintain application health.

4. Expert Support

- Payara Platform Community is an open-source, unsupported, community-driven project. When our team experience issues, we are on our own.

- Payara Platform Enterprise licenses offer direct access to **Payara's engineering team** with guaranteed **SLAs** for bug fixes, performance issues and integration questions. This helps reduce our downtime, eliminate the guesswork during outages and ensure faster root cause analysis.

- Payara Platform Enterprise users can access **Payara Accelerator**, a suite of consultancy and training services designed to **help organizations maximize their applications** as well as their use of the platform. These services include, among others, expert-led consultancy engagements for migration, application server upgrades, architecture health checks, configuration reviews and operational training.

5. Compatibility & Long-Term Feature Stability

- Payara Platform Community prioritizes **rapid iteration and new feature** adoption, but often at the cost of long-term stability and backward compatibility.

- Payara Platform Enterprise is designed for reliability in production environments, offering **feature stability** across versions, **extended support lifecycles** as well and Lifetime Support for older versions.

6. Cost-Effective in the Long Run

- While Payara Platform Enterprise Community is free to download and use, the **cost of downtime, security incidents, and in-house troubleshooting** can exceed the investment in Payara Platform Enterprise support.

- With Payara Platform Enterprise, we ensure **predictable support costs** while having a say in the platform evolution.

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Feature Overview

ASPECT	PAYARA PLATFORM COMMUNITY	PAYARA PLATFORM ENTERPRISE
Technical Support	Ensures application portability and prevents vendor lock-in.	Guarantees long-term compatibility and protects your investment.
Security Updates	Vital for managing workloads and seamless growth.	Directly impacts customer satisfaction and your ability to capitalise on new opportunities.
Bug Fixes	Robust authentication, authorization, and timely patching.	Minimises data breaches, downtime, and reputational risks.
Operational Downtime Risk	Optimised for cloud deployments, supporting microservices and containerization.	Enables cost-effective scalability and adaptability to new technologies.
Monitoring, Observability & Troubleshooing	Streamlines development with intuitive tooling and active community support.	Boosts productivity, reduces time-to-market and attracts top talent.
Regulatory Compliance	Not included, would require extra effort	Included in subscription
Legacy Version Support	Not available	Lifetime Support available
Consultancy	Not available	Offered through Payara Accelerator services

Cost Analysis

Hidden Costs of Using Payara Platform Community Edition in Production

COST CATEGORY	ESTIMATED IMPACT (ANNUAL)
Developer time due to issues	80 hr/year × $30-160/hr = $2,400.
Performance troubleshooting	50 hr/year × $30-160/hr = $1,500-8,000
No SLA; slower incident resolution & unplanned downtime	Increased MTTR 12 hr/year × $2,500/hr = $30,000/year
DIY monitoring/setup/tools	Tooling/licensing = $1,000–2,000
Security breach/incident risk	Avg. recovery cost = $10,000–50,000
Fees for non-compliance	$100/violation, up to $20 million
Total Estimated Indirect Cost	**$48,900–2.1 million/year**

Payara Platform Enterprise Licensing Cost (Estimate)

Actual pricing depends on cores, support tiers, number of named contacts, contract length. The below is for ballpark purposes:

LICENSE TIER	ESTIMATED COST (ANNUAL)
Payara Platform Enterprise (10 cores)	~$6,450-14,500/year
Additional cores or licenses	Often bundled or discounted
Java JDKs	Included
10x5 or 24x7 support	Included
Migration and project support (if needed)	~$25,000
Total Investment	**~$6,450–39,500/year**

ROI Summary

Savings in productivity, reduced risk and downtime well exceed the subscription cost, while freeing up our development teams.

Suggested Next Steps

I would suggest we initiate a **trial or consultation** with Payara Services' team to:

- Assess how Payara Platform Enterprise and its support model fits our application needs.
- Gather a quote that can provide us with a more accurate **cost-benefit comparison** between current operational overhead and the cost of Payara Platform Enterprise.
- Explore how Payara Platform Enterprise features can be leveraged for our **DevOps and CI/CD pipeline** enhancements.

Conclusions

Moving to Payara Platform Enterprise aligns with our business goals. It requires a limited investment while equipping us with a professional-grade runtime environment, improves operational efficiency and significantly reduces risk.

I recommend we explore the transition further and schedule a technical and commercial assessment with Payara Services.

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PAYARA ENTERPRISE FREE TRIAL

PAYARA CLOUD FREE TRIAL
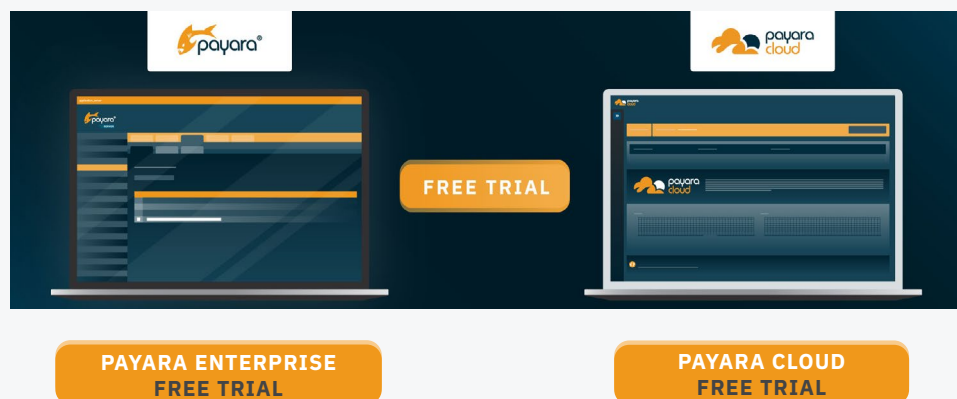
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