Alibaba Cloud Officially Supports HashiCorp Packer and Terraform

We are excited to announce Alibaba Cloud's support for HashiCorp's core packaging and infrastructure provisioning tools - Packer and Terraform. Users can now use these tools to speedily deploy their applications and infrastructure on Alibaba Cloud.

Enterprise business's continuous development and rapid iteration of applications and infrastructure inevitably increase operations and maintenance costs. Alibaba Cloud provides a set of flexible services designed to enable customers to rapidly and reliably build and deliver products using our cloud and DevOps practices.

HashiCorp is the leader in infrastructure automation. Customers across the world have adopted HashiCorp's core provisioning tools to improve their application delivery workflows across heterogeneous environments. With the support of Terraform and Packer, Alibaba Cloud customers can have the same powerful workflows to manage their global infrastructure. As a result, customers can save time and cost on infrastructure management, and focus on delivering business-critical needs.

Packer users can easily build and configure customized images on Alibaba Cloud using the same workflow and configuration as used for managing images on other platforms. Here is a basic Packer build configuration for Alibaba Cloud:

```
{
    "variables": {
        "access_key": "{{env `ALICLOUD_ACCESS_KEY`}}",
        "secret_key": "{{env `ALICLOUD_SECRET_KEY`}}"
    },
    "builders": [{
        "type":"alicloud-ecs",
        "access_key":"{{user `access_key`}}",
        "secret_key":"{{user `secret_key`}}",
        "region":"cn-beijing",
        "image_name":"packer_basic",
        "source_image":"centos_7_2_64_40G_base_20170222.vhd",
        "ssh_username":"root",
        "instance_type":"ecs.n1.tiny",
        "io_optimized":"true"
}],
    "provisioners": [{
        "type": "shell",
        "inline": [
          "sleep 30",
          "yum install redis.x86_64 -y"
] }]
}
```

Similarly, [Terraform](#) users can provision compute, network, and storage resources on Alibaba Cloud using the same workflow and configuration as used for managing infrastructure on other clouds. Here is a basic configuration for setting up the Alibaba Cloud provider and building a simple VPC network:

```
# Configure the Alicloud Provider
provider "alicloud"{
    region = "cn-beijing"
}
# Create a virtual private network
resource "alicloud_vpc" "main" {
    cidr_block = "10.1.0.0/21"
}
# Create a virtual subnet in the VPC
resource "alicloud_vswitch" "main" {
    vpc_id = "${alicloud_vpc.main.id}"
    cidr_block = "10.1.1.0/24"
    availability_zone = "cn-beijing-a"
    depends_on = ["alicloud_vpc.main"]
}
# Create a security group in the VPC
resource "alicloud_security_group" "group" {
    name = "terraform-test-group"
    description = "New security group"
    vpc_id = "${alicloud_vpc.main.id}"
}
# Create an ecs instance in the virtual subnet
resource "alicloud_instance" "instance" {
    image_id = "ubuntu_140405_64_40G_cloudinit_20161115.vhd"
    instance_type = "ecs.n4.small"
    availability_zone = "cn-beijing-a"
    security_groups = ["${alicloud_security_group.group.id}"]
    vswitch_id = "${alicloud_vswitch.main.id}"
    system_disk_category = "cloud_efficiency"
    password= "..."
}
```

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