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To Quality, and Beyond!

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AARNet provide CloudStor, Australia's largest EFSS suite for research collaboration, with end points distributed across the nation. As the number of users scale so has our related products, with a corresponding increase in complexity.

2020 has provided many challenges for the Cloud Services team at AARNet, among those keeping the services stable while scaling to meet demand. As part of our response to these issues we have focused on quality, with the deployment of a Openstack cluster to improve our ability to test changes and new features.

Our first aim with this platform was to create a deployment of the components of CloudStor, using Terraform to spin up the VMs and ansible (using the same scripts we do in production) for the services. The next step was to deploy the CS3Mesh IOP platform, as this involved Kubernetes and helm charts. We've also taken our first steps into continuous integeration with automated Docker containers being built post git commits, with some linting and testing as part of it.

The ultimate aim is to have a fully tested automated deployment of the full environment, including monitoring and performance testing, but the journey has just started.

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