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CloudNativeCon

Europe 2018

The “Silk” Road: Building a CNI Plugin From Scratch

Angela Chin, Senior Software Engineer, Pivotal
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Agenda



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- What is CNI
- What is Cloud Foundry
- Cloud Foundry + CNI
- Main Motivations to Build Silk CNI
- Building Silk
- What's Next?
- Key Takeaways

Agenda



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- **What is CNI**
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What is CNI?



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Container Networking Interface (CNI) is an industry standard API for container runtimes to call networking plugins



**CLOUD NATIVE
COMPUTING FOUNDATION**

CNI Plugins



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- Creates network interface for containers
- Removes resources when containers are deleted
 - Deletion is idempotent
- Network connectivity

CNI Plugins



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- Binaries
- Invoked during a container creation/deletion
- Arguments passed in through combination of env variables and stdin

List of CNI Plugins



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- Project Calico - a layer 3 virtual network
- Weave - a multi-host Docker network
- Contiv Networking - policy networking for various use cases
- SR-IOV
- Cilium - BPF & XDP for containers
- Infoblox - enterprise IP address management for containers
- Multus - a Multi plugin
- Romana - Layer 3 CNI plugin supporting network policy for Kubernetes
- CNI-Genie - generic CNI network plugin
- Nuage CNI - Nuage Networks SDN plugin for network policy kubernetes support
- Silk - a CNI plugin designed for Cloud Foundry
- Linen - a CNI plugin designed for overlay networks with Open vSwitch and fit in SDN/OpenFlow network environment
- Vhostuser - a Dataplane network plugin - Supports OVS-DPDK & VPP
- Amazon ECS CNI Plugins - a collection of CNI Plugins to configure containers with Amazon EC2 elastic network interfaces (ENIs)
- Bonding CNI - a Link aggregating plugin to address failover and high availability network

Source: <https://github.com/containernetworking/cni#3rd-party-plugins>

List of CNI Plugins



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A Haiku



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“Here is my source code
Run it on the cloud for me
I do not care how”
- Onsi Fakhouri

Cloud Foundry Application Runtime

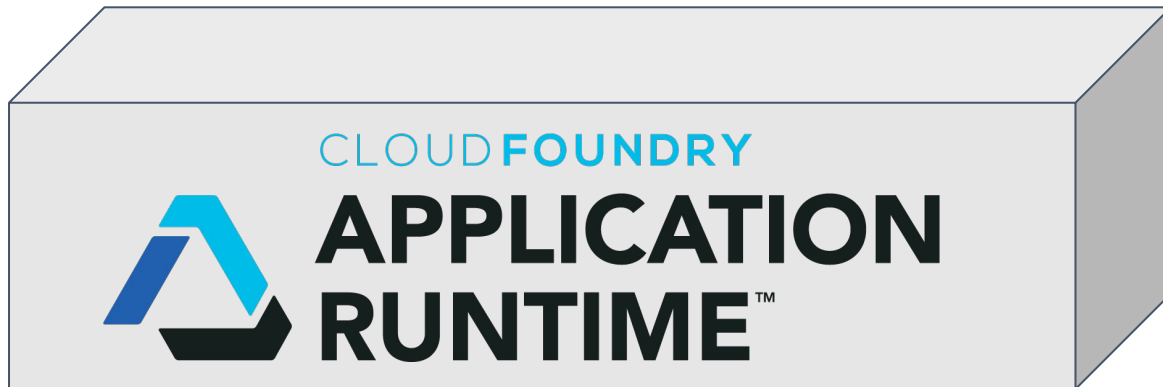


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Deploy and manage
applications

Cloud Foundry Application Runtime

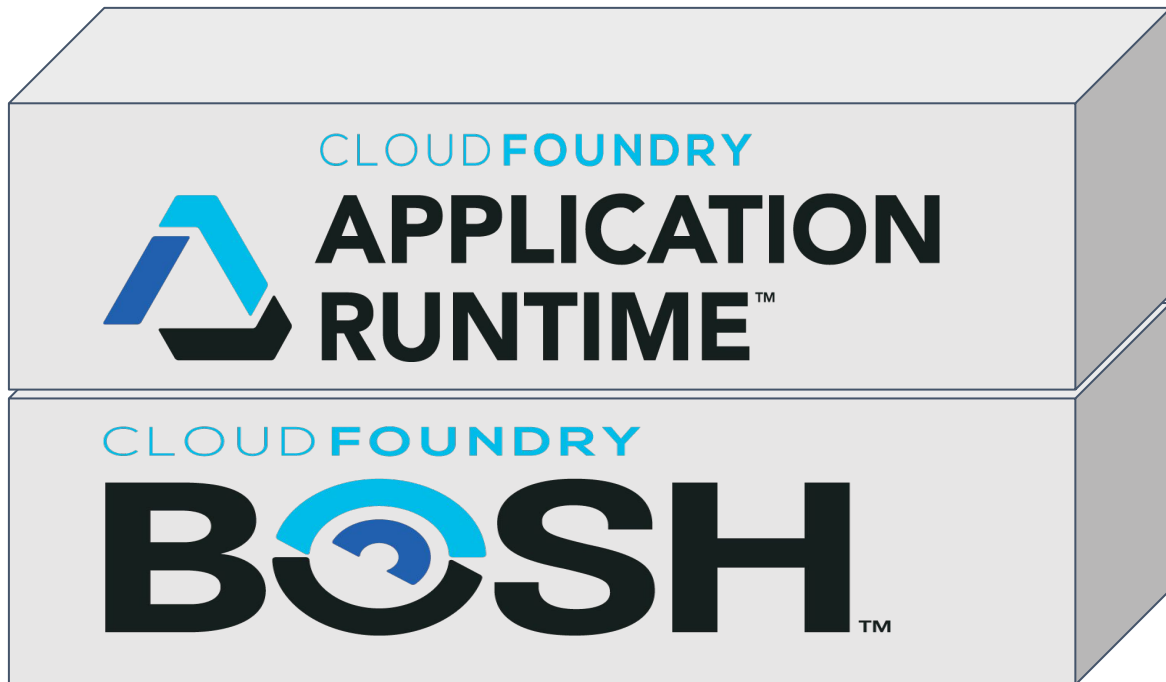


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Deploy and manage applications

Deploy and manage infrastructure

Cloud Foundry Workflow

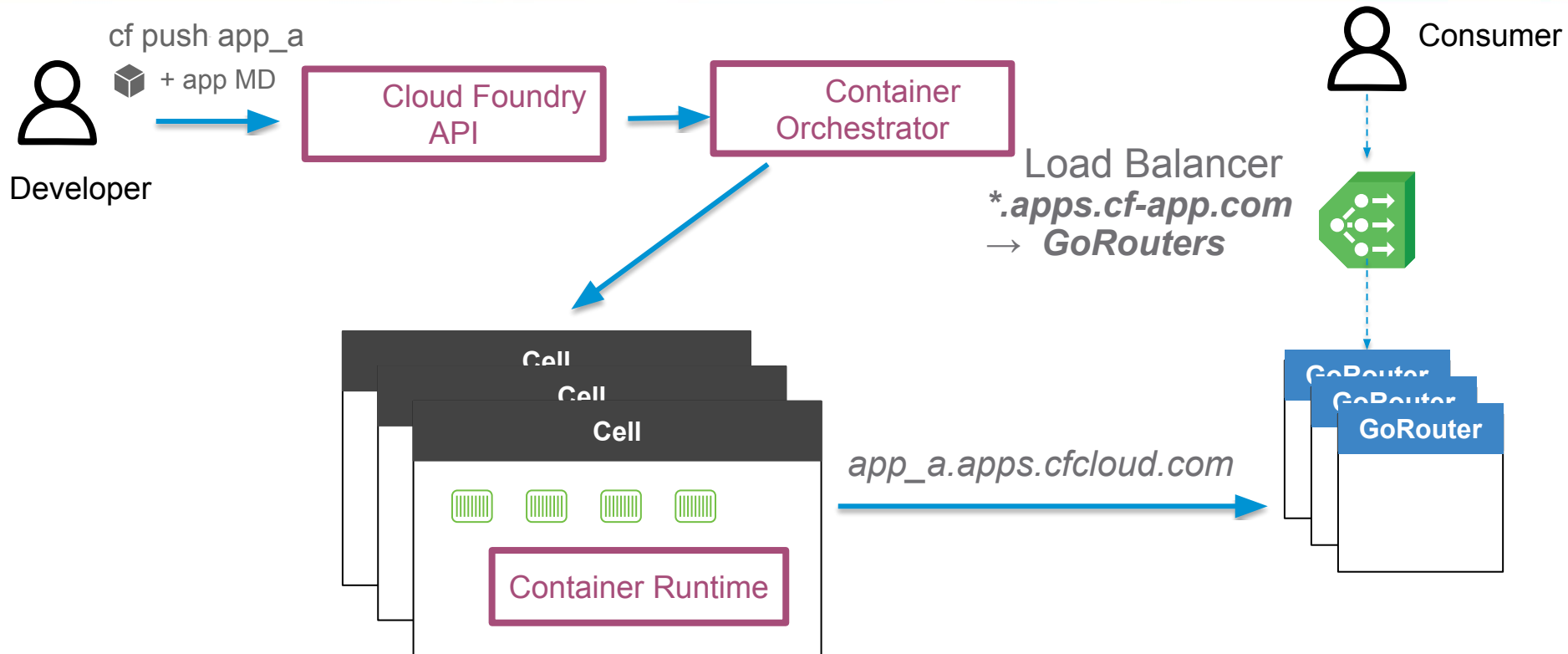


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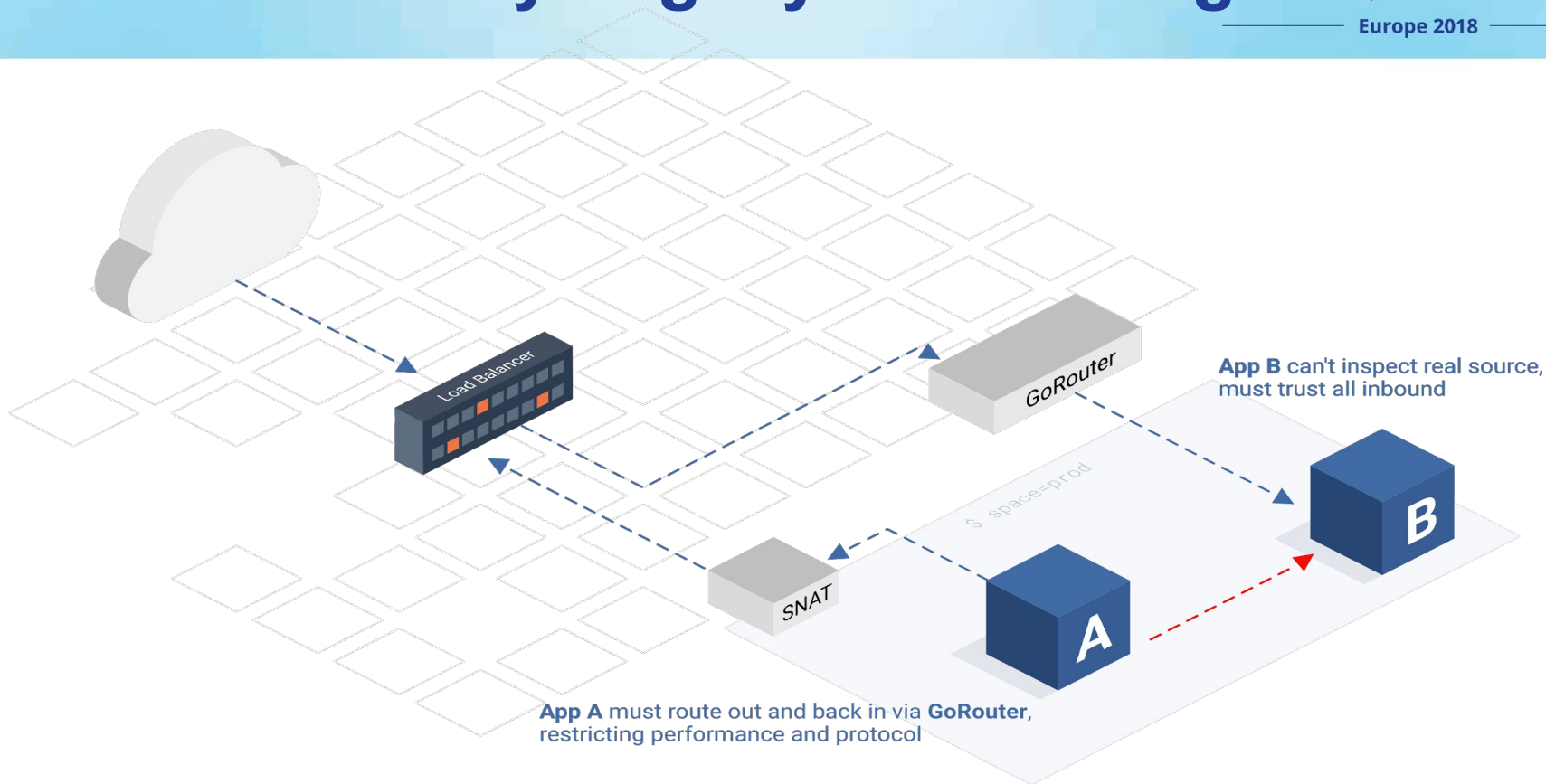
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Cloud Foundry Legacy Networking



Desired State



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App A

permit dest B
permit dest C



App B

permit src A
permit dest C

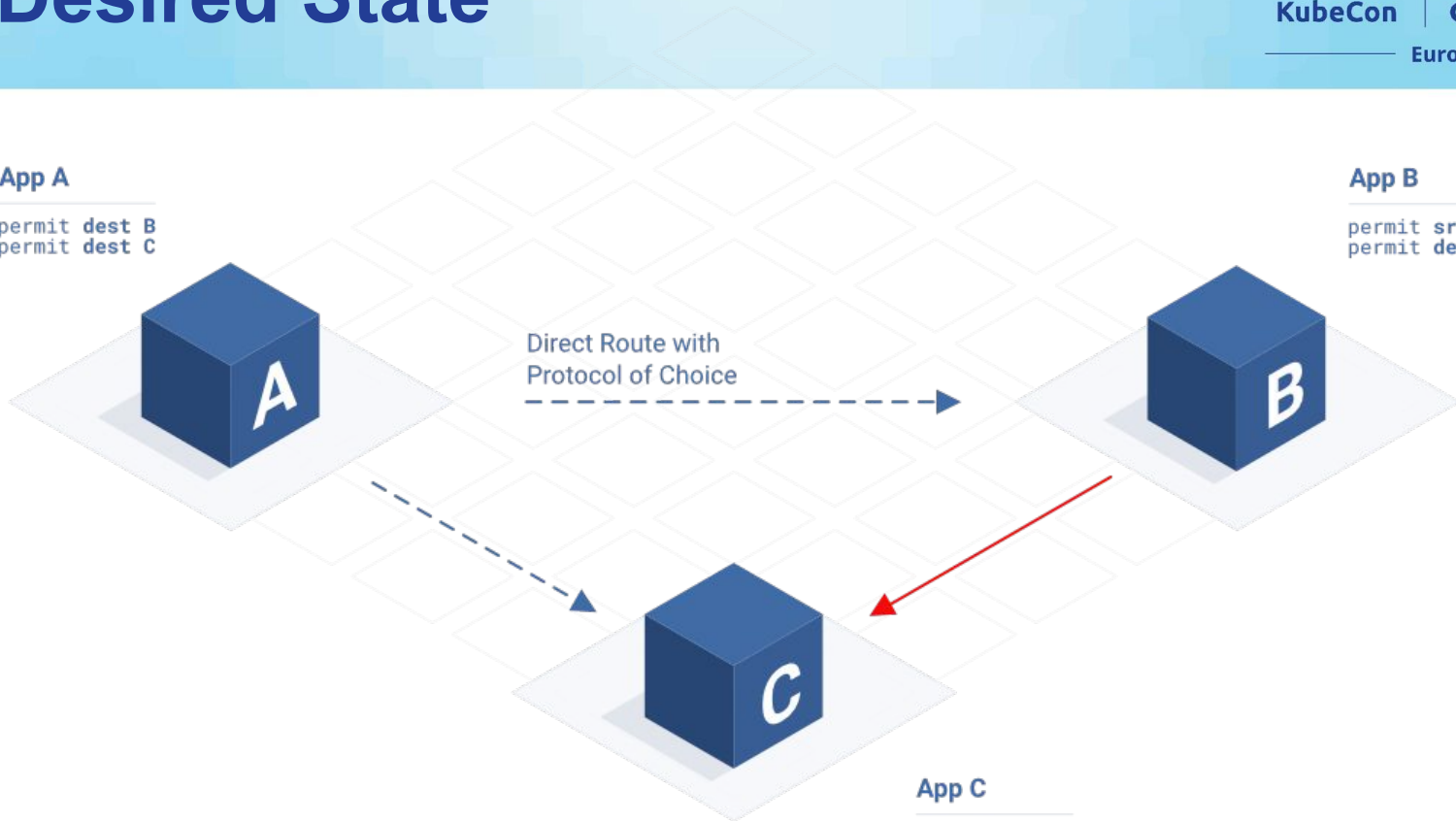


Direct Route with
Protocol of Choice



App C

deny src B
permit src A



Networking Requirements



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Application Security Groups

Egress Cell IP:SNAT

Ingress Cell IP:DNAT

**Existing
Features**

A green hexagon with a white border and a slight drop shadow, containing the text 'Existing Features' in bold black font.

Networking Requirements



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Application Security Groups

Egress Cell IP:SNAT

Ingress Cell IP:DNAT

IaaS agnostic

Unique IP per container

Extensible

**Existing
Features**

Connectivity

Networking Requirements



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Application Security Groups

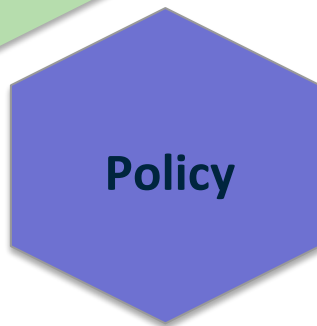
Egress Cell IP:SNAT

Ingress Cell IP:DNAT

IaaS agnostic

Unique IP per container

Extensible



App to App

Dynamic

Self Service

Connectivity - Requirements



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Connectivity

IaaS agnostic

Unique IP per
container

Extensible

Connectivity - Solution

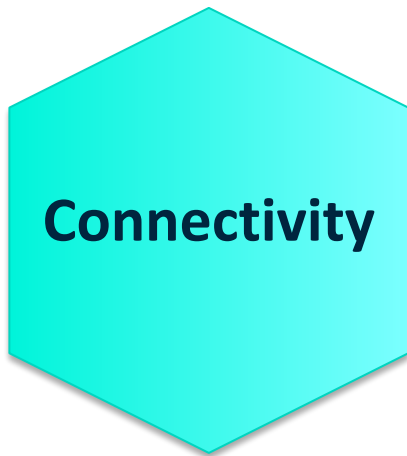


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VXLAN Overlay

Subnet per Cell

CNI



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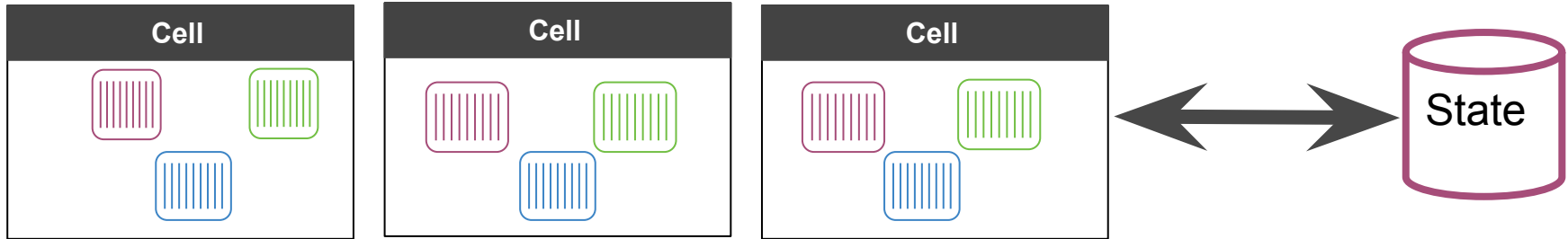


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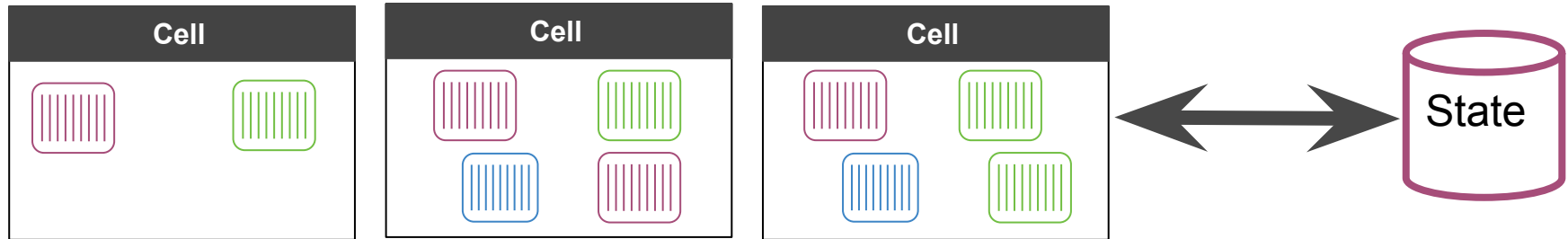
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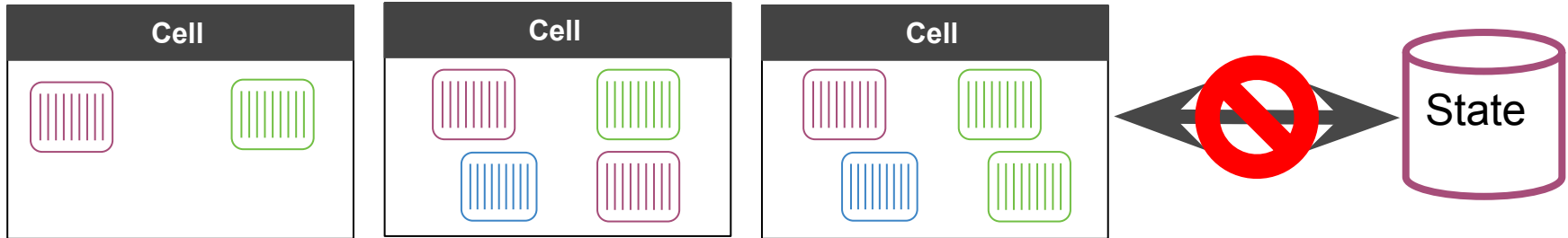
Application instances can be added and deleted



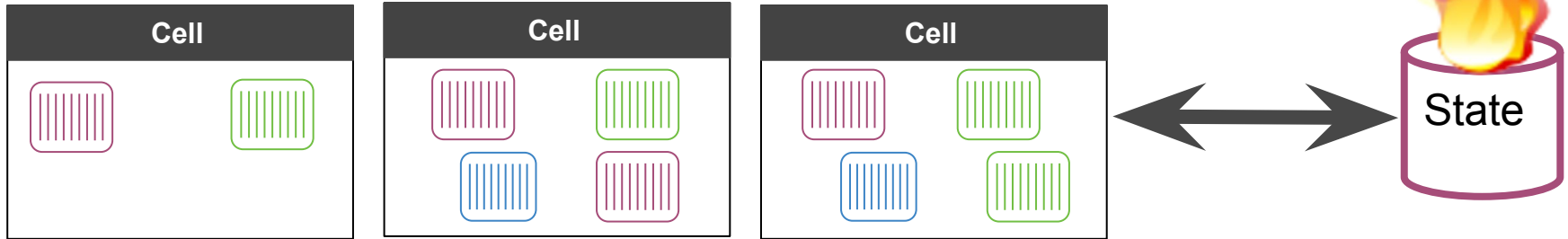
Diego Cells can be added/deleted at any time



Network Partitions



Data Loss



Extensibility



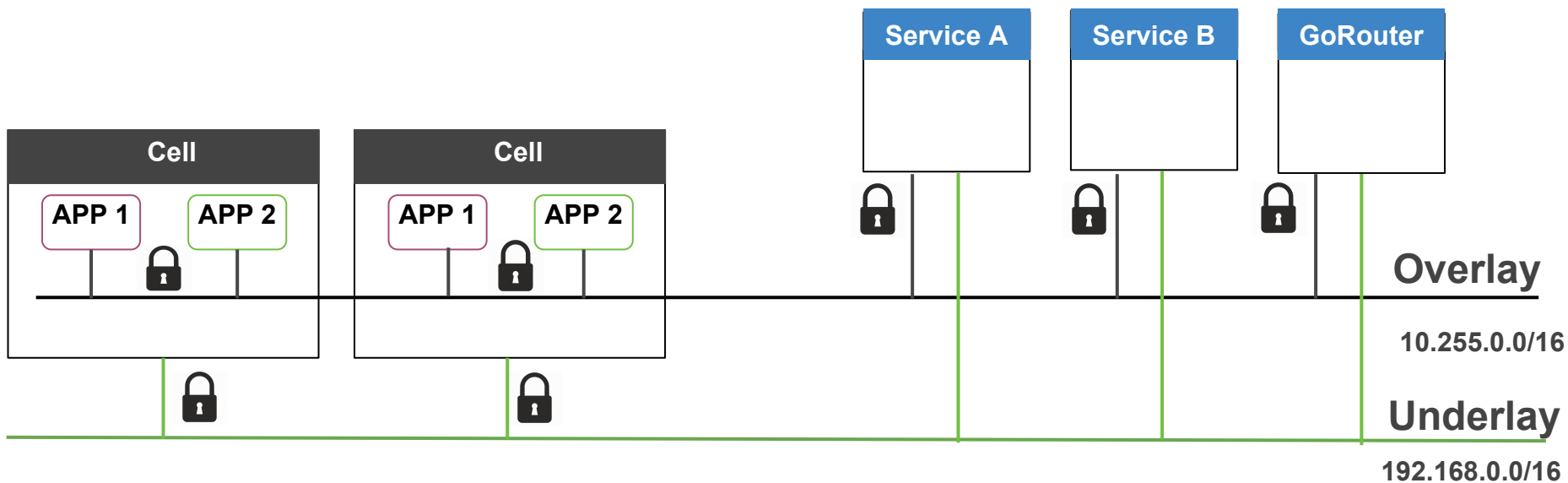
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Add support for new features



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Building Silk

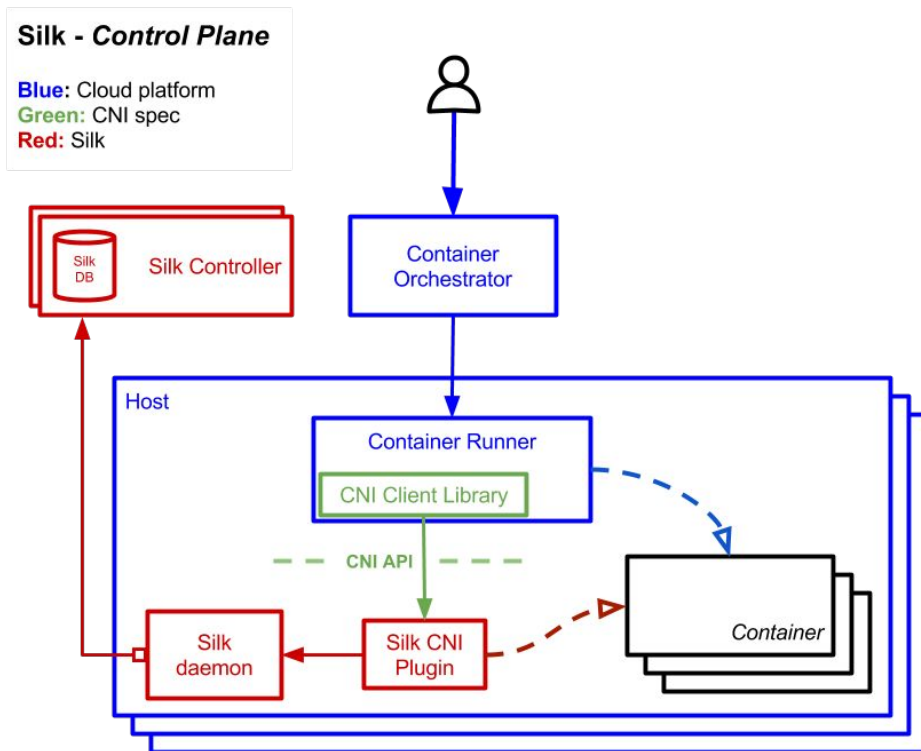


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Reliability & Stability



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A lease is a subnet given to a host vm.

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Silk - *Control Plane*

Blue: Cloud platform

Green: CNI spec

Red: Silk

How Silk Works: Subnet Assignment



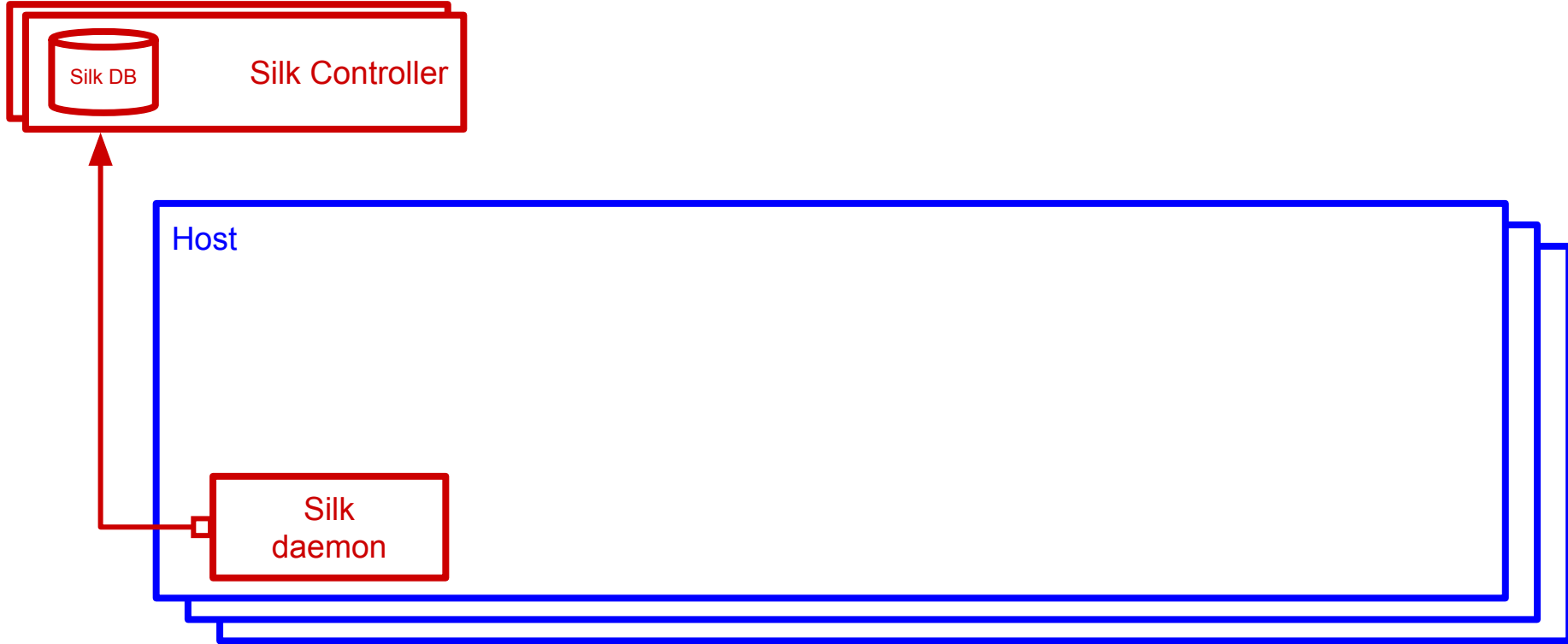
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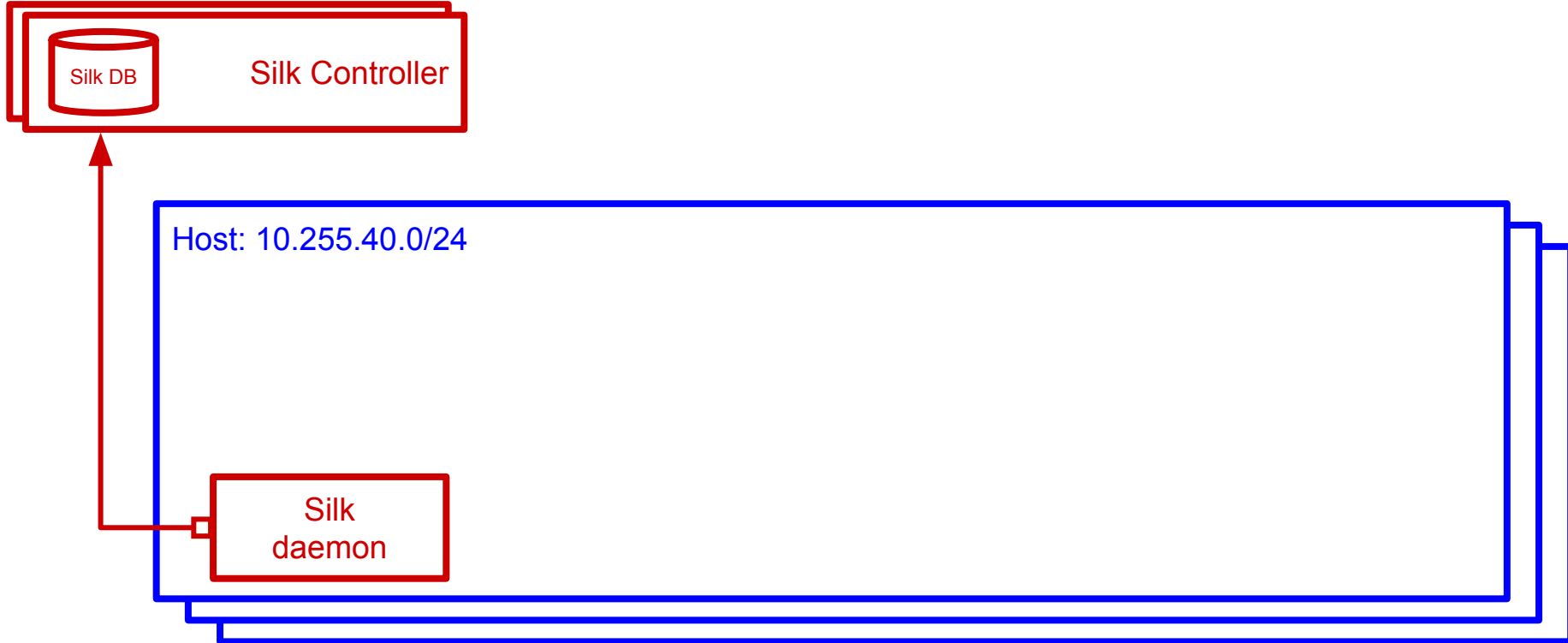
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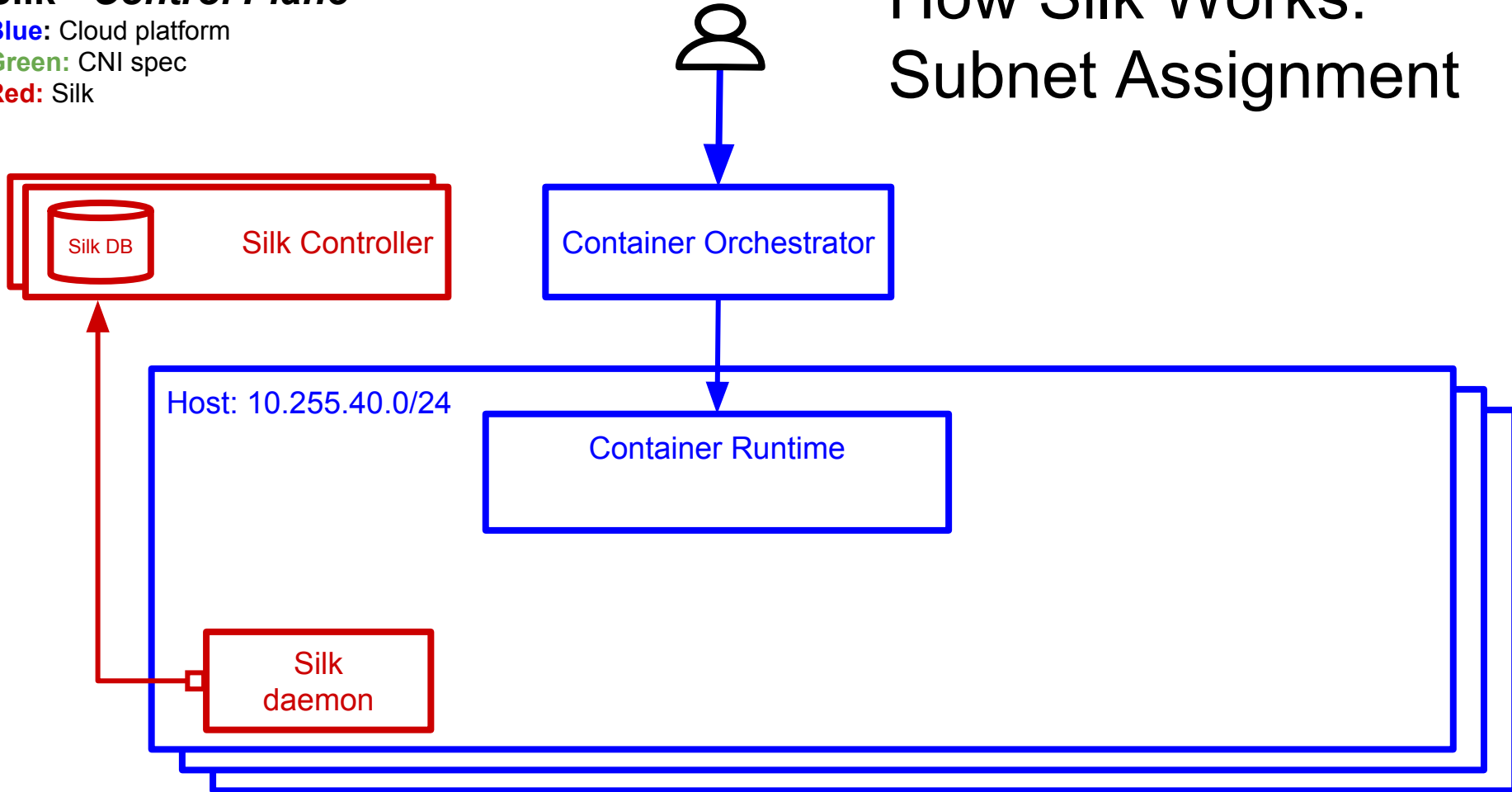
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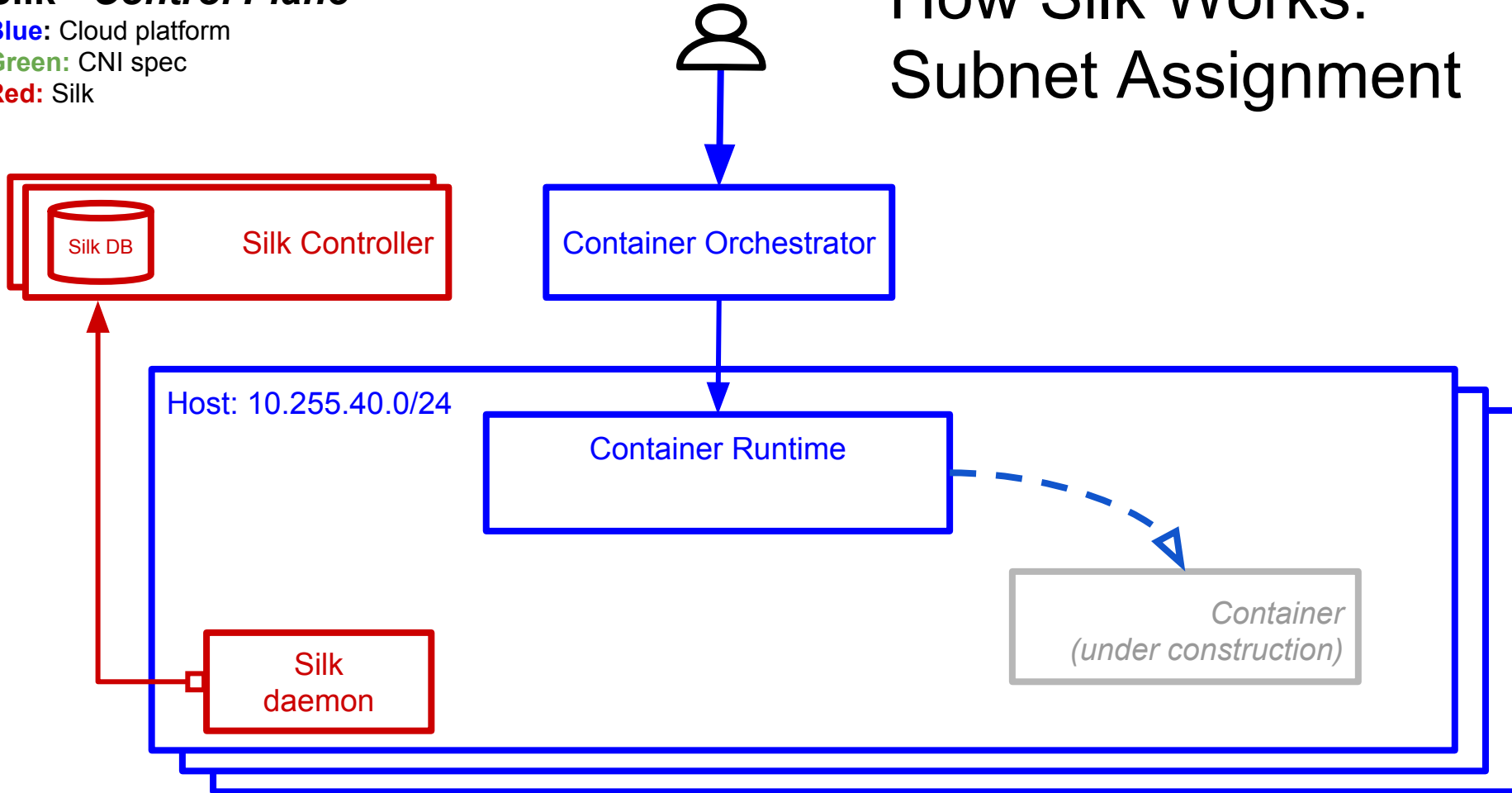
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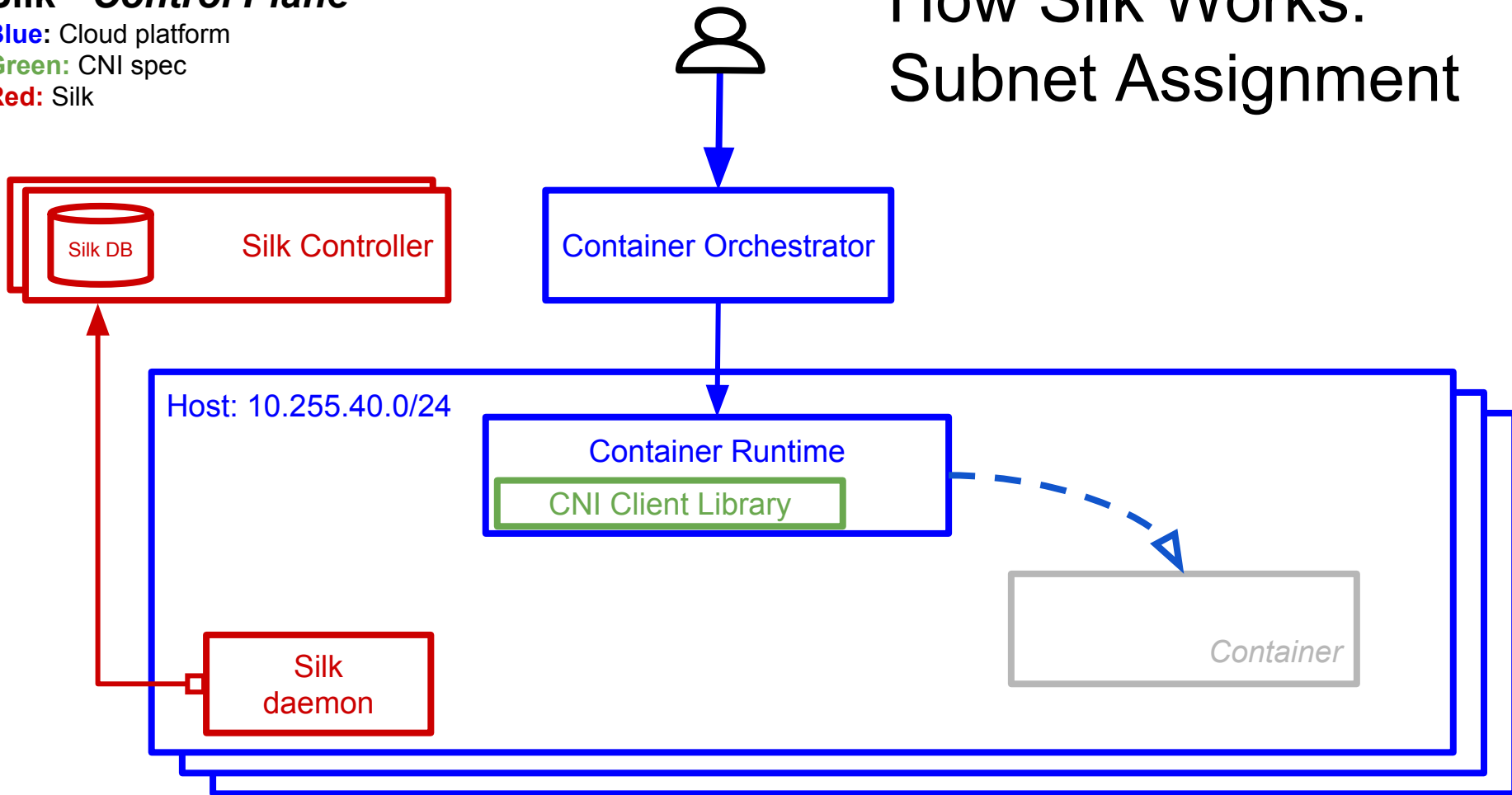
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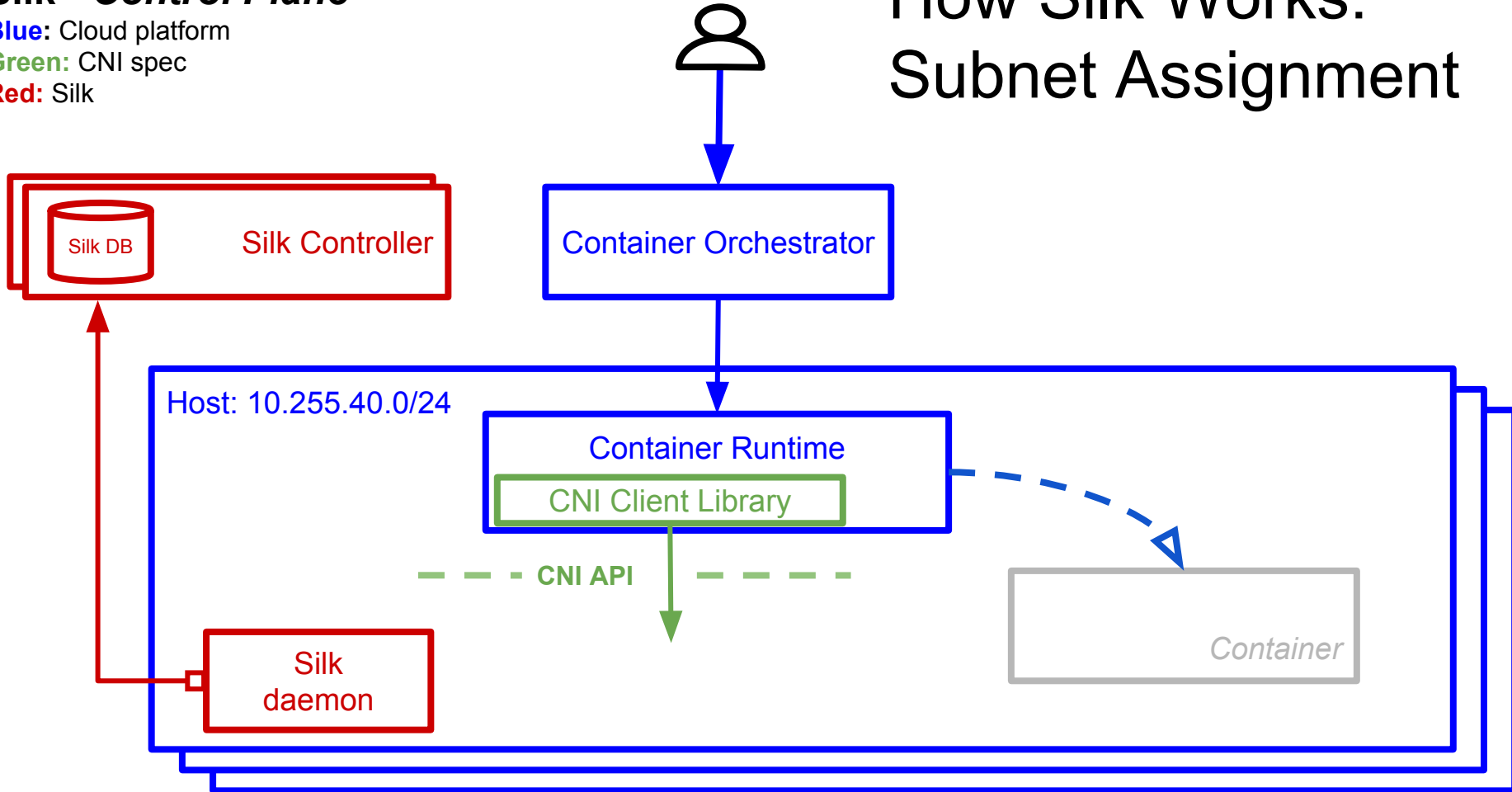
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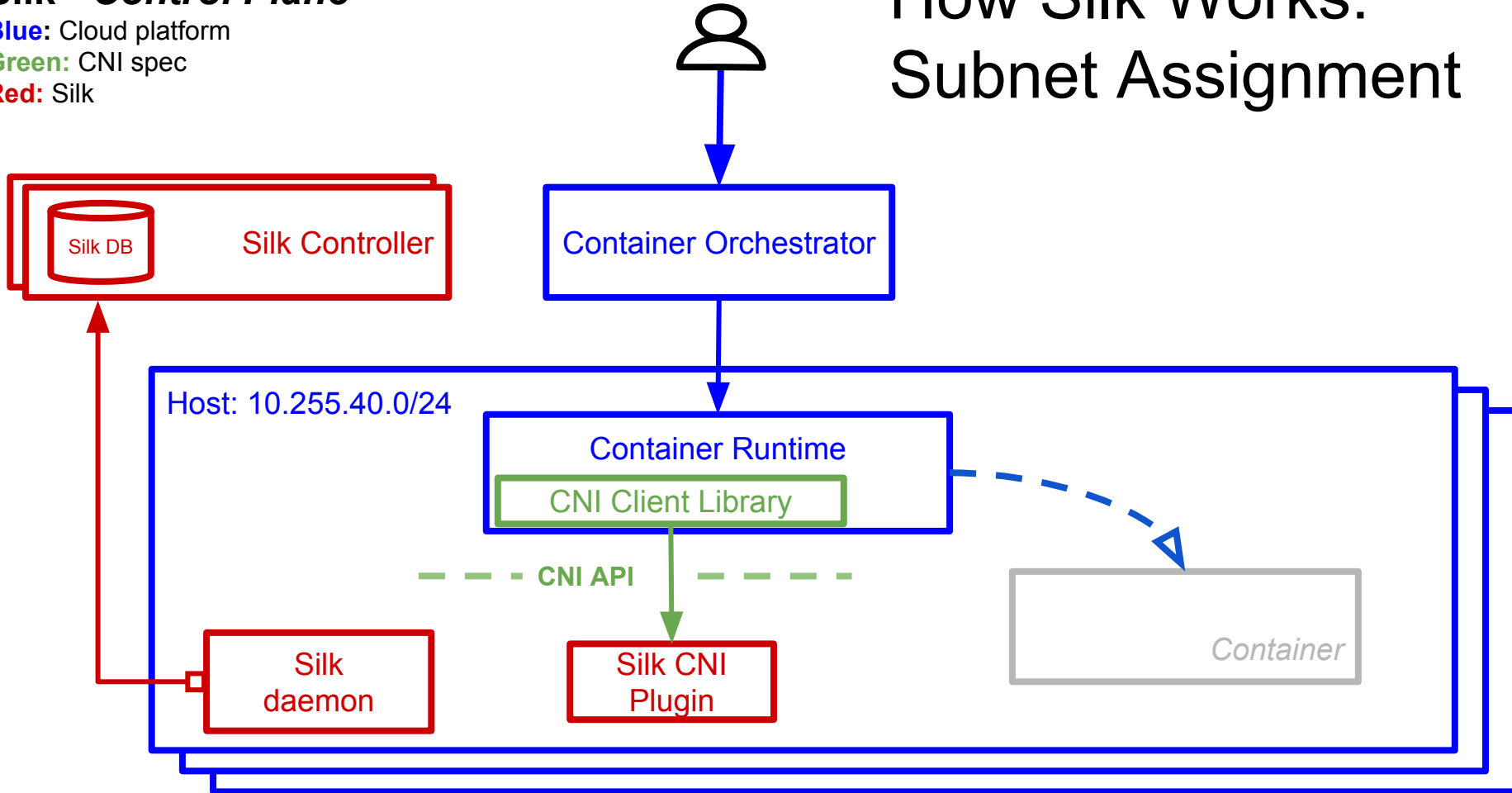
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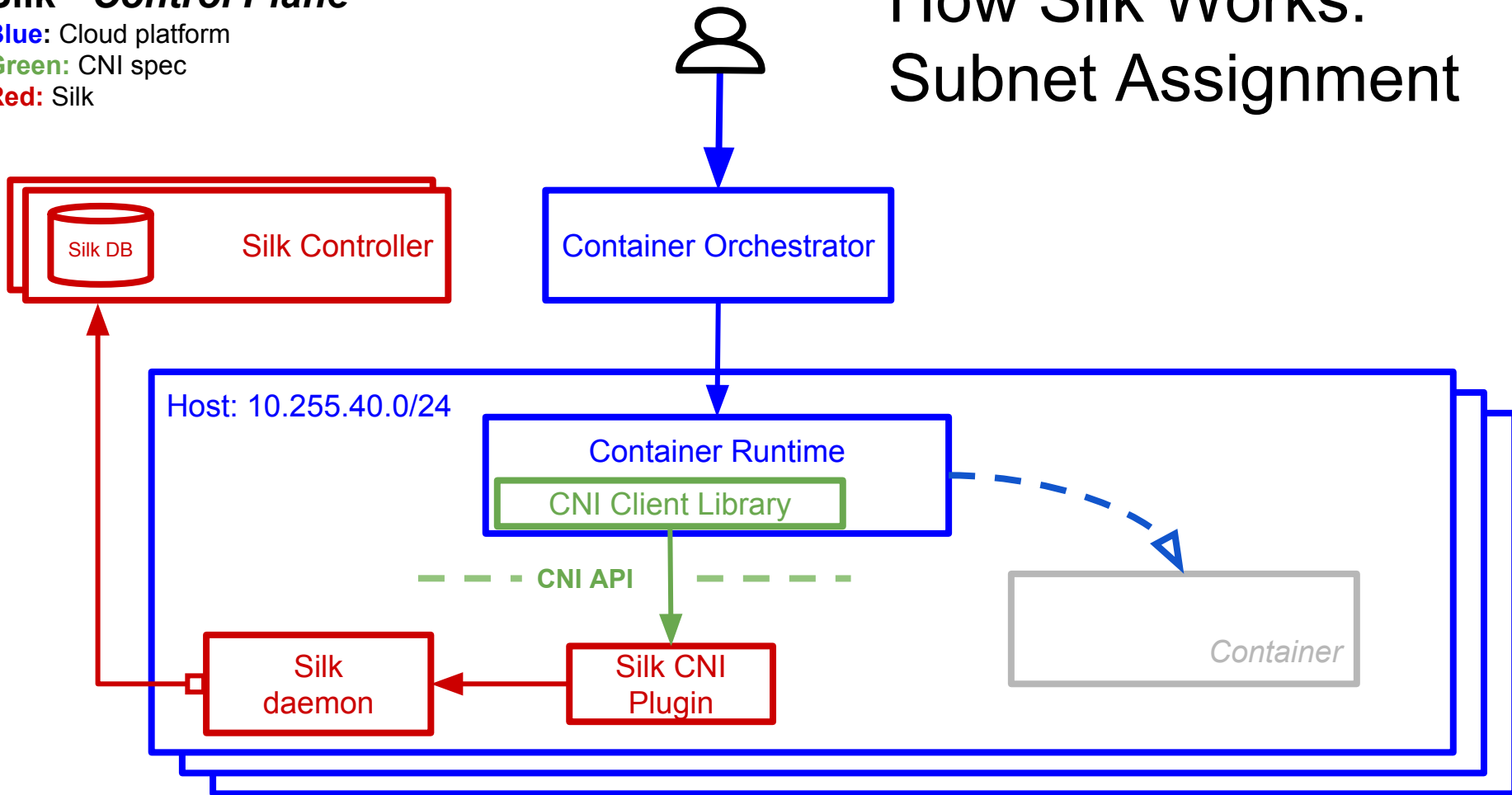
How Silk Works: Subnet Assignment



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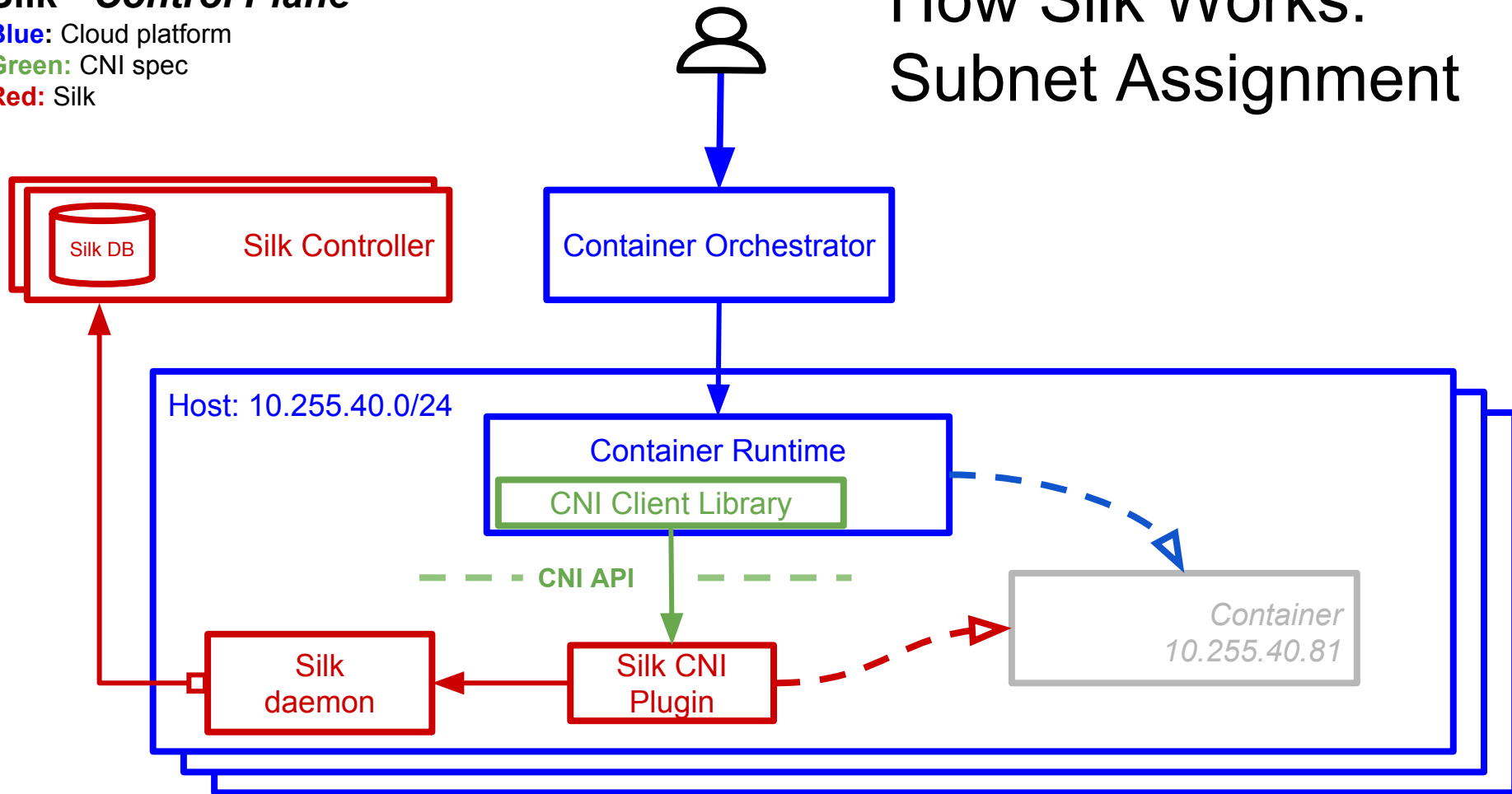
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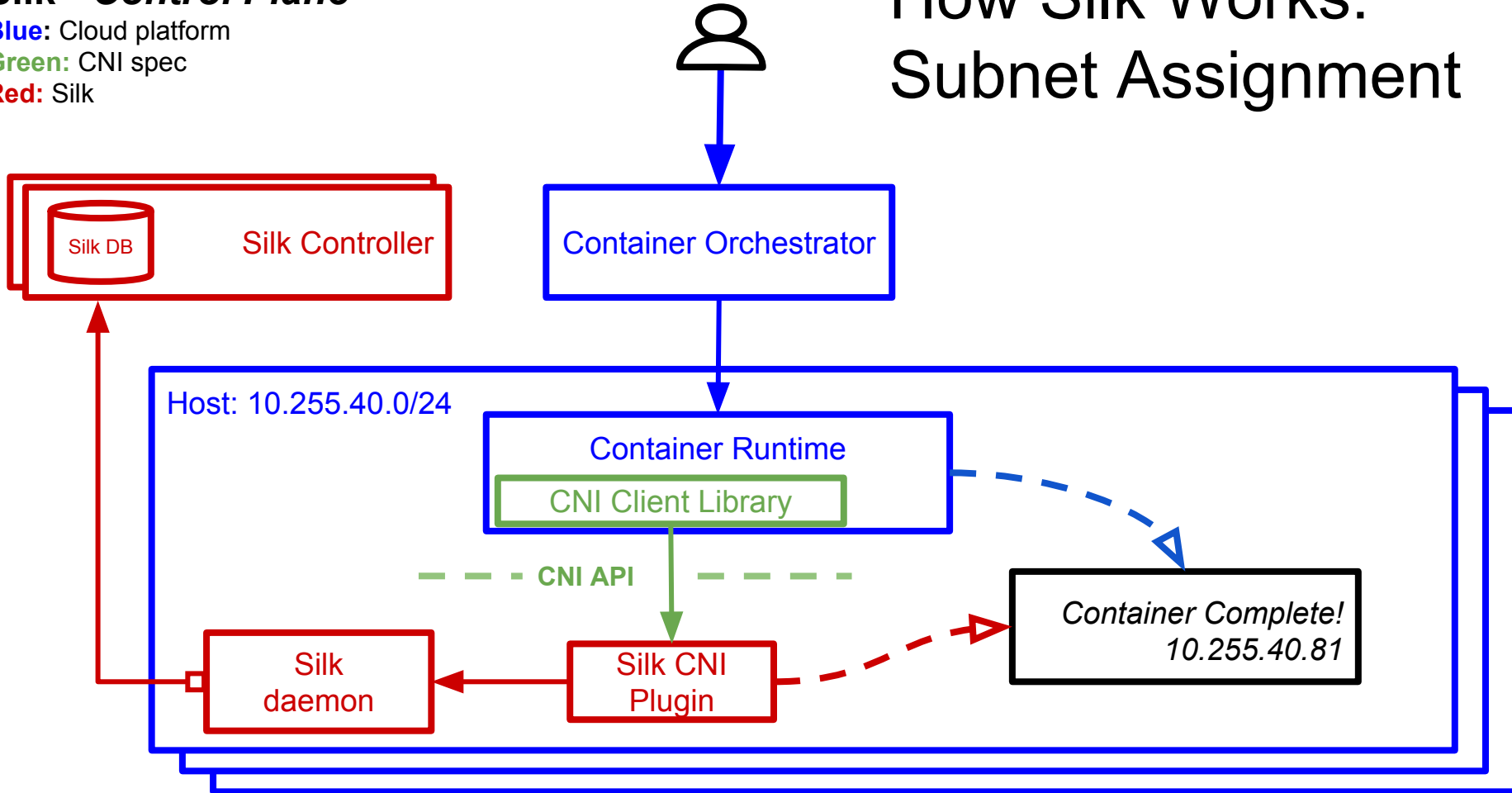
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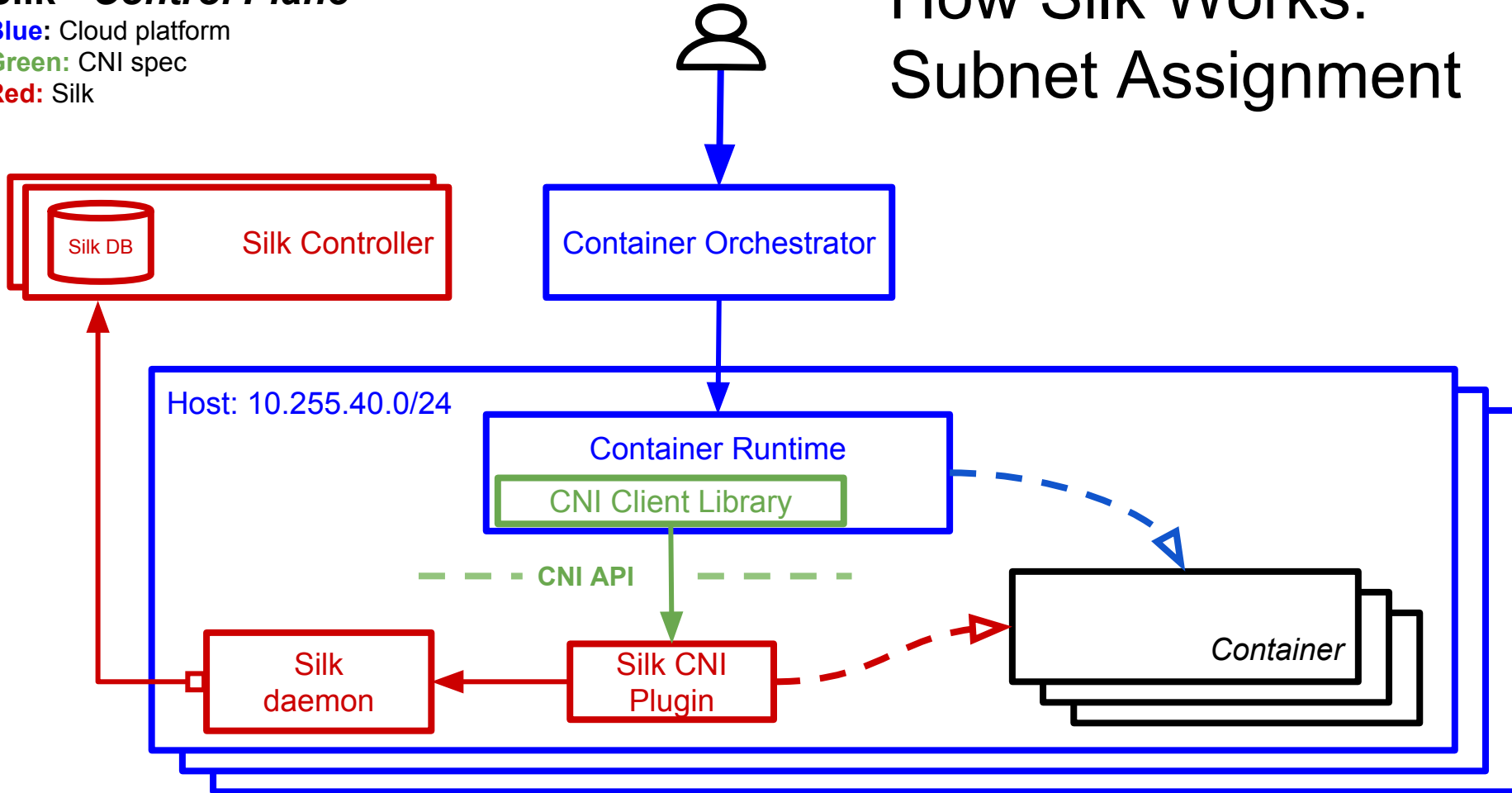
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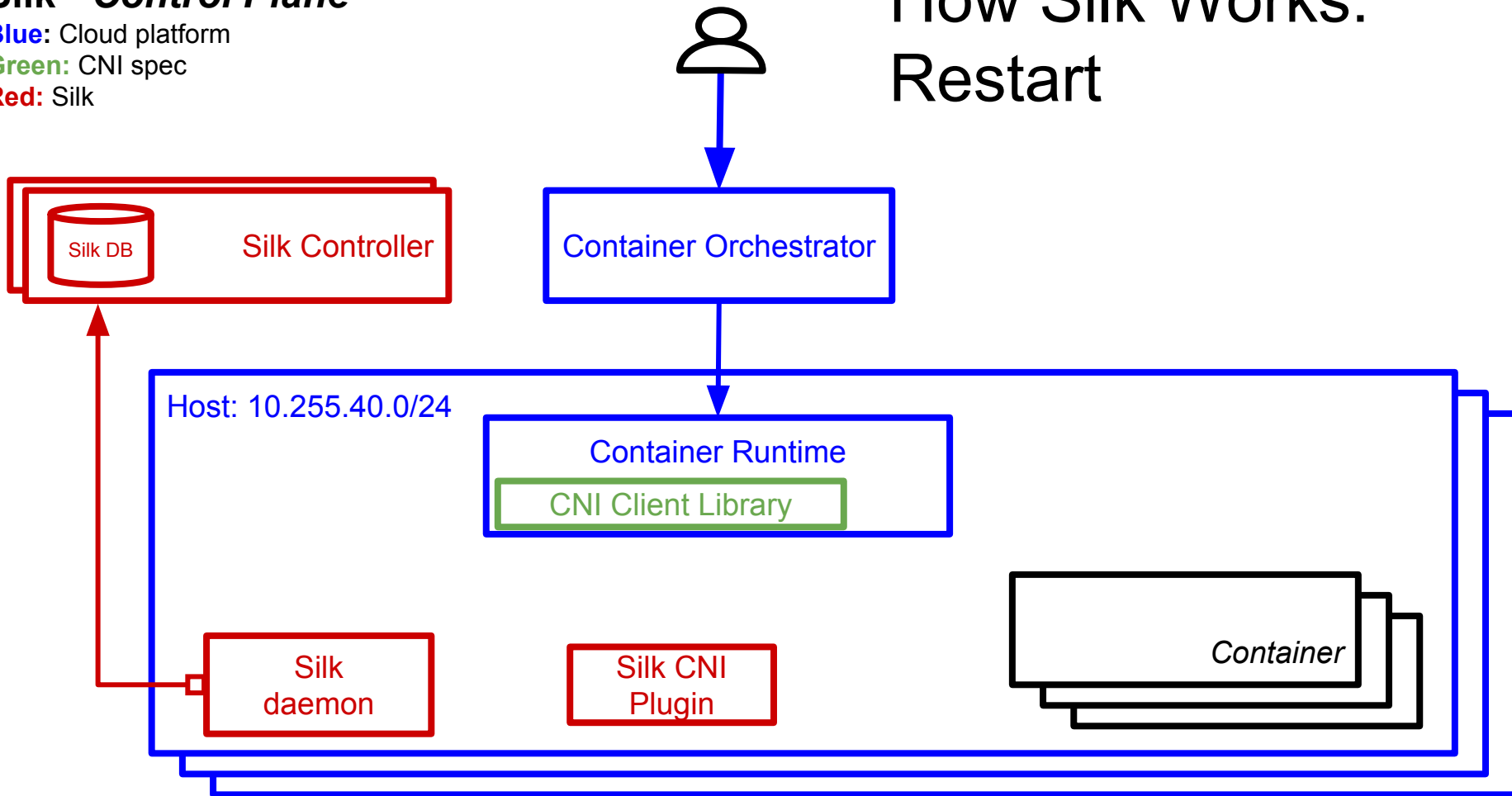
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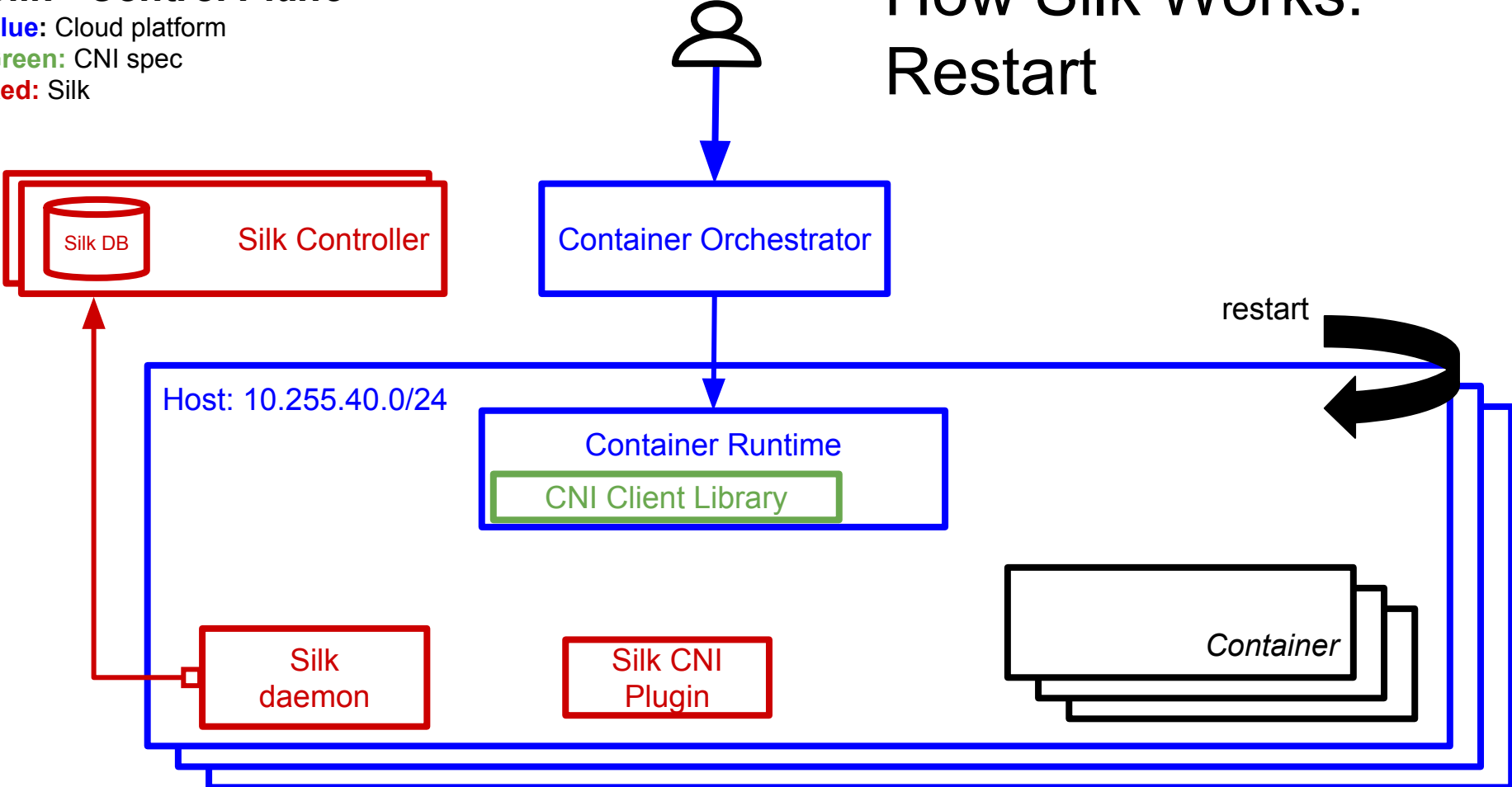
How Silk Works: Restart



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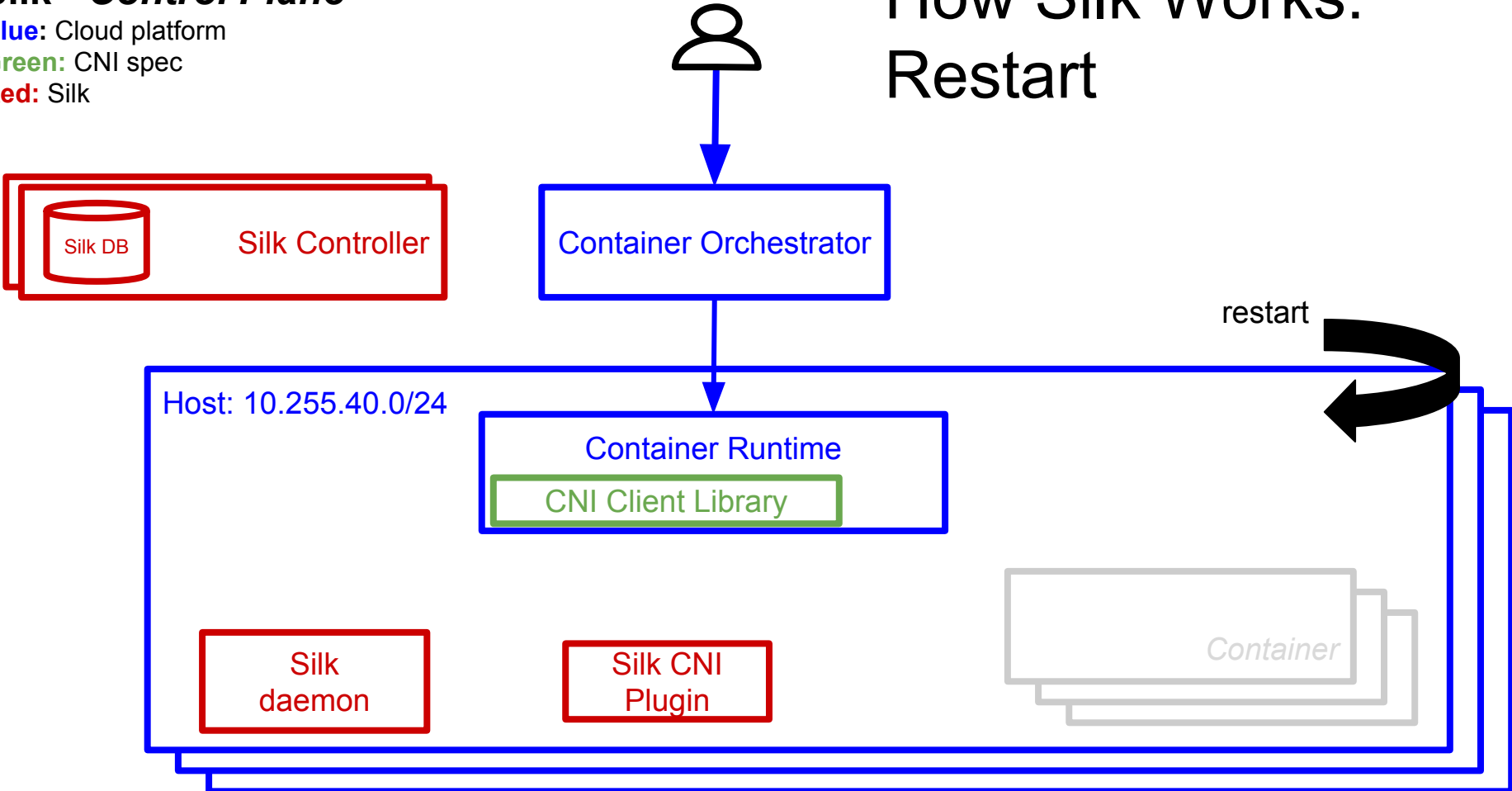
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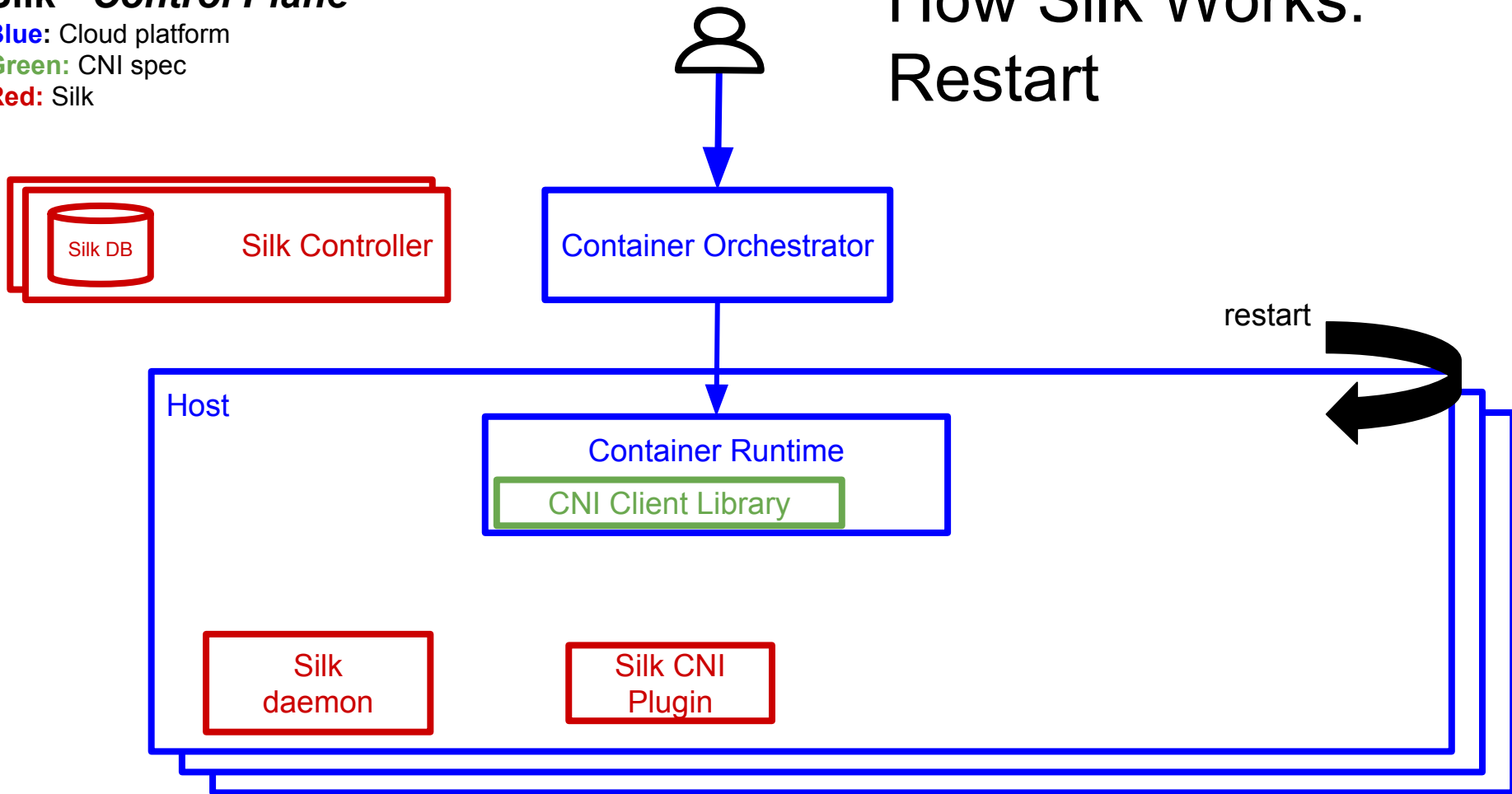
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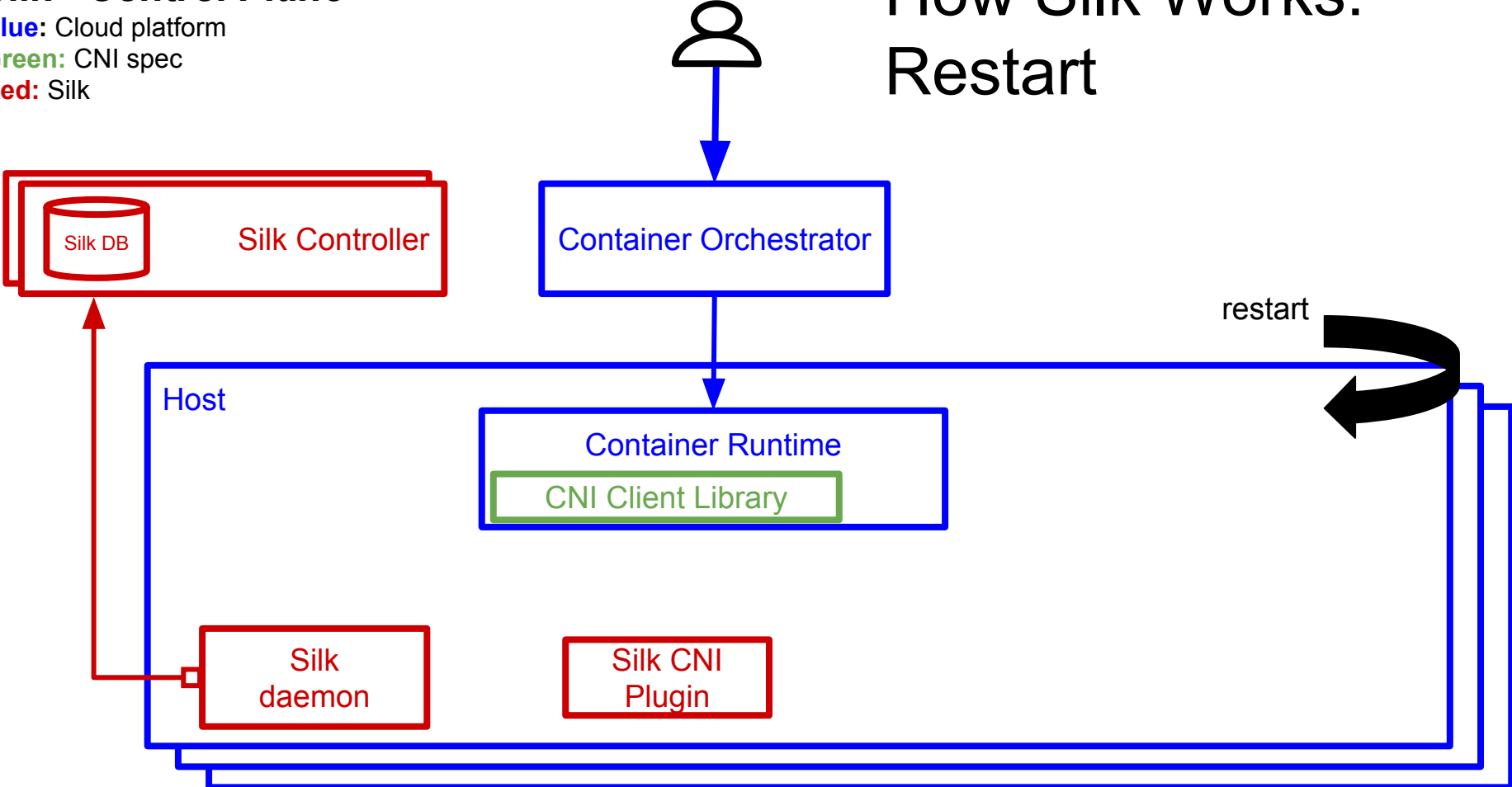
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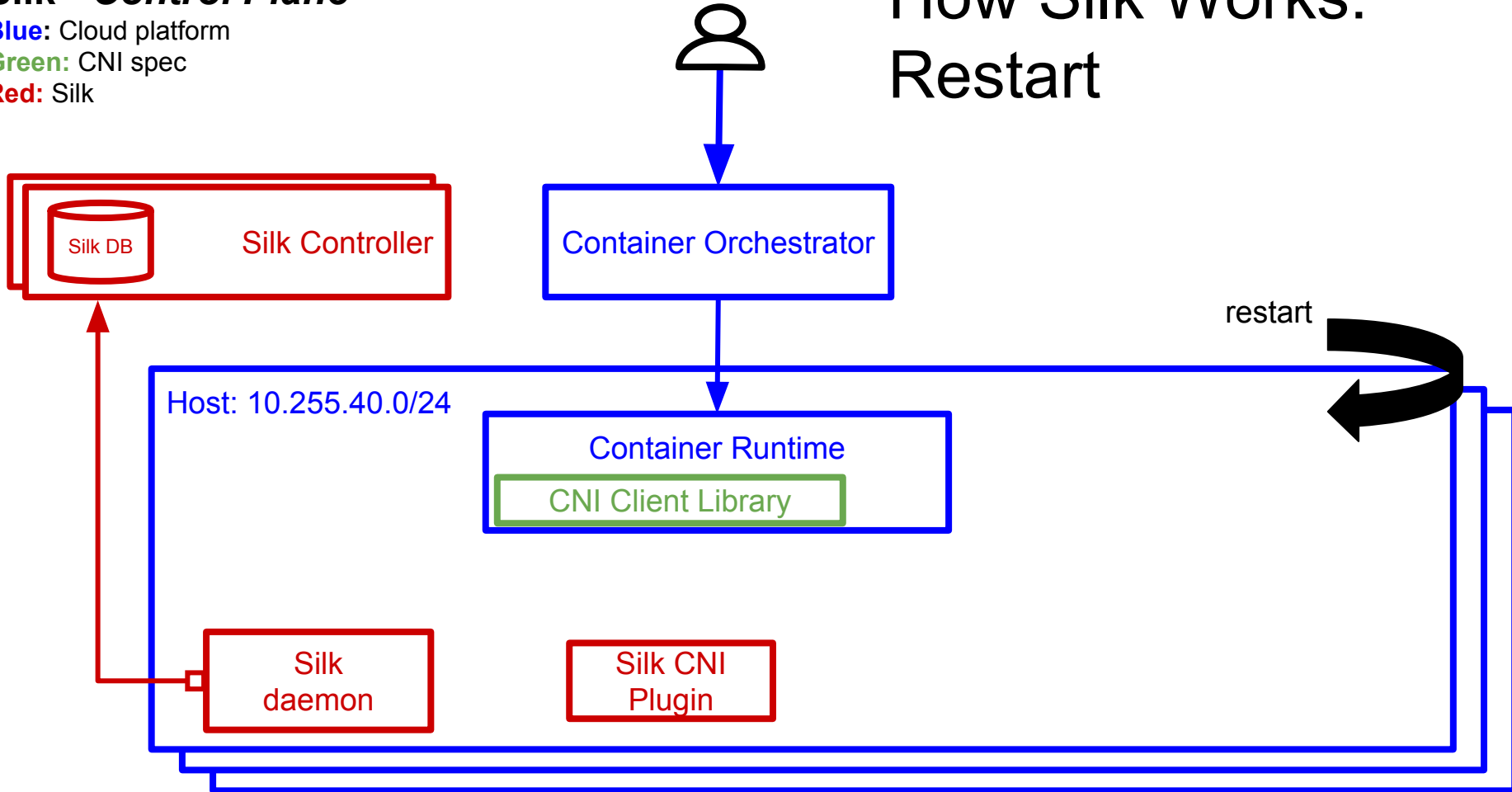
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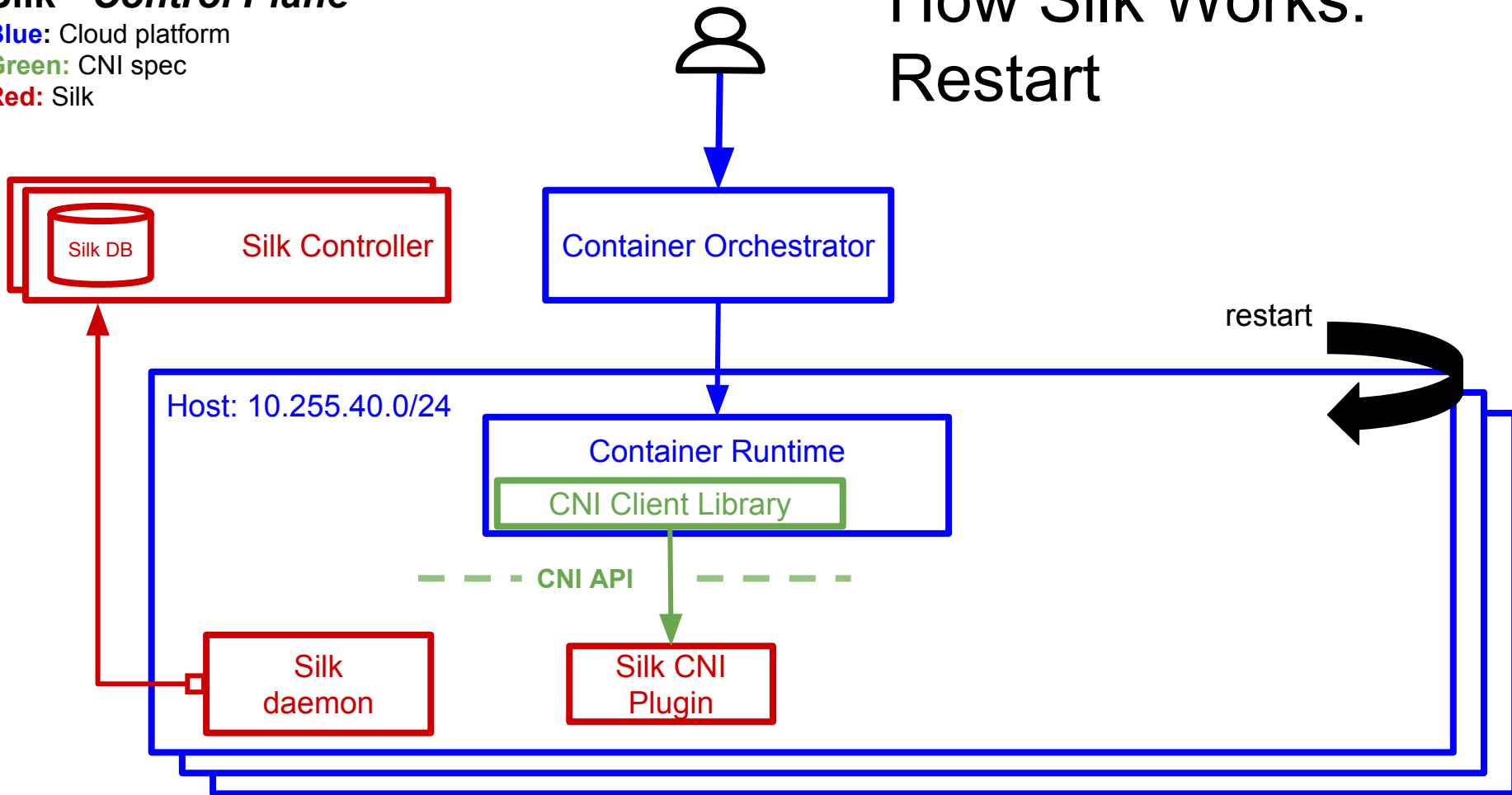
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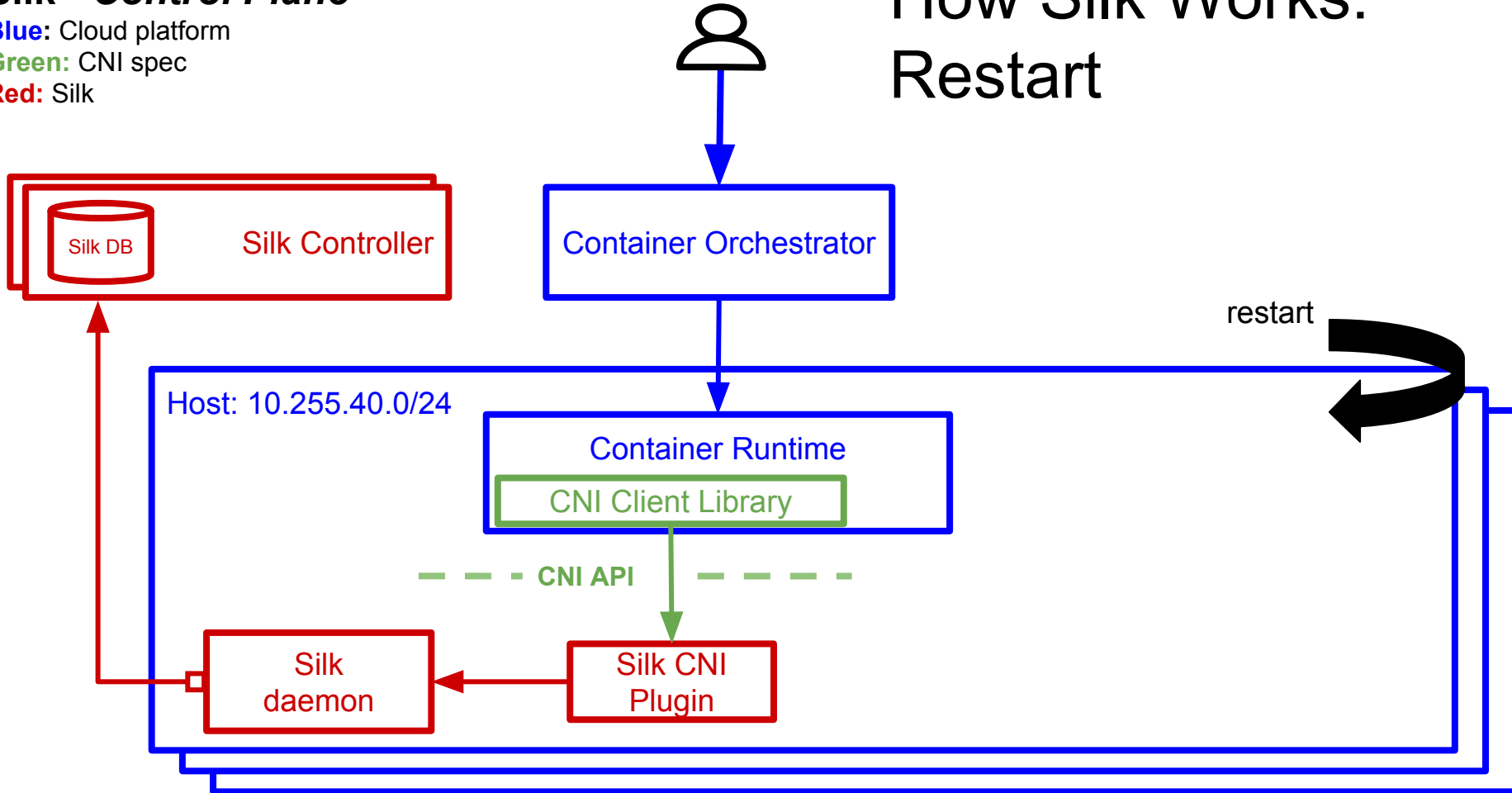
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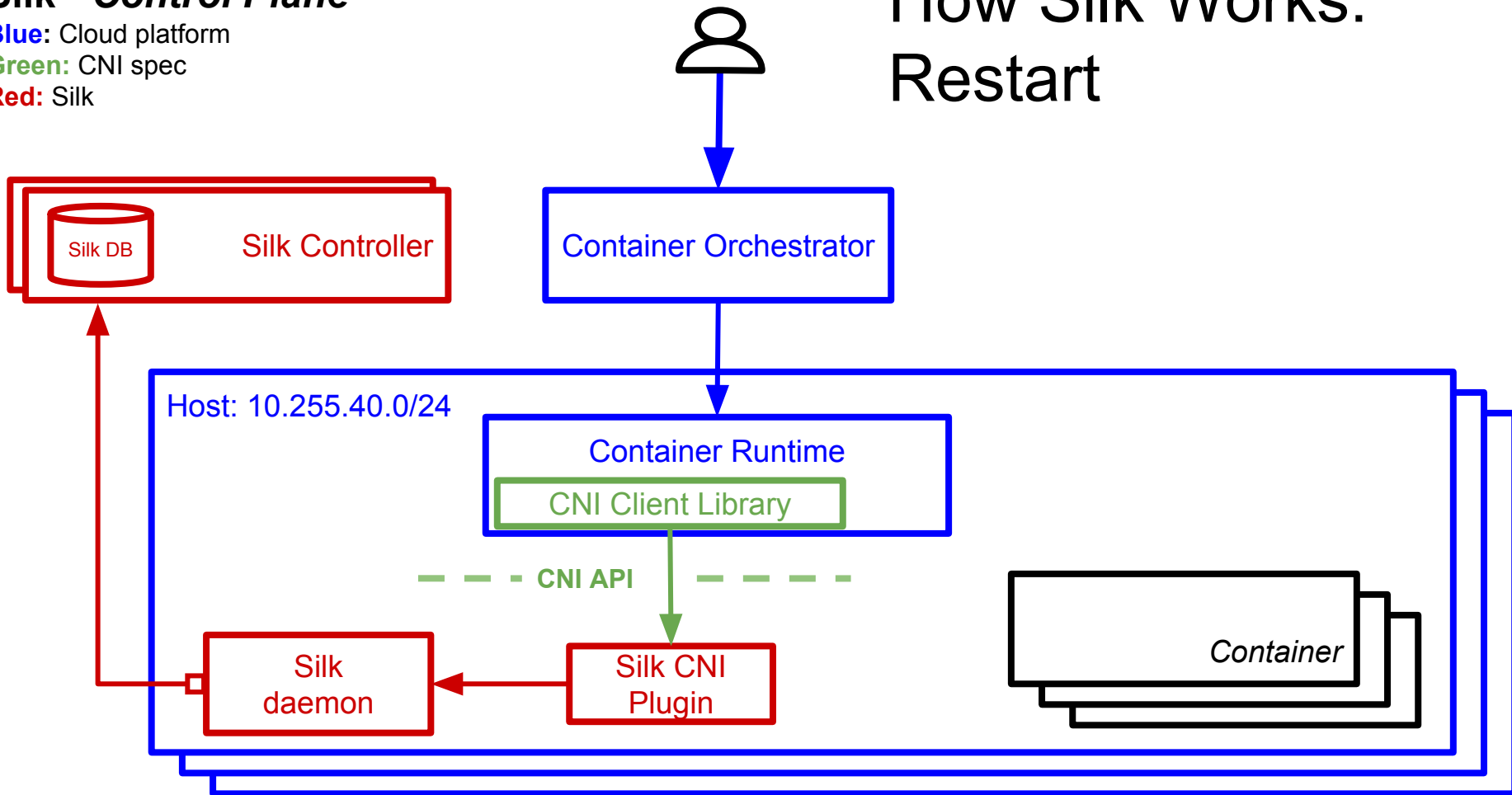
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How Silk Works: Restart



Reliability & Stability



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- Network add will fail if daemon does not have a lease
- Lease is kept for as long as possible
- Add ability for teardown that can be utilized by CF

Network Setup



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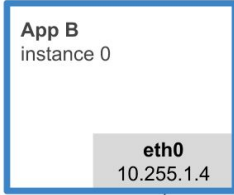


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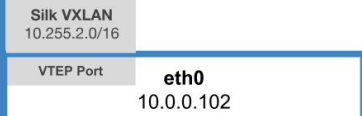
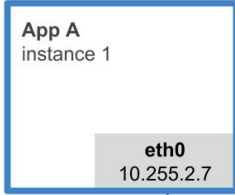
Europe 2018

- IAAS agnostic: use VXLAN for encapsulation

HOST 1

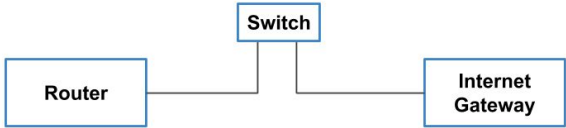


HOST 2

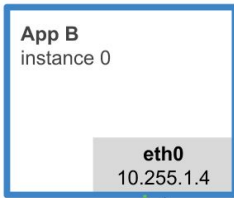


Silk Data Plane

- Green – Container network packet flow
- Red – Encapsulated underlay packet flow



HOST 1

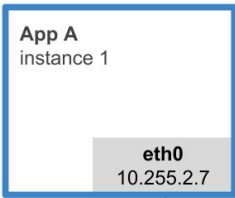


c2c packet
Src: 10.255.1.4
Dst: 10.255.2.7

Silk VXLAN
10.255.1.0/16



HOST 2

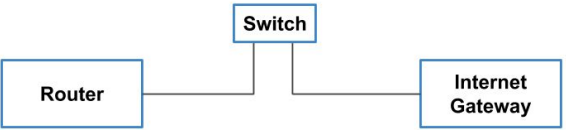


Silk VXLAN
10.255.2.0/16

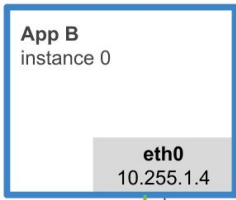


Silk Data Plane

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HOST 1



c2c packet
Src: 10.255.1.4
Dst: 10.255.2.7

veth

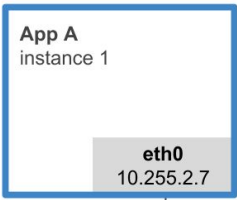
Virtual Router

Silk VXLAN
10.255.1.0/16

eth0
10.0.0.101

VTEP Port

HOST 2



eth0
10.255.2.7

veth

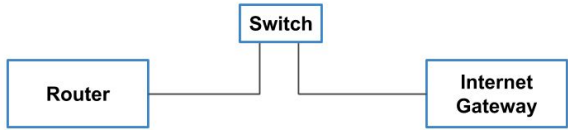
Silk VXLAN
10.255.2.0/16

VTEP Port

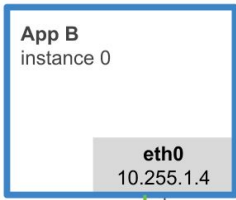
eth0
10.0.0.102

Silk Data Plane

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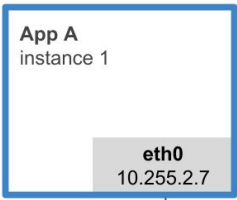


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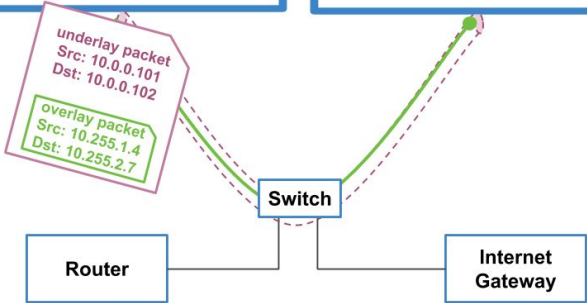
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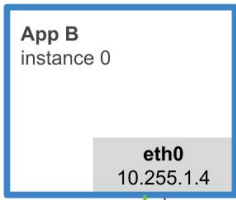


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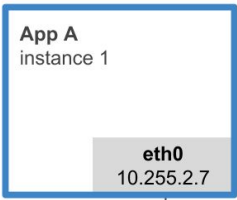
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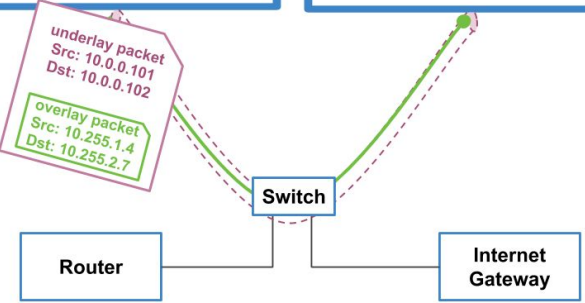


HOST 2

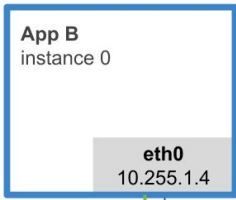


Silk Data Plane

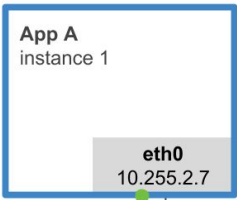
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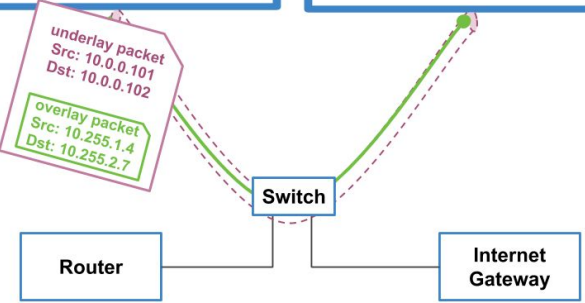


HOST 2



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Network Setup



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- IAAS agnostic: use VXLAN for encapsulation
- Single, flat L3 network from container perspective

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The Future of Silk



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- CNI Chaining

CNI Chaining



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Garden
External
Networker

CNI Chaining

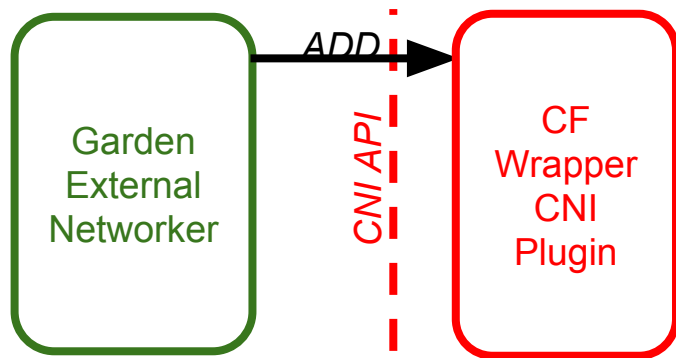


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CNI Chaining

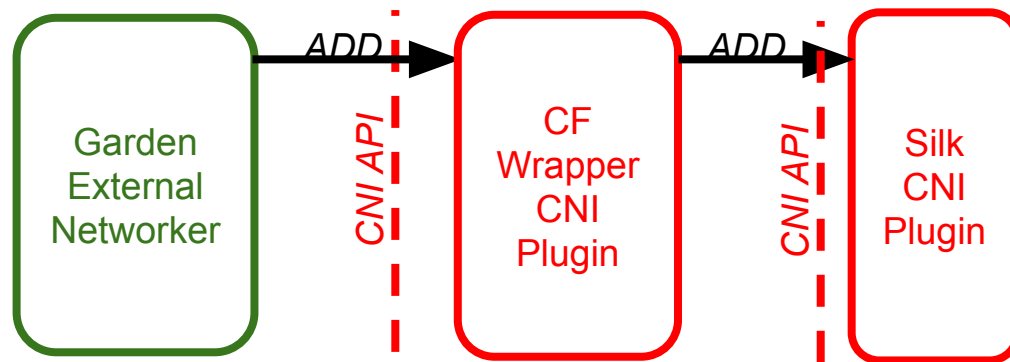


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CloudNativeCon

Europe 2018



CNI Chaining



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Europe 2018

Garden
External
Networker

CNI Chaining

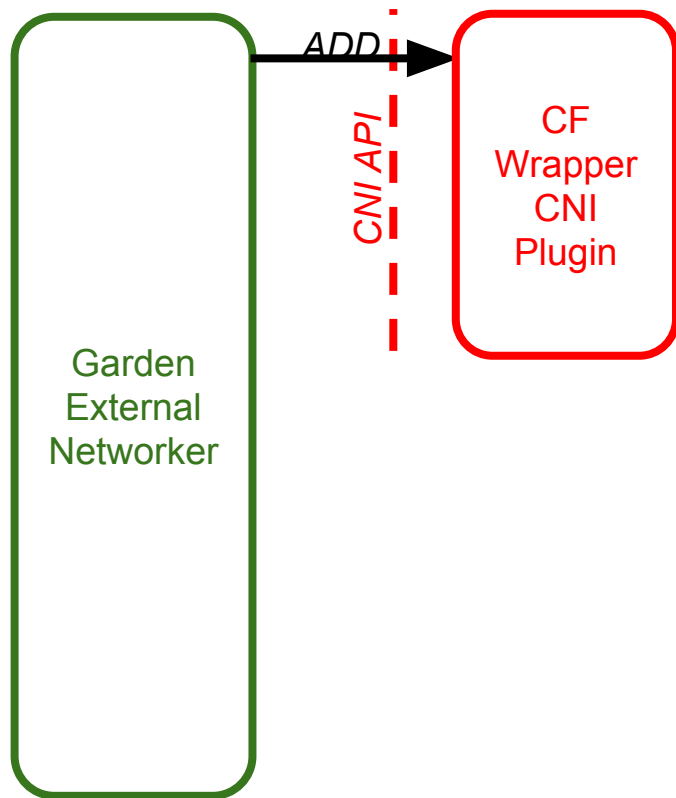


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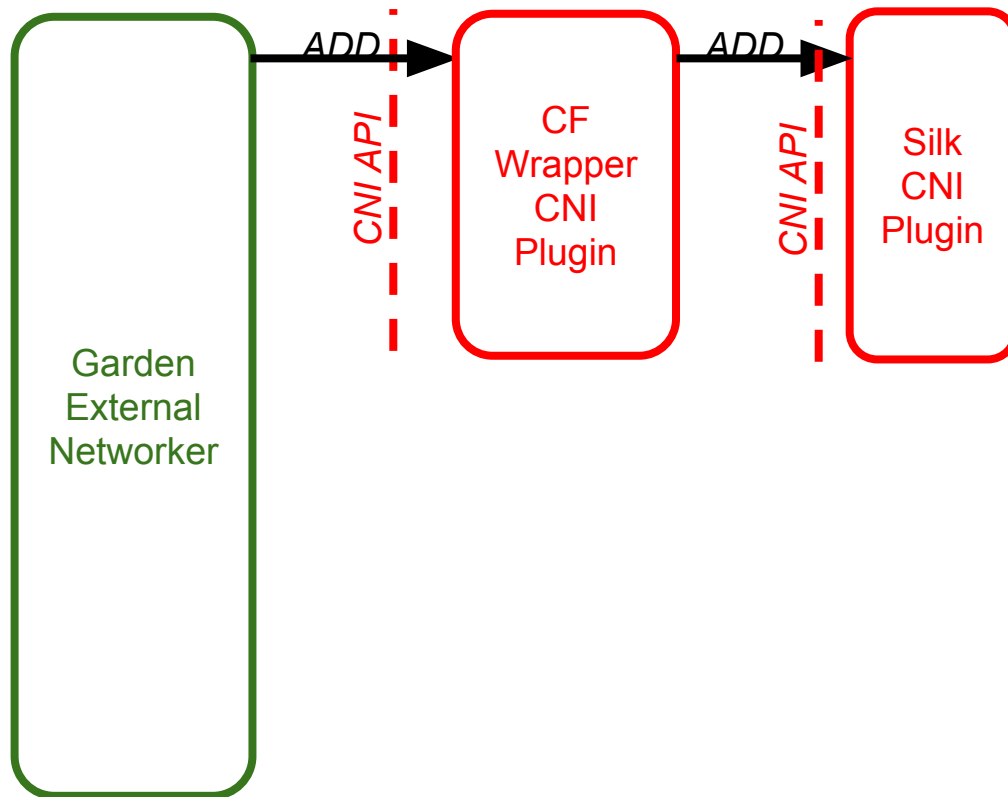


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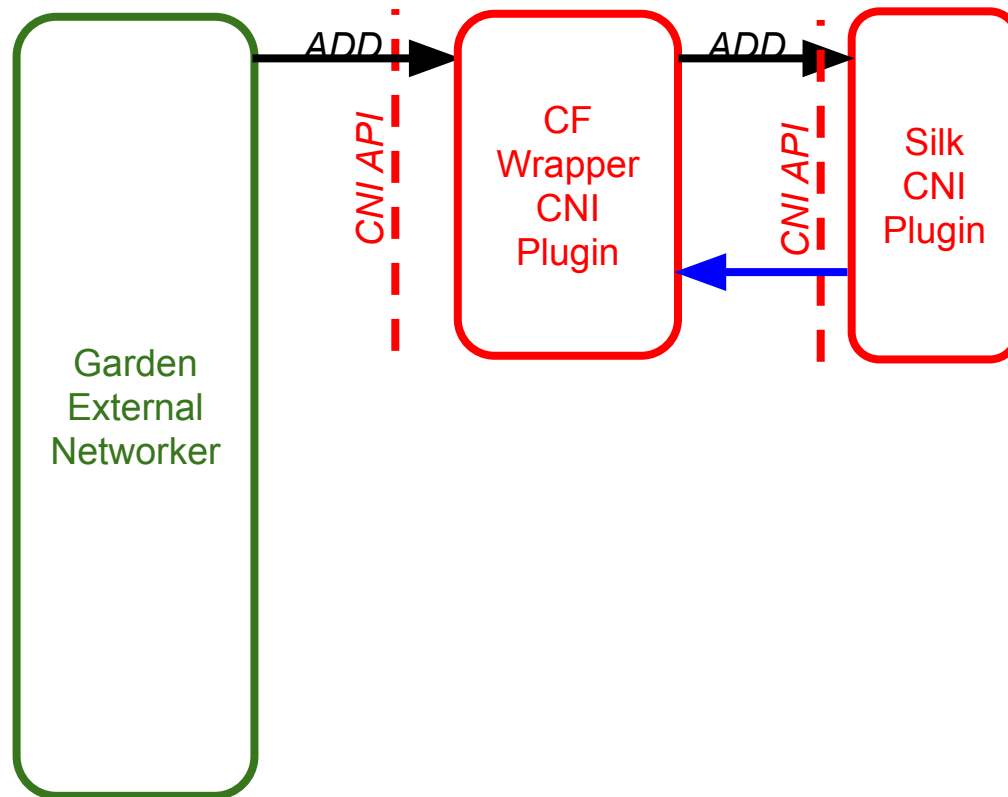


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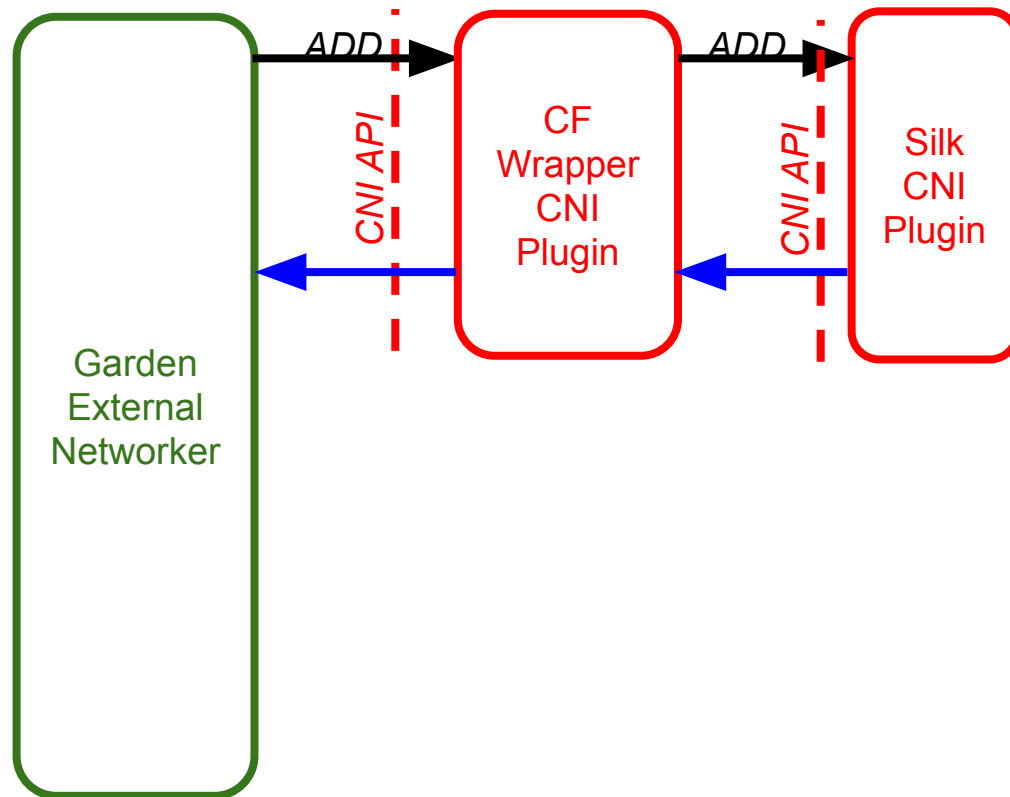


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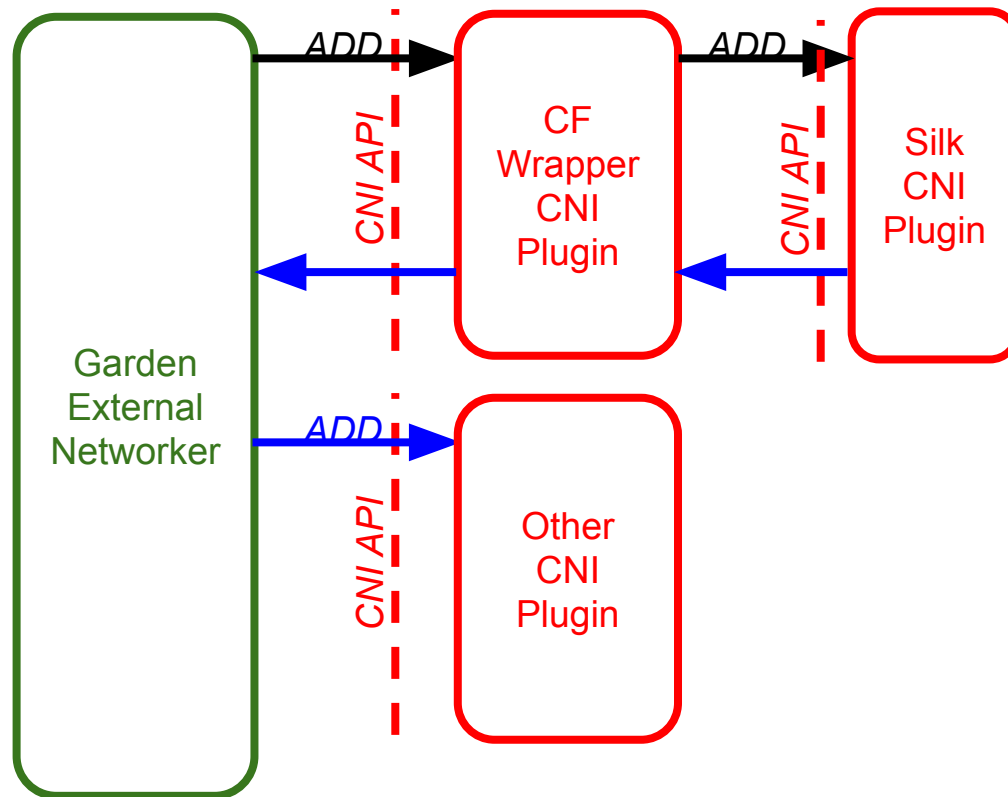


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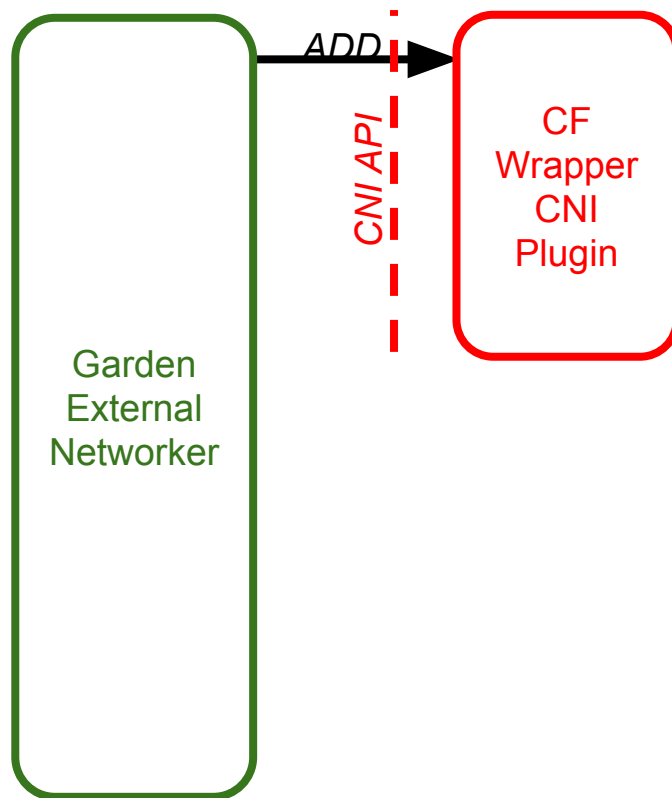


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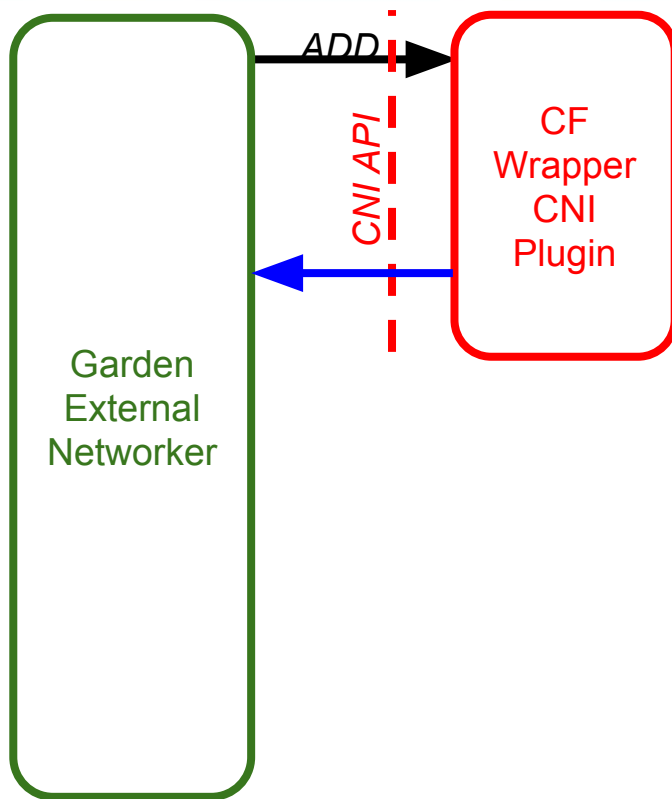


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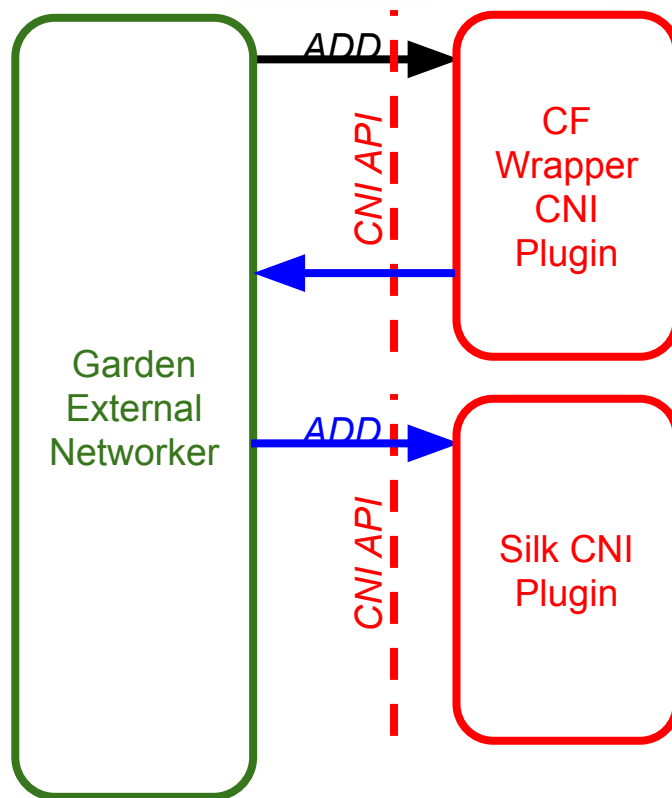


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The Future of Silk



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- CNI Chaining
 - [Bandwidth Limiting Plugin](#)

CNI Chaining

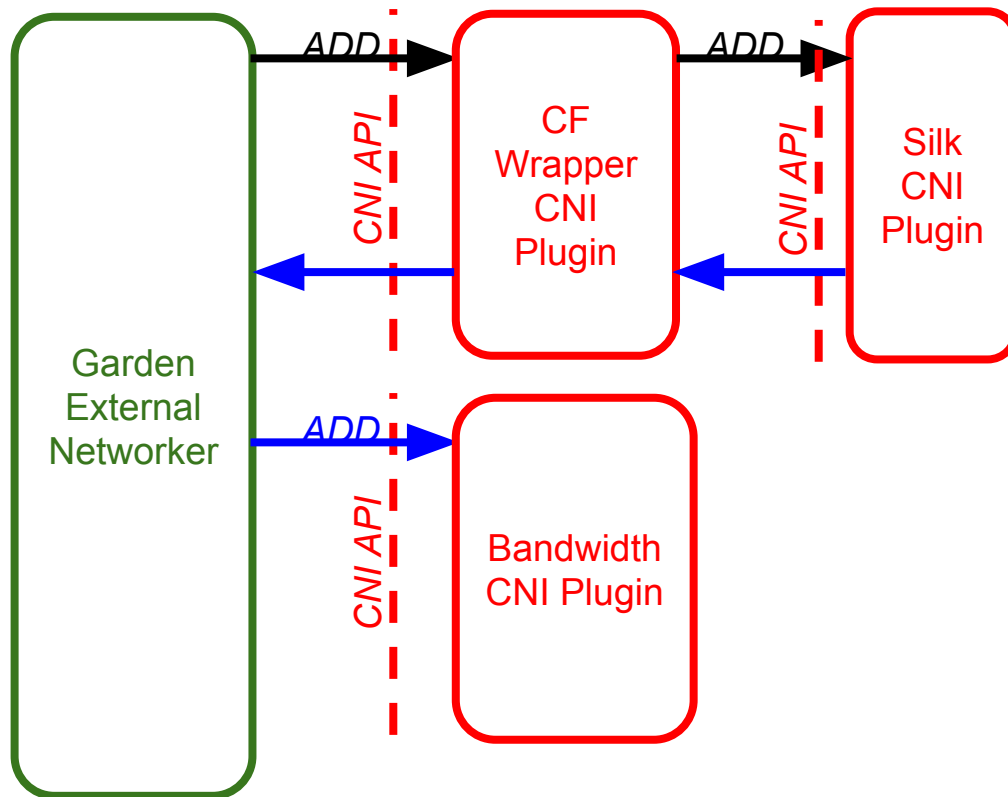


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The Future of Silk



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- CNI Chaining
 - [Bandwidth Limiting Plugin](#)
- Silk used by other container runtimes

Agenda



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- What is CNI
- What is Cloud Foundry
- Cloud Foundry + CNI
- Main Motivations to Build Silk CNI
- Building Silk
- What's Next?
- **Key Takeaways**

Key Takeaways



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- CNI provides a simple interface for pluggable networking
- Look to [CNI repo](#) for list of plugins before re-inventing the wheel
- [Silk CNI](#) is a plug-in built to meet [availability and reliability requirements](#) in a dynamic environment
- CNI specification v0.3.0 enables new use cases with plugin chaining



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Thank you!

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