

# Sustainable Secrets Management with OpenBao

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# What is Secrets Management?

- › Practice to protect and integrate all secrets your workloads need to function
- › Focuses on machine, not human secrets
  - › Secrets management != Password manager
- › Secrets management solutions must be...
  - › super secure
  - › highly available
  - › flexible
  - › Integratable
  - › developer-friendly



# Why is Secrets Management Relevant for you?



// Mitigate Cybersecurity Risks



// Gain Efficiency



// Save and Make Money



# Challenges in the Secrets Management Ecosystem



Technical teams demand a secure, modern, and well integrated solution.



Proprietary solutions lead to an “architecture by license” approach to manage costs.



Sovereignty is key since these solutions host your most valuable assets.



Is there no sustainable solution left that is also open, simple, and reliable?





OpenBao is the Answer

# What is OpenBao?

- › OpenBao is a modern and open source secrets management solution
  - › Static and dynamic secrets management
  - › Key management
  - › Certificates management and PKI
  - › Identity brokering
  - › Cryptography as a Service
- › Part of the Linux Foundation (OpenSSF)
  - › Forked from HashiCorp Vault in 2023, and still API compatible



# By and for the Community

- › Developed by 15 – 20x co-maintainers and moderators, and the community
  - › THANK YOU! ❤️
- › Transparently governed by the Technical Steering Committee (TSC)



# The OpenBao Ecosystem is Growing! Join Today!

duokey

CRYPTO4A

Adfinis

origoss  
SOLUTIONS



SAP

REPLY  
LIQUID

sigstore

Nitrokey  
secure your digital life



StackHPC



warden

IOTech

OVHcloud

GitLab

wallix

BLENDBYTE

ApeiroRA

securosys

bespinian

Helvethink

Proton

NATRON



A television screen displaying a color test pattern. The pattern consists of vertical bars of various colors: yellow, cyan, blue, grey, yellow, cyan, green, magenta, red, blue, grey, yellow, cyan. Overlaid on this pattern is the text "BROADCAST INTERRUPTED" in a large, bold, white font with a black outline. Below the main text, there is smaller text: "CHANNEL OpenBao - Siemens TV" and "COLOR".

**BROADCAST  
INTERRUPTED**

CHANNEL OpenBao - Siemens TV  
COLOR

# Secretz Enterprise by Adfinis

Our subscription provides **24/7 enterprise support** and **software assurance** for OpenBao. No success tax, no hidden fees – simply predictable flat-fee pricing.



Cut Costs up to 50%



Avoid the Success Tax



End Vendor Lock-in



Reclaim Data Sovereignty

Trusted by



[www.secretz.io](http://www.secretz.io)





**BROADCAST  
CONTINUES**

CHANNEL OpenBao - Siemens TV  
COLOR



## Recent and Unique Features

- › PostgreSQL support (besides Raft)
- › Declarative...
  - › plugin distribution via OCI images
  - › self-initialization
  - › audit devices
- › KMIP and Static Key auto unseal
- › Namespaces (multi-tenancy)
- › Horizontal read scalability
- › Inline authentication



# Project Direction

Project-wide priorities to foster OpenBao's maturity and growth:

- › 2026.01 Community & Ecosystem Growth
- › 2026.02 OpenSSF Incubation Stage
- › 2026.03 Marketing WG Adoption
- › 2026.04 User & Operator Guides



# Development Direction

A subset of our technological priorities in terms of OpenBao features:

- › External keys support
- › Seal pluginization
- › Per-Namespace sealing
- › Profile system and Workflows
- › KMIP and PKCS#11 providers for Transit
- › External Secrets Operator provider
- › ...

→ [github.com/openbao/openbao/issues/1974](https://github.com/openbao/openbao/issues/1974)



# How to Contribute and Join the Community?

Visit [openbao.org/community](https://openbao.org/community) to get started:

- › Join Zulip chat or the community calls
- › Raise GitHub issues, discussions, or PRs
- › Participate in any of the Working Groups
- › Adopted or integrated OpenBao? Get listed on the ecosystem page!
- › Blog and talk about OpenBao, and share it

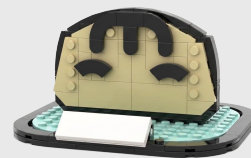


# Contribute and Win!

The first three people have a chance to earn OpenBao swag:

- › **Submit 3x pull requests** that are mergeable and adhere to the contributing guidelines
- › Send email to [michael.hofer@adfinis.com](mailto:michael.hofer@adfinis.com)

*Existing project members and employees of TSC member companies are excluded.*



1st | OpenBao Bricks Kit



2nd | OpenBao T-Shirt



3rd | OpenBao Stickers

Let's Collaborate!



[openbao.org](https://openbao.org)



[/openbao](https://www.linkedin.com/company/openbao)



[zulipchat.com](https://openbao.zulipchat.com)



[/openbao](https://github.com/openbao)