Our Customer
A multi-national bank providing financial products and services.

The Challenge
The bank needed to reliably and repeatedly deploy large numbers of VMware Cloud Foundation (VCF) clusters to support their global banking application requirements. The customer’s operations and personnel were spread over multiple geographic sites. Additionally, any automated method had to tightly integrate with VCF management software, existing systems, and the VMware Hardware Compatibility List (HCL).

When deploying new server hardware they often spent 6 months on the datacenter floor before VCF clusters were deployed, wasting time and money. Another challenge was normalizing vendor differences in how the servers were purchased to enable reverse auctions. Since deploying thousands of servers in VCF clusters monthly requires an incredible amount of server infrastructure, being able to mix vendors created significant leverage in price negotiations.

The Solution
RackN Digital Rebar created a highly automated and repeatable VMware VCF deployment process. This accelerated time to deploy new servers for clusters from six months to sixty minutes.

Using Digital Rebar, the bank eliminated all manual steps from bare metal delivery to fully online. The solution saved weeks of onboarding effort for new
clusters and improved the overall quality.

After the initial setup, the customer gained a full lifecycle management of the hardware platform as well as their customization of vSphere ESXi. Now a full vCenter can be rebuilt and automatically “repaved” in under an hour.

The Results
The financial institution reported 10x wins in time, security/compliance and financial ROI. Repeatable automation eliminated human error, reduced operator efforts, and aligns with DevOps best practices.