

OPENFEATURE

OPEN STANDARD · CNCF · OFREP · VENDOR-AGNOSTIC

01 INTRODUCTION

What is OpenFeature?

OpenFeature is a **CNCF-incubating open standard** for feature flag evaluation. Not a tool you deploy, but a specification that defines how your application code talks to **any flag management system** — **without coupling** to a specific vendor. Think JDBC for databases, OpenTelemetry for observability. Same idea, applied to flags.

02 CORE BENEFITS

- **HOOKS**

Intercept the evaluation lifecycle (before, after, error, finally). Add logging, validation, metrics across all flags — without touching application code. Composable. Reusable.

- **MULTI-PROVIDER**

Run multiple backends under a single client. Migrate from LaunchDarkly to anything else one flag at a time. Zero application code changes. The pattern that breaks vendor lock-in.

- **OFREP**

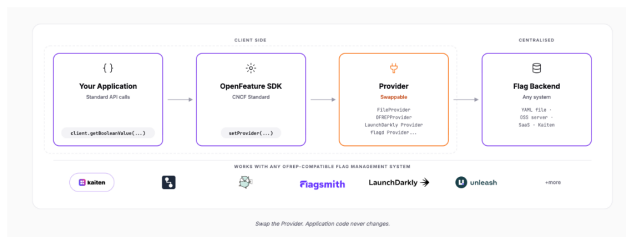
The standard REST protocol. Any system that implements OFREP works with any OpenFeature SDK via the generic provider. No vendor-specific SDKs. Your code stays portable forever.

03 TECH DEEP DIVE

One SDK. Any Backend. No Refactor.

THE DECOUPLED EVALUATION MODEL

Your code calls a standard API. A provider plugs in behind it. Swap providers without touching application code. This is the property that makes Day 1 adoption rational — and Year 3 refactors avoidable.



Swap the Provider. Application code never changes.

04 MARKET LANDSCAPE

APPROACH	CHARACTERISTICS
<p>OpenFeature + OSS Backend</p> <p>Open Standard Swappable Day 1 Ready</p>	
<p>LaunchDarkly</p> <p>Enterprise Default Proprietary SDK Vendor Lock-in</p>	
<p>Flagsmith</p> <p>Open-Source Hybrid OF-Compatible</p>	
<p>DIY Config Files</p> <p>Year 3 Refactor Hardcoded Logic Tech Debt</p>	