NetApp no longer uses the old “broker VM” terminology in the current platform. The BlueXP connectors have been rebranded and evolved into **NetApp Console agents**, which are still VM/host-based components that fulfill the connector/broker role.

From BlueXP to NetApp Console

- BlueXP has been renamed and restructured as **NetApp Console**; in that process, several elements were renamed, including connectors.mysupport.netapp
- The documentation explicitly notes that **“Connectors” are now called** Console agents**, and you manage them from **Administration > Agents** in the Console UI.mysupport.netapp

What happened to the “broker VM”?

- In earlier generations (Cloud Central / Cloud Manager / early BlueXP), a separate “broker” VM concept existed, but current docs and release notes only describe the **Console agent** as the on-prem/cloud VM that brokers communication between NetApp Console and your environments.docs.netapp+1
- Functionally, the Console agent still plays the role of a broker/connector: it sits in your on-prem or cloud network, talks to ONTAP, CVO, FSx, etc., and communicates with the SaaS Console service, but it is now standardized and documented as a **Console agent**, not a distinct “broker VM” product.docs.netapp+1

Connectors vs Console agents (current state)

- The term **Connector** is now legacy in this context; the same component has effectively become the **Console agent**, with the documentation mapping “Connectors → Console agents” as part of the BlueXP → NetApp Console rename.mysupport.netapp
- Release history shows recent agent versions (4.4.0, 4.5.0, 4.6.0, 4.7.0, 4.8.0) providing security fixes and new features for **Console agents**, which directly replace the former BlueXP Connector versions in day-to-day use.mysupport.netapp

Console agents: how they’re deployed

- You can deploy a Console agent as a VM/host on-prem or in the cloud; for VMware you can use an **OVA** that delivers a pre-configured VM image with the agent software.docs.netapp+1
- For manual on-prem installation, you deploy the agent on a dedicated Linux host (RHEL with Podman, or Ubuntu with Docker), with specific CPU/RAM/disk requirements and network reachability to Console endpoints and your target ONTAP/CVO resources.docs.netapp

Example for on-prem manual install (condensed):

- Prepare a dedicated x86 host (8 vCPUs, 32 GB RAM, significant disk space on `/opt` and `/var`).docs.netapp
- Install Podman (RHEL) or Docker (Ubuntu), then run the `NetApp_Console_Agent_Cloud_<version>` installer script, optionally specifying proxy and CA cert parameters.docs.netapp

“Console agents” as the new connector/broker

- The **Console agent** is now the authoritative “connector/broker” component: it maintains outbound connectivity to NetApp endpoints, cloud providers, and AutoSupport/SaaS services, and it updates itself after installation.docs.netapp
- Console agents are centrally managed and monitored through the NetApp Console’s **Administration > Agents** menu, where their states and connectivity can be validated and configuration checks run (ports, disk space, network endpoints).docs.netapp+1

Console agents and “console agents” in marketplaces

- Documentation and marketplace materials describe a **NetApp Console agent VM**, which connects on-prem or cloud data sources to the Console service—this is the VM you deploy instead of the old broker VM/connector.marketplace.microsoft+1

Summary in practical terms

- The **old “broker VM” concept is effectively folded into the modern NetApp Console agent**; you still deploy and maintain a VM/host, but the supported and documented entity today is the Console agent.docs.netapp+1
- **Connectors** as a named component are no longer used in the Console UI and docs; their role is served by Console agents, which you can deploy on-prem, in public clouds, or via OVA in vCenter, depending on your environment and mode (standard/restricted/private).