Stonetusker Insights · Technical note on containers and software supply chain

Bitnami Images No Longer Get Updates: Find and Replace Them in 30 Minutes

From 28 August 2025 Bitnami moved its versioned images to an archive that receives no updates. Many databases, caches and message brokers still run on those images. This note shows how to find them and which ones to replace first.

For: Teams that deploy Bitnami container images or Helm charts.

Skip if: You never pull Bitnami images or charts.

By Subeesh Sivanandan, Founder, Stonetusker Systems · Updated 29 October 2026 · About 3 minutes to read · PDF version

The short version

- From 28 August 2025 Bitnami moved its versioned images to docker.io/bitnamilegacy, an archive that receives no updates.[1]
- Every image pinned to bitnamilegacy has now gone more than a year without security fixes.[1]
- The free docker.io/bitnami repository keeps a limited set of images on the latest tag only, intended for development. Maintained production images need a paid subscription.[1]

- Two commands find every Bitnami image in your clusters and repositories. Replace databases and network-facing components first.

28 August 2025
Start of the Bitnami catalog change[1]

More than 12 months
Without updates for images on bitnamilegacy[1]

latest
The only free tag left in docker.io/bitnami[1]

Why it matters now

Bitnami, now part of Broadcom, began restructuring its public container catalog on 28 August 2025, with planned brownouts until 19 September 2025.[1] Bitnami postponed the deletion of the public catalog to 29 September 2025.[5] The versioned images now sit in the bitnamilegacy archive, which receives no further updates.[1]

Running pods kept their images, so nothing failed on the day. Many teams then fixed broken chart upgrades with one override, such as `--set image.repository=bitnamilegacy/postgresql`, which Bitnami suggested as a transition step.[2] The override kept deployments working and froze each component at its last patch level.

The components Bitnami covered well are the ones you least want frozen: databases, message brokers, caches and identity services. They hold data, and many workloads reach them.

Check your clusters and repositories in 30 minutes

Step 1. Find what runs in each cluster

Run this on every cluster. It includes init containers.

```
kubectl get pods -A -o json \
  | jq -r '.items[] | .metadata.namespace as $ns
      | (.spec.containers + (.spec.initContainers // []))[]
      | "\($ns)\t\(.image)"' \
  | grep -E 'bitnami(legacy)?/' | sort -u
```

Step 2. Find what your repositories reference

Run this at the root of each repository. It also covers components deployed later and Dockerfiles built `FROM bitnami/...`, which inherit the same position one layer down.

```
grep -rnE 'bitnami(legacy|charts)?/|charts\.bitnami\.com' \
  --include='*.yaml' --include='*.yml' --include='Chart.lock' \
  --include='Dockerfile*' --include='*.tf' .
```

Step 3. Sort the results

Put each result in one of three groups: running on `bitnamilegacy`, running on `bitnami` with the `latest` tag, or referenced only in code.

What the result means

What you find	What it means	Typical effort
Workloads on `bitnamilegacy`	Frozen at their last patch level, with no fixes to come	Replace first, starting with databases and network-facing components
Workloads on `bitnami` with the `latest` tag	Images intended for development, which change with every release	Pin by digest now, then plan a production source

What you find	What it means	Typical effort
References only in code	The next deployment will pull a frozen or missing image	Fix in the same change as the replacement

A practical order of replacement: components that face the internet or handle identity, then databases and message brokers that hold customer data, then caches and internal services, and last, tools used only in development.

The move, step by step

1. **Inventory.** Combine the results of the checks into one list, with an owner for each item.
2. **Decide per component.** Choose a managed service, an operator, an upstream or hardened image, a self-built image or the paid subscription. Start with databases.
3. **Mirror into your own registry.** Copy replacement images into a registry you control, such as Amazon ECR, Artifact Registry or Harbor.
4. **Pin by digest.** Reference images by their sha256 digest, and let a bot such as Renovate or Dependabot propose updates.
5. **Scan and sign.** Scan every image before it reaches the registry, generate a software bill of materials (SBOM) at build time, and sign the result.
6. **Block the old sources.** Add an admission policy that rejects images from bitnamilegacy and from registries outside your mirror.

Replacement options include managed cloud services, community operators such as CloudNativePG, Docker Official Images, Docker Hardened Images (free and open source since December 2025)[3], images you build from the Bitnami source on GitHub, and the paid Bitnami Secure Images subscription. A mirror also removes the dependency on Docker Hub, which limits anonymous pulls to 100 per six hours per network address.[4]

What is still open

- Bitnami catalog terms and the scope of the paid subscription can change. Please confirm the current terms before a purchase decision.
- Docker Hardened Images coverage grows over time. Check the catalog for your exact components and versions.
- Docker Hub pull limits have changed several times. The figure in this note reflects the Docker documentation as of October 2026.

A note to forward to your team

> Bitnami images check
>
> Since 28 August 2025, versioned Bitnami images sit in an archive that receives no security fixes. Some of our components may still run on them.
>
> Please run the checks in this note on every cluster and repository by [date] and reply with three numbers:
> 1. Workloads on bitnamilegacy images
> 2. Workloads on bitnami images with the latest tag
> 3. Bitnami references found only in code
>
> Owner: [name]
> Note: https://stonetusker.com/insights/bitnami-image-changes.html

Questions

Do Bitnami images still work?

Images in the bitnamilegacy repository still pull and run, and their updates have ended. The free bitnami repository offers a limited set of latest-tag images intended for development.

Is pointing charts at bitnamilegacy a safe fix?

It is a temporary measure. It keeps deployments working and freezes those components at their current patch level, so it needs a replacement date.

Are Bitnami Helm charts still maintained?

The chart source code remains on GitHub under the Apache 2.0 licence. Charts that pull versioned images need overrides to the legacy repository, and Bitnami offers continued chart support through Bitnami Secure Images.

What is the best free replacement?

It depends on the component. Managed services or community operators suit databases, and Docker Official Images, upstream images or Docker Hardened Images suit most other components.

Want a second opinion?

Run the check yourself first. If you would like a second opinion, reply with three numbers only: the workloads on bitnamilegacy images, the workloads on bitnami images with the latest tag and the references found only in code. No image names, cluster names, configuration or command output are needed. Within five working days you receive a short written plan with a recommended replacement order and a time estimate. It is free and confidential, and a call is optional.

Ask for a second opinion

The button opens an email to subeesh@stonetusker.com with the subject and the numbers to fill in. You can also use the contact page, or reply to the email or LinkedIn message that brought you here.

Next page for your situation

- Ingress NGINX: another component in many clusters that no longer gets fixes.

- 2026 software bill of materials elements: what buyers now expect in the component record.

Sources

1. Bitnami: Upcoming changes to the Bitnami catalog (containers)
2. Bitnami: Upcoming changes to the Bitnami catalog (charts)
3. Docker: Docker makes Hardened Images free, open and transparent for everyone
4. Docker: Docker Hub usage and limits
5. Broadcom: How to prepare for the Bitnami changes coming soon (18 August 2025, updated)

About the author

Subeesh Sivanandan is the Founder and CEO of Stonetusker Systems. He has worked for more than 27 years in release engineering, DevOps, platform engineering & embedded Linux. His career includes serving as the Principal Engineer & Manager of Release Engineering at Stryker, alongside earlier roles at Nokia, VeriSign, and IP Infusion. LinkedIn profile.

Revision history (recent 3 updates)

Version 2.1, 29 October 2026. Every fact on this page is checked against a minimum of two sources each month.

Version	Date	Change
1.5	16 October 2026	Rewritten as an article for quick readers: introduction, summary of all major changes, what it means and first steps; one figure; commands folded for platform leads; print option and direct email offer
2.0	25 October 2026	Simpler layout and shorter text; the review offer now asks for a few counts only

Version	Date	Change
2.1	29 October 2026	Who-this-is-for box, email offer with the numbers listed, and next pages