The Future of Ansible Tower

Matthew Jones @matburt
Mike Abashian @mabash
Introductions
What’s coming in Tower 3.6
Automation Webhooks

- Webhooks for popular SCMs
- Maps inputs into extra vars sanely
- Reports status for success / failure
- Job Templates and Workflows can now override SCM version
Workflow Pause/Approval

- Pause the workflow
- Give certain groups the ability to review
- Set timeouts so approvals don’t just hang out forever
- Approvers get notifications via the UI
Scaling Execution Capacity with Openshift

- Extending Instance Groups
- Openshift becomes a pool of resources
- Pods created and destroyed on Demand
- Customizable Pod environment and Container image
- Talks to directly to the kube api
- Target Openshift clusters anywhere, all of the benefits of the Tower Isolated System
- Works with Kubernetes also
Some other things!

- Totally new CLI
- Customizable Notification Content
- SSL for backend services
The Future of Scaling Ansible Tower
What scaling looks like today

- Monolithic Service Deployments
- Close proximity
- Changes require downtime
- Definite upper bound
- Isolated nodes have limited connection support
Scaling Tower for the future

- Separate the web application from the execution capability
- Eliminate the complexity of RabbitMQ
- Support linking Workers together with more dynamic topologies
- A totally new clustering model
Project Receptor

https://github.com/project-receptor/receptor
The Future of the Tower User Interface
Image from Tower Docs: https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-tower/2.4.5/html/userguide/_images/job-details.png
What is it?

- New user interface that will eventually replace existing Tower UI
- Built using React and PatternFly
- Interacts with the existing Tower REST API
What are our goals?

● Achieve feature parity with existing Tower UI
● Increase development velocity
● Evaluate UI performance and close gaps
● Enhance the UX
UX Improvements

- Evaluate and update some existing UX patterns
- Responsive design
- I18N
- Accessibility
- Overall continuity of the UI
Live Demo!