Getting Started: Understanding Ansible Integrations for Partners

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What we’ll discuss today

- What is Ansible?
- Why enable a partner platform?
- Who uses Ansible?
- Partner integration examples
- Delivering and certifying an integration
“Automation is a boardroom imperative.”

— Forrester

What is “Ansible?”

An automation software company purchased by Red Hat in 2015.

Various open source projects and a means to describe the automation presentation layer used within (YAML).

A holistic enterprise-class supported product offering that includes various on-premises software, managed services, and content.
Who uses Ansible?

Spoiler: Lots of different (and siloed) personas

**IT Operations**
Enterprise-wide automation requires attention to managing multi-site inventory, RBAC, and security at scale.

**Platform Developers**
These are the “plumbers” that ensure endpoints are automatable, and maintain the Ansible modules, plugins, roles (content) to be used.

**Automation Implementers**
Ansible playbook writers stitching together each play by play, task by task using tested and validated released developer content.
Business value for building an Ansible integration

Now even easier to get started

Faster Adoption
Implementing a new technology or platform can be a burden on IT teams. Ansible can be the bridge to simplifying general understanding to in depth platform knowledge.

Easier to Support
Troubleshooting manual processes and procedures are time consuming. Providing a tested and known-good Ansible playbook can help ensure predictable user outcomes.

Shorter Sales Cycles
Ansible abstracts away complexities between various interconnected technologies. Have your users get up and running quicker with validated Ansible content.
Integrate with, or leave behind other discrete automation point tools

Automate your Linux, network, cloud, security, storage, Windows and more!
---
- name: install and start apache
  hosts: web
  become: yes

  collections:
    - ansible.builtin

  tasks:
  - name: httpd package is present
    yum:
      name: httpd
      state: latest
  - name: latest index.html file is present
    copy:
      src: files/index.html
      dest: /var/www/html/
  - name: httpd is started
    service:
      name: httpd
      state: started
Where would partner platform integrations live?

Fueled by an open source community
An Ansible Integration Can Be...

Via Ansible CLI

---

- name: Example Cyberark CLI integration
  hosts: localhost

  tasks:
  - name: Lookup variable in Conjur
debug:
    msg: "{{ lookup('cyberark.conjur.conjur_variable', '/path/to/secret') }}"

https://docs.ansible.com/ansible/latest/collections/cyberark/conjur/conjur_variable_lookup.html
An Ansible Integration Can Be...

Via Ansible Enterprise Web UI + API

https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-tower/3.8.0/html/userguide/credential_plugins.html#ug-credential-plugins
Ansible Content Collections

Simplified and consistent schema

Streamlines technology partners providing direct-to-user automation

Simplifies internal collaboration, distribution, versioning

Ability to distribute, share and consume content at your own pace
## Simplified Content Distribution

### Ansible Galaxy

galaxy.ansible.com

- Community supported
- Existing roles library extended
- Latest, bleeding edge

### Ansible Automation Hub

cloud.redhat.com

- Fully supported by Red Hat, certified partners
- Access to advanced analytics
- Tested, Trusted
Private Automation Hub

Enterprise On Premises Content Repository
Over 65 Certified Collections

Ansible Automation Hub

INFRASTRUCTURE  CLOUD  NETWORK  SECURITY

Red Hat  AWS  ARISTA  Check Point

NetApp  Google  CISCO  CyberArk

IBM  Microsoft  F5  Fortinet
Next Steps

Resources and Getting Started

IT Operations
- Ansible Web UI (Tower) Docs
- Private Automation Hub
- Automation Analytics, Services Catalog Docs

Platform Developers
- Developer Guide
- ansible.com/partners
- Developer Community

Automation Implementers
- User Guide
- Automation Hub, Galaxy
- Scenario Guides

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Thank you

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