

The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of numerous overlapping, elongated, teardrop-like shapes in various colors including dark blue, light blue, green, yellow, orange, and red. These shapes radiate from a central point, creating a starburst or sunburst effect. Some shapes have white circular cutouts. Scattered around the main cluster are several small, solid-colored circles in blue, yellow, and red.

# TURN IT UP

CISCO *Live!*

#CiscoLive



The bridge to possible



# Ansible and DCNM!

Parity in Function and Value to Operate Your Fabric

Mike Wiebe, Technical Leader Engineering  
BRKDCN-2512

**CISCO** *Live!*

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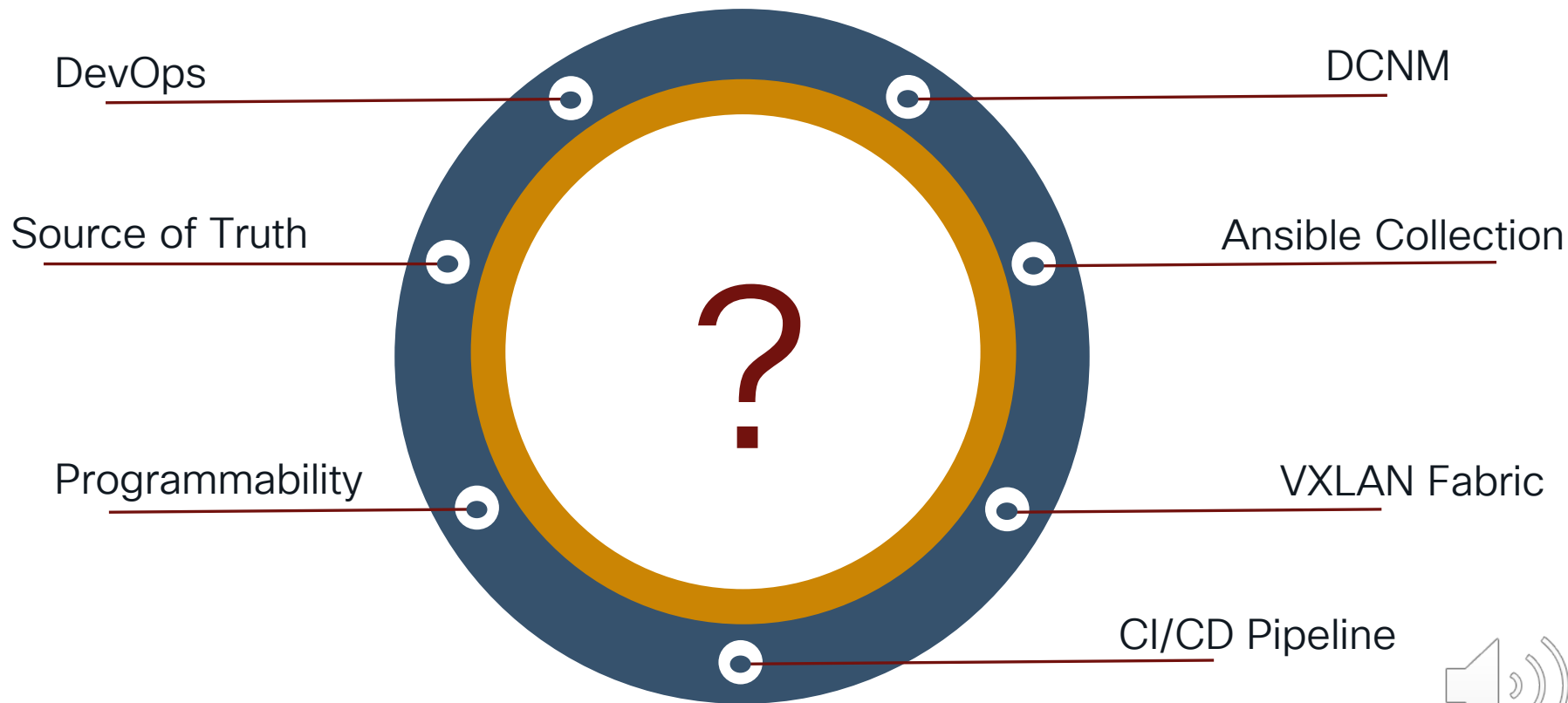


# Let's Meet Cliff

- Managing VXLAN EVPN fabric
- Using DCNM Version 11.5(1)
- Wants to improve automation



# What If ...





Cisco DCNM Ansible Collection Solves This!





# Agenda

- Introduction
- **Install the DCNM Ansible Collection**
- Automate using the DCNM Ansible Collection
- DCNM Ansible and DevOps Workflows
- DCNM Ansible Collection Roadmap
- Conclusion



# Brief Ansible Collection Intro

- Distribution format for Ansible content
- First introduced in Ansible 2.8 (tech preview)
- Fully supported in Ansible 2.9
- Non-base plugins/modules moved out of ansible/ansible in Ansible 2.10



A N S I B L E



# Installing the DCNM Ansible Collection

- Collection available on <https://galaxy.ansible.com/cisco/dcnm>
- Install using ansible using ansible-galaxy
  - `ansible-galaxy collection install cisco.dcnm`
- Ansible uses the Fully Qualified Collection Name (FQCN)
  - Namespace: `cisco`
  - Collection Name: `dcnm`
- DCNM module references in the playbook must use the FQCN





# DCNM Ansible Galaxy Collection Site

The screenshot shows the Cisco DCNM Ansible Galaxy Collection page. The URL in the browser is <https://galaxy.ansible.com/cisco/dcnm>. The page features a sidebar with navigation links: Home, Search, and Community. The main content area displays the collection details for 'dcnm' by Cisco. A red box highlights the 'Details' button. Another red box highlights the '5 / 5 Score' and '11440 Downloads' section, with a callout 'Link to repo' pointing to the 'Repo' button. A third red box highlights the 'Read Me' button, with a callout 'Read Me' pointing to it. A fourth red box highlights the 'Installation' section, which contains the command `$ ansible-galaxy collection install cisco.dcnm` and a note about Ansible version support. A callout 'Collection Version & Install Cmd' points to this section. A fifth red box highlights the 'Install Version' dropdown, which shows '1.0.0 released 6 months ago (latest)'. A callout 'DCNM Version' points to the text 'This collection is intended for use with DCNM Release 11.4(1) or later.'

Community Authors > cisco > dcnm

**dcnm**  
Ansible collection for the Cisco Data Center Network Manager (DCNM)

5 / 5 Score 11440 Downloads  
Login to Follow Repo

Details Read Me Content

**Info**

**Installation**

```
$ ansible-galaxy collection install cisco.dcnm
```

NOTE: Installing collections with ansible-galaxy is only supported in ansible 2.9+  
[Download tarball](#)

**Install Version**  
1.0.0 released 6 months ago (latest)

**Tags**  
cisco dcnm nxos networking vxlan

**Content Score**

Community Score 5 / 5  
Based on 1 survey. [Show Details](#)

**Tell us about this collection**

Quality of docs? - +  
Ease of use? - +  
Does what it promises? Y N  
Works without change? Y N  
Ready for production? Y N

**Cisco DCNM Collection**

The Ansible Cisco Data Center Network Manager (DCNM) collection includes modules to help automate common day 2 operations for VXLAN EVPN fabrics.

This collection is intended for use with DCNM Release 11.4(1) or later.

# Demo – Install DCNM Collection





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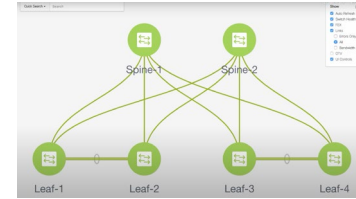


# DCNM Ansible Collection Details

- Latest Collection Version: 1.0.0 – Lan Fabric
- Ansible DCNM Modules

5 Modules in the current collection

- cisco.dcnm.[dcnm\\_inventory](#)
- cisco.dcnm.[dcnm\\_vrf](#)
- cisco.dcnm.[dcnm\\_network](#)
- cisco.dcnm.[dcnm\\_interface](#)
- cisco.dcnm.[dcnm\\_rest](#)



ANSIBLE



# HTTPAPI Connection Plugin

- Configuration required to use the connection plugin

## Hosts File

```
[dcnm_controllers]
```

```
192.168.2.10
```

```
[dcnm_controllers:vars]
```

```
ansible_user=dcnm_username
```

```
ansible_ssh_pass=dcnm_password
```

```
ansible_network_os=cisco.dcnm.dcnm
```

```
ansible_httpapi_validate_certs=False
```

```
ansible_httpapi_use_ssl=True
```

DCNM Controller List

Namespace, collection,  
Plugin name

## Playbook

```
---
```

```
- hosts: dcnm_controllers
```

```
  gather_facts: false
```

```
  connection: httpapi
```

```
  collections:
```

```
    - cisco.dcnm
```

```
  tasks:
```

```
    - name: Merge a Switch
```

```
      dcnm_inventory:
```

```
        ...parameters...
```

HTTPAPI Plugin Type

Module Namespace,  
Collection Name

Module Name

FQCN



# dcnm\_inventory module

- Manage switches for an existing fabric
  - Add and remove switches and assign roles (spine, leaf, boarder etc...)

```
---
- hosts: dcnm_controllers
  gather_facts: false
  connection: ansible.netcommon.httpapi

  vars:
    password: !vault |
      $ANSIBLE_VAULT;1.1;AES256
      3239343134623534373638363565633936313266646331623165386237333536366663561316665
      3730346133626437383337366664616264656534313536640a303639313666373261633064343361
      33396463306231313937303766343165333332613636393263343734613136636232636162363639
      3233353437366362330a62396261303162663339663065353062663638333633065653965383864
      3165

  tasks:
    - name: Add switch n9kv-spine1 to fabric vxlan-fabric.
      cisco.dcnm.dcnm_inventory:
        fabric: vxlan-fabric
        state: overridden
        config:
          - seed_ip: n9kv-spine1
            auth_proto: MD5 # choose from [MD5, SHA, MD5_DES, MD5_AES, SHA_DES, SHA_AES]
            user_name: admin
            password: "{{ password }}"
            max_hops: 0
            role: spine # default is Leaf - choose from [leaf, spine, border, border_spine,
              # super_spine, border_super_spine, border_gateway_super_spine]
            preserve_config: false # boolean, default is true
        vars:
          ansible_command_timeout: 1000
          ansible_connect_timeout: 1000
      no_log: true
```

- Brownfield or Greenfield
- Must specify each device separately.
- Timeout
  - ansible\_command >= 1000s
  - ansible\_connect >= 1000s
- Password encrypted using vault
- Supported States
  - merged, overridden, deleted, query



# dcnm\_vrf module

- Create and attach vrf object to switches

## Ansible Playbook

```
- name: MERGED - Create, Attach and Deploy new VRF
  cisco.dcnm.dcnm_vrf:
    fabric: "{{ ansible_it_fabric }}"
    state: merged
    config:
      - vrf_name: ansible-vrf-int1
        vrf_id: 9008011
        vlan_id: 500
        attach:
          - ip_address: "{{ ansible_switch1 }}"
          - ip_address: "{{ ansible_switch2 }}"
        deploy: true
```

- **vrf\_id** and **vlan\_id** are optional
  - Auto-populated by DCNM
- **deploy** flag controls device configuration
- Supported States:
  - merged, replaced, overridden, deleted, query



# dcnm\_network module

- Create and attach network object to switches

## Ansible Playbook

```
- name: MERGED - Create, Attach and Deploy new NET
  cisco.dcnm.dcnm_network:
    fabric: "{{ ansible_it_fabric }}"
    state: merged
    config:
      - net_name: ansible-net13
        vrf_name: Tenant-1
        net_id: 7005
        vlan_id: 1500
        gw_ip_subnet: '192.168.30.1/24'
        attach:
          - ip_address: "{{ ansible_switch1 }}"
            ports:
              - "{{ ansible_sw1_int1 }}"
              - "{{ ansible_sw1_int2 }}"
        deploy: True
```

- **net\_id** and **vlan\_id** are optional
  - Auto-populated by DCNM
- deploy flag controls device configuration
- Supported States:
  - merged, replaced, overridden, deleted, query





# dcnm\_interface module

- Create, modify and remove interfaces

## Ansible Playbook

```
- name: Create loopback interfaces
cisco.dcnm.dcnm_interface:
  fabric: "{{ ansible_it_fabric }}"
  state: merged
  config:
    - name: lo100
      type: lo
      switch:
        - "{{ ansible_switch1 }}"
      deploy: true
      profile:
        admin_state: true
        mode: lo
        ipv4_addr: 192.169.10.1
        ipv6_addr: fd01::0201
        cmds:
          - no shutdown
      description: "loopback interface 100"
```

- Supported types:
  - Ethernet (access, trunk)
  - Routed Interface, sub-interface
  - Port-channel, Virtual PC
  - Loopback
- Profile has unique interface specific parameters
- Supported States:
  - merged, replaced, overridden, deleted, query



# dcnm\_rest module

- Query or Configure DCNM using any available DCNM APIs

## Ansible Playbook

```
- name: create template
  cisco.dcnm.dcnm_rest:
    method: POST
    path: /fm/fmrest/config/templates/template
    json_data: |
      {
        "content": "##template properties
\nname=demo_template;\ndescription = ;\ntags =
;\nuserDefined = true;\nsupportedPlatforms =
All;\ntemplateType = POLICY;\ntemplateSubType =
DEVICE;\ncontentType = TEMPLATE_CLI;\nimplements =
;\ndependencies = ;\npublished = false;\n##\n\n##template
variables\n##\n\n##template content\n##"
      }
    ":null}'
```

- Module can be used until feature specific module can be developed
- This example creates a new template in DCNM.
- User must know the rest path and provide raw json\_data.



# Module States Explained – (dcdm\_vrf)

Merged

VRF created or update supported properties

Replaced

VRF created or completely replaced – [Source of Truth](#)

Overridden

VRF created or completely replaced and VRFs not specified in the playbook are deleted – [Source of Truth](#)

Deleted

VRF deleted

Query

Current state of VRFs returned by the module – parameters act as query filter



# Demo – Automate with Ansible and DCNM



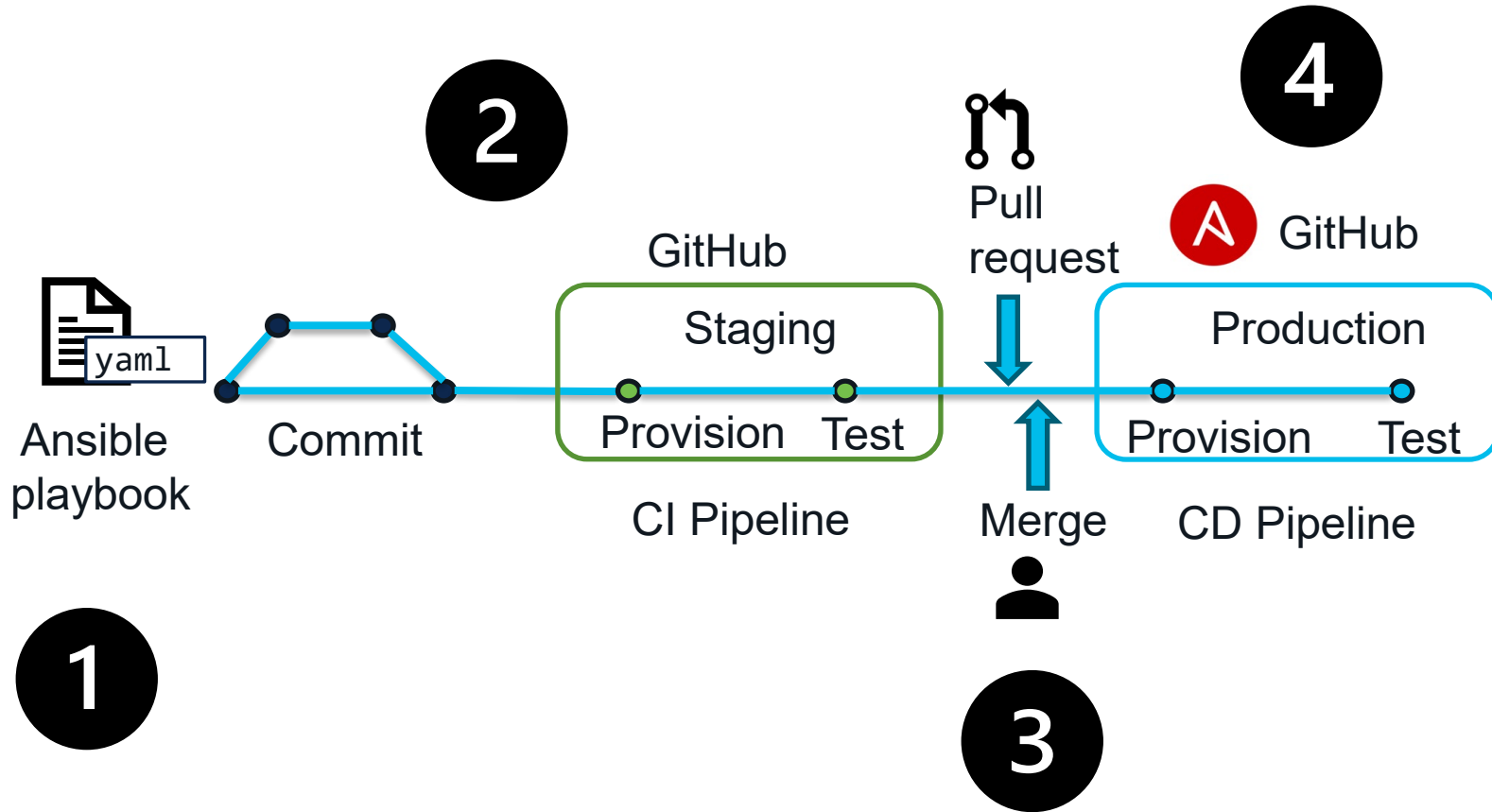


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# CI/CD Pipeline – Network as Code



# Demo – CI/CD Pipeline with Ansible DCNM





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# DCNM Ansible Roadmap

## Module Extensions:

- VRF LITE support extensionsn for dcnm\_vrf module
- Multisite support for dcnm\_vrf and dcnm\_network modules

## New Modules:

- Image Management
  - Upload images to DCNM
  - Upgrade fabric switches
- Install and apply RPM's and SMU's
- Customized Template and Policy Creation/Association with fabric switches
- L4-L7 Service Insertion





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# Continue your education



Demos in the Cisco campus



Meet the engineer 1:1 meetings



Walk-in labs



Related sessions





The bridge to possible

# Thank you

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