





How to be a Network Engineer in a NetDevOps Age

Go beyond Infrastructure as Code and Automation

Hank Preston, NetDevOps Whisperer @hfpreston

DEVNET-1725



Barcelona | January 27-31, 2020



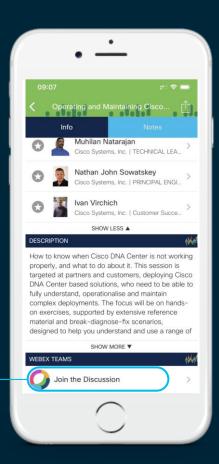
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Please stick around for the next session to continue the NetDevOps Exploration!

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* Please checkout DEVNET-1291 "Working 9 to 5 as a NetDevOps Engineer" for a detailed demonstration of the NetDevOps tools and concepts discussed in this session.

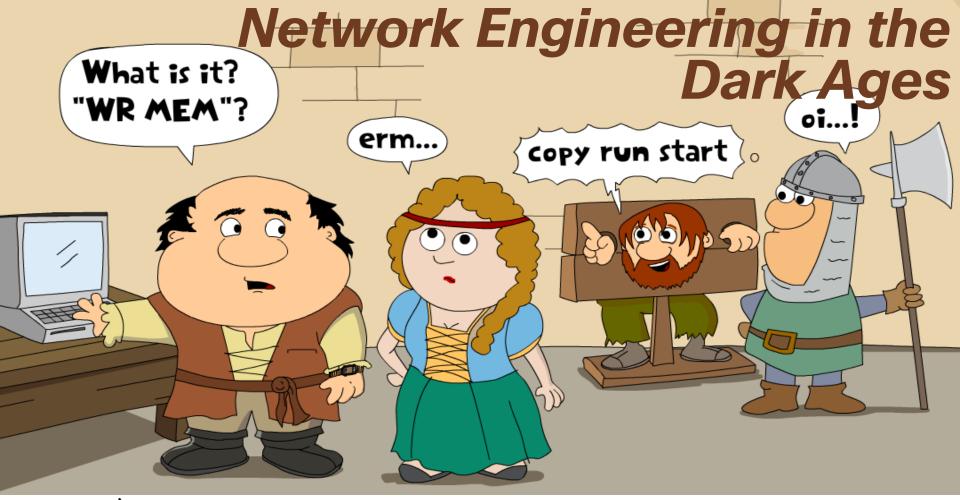
Topics to Cover

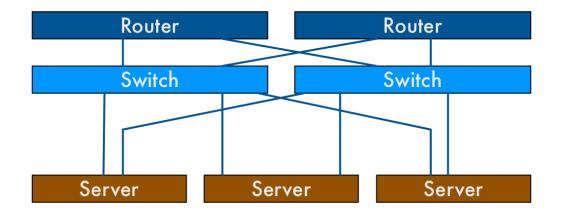
- Network Engineering in the Dark Ages
- The Four Ages of Networking
- Applying DevOps to Networking
- Today's Network Engineer

The Network Engineer Evolves

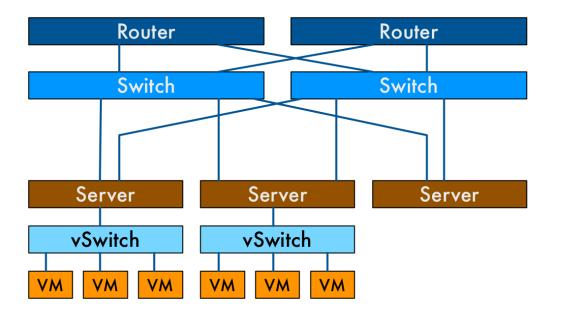




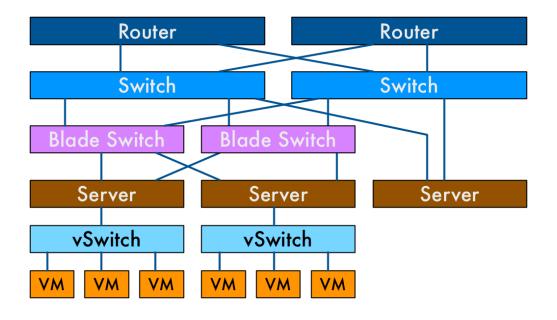






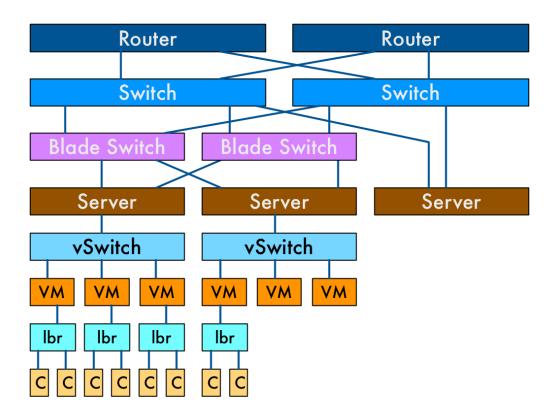




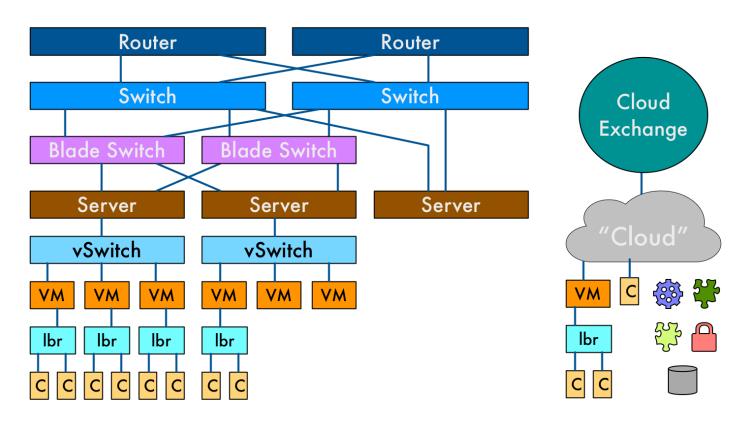


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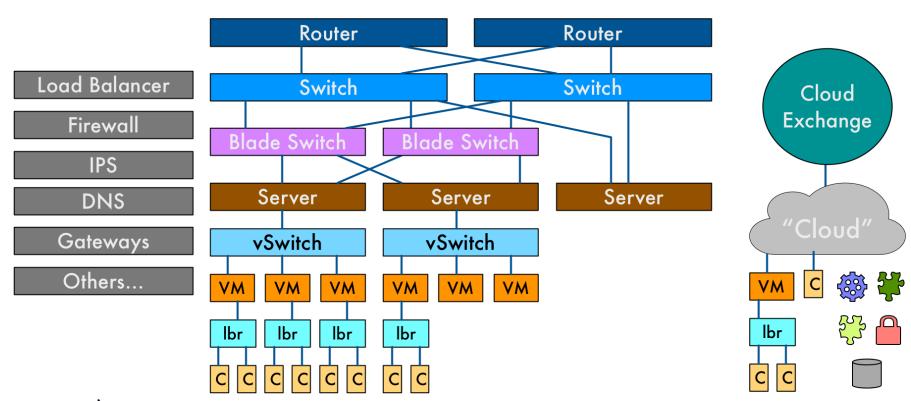






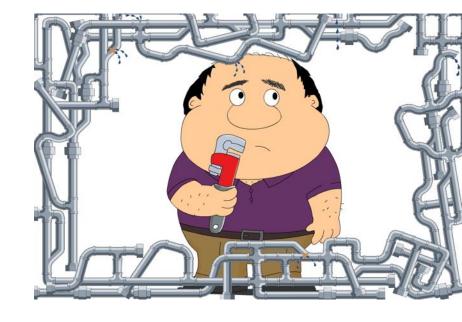






Today's reality...

- Functional but considered fragile
- Network configuration more "art than science"
- Tribal knowledge of key engineers





"Every time we implement a network change something goes wrong..."

"Isn't it great, our switch hasn't been rebooted in 6 years"

"We can't update/change the network, our business won't allow it"

* Paraphrased quotes from actual network operators



```
Cisco Internetwork Operating System Software

10S (tm) s72033_rp Software (s72033_rp-ADVENTERPRISEK9_WAN-M), Version

12.2(18)SXF3_RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc1)

Technical Soft Onto Cyclicage this
Copyright (e) 10.106 ty Carcal Software (fc1)

Compiled Tue 14-Feb-06 17:18 by kehsiao

Image text-bask 1106 of behaviorili
```

uptime is 11 years, 31 weeks, 1 day, 16 hours, 46 minutes
Time since r-secmgte1-1 switched to active is 11 years, 31 weeks, 1 day, 17
hours, 29 minutes

System returned to ROM by s/w reset (SP by power-on)

ROM: System Bootstrap, Version 12.2(17r)S2, RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc1)

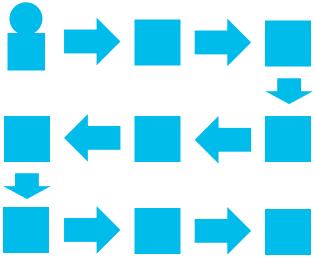
BOOTLDR: s72033 rp Software (s72033 rp-ADVENTERPRISEK9 WAN-M), Version

Trom
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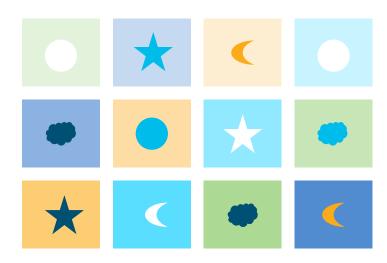
Subject: switch uptime

12.2(18)SXF3, RELEASE SOFTWARE (fc1)

Today's Network Realities



Sequential and Manual Infrastructure Provisioning



Snowflake Infrastructure with Organic Configurations





Networking through the ages...





Stone Age

Spanning Tree VLANs



Stone Age

Spanning Tree VLANs



Bronze Age

Routing Protocols
WAN Design
IP-magedon





Spanning Tree

Spanning Tree VLANs



Bronze Age

Routing Protocols
WAN Design
IP-magedon



The Renaissance

SDN

OpenFlow

Controllers

Overlays

MP-BGP

VXLAN

Micro-Segmentation

White Box





Stone Age

Spanning Tree VLANs



Bronze Age

Routing Protocols
WAN Design
IP-magedon



The Renaissance

SDN

OpenFlow

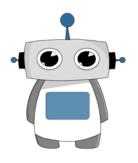
Controllers

Overlays

MP-BGP

VXLAN

Micro-Segmentation
White Box



Programmable Age

Cloud

Python

REST / APIs

NETCONF / YANG

"Fabrics"

Network Function Virtualization (NFV)

Containers

DevOps

NetDevOps!



The Age of Enlightenment and NetDevOps













Consider the Network Stakeholders



Network Builders

- Traditional networking teams
- Design, Build, and Maintain the Network
- Responsible for Care and Feeding



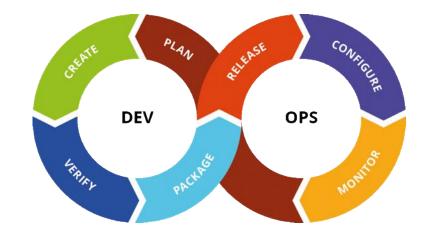
Network Consumers

- The users of the network
- Looking to consume network "services"
- The network is a "utility" It should just work



What is the "DevOps Culture"?

- Embrace failure
- · Change is good
- Active collaboration
- Empowered accountability
- Feedback systems
- Automation

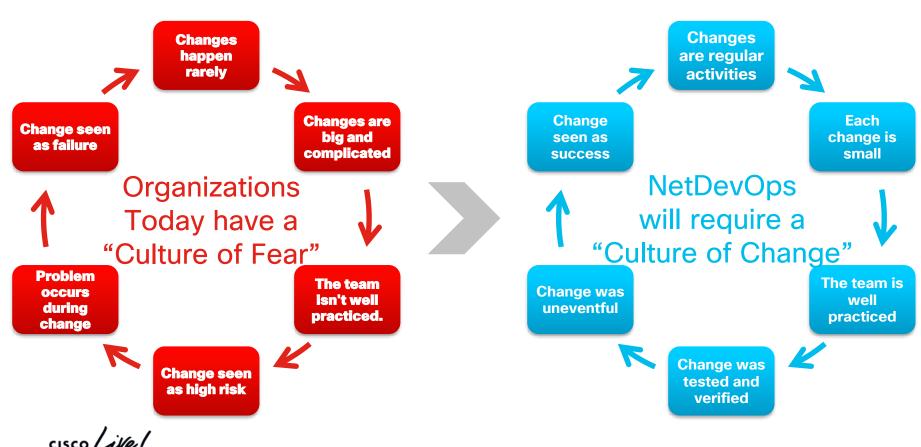




Moving to a NetDevOps Culture and Mindset

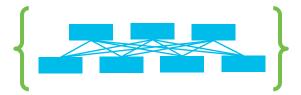


Moving to a NetDevOps Culture and Mindset



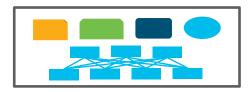
NetDevOps Operational Models

Network as Code



- Git based workflows
- Close alignment to software DevOps approaches
- Leverage abstractions, such as controllers, when possible

IT as a Service



- Service Catalog based workflows
- Deliver End User Self Service experience in "eStores"

Controller Driven



- Network Controller based workflows
- Evolving traditional network operation model



Configuration, Automation & Monitoring Principles

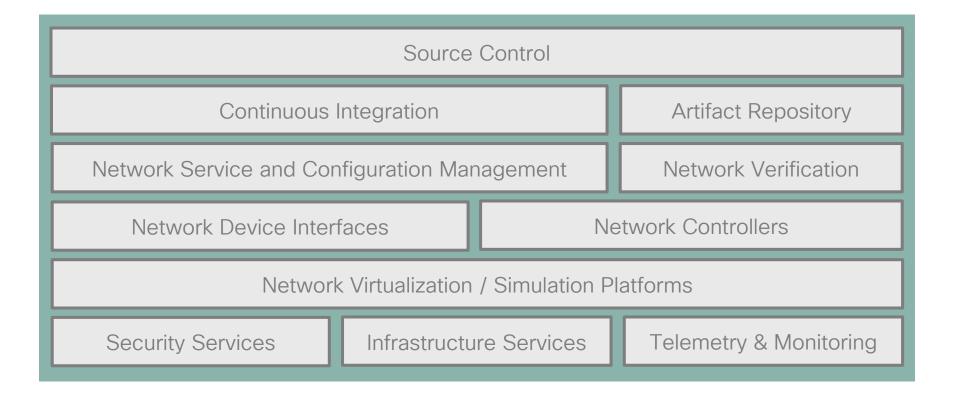
- Network as Code and Configuration Management strategies
- Continuous Development approach to network changes.
- Continuous health and improvement approach to monitoring.



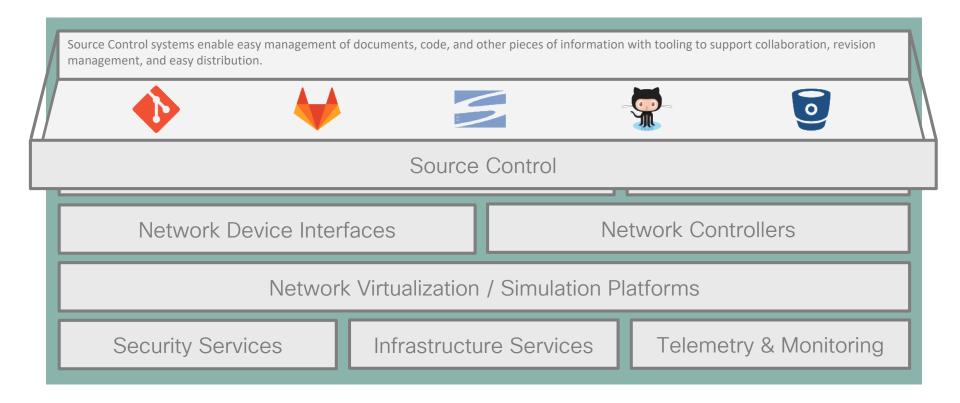


```
source = "terraform-aws-modules/vpc/aws"
name = "my-vpc"
cidr = "10.0.0.0/16"
               = ["eu-west-1a", "eu-west-1b", "eu-west-1c"]
azs
private subnets = ["10.0.1.0/24", "10.0.2.0/24", "10.0.3.0/24"]
public subnets = ["10.0.101.0/24", "10.0.102.0/24", "10.0.103.0/24"]
enable nat gateway = true
enable vpn gateway = true
tags = { This doesn't count as "Network as Code"
 Terraform = "true" (or at least isn't ENOUGH)
  Environment = "dev"
```

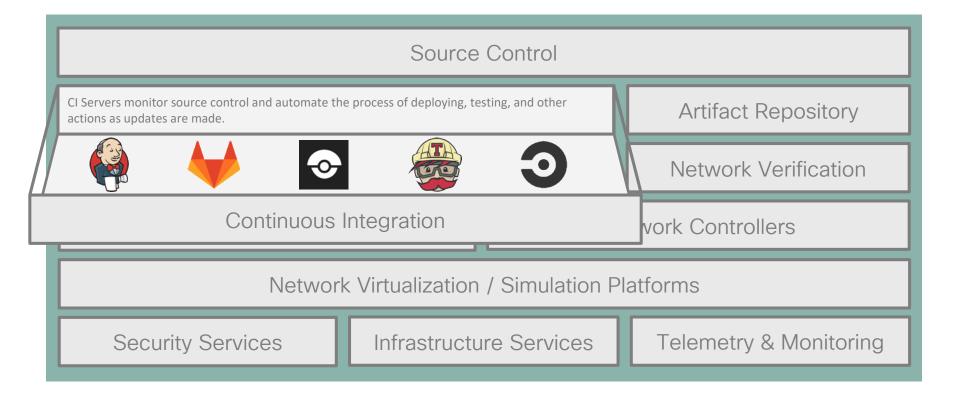
module "vpc" {



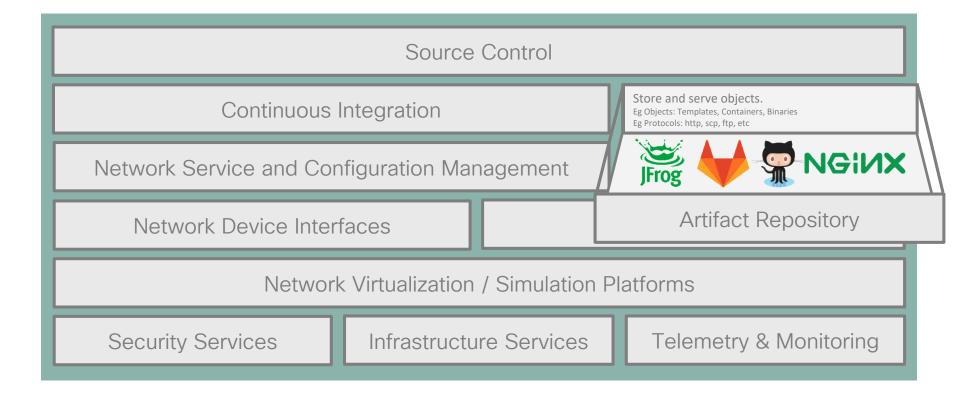




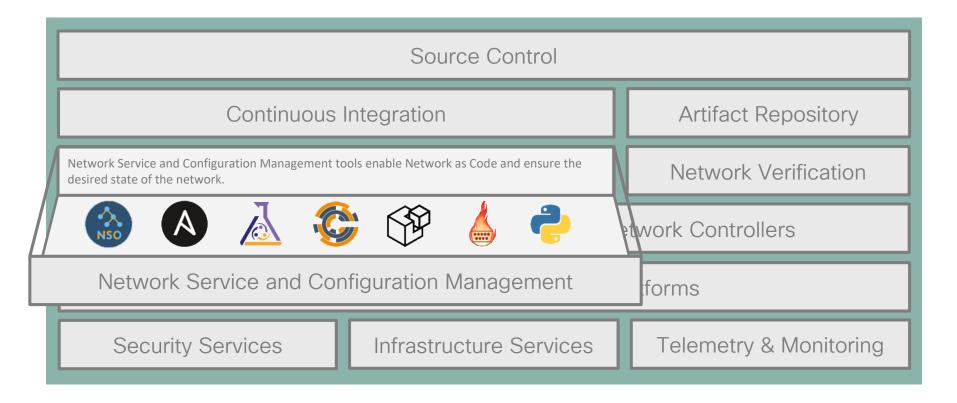




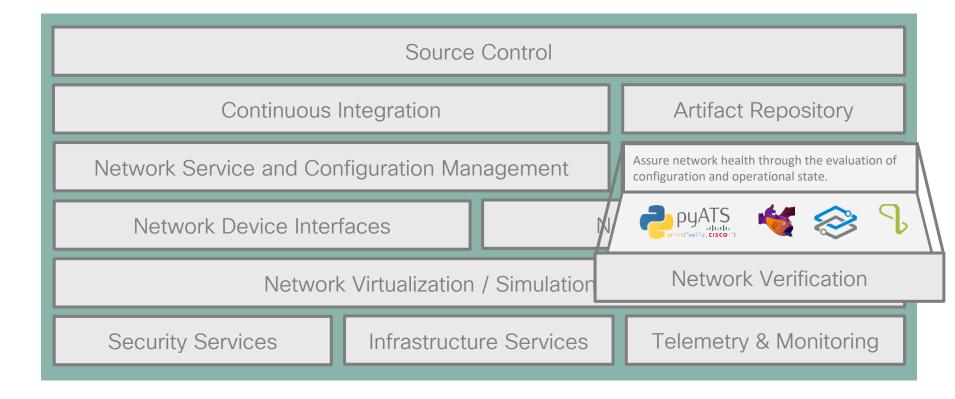




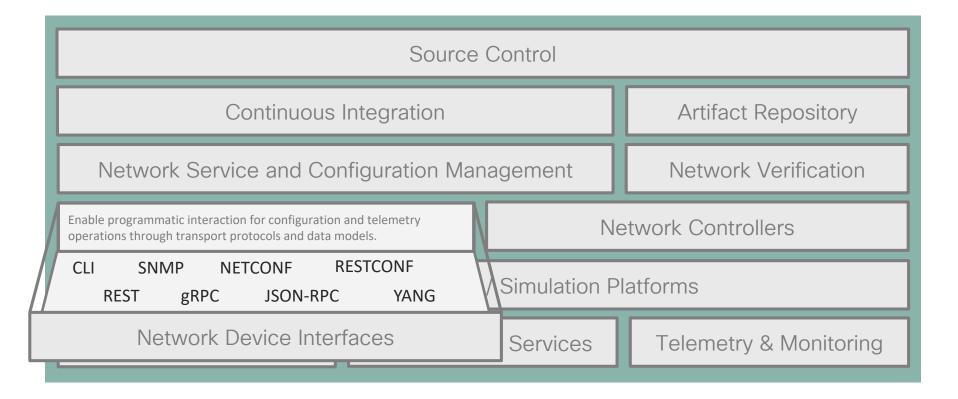




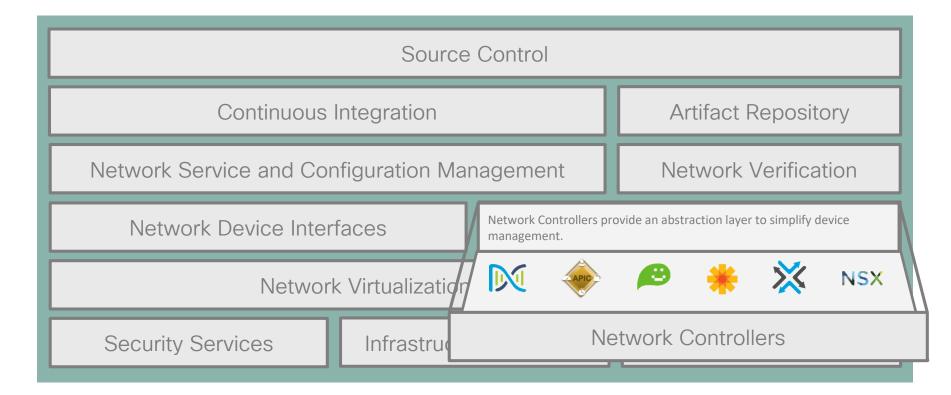




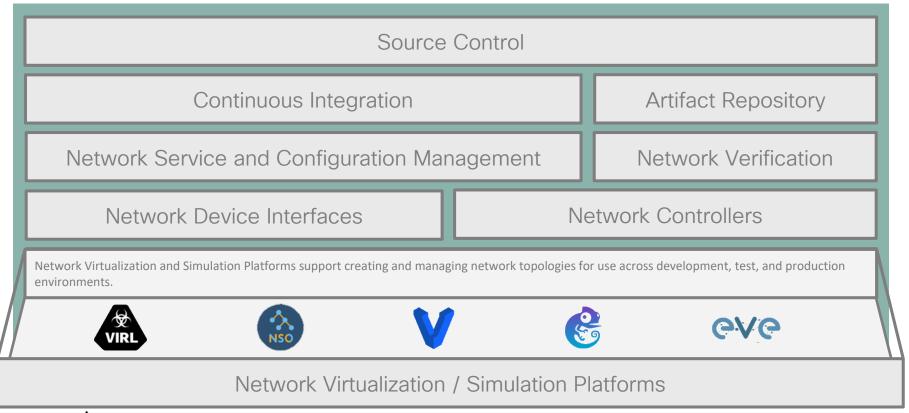


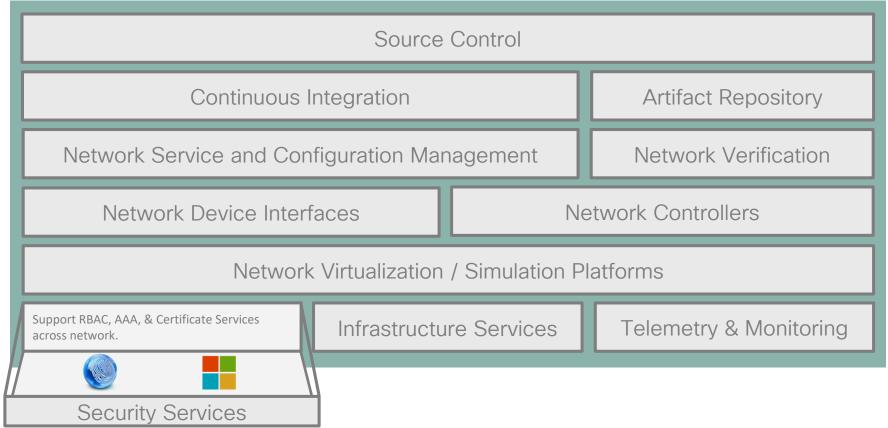


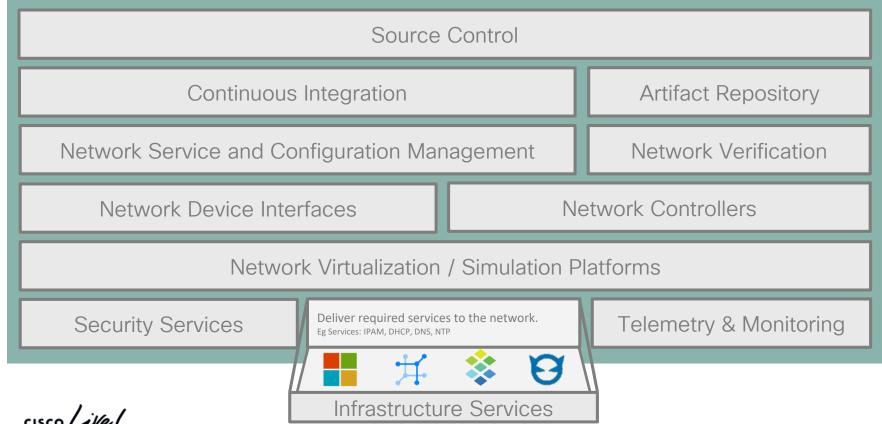




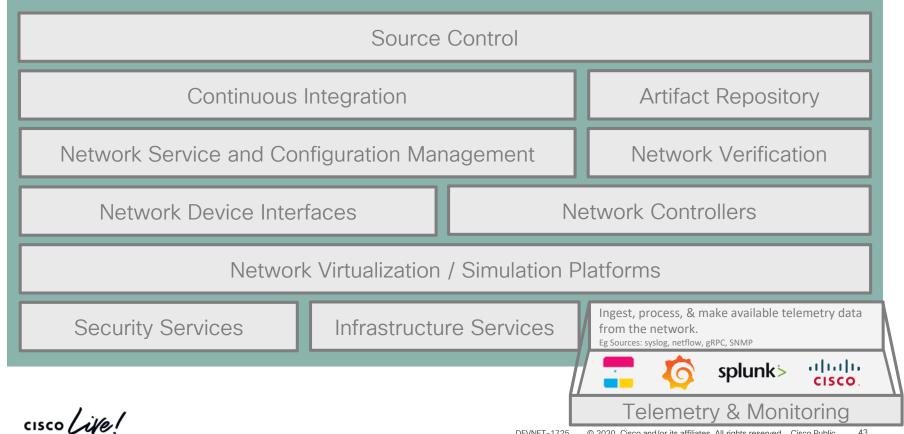








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How to pick a tool? (Not in priority order)

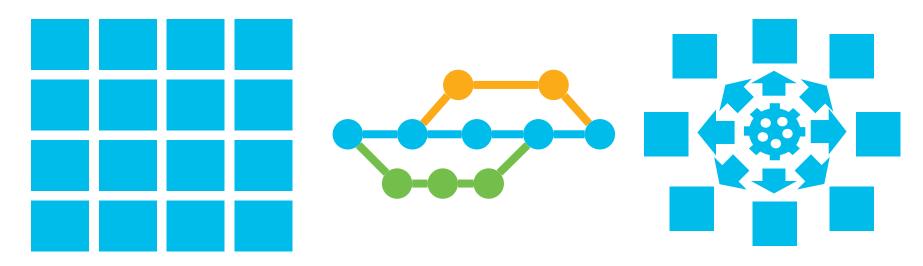
- · Commercial vs Open Source
- Programming language
- Supported integrations
- Popularity in community
- · Relevant examples
- Tool Capabilities
- Used elsewhere in organization



Often no one tool will fit, using multiple is okay too!



NetDevOps Will Deliver



Consistent Version Controlled Infrastructure deployed with Parallel & Automated Provisioning





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A "Traditional" Network Engineer Profile



Network Skills

- Spanning-Tree
- Routing Protocols
- · QoS
- VPN Design
- Spanning-Tree
- · VOIP
- · Fibre Channel
- Security Policy
- · MPLS
- · Did we mention Spanning-Tree?

Programming Skills

- · TCL
- EEM
- Expect Scripts

A Profile of a NetDevOps Engineer!



Network Skills

- Layer 2 & 3 Fundamentals
- Quality of Service
- Security and Segmentation
- Linux Networking
- Container Networking
- Cloud Networking
- IOT Networking
- Model Driven Programmability
- Network Function Virtualization

Platform Skills

- Linux Administration
- Container Fundamentals
- Micro Service Platforms
- Cloud Fundamentals

Programming Skills

- Data Formats (ex: JSON, YAML, etc)
- Python and APIs (ex: REST, NETCONF, etc)
- Source Control (ex: git, GitLab, etc)
- Configuration Management (ex: NSO, Ansible, Puppet, etc)



Carl's 3 Step Approach to Network Programmability

Phase 1

- Python
- REST APIs
- JSON/XML/YAML
- git/GitHub



Phase 2

- Linux Skills
- Config Management
- Docker
- NETCONF/YANG

As Needed

- Network Controllers
- IOT Networking
- Cloud Networking
- "DevOps"

Phase 3

- Linux Networking
- Container Networking
- Network Function
 Virtualization













Summing up

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Review

- We looked back on the history of the network and network engineering
- Traveled through the Four Ages of Networking
- Explored how NetDevOps will change Networking
- Considered the skills a network engineer needs today





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What do do next?

- NetDevOps Readings
 - Embrace NetDevOps, Say Goodbye to a "Culture of Fear"
 - NetDevOps Goes Beyond Infrastructure as Code
 - What does "Network as Code" Mean?
 - A Network Engineers Journey in Programmability
 - NetDevOps and the Rise of the Programmable Network

- NetDevOps Learning Resources
 - Network Programmability Basics
 Video Course
 - NetDevOps Learning Labs
 - NetDevOps Live!
- NetDevOps Videos
 - How to be a Network Engineer in a Programmable Age
 - Network as Code in Action
 - Benefits of Configuration Management



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Specialist Level

Professional Level

Expert Level

Engineering









Software









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DEVNET-2864: Getting ready for Cisco DevNet Certifications Offered daily at 9am, 1pm & 4pm at Meet DevNet

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Offered daily 12:15-12:45 in the DevNet Zone Theater

- Visit the Learning@Cisco booth
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Got more questions? Stay in touch!



Hank Preston



hapresto@cisco.com



@hfpreston



http://github.com/hpreston



developer.cisco.com



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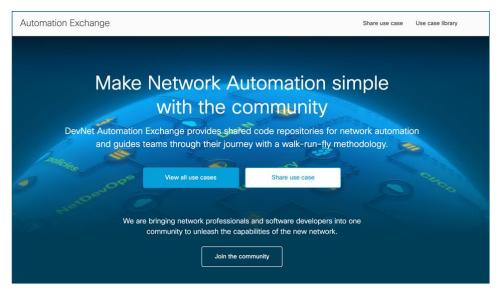


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http://github.com/CiscoDevNet

Find shared code repositories of use cases for network automation & more

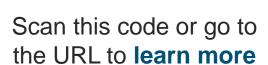


Start at Meet DevNet

DEVNET-3010 [a-j] Learn how to make Network Automation Simple with the Community

Offered Monday 2pm & 5pm, Tuesday & Wednesday 10am, 2pm & 5pm, and Thursday 10am & 5pm at Meet DevNet





Automate Infrastructure demos in the



http://cs.co/20eur01

Complete your online session survey

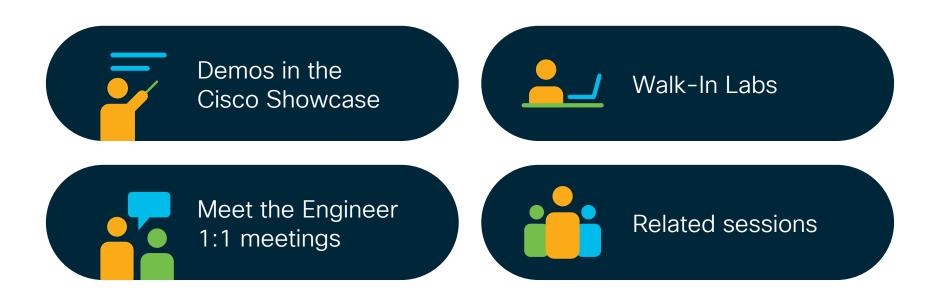


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