



# Ansible Tower

# Managing Servers with Ansible Tower

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# Ansible Tower Is a Commercial Product



Ansible Tower is not free

10 node trial version is ideal for getting started with

Check out pricing at

<http://www.ansible.com/tower>

Excellent solution for managing playbooks, users, inventories, etc

# KEY ADVANTAGE OF ANSIBLE TOWER

- Web-based UI
- Cloud Integration (Managing Amazon, Rackspace, MS Azure)
- Compliance: Reporting + Auditing
  - Every job run is logged and can be traced.
- Role Based Access Control
  - Separation of access rights.
  - Delegation of tasks, Eg. Recurring jobs to Operating
- REST API
  - Monitoring
  - All Functionalities are accessible over the API
    - Send out Alarm (Email etc.) if a job fails or if a config is found to be wrong

# MORE FEATURES OF ANSIBLE TOWER

- Job Scheduling
- Integrates with LDAP, AD and IDM
- Multi-Organization

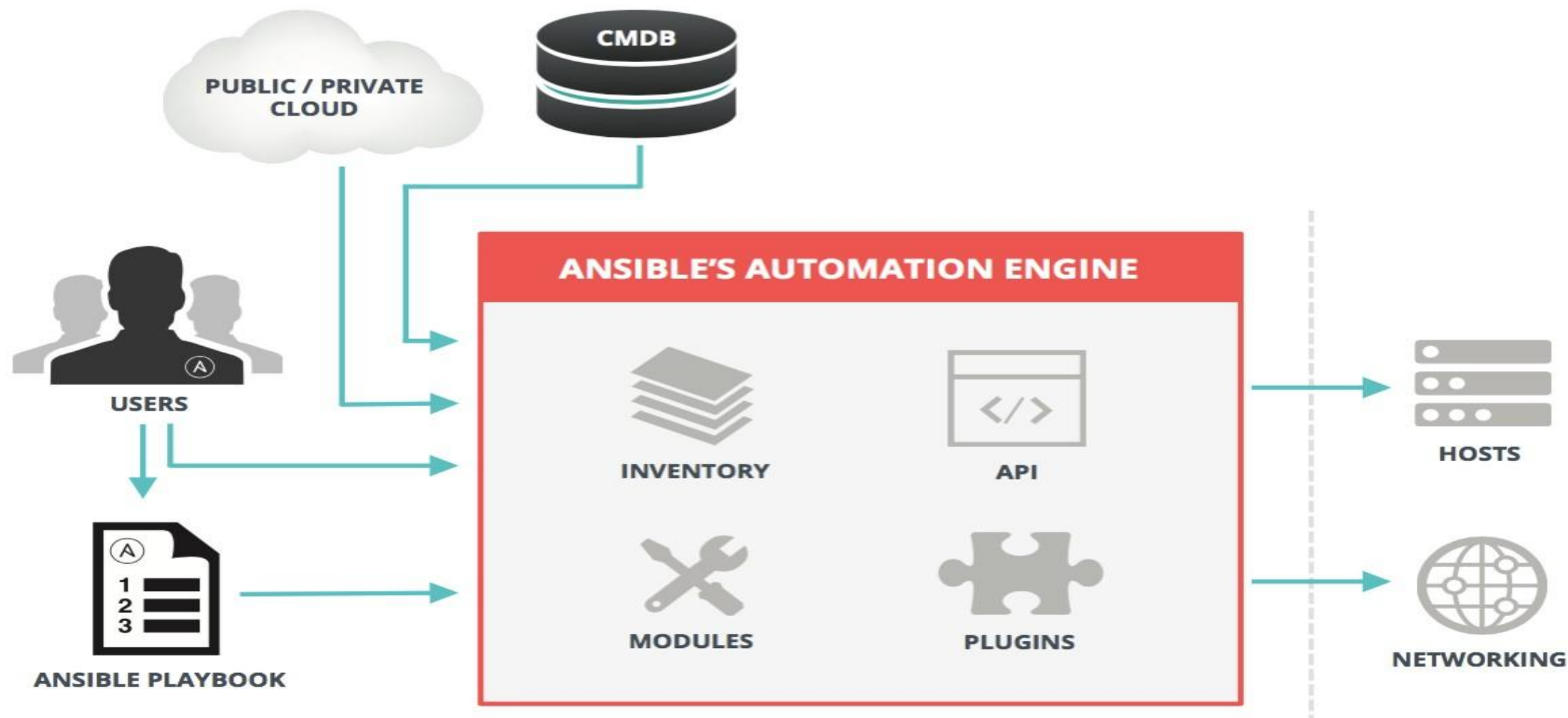
## Availability

- Available in rhel-7-server-extras-rpms Repository
- Current version is 2.4.4

# HOW ANSIBLE WORKS



ANSIBLE



# ANSIBLE TOWER User Interface

Ansible tower is an **enterprise framework** for controlling, securing and managing your Ansible automation – with a **UI and restful API**.

- **Role-based access control** keeps environments secure, and teams efficient.
- Non-privileged users can **safely deploy** entire applications with **push-button deployment** access.
- All Ansible automations are **centrally logged**, ensuring **complete auditability and compliance**.



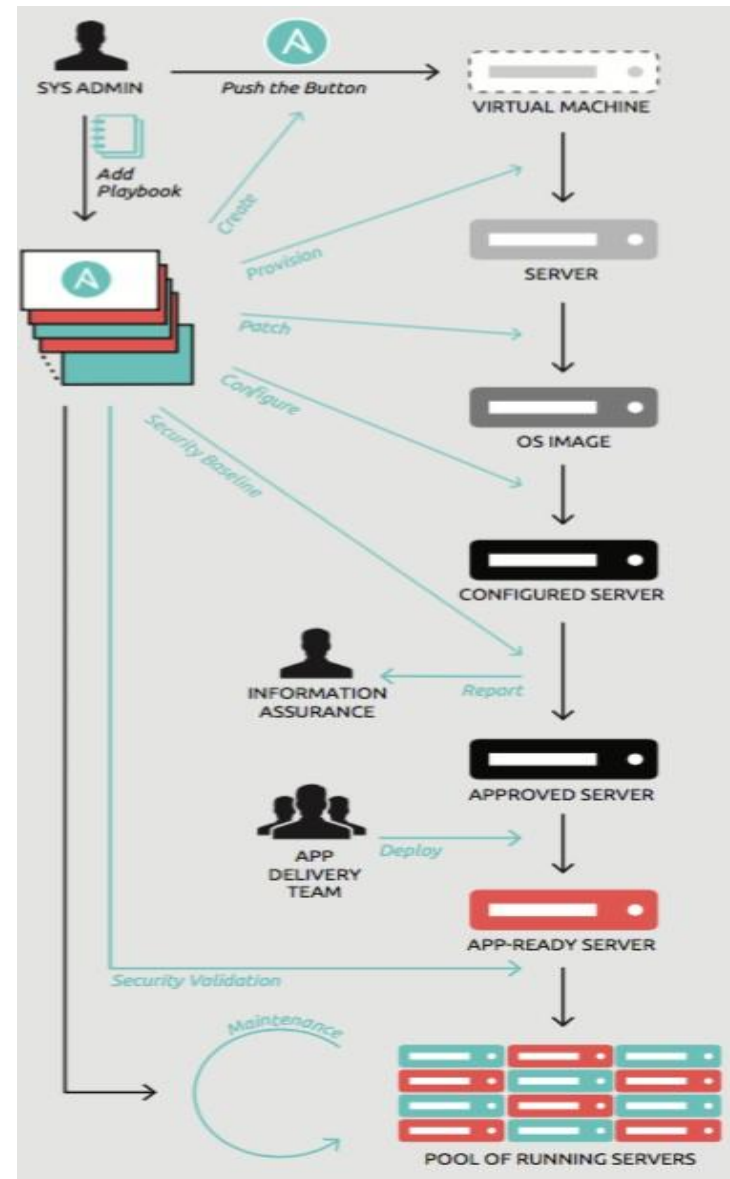
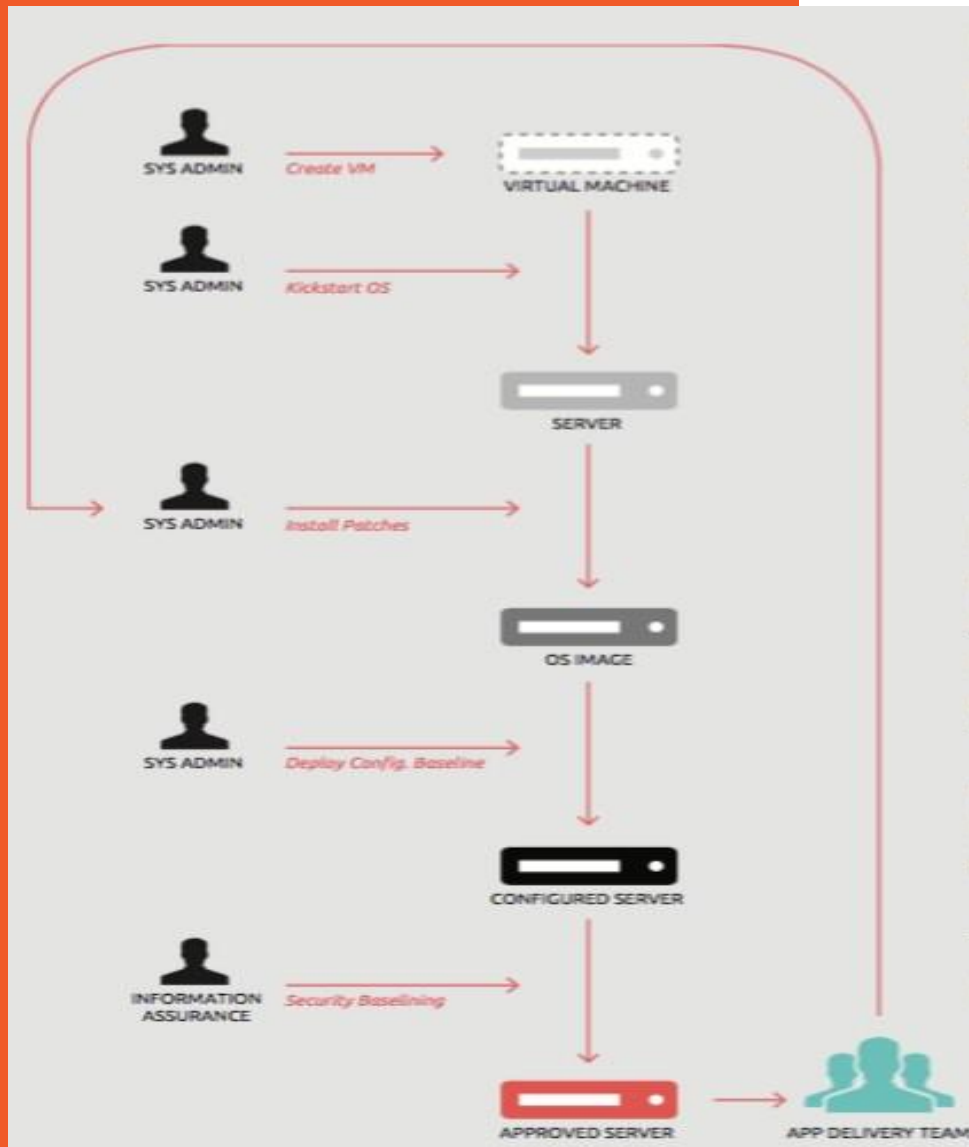
# Ansible Tower Use-Cases

Almost very repeatable and programmable Process :

- Automated Application and Service Deployment
- Automated Add/Removal of customers/users in your IT environment,
- Automated patching of servers
- Rolling updates of your IT environemnt
- Run jobs on a weekly/monthly/yearly basis



# Ansible Tower Use-Case Example



# TOWER Editions

## BASIC TOWER

### PERFECT FOR SMALL COMPANIES

#### 30 Days of Support only

No response time SLA  
Maintenance & Upgrades  
[Limited Features](#)

**Up to 100 nodes**  
\$5,000/year

**Up to 250 nodes**  
\$10,000/year

**Up to 500 nodes**  
Enterprise Only

**Up to 1000 nodes**  
Enterprise Only

**Over 1000 nodes**  
Enterprise Only

## ENTERPRISE TOWER

### FOR ENTERPRISE IT OPERATIONS

#### 8x5 Phone & Web Support

24hr response non-critical issues  
4hr response critical issues  
Maintenance & Upgrades  
Support for Ansible core  
[Enterprise Features](#)

**Up to 100 nodes**  
\$10,000/year

**Up to 250 nodes**  
\$20,000/year

**Up to 500 nodes**  
\$35,000/year

**Up to 1000 nodes**  
\$50,000/year

**Over 1000 nodes**  
Starts at \$50/node/year

## PREMIUM TOWER

### FOR MISSION-CRITICAL DEVOPS

#### 24x7 Phone & Web Support

8hr response non-critical issues  
2hr response critical issues  
Maintenance & Upgrades  
Support for Ansible core  
[Enterprise Features](#)

**Up to 100 nodes**  
\$14,000/year

**Up to 250 nodes**  
\$28,000/year

**Up to 500 nodes**  
\$49,000/year

**Up to 1000 nodes**  
\$70,000/year

**Over 1000 nodes**  
Starts at \$70/node/year



# Installing Ansible



Redhat Installer



apt-get package



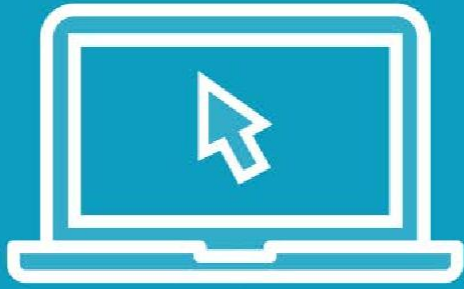
AWS Appliance VM



VAGRANT

vagrant init tower http...

# Demo



Let's install Ansible Tower

Modify Vagrant file to add RAM to the control VM

Boot control VM and install Ansible Tower



**DEMO**

**Ansible Tower**

# Ansible Tower Workflow



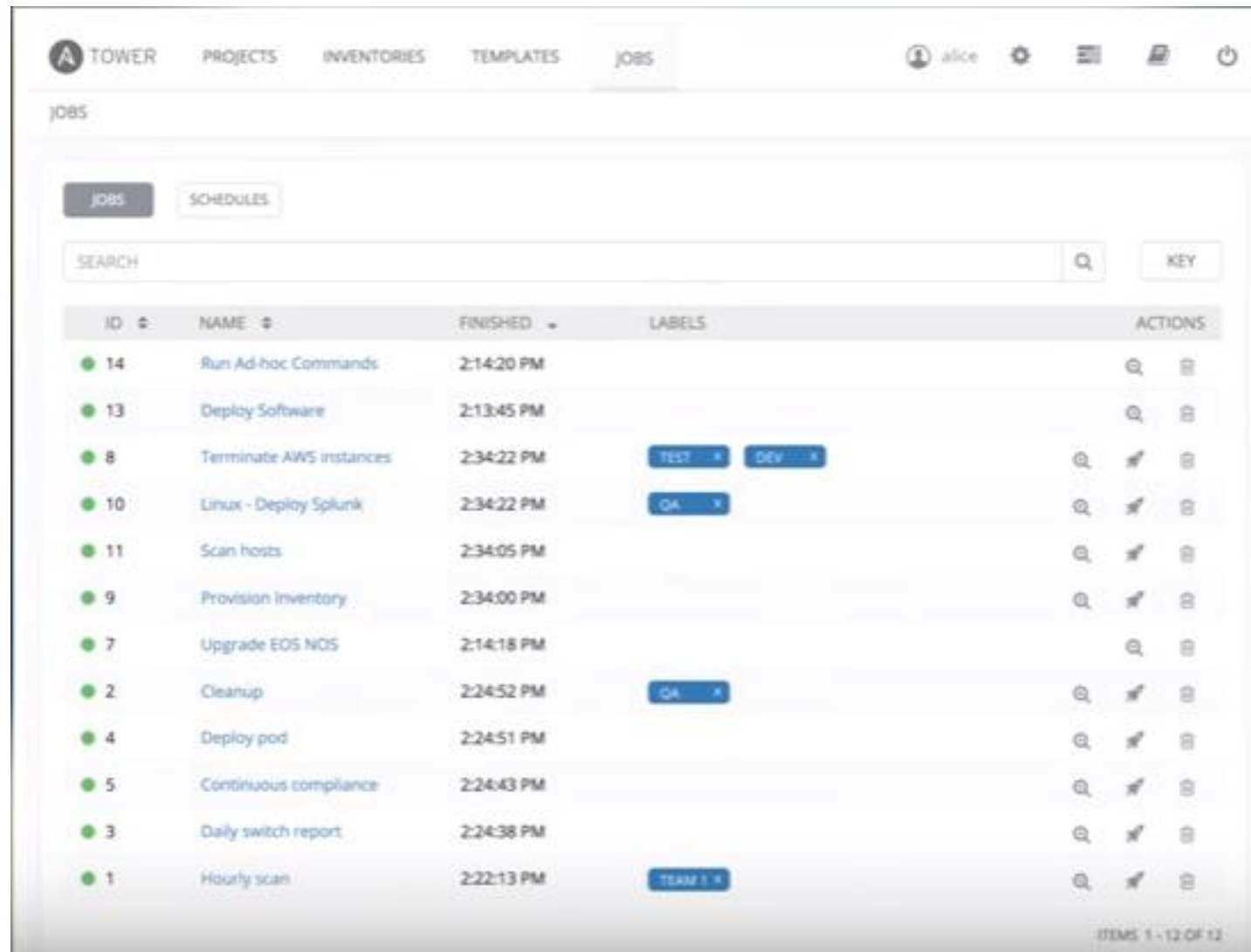
Welcome to Ansible Tower! Please sign in.

USERNAME

PASSWORD

**SIGN IN**

# Ansible Tower Workflow



The screenshot displays the Ansible Tower web interface, specifically the 'JOBS' tab. The top navigation bar includes 'TOWER', 'PROJECTS', 'INVENTORIES', 'TEMPLATES', and 'JOBS'. A user profile 'alice' is visible in the top right. Below the navigation bar, the 'JOBS' section is active, with a 'SCHEDULES' tab also present. A search bar and a 'KEY' button are located above the job list. The job list table has columns for ID, NAME, FINISHED, LABELS, and ACTIONS. It contains 12 rows of job data, each with a green status icon. The 'LABELS' column for some jobs shows tags like 'TEST', 'DEV', 'QA', and 'TEAM 1'.

ID	NAME	FINISHED	LABELS	ACTIONS
14	Run Ad-hoc Commands	2:14:20 PM		
13	Deploy Software	2:13:45 PM		
8	Terminate AWS instances	2:34:22 PM	TEST DEV	
10	Linux - Deploy Splunk	2:34:22 PM	QA	
11	Scan hosts	2:34:05 PM		
9	Provision inventory	2:34:00 PM		
7	Upgrade EOS NOS	2:14:18 PM		
2	Cleanup	2:24:52 PM	QA	
4	Deploy pod	2:24:51 PM		
5	Continuous compliance	2:24:43 PM		
3	Daily switch report	2:24:38 PM		
1	Hourly scan	2:22:13 PM	TEAM 1	

ITEMS 1 - 12 OF 12

# Ansible Tower Workflow











TEMPLATES 2

+ ADD

SEARCH

Q

KEY

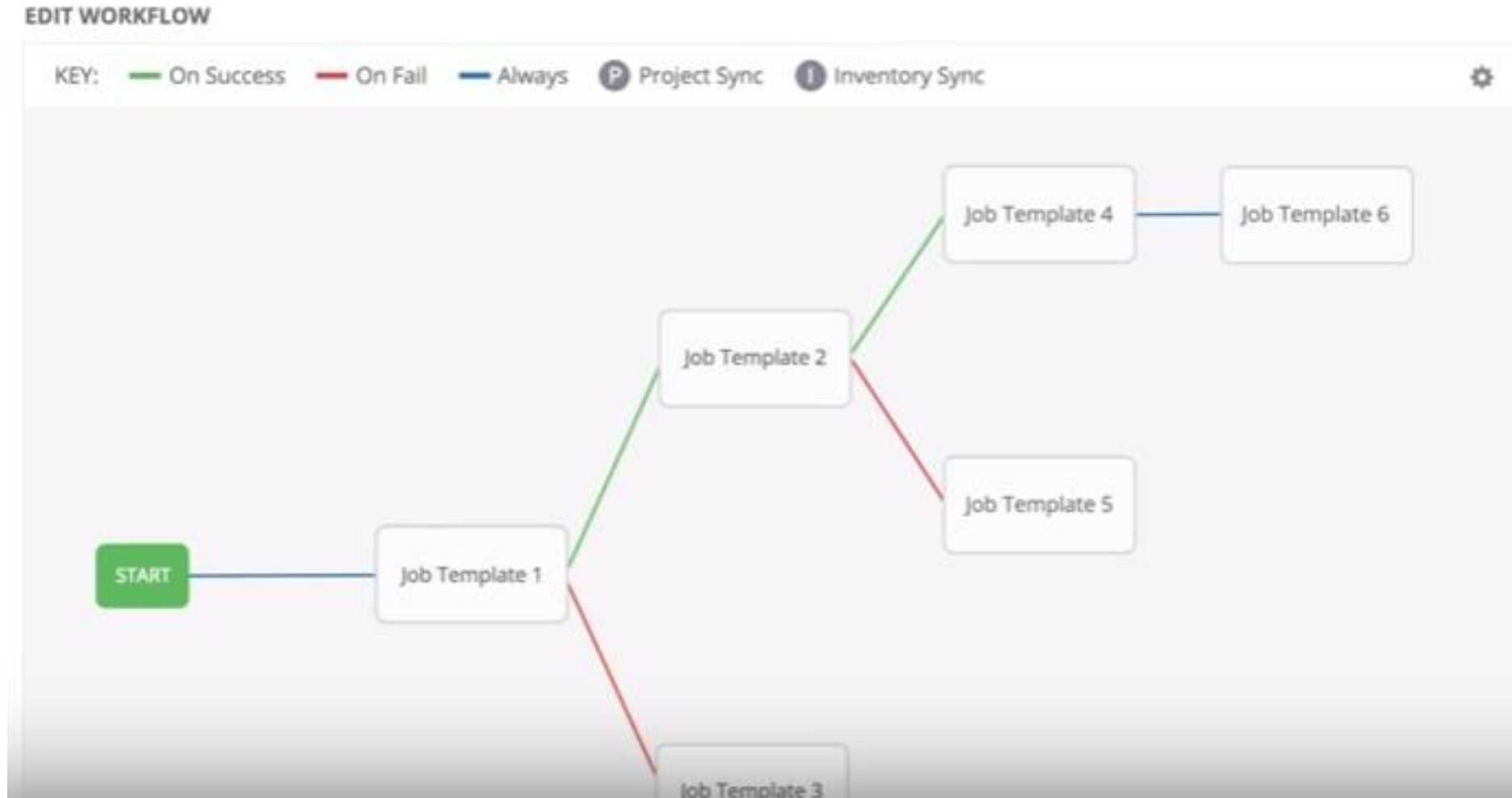
NAME	TYPE		ACTIONS				
Scan hosts	Job Template						
Deploy Software	Workflow Template						

ITEMS 1 - 2 OF 2

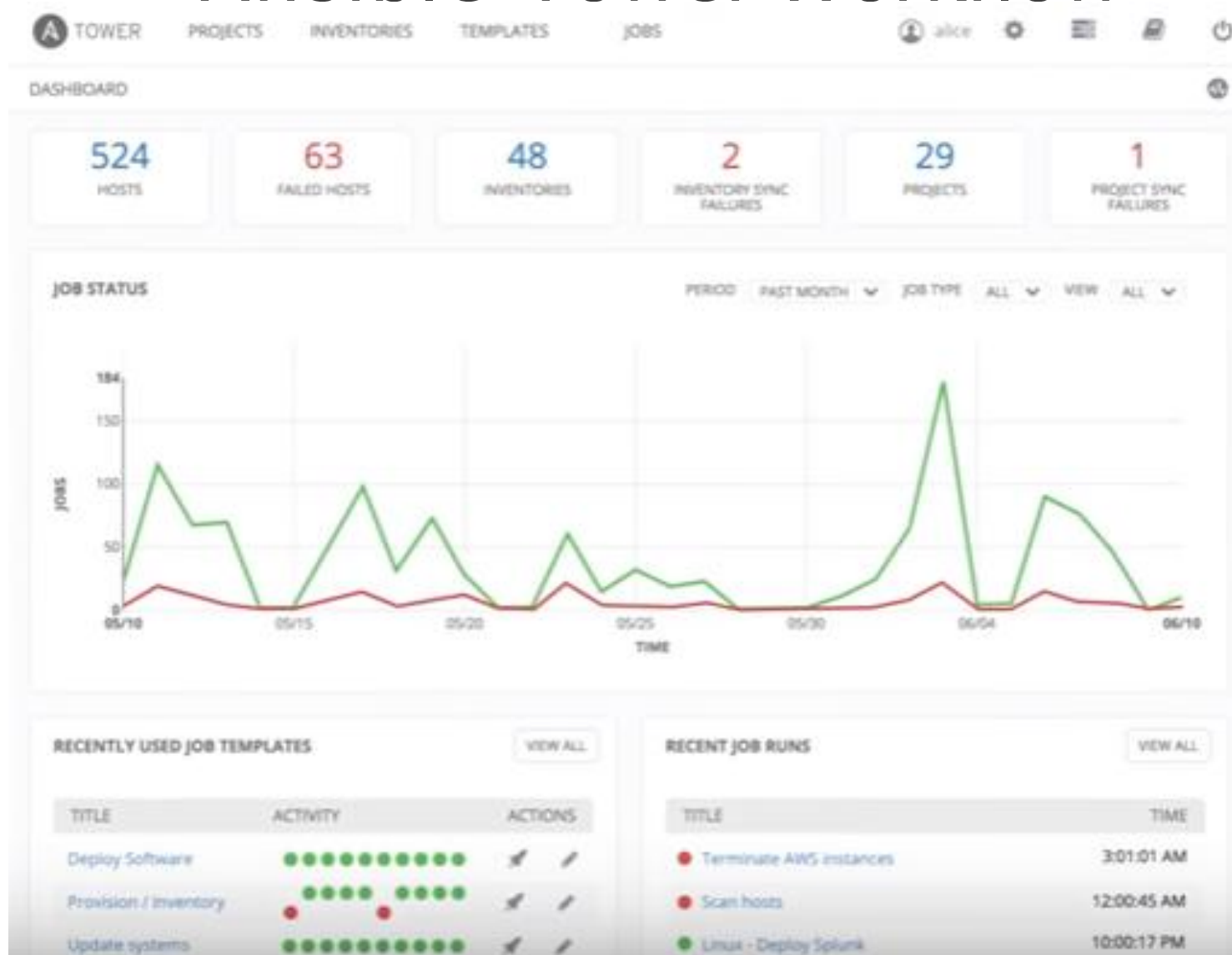
Start a job using this template



# Ansible Tower Workflow



# Ansible Tower Workflow



# Ansible Tower Tour



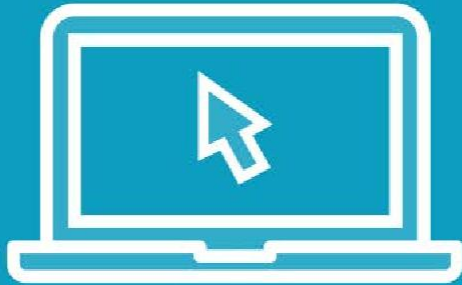
Setup Globomantics org in Tower

Import inventory

Test running our plays

Check play status visually

# Demo



Create the BMC organization

Import inventory, run plays, and create a schedule

Validate play runs

# Ansible Tower RESTFUL Api



`/api/v1`

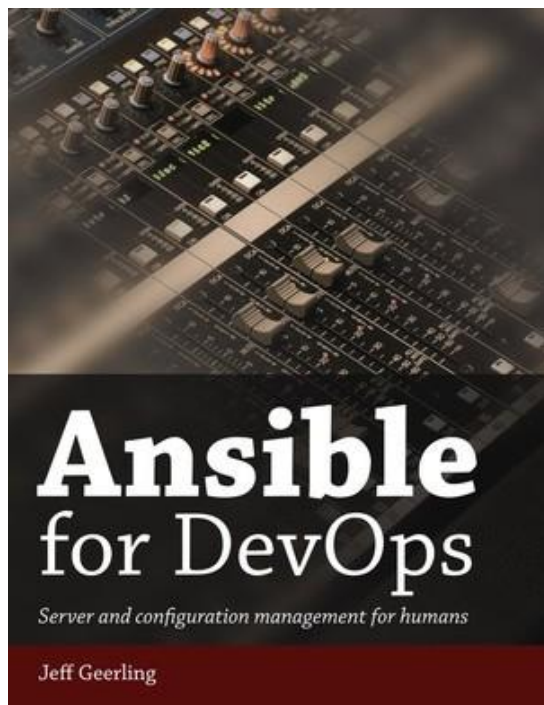
# Wrapping Up



There is a lot more to Ansible Tower

Check out the Tower documentation at  
<http://www.ansible.com/tower>

# Ansible for Devops



Ansible for DevOps by Jeff Geerling

Create all-round intro to Ansible

Focus on Linux but lots of useful info for all users

# Summary



Installed and configured Ansible Tower

Imported our existing inventory

Configured Tower for Globomantics

Next: Start using Ansible!





# Ansible 2.1 Release



Ansible 2.1 released as this course was being published

Release focuses a lot on increased Windows support

All demos in this course will work just fine on Ansible 2.1

# Good Links to start with Ansible

- Documentation

[docs.ansible.com](https://docs.ansible.com)

- Get started [docs.ansible.com/intro\\_getting\\_started.html](https://docs.ansible.com/intro_getting_started.html)

- Playbooks : [galaxy.ansible.com](https://galaxy.ansible.com)

[github.com/ ansible](https://github.com/ansible)

# Thank you!



I hope you enjoyed this course

I encourage you to leave feedback in the appropriate section and ask questions

Good luck!