Netconf plugins

Netconf plugins are abstractions over the Netconf interface to network devices. They provide a standard interface for Ansible to execute tasks on those network devices.

These plugins generally correspond one-to-one to network device platforms. Ansible loads the appropriate netconf plugin automatically based on the `ansible_network_os` variable. If the platform supports standard Netconf implementation as defined in the Netconf RFC specification, Ansible loads the `default` netconf plugin. If the platform supports propriety Netconf RPCs, Ansible loads the platform-specific netconf plugin.

Adding netconf plugins

You can extend Ansible to support other network devices by dropping a custom plugin into the `netconf_plugins` directory.

Using netconf plugins

The netconf plugin to use is determined automatically from the `ansible_network_os` variable. There should be no reason to override this functionality.

Most netconf plugins can operate without configuration. A few have additional options that can be set to affect how tasks are translated into netconf commands. A ncclient device specific handler name can be set in the netconf plugin or else the value of `default` is used as per ncclient device handler.

Plugins are self-documenting. Each plugin should document its configuration options.

Listing netconf plugins

These plugins have migrated to collections on Ansible Galaxy. If you installed Ansible version 2.10 or later using `pip`, you have access to several netconf plugins. To list all available netconf plugins on your control node, type `ansible-doc -t netconf -l`. To view plugin-specific documentation and examples, use `ansible-doc -t netconf`.

> **System Message: ERROR/3 (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\(ansible-devel)(docs)(docsite)(rst)(plugins)netconf.rst, line 40`)**
>
> Unknown directive type "seealso".
>
> ```
> .. seealso::
>
>     :ref:`Ansible for Network Automation<network_guide>`
>         An overview of using Ansible to automate networking devices.
>     `User Mailing List <https://groups.google.com/group/ansible-devel>`_
>         Have a question?  Stop by the google group!
>     `irc.libera.chat <https://libera.chat/>`_
>         #ansible-network IRC chat channel
> ```