8 Ways to screw your Azure Automation

Michael Seidl

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Get Sh*t done in IT

Be more productive in IT

CTTT

Agenda

- Way 1-4

- Way 5-8

- Something more

CTTT

1 – Store Creds/Variables as plain Text in Code
SCREW

Events > 2025-01 CTTT25 > >_ Slide 1.ps1 > ...
```
1    $User="Admin"
2    $PW="MyPassW0rd"
3    $Server="Server01"
4
5
6
7
```

- Variables/Credentials

- Azure Key Vault

- Other PW Tools

2 – Use a Single Identity for all Actions
SCREW


```
Events > 2025-01 CTTT25 > >_ Slide2.ps1 > ...
1    $ServiceAccount="GlobalAdmin"  #MFA disabled
2
3
4    |
```

2 – Use a Single Identity for all Actions
BETTER

- Azure App Regs

- System / User Identity

- User Accounts -> OnPrem only

3 – Do not monitor your Runbooks
SCREW

- Mail Monitoring

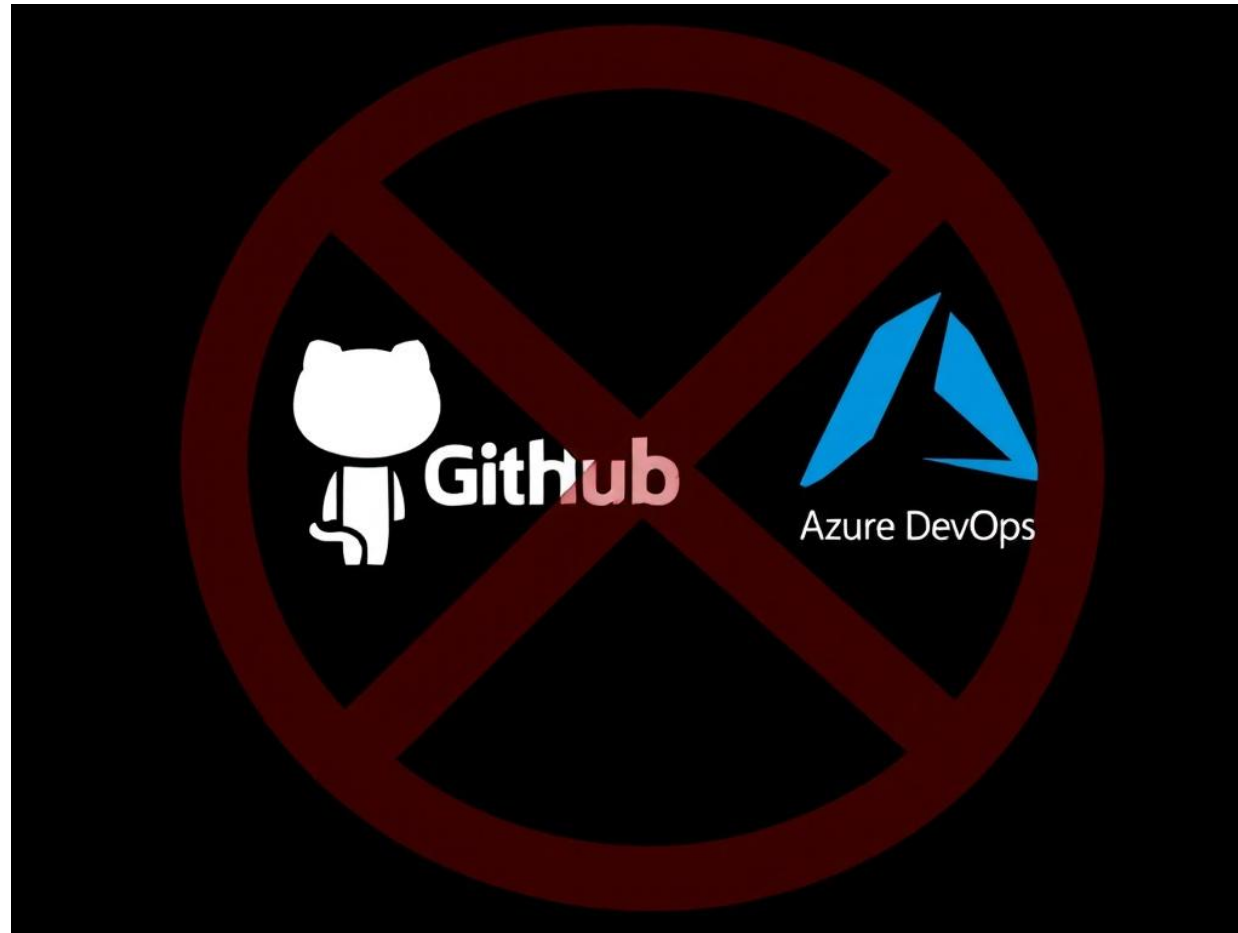 - https://www.techguy.at/mail-alerting-on-azure-automation-accounts/

- Azure Monitoring

- Others

4 – We do not need a Source Control
SCREW

4 – We do not need a Source Control
BETTER

- No f***ing Cost

- Documentation

- "Backup"

- Change Management

- Audit

- Readme

- .....

CTTT

5 – Only use it for Cloud Automation
SCREW

5 – Only use it for Cloud Automation

- Hybrid Worker

- Azure Arc

6 – Naming? Whats that?
SCREW

6 – Naming? Whats that
BETTER

- Find naming from the beginning

- Automation Account usage

- Readme

7 – Nobody needs a Log
SCREW

Time	Type	Details

No logs found.

- Implement Logging from the beginning

- Logging Levels

8 – There is no need to take care of runtime
SCREW

Recent Jobs

Status	Created	Last updated
☐ Stopped	28/01/2025, 01:00	29/01/2025, 15:38
☐ Stopped	27/01/2025, 11:31	29/01/2025, 15:38
↻ Running	29/01/2025, 01:00	29/01/2025, 01:00
✓ Completed	27/01/2025, 11:29	27/01/2025, 11:30
☐ Stopped	23/01/2025, 20:15	27/01/2025, 11:17
☐ Stopped	27/01/2025, 01:00	27/01/2025, 11:17
☐ Stopped	25/01/2025, 01:00	27/01/2025, 11:17
☐ Stopped	24/01/2025, 01:00	27/01/2025, 11:17
☐ Stopped	26/01/2025, 01:00	27/01/2025, 11:17
✓ Completed	23/01/2025, 20:09	23/01/2025, 20:09

8 – There is no need to take care of runtime
BETTER

- Logging affects

- Get what you need only

xxx – MORE!
BETTER

- Do Testing

- Module Updates

- No Graphical Runbooks

- PS5 or PS7

- Multi Environment, GitHub Branches

- Webhook/Schedule

- ….

END

Sources:
https://github.com/seidlm/events

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- quality improvement

Thank you!

Q&A