Ansible Automation Platform Technical Content Strategy

Developing, Publishing and Certifying Collections

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Ansible Automation Platform

AnsibleFest

Before we start ...

Don't forget to attend, for more context

Ansible Automation Platform

Content Strategy: Use Case Driven Automation

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Massimo Ferrari
Consulting Product Manager,
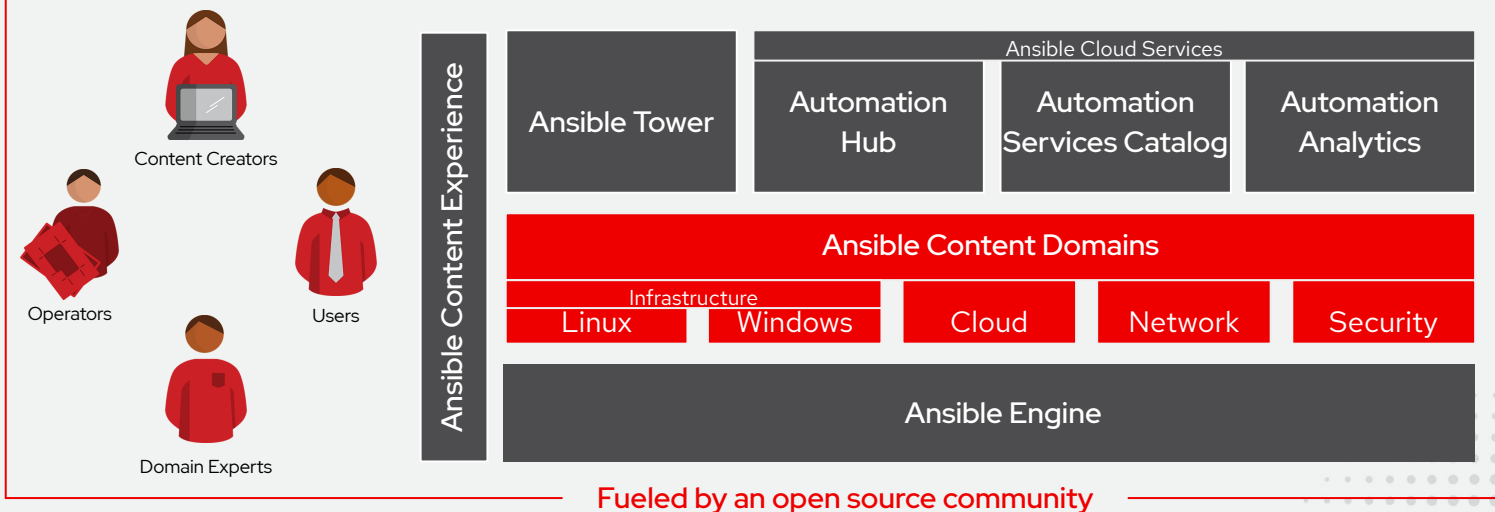Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform

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Questions we will answer

1. What is "Ansible content?"

2. What is an Ansible Collection and how does it work?

3. How are Collections developed, published and downloaded?

4. Why are Certified Collections important?

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What is "Ansible Content?"

Red Hat
Ansible Automation
Platform

Content Creators

Operators

Users

Domain Experts

Ansible Content Experience

Ansible Tower

Ansible Cloud Services

Automation Hub

Automation Services Catalog

Automation Analytics

Ansible Content Domains

Infrastructure

Linux

Windows

Cloud

Network

Security

Ansible Engine

Fueled by an open source community

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Ansible Content is...

plugins

modules

roles

tests

docs

playbook snippets

+ more

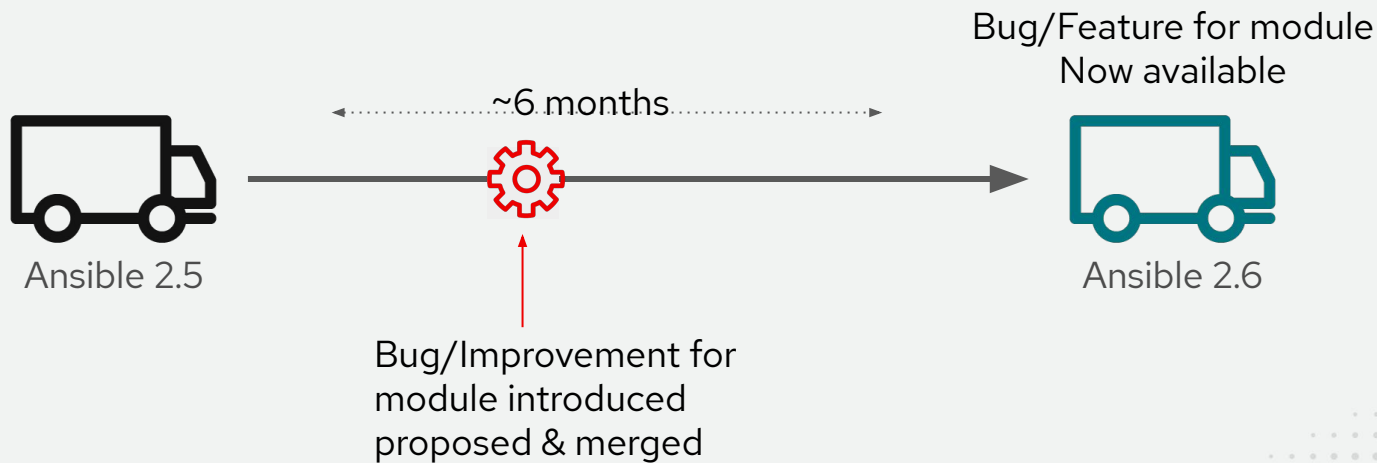AnsibleFest

Ansible "growing pains"

Customers

- Support confusion – who does what and where for issues/PRs?

- Need for stability (longer life cycle) for foundation components while...

- Need new module enablement / platform updates (shorter life cycle)
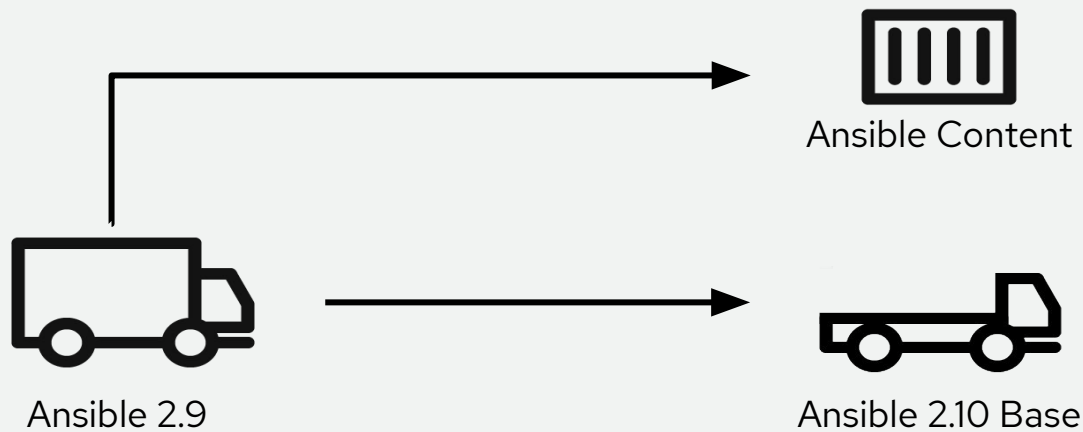
Developers

- 4,300+ open issues, 2,000+ open pull requests

- "One size fits all" doesn't work for all content sets

- Some things go in quickly, some things don't

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Ansible "growing pains"

Bug/Feature for module
Now available

~6 months

Ansible 2.5

Ansible 2.6

Bug/Improvement for
module introduced
proposed & merged

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Step 1: Separate Ansible from Content

Ansible Content

Ansible 2.9

Ansible 2.10 Base

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Introducing the Ansible Content Collection

- A standardized schema to organize and package Ansible content in one place (roles, modules, plugins, tests, playbook snippets, docs, etc.)

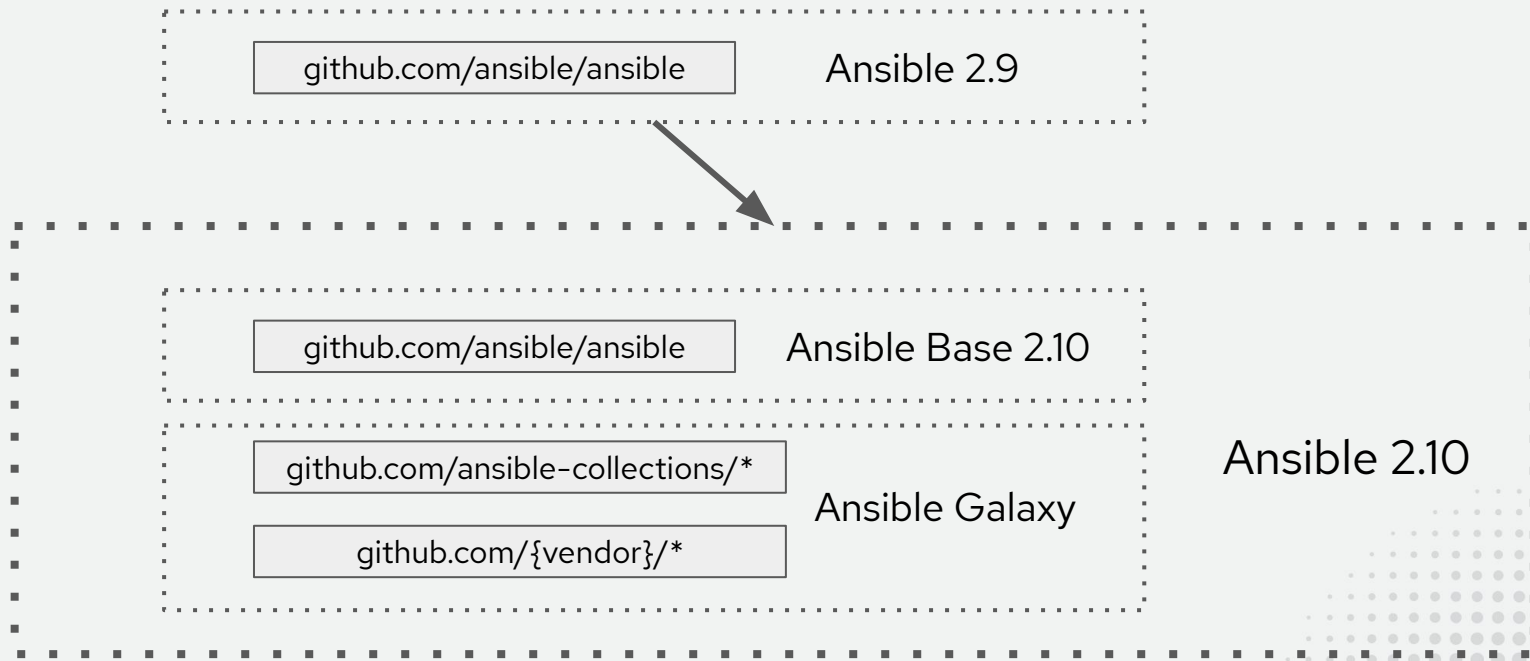- Provides semantic versioning

- Portable and flexible delivery

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Ansible with Collections

Ansible 2.9

Ansible 2.10

Bug/Improvement for module introduced

Content can be supported and installed immediately!

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What went where?

github.com/ansible/ansible	Ansible 2.9

github.com/ansible/ansible	Ansible Base 2.10
github.com/ansible-collections/*	Ansible Galaxy
github.com/{vendor}/*	

Ansible 2.10

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Collection Directory Structure

- **galaxy.yml**: source data for the MANIFEST.json that will be part of the collection package
- **plugins/**: all ansible plugins and modules go here, each in its own subdir
  - **modules/**: ansible modules
  - **lookup/**: lookup plugins
  - **filter/**: Jinja2 filter plugins
  - **connection/**: connection plugins required if not using default
- **roles/**: directory for ansible roles
- **tests/**: tests for the collection's content
- **meta/**: metadata files including runtime.yml
- **docs/**: local documentation for the collection
- **playbooks/**: playbook snippets
  - **tasks/**: holds 'task list files' for include_tasks/import_tasks usage

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Step 2: Developer TL;DR

1. Initialize Collection: `ansible-galaxy collection init foo.bar`

2. Sanity test: `ansible-test sanity`

3. Unit test: `ansible-test units`

4. Integration test: `ansible-test integration`

5. Build Collection: `ansible-galaxy collection build`

6. Publish Collection: `ansible-galaxy collection publish`

7. Install Collection: `ansible-galaxy collection install foo.bar`

   a. Installs to `~/.ansible/collections/ansible_collections`

Step 3: Simplified Distribution

Ansible Galaxy

galaxy.ansible.com

- Community supported
- Extended to leverage Collections framework
- "Latest and greatest"

Ansible Automation Hub

cloud.redhat.com

- Certified, fully supported by Red Hat and Partner
- Access to advanced analytics
- "Slow and steady"

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Step 4: Collection Certification

**Partner
Sponsored**

**Fully
Supported**

**Trusted
For Enterprises**

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Over 60 Certified Collections

Ansible Automation Hub

INFRASTRUCTURE **CLOUD** **NETWORK** **SECURITY**

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Red Hat Maintained Collections

amazon.aws

ansible.netcommon

.posix

.tower

.windows

arista.eos

cisco.asa

.ios

.iosxr

.nxos

frr.frr

ibm.qradar

junipernetworks.junos

kubernetes.core*

openvswitch.openvswitch

redhat.insights

redhat.satellite

splunk.es

vmware.vmware_rest*

vyos.vyos

*Just Announced!

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Use:

Honey Mustard Chicken with Pretzel Crust

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

A crunchy and salty crust to dress up chicken!

By Kathleen

Prep: 20 mins

Cook: 25 mins

Total: 45 mins

Servings: 4

Yield: 4 servings

Ingredients

1 serving cooking spray

1 tablespoon red wine vinegar

1 tablespoon prepared yellow mustard

1 tablespoon spicy mustard

1 tablespoon coarse-grained mustard

1 tablespoon honey

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

4 breast half, bone and skin removed (blank)s skinless, boneless chicken breast halves

4 cups salted pretzels

½ cup mayonnaise

2 tablespoons prepared yellow mustard

3 tablespoons honey

½ teaspoon salt

Directions

Step 1

Preheat an oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Line a baking sheet with foil and spray with cooking spray.

Step 2

In a bowl, mix together the red wine vinegar, 1 tablespoon yellow mustard, the spicy mustard, coarse-grained mustard, 1 tablespoon of honey, and the vegetable oil.

Step 3

Place the chicken breasts between two sheets of heavy plastic (resealable freezer bags work well) on a solid, level surface. Firmly pound the chicken with the smooth side of a meat mallet to a thickness of about 1/4 inch. Coat the chicken well with the mustard mixture.

Step 4

Place the pretzels into a resealable plastic zipper bag and roll the bag under a rolling pin to finely grind the pretzels. Place the coated chicken breasts, one at a time, into the bag, seal, and shake the bag to thoroughly coat each chicken breast with pretzel meal. Place the chicken breasts on the prepared baking sheet and spray each breast with cooking spray.

Step 5

Bake the chicken in the preheated oven until the coating is golden brown and the meat is no longer pink in the center, about 25 minutes. Flip the chicken after about 12 minutes of cooking to brown both sides.

Step 6

Mix together the mayonnaise, 2 tablespoons of yellow mustard, 3 tablespoons of honey, and salt in a bowl. Drizzle the honey-mustard sauce over the chicken to serve.

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Thank you

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