Red Hat

Managing Ansible with Red Hat Ansible Tower

Introduction to Red Hat Ansible Tower

The Purpose of Red Hat Ansible Tower

Objectives

This module explains the use cases, features, and architecture of Red Hat Ansible Tower.

Ansible Concepts and Architecture

- A control node is installed with Ansible and is used to run playbooks
  - Contains the Ansible Engine software and the playbook and its supporting materials
  - Red Hat Ansible Tower is a control node that also provides a central web interface, authentication, and API for Ansible
- A managed host is a machine that is managed by Ansible automation
  - Does not have Ansible installed
  - Does need to be configured to allow Ansible to connect to the host
  - Must be listed in the inventory (or generated by a dynamic inventory script or plugin)

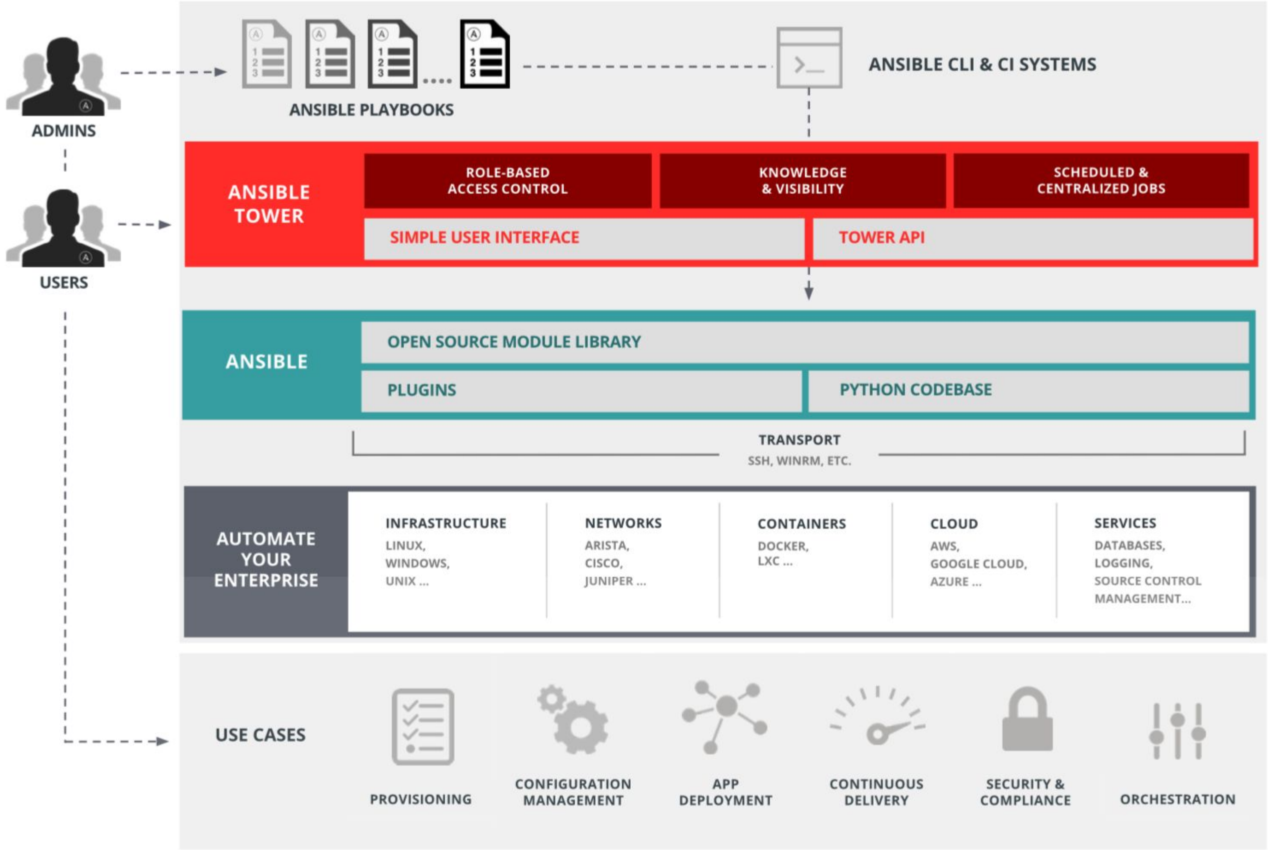
Red Hat Ansible Tower

- Red Hat Ansible Tower helps you control, secure and centrally manage Ansible automation.
- Can be your authoritative control node to run playbooks.
- Has a web-based user interface and a RESTful API.
- Users with no Linux experience can use the web-based UI to easily run Ansible.
- Different users have different levels of access to playbooks, hosts, and authentication credentials.
- Allows central tracking and logging of automation jobs.
- Makes it easy to manage and use different versions of playbooks under a version control system

Why Use Ansible Tower?

- Central location to run Ansible helps ensure consistent playbook operations.
- Centralized control node also helps log automation events and track successful and failed runs.
- Credential management feature helps maintain security by protecting secrets and credentials used to access managed hosts or perform sensitive operations.
- User management and permissions control who can run playbooks and modify settings.
- Its REST API enables easy integration with your existing workflows and tool sets.

Architecture


ADMINS
USERS
ANSIBLE PLAYBOOKS
ANSIBLE CLI & CI SYSTEMS
ANSIBLE TOWER
ROLE-BASED ACCESS CONTROL
KNOWLEDGE & VISIBILITY
SCHEDULED & CENTRALIZED JOBS
SIMPLE USER INTERFACE
TOWER API
ANSIBLE
OPEN SOURCE MODULE LIBRARY
PLUGINS
PYTHON CODEBASE
TRANSPORT
SSH, WINRM, ETC.
AUTOMATE YOUR ENTERPRISE
INFRASTRUCTURE
LINUX, WINDOWS, UNIX ...
NETWORKS
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