Ansible Tower Dashboard

[Video description begins] Topic title: Ansible Tower Dashboard. Your host for this session is Niranjan Pandey. [Video description ends]

The objective of this video is to set up and illustrate how to work with the various components of Ansible Tower dashboard.

[Video description begins] A Login page for RedHat Ansible Tower is open. It has input fields for Username and Password. A Sign In button is present at the bottom. [Video description ends]

Once you have installed Ansible Tower you have to go and you have to click on the link provided post installation. You have to use that link in your browser. Once you'll specify that link on the browser it will launch a login page. You have to go and you have to specify the user ID and password. Default user ID is admin and default password is password. After specifying user ID and password you'll click on SIGN IN.

[Video description begins] A page titled Tower License appears. It has two steps. Step 1 has a Request License button. Below it, the following sections are present: License File and End User License Agreement. Under License File, a Browse button is present. Below the End User License Agrrement section, a check box is present for I agree to the End User License Agreement. A Submit button is present at the bottom. [Video description ends]

Once you click on SIGN IN it will launch a page where it will ask you the license. You need to get connected to Red Hat in order to procure the license. Once you have the license, you'll click on BROWS and select the license file which is a JSON file.

[Video description begins] The following file appears next to the browse button: Tower\_license.json. [Video description ends]

After selecting the license file, you have to go and you have to agree to the end user license and you have to click on SUBMIT. Once you'll click on SUBMIT you'll find that it launches Dashboard.

[Video description begins] An Ansible Tower Dashboard opens. The navigation pane has the following headers: Views, Resources, Access, and Administration. In the center, at the top, the following details are displayed: Hosts, Failed Hosts, Inventories, etc. The page contains the following sections: Job Status, Recently Used Job Templates, and Recently Run Jobs. A graph is displayed for Job Status. [Video description ends]

There are various different components which are there on Dashboard. It indicates how many hosts are there, how many failed hosts are there who are not able to join. How many inventories are there, how many projects are there. What is the project sync status and what is inventory sync status.

Apart from that, it will also show job status with number of success and failure. We can clearly see successful is 0 and failed is 1 for illustration purpose. Next we can go and we can click on Job which will be there in the left panel of your browser.

[Video description begins] In the navigation pane, under Views, he clicks on Jobs. The Jobs page appears. It contains a Search bar with a list of jobs. A Key button is present next to the search bar. [Video description ends]

You can clearly see what all jobs are there which are currently configured. Another important tab is the Resource tab where you'll have resources like Templates, Credentials that helps you to create new credentials.

[Video description begins] In the navigation pane, under Resources, he clicks on Templates. The Templates page appears. It has a Search bar and a template named Demo Job Template. Under Resources, he clicks on Credentials. A page for it appears. It has a Search bar and a table with the following columns: Name, Kind, Owners, and Actions. It has a credential named Demo Credential. A + button is present above the table. [Video description ends]

For example, if you want to create a credential, you can click on +.

[Video description begins] A Create Credentials page appears. It has two sections: New Credential and Credentials. Under New Credentials, the following tabs are present at the top: Details and Permissions. The Details tab is currently selected. Under it, the input fields are present for: Name, Description, Organization, and Credential Type. Cancel and Save buttons are present here. [Video description ends]

Once you'll click on + you have to go and you have to specify name to the credential, for example, testcred. You can go and you can specify the description and you can select the organization.

[Video description begins] He clicks the serach icon in the input filed of Organization. A pop-up titled Select Organization appears. It contains an organization named Default. At the bottom, Cancel and Select buttons are present. [Video description ends]

As of now only default organization is there. We can select the default organization and we can click on SELECT.

[Video description begins] The screen shifts back to the Create Credentials page. [Video description ends]

Next, you have to specify the type of credential that you want to create. For example, we go and we'll specify Machine as the credential.

[Video description begins] A section titled Type Details appears below Credential Type. It has the following fields: Username, Password, SSH Private Key, Signed SSH Certificate, Private Key Passphrase, Privilege Escalation Method, Privilege Escalation Username, and Privilege Escalation Password. [Video description ends]

Next, you have to go and you have to specify username, for example, I'll specify username as admin, and password. Next, you have to go and you have to specify SSH key, in case if it is key based certification. Finally, after specifying the relevant entries, you'll go and you'll click on SAVE. Once you'll click on SAVE, you'll find that your credentials are created.

[Video description begins] Under the Credentials section, a credential named testcred appears in the table. [Video description ends]

Similarly, you have Projects, you can go and you can create projects. As of now you have Demo Project.

[Video description begins] In the navigation pane, under Resources, he clicks on Projects. The Projects page opens. It contains a project named Demo Project. [Video description ends]

You can go and you can set up inventories.

[Video description begins] In the navigation pane, under Resources, he clicks on Inventories. A page for it appears. There is a table with the following columns: Name, Type, Organization, and Actions. It contains an Inventory named Demo Inventory. A + button is present above the table. [Video description ends]

As of now you have only one inventory. That inventory is Demo Inventory. You can click on + in order to create new inventory.

[Video description begins] He clicks the + button. It expands to show two options: Inventory and Smart Inventory. [Video description ends]

Inventory can be of two types, Inventory and Smart Inventory. You can also use Script in order to specify your inventory.

[Video description begins] In the navigation pane, under Resources, he clicks on Inventory Scripts. A page for the same appears. It has the following text: Please Add items to this List. [Video description ends]

Third important tab is ACCESS tab where you have Organization.

[Video description begins] In the navigation pane, The following options are present under Access: Organizations, Users, and Teams. He clicks on Organizations. A page for it appears in the center pane. A + button is present at the top. The page contains a Default organization with the following components: Users, Teams, Projects, etc. [Video description ends]

As of now, you have default organization. You can go and you can create a new organization. Component of Organizations are user, team, project, inventory, job, and admins. Then you have Users, in case if you want to create independent users, you can go ahead and you can create.

[Video description begins] He goes to the Users page. There is a table with the following columns: Username, First Name, Last Name, and Actions. It contains a user named admin. A + button is present above the table. [Video description ends]

Apart from user, you can also build a team.

[Video description begins] He goes to the Teams page. The following text is displayed: Please Add Items to this List. A + button is present at the top. [Video description ends]

For example, in order to build a team you'll click on new team.

[Video description begins] A Create Team page appears. It has the following sections: New Team and Teams. Under New Team, the following tabs are present: Details, Users, and Permissions. The Details tab is currently selected. Under it, input fields are present for: Name, Description, and Organization. Cancel and Save buttons are present here. [Video description ends]

You have to go and specify the team name. You have to add USERS and specify PERMISSIONS to different team members. Then you have administrative capabilities, again in the left panel under ADMINISTRATION. Where you can go and you can create Credential Type, Notifications, Management Jobs, Instance Group, Applications, and Settings.

[Video description begins] He clicks on Settings, it expands to show the following options: Authentication, Jobs, System, and User Interface. [Video description ends]

Settings can be done in terms of Authentication, Jobs, System, and User Interface. So depending on your need, you can go ahead and you can use Ansible Tower to productively use Ansible.

Main

A screenshot of a computer

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Jobs

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Resources

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Access

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