5: Creating Custom Profiles



Slide 2

Objectives

After completing this module, you should be able to:

- > Write a custom compliance profile.
- > Use InSpec to test your code and your custom profile.
- > Upload a custom compliance profile to your Chef Compliance server.
- > Test your custom profile.

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5-2



Slide 3



In this section we will create a custom compliance profile.

Custom profiles are created using InSpec, just like the existing profiles were created.

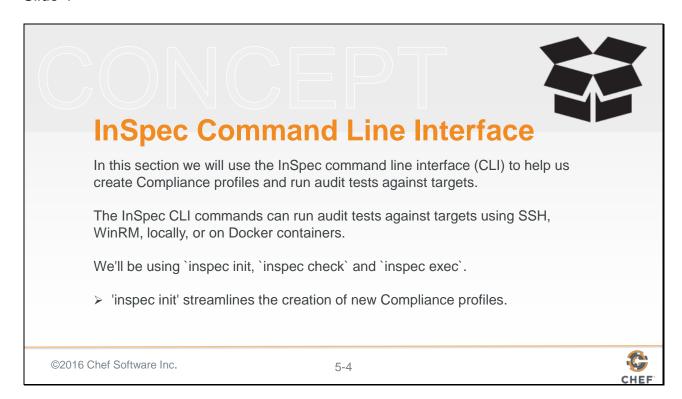
After you have created a custom profile, you'll learn how to upload it to a Compliance Server and then use it to check for compliance issues.

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5-3



Slide 4



`inspec init` can create all the directories and basic files that the Compliance Server and `inspec check` and `inspec exec` require.

Slide 5

InSpec Command Line Interface

We'll be using `inspec init, `inspec check` and `inspec exec`.

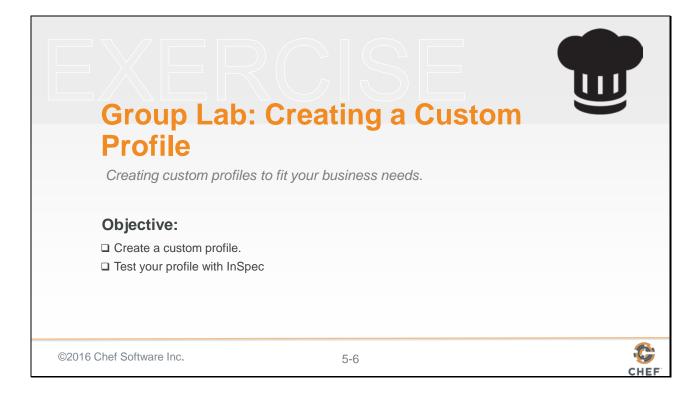
- > `inspec check` just verifies the compliance profile code that you write --it doesn't actually test a system.
- > `inspec exec' will run the tests against a system.

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5-5



Slide 6



The custom profile you will create will scan nodes to ensure they have a '/tmp' directory and that directory should be owned by the root user.

Note: In the workplace you would likely perform these custom profile tasks on your local workstation and upload them to the Compliance Server. In this class we'll use our target nodes as a workstation to create the profile on since they already have Chef installed on them. Then we'll ultimately upload the customer profile to your Compliance Server.

Slide 7

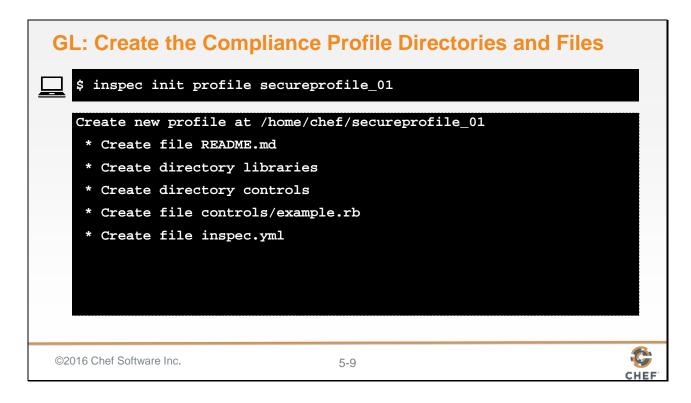
```
GL: Using `inspec help`
  $ inspec help
   [chef@ip-172-31-0-65 ~]$ inspec help
   Commands:
     inspec archive PATH
                                      # archive a profile to tar.gz (defau...
                                      # verify all tests at the specified ...
     inspec check PATH
     inspec compliance SUBCOMMAND ... # Chef Compliance commands
     inspec detect
                                      # detect the target OS
     inspec exec PATHS
                                      # run all test files at the specifie...
                                       # Describe available commands or one...
     inspec help [COMMAND]
     inspec init TEMPLATE ...
                                       # Scaffolds a new project
     inspec json PATH
                                       # read all tests in PATH and generat...
     inspec shell
                                       # open an interactive debugging shell
                                       # prints the version of this tool
     inspec version
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                                       5-7
```

From your target Linux node/virtual workstation and from your home directory, run `inspec help`. Notice the `inspec` commands and sub commands that are available.

Slide 8

The `inspec init` command enables you to create new Compliance profiles with less manual intervention than in previous versions of inspec and Chef Compliance.

Slide 9



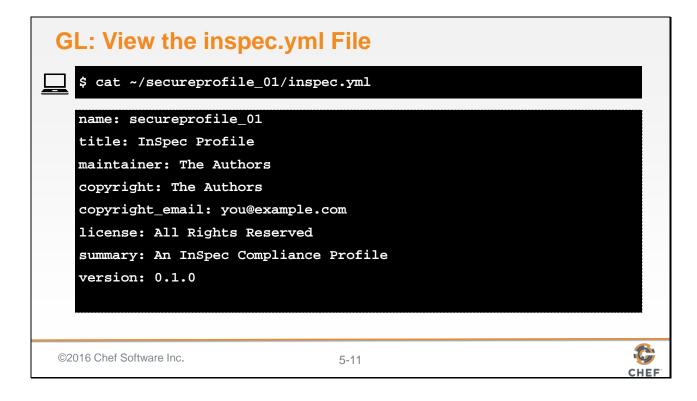
Notice the directories and the files that `inspec init profile` creates. The `secureprofile_01` is merely the name of the profile and could be named any way that makes sense in your organization.

Slide 10



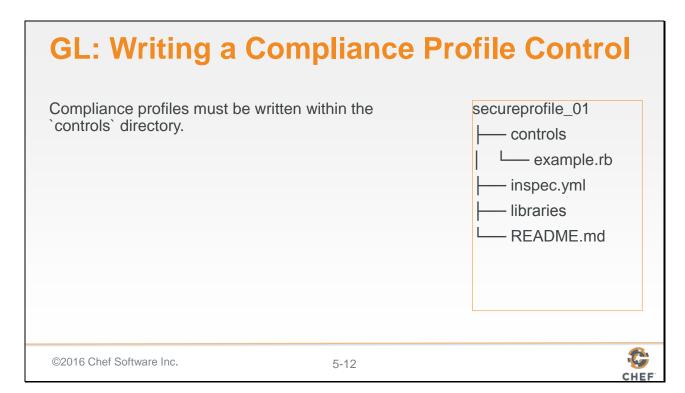
As you can see, the `tree secureprofile_01 ` command shows the new directories and files that inspec requires.

Slide 11

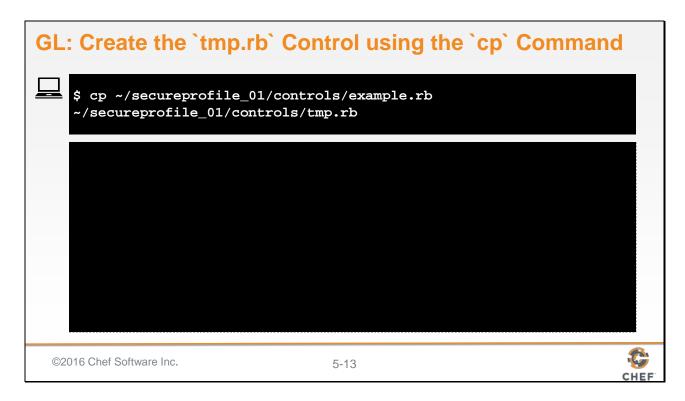


Let's read the inspec.yml file by issuing ~/secureprofile_01/inspec.yml.

In the workplace you should modify this file but we'll leave it as-is for now.

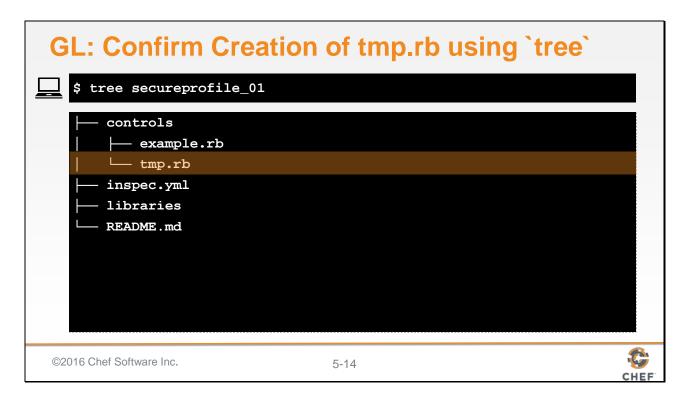


Slide 13



In this example you will use the `cp` command to make a copy of the `example.rb' control and name the copy `tmp/rb`.

Slide 14



You should now see that 'tmp.rb' resides next to the default 'example.rb'.

Slide 15

```
GL: Edit the tmp.rb File - 1 of 3
   ~/secureprofile_01/controls/tmp.rb
   # encoding: utf-8
   # copyright: 2015, The Authors
   # license: All rights reserved
   title 'sample section'
   # you can also use plain tests
   describe file('/tmp') do
    it { should be_directory }
   # you add controls here
                                  # A unique ID for this control
   control 'tmp-1.0' do
    impact 0.7
                                   # The criticality, if this control fails.
    title 'Create /tmp directory'
                                  # A human-readable title
    desc 'An optional description...'
    describe file('/tmp') do
     it { should be_directory }
    end
   end
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                                              5-15
                                                                                             CHEF
```

Delete everything highlighted in this example.

Slide 16

```
GL: Edit the tmp.rb File - 2 of 3

-/secureprofile_01/controls/tmp.rb

# encoding: utf-8
# copyright: 2015, The Authors
# license: All rights reserved
title '/tmp profile'

control "tmp-1.0" do
    impact 0.3
    title "Create /tmp directory"
    desc "A /tmp directory must exist"
    describe file('/tmp') do
        it { should be_directory }
        end
end

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```

Write the first half of this control as shown here. You'll write the second half below this part in a moment.

Instructor Note: It's generally correct to use single quotes unless string interpolation is used, in which doubles are correct. tbd - Check with inspec team about describe statement correctness. We need to make this example consistent wrt quotes.

Slide 17

```
GL: Edit the tmp.rb File - 3 of 3

-/compliance_profiles/profile_01/test/tmp.rb

...

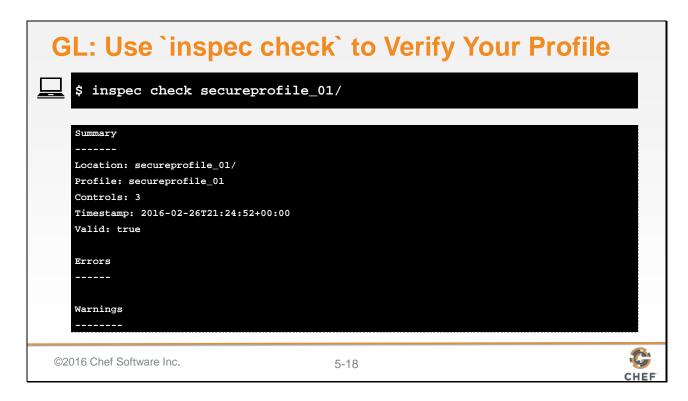
control "tmp-1.1" do
    impact 0.3
    title "/tmp directory is owned by the root user"
    desc "The /tmp directory must be owned by the root user"
    describe file('/tmp') do
        it { should be_owned_by 'root' }
        end
end

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```

Write the second half of this control as shown here, just below the code you wrote on the preceding slide. We've pasted the entire control code below so you can see it better.

```
# encoding: utf-8
# copyright: 2015, The Authors
# license: All rights reserved
title '/tmp profile'
control "tmp-1.0" do
 impact 0.3
 title "Create /tmp directory"
 desc "A /tmp directory must exist"
 describe file('/tmp') do
  it { should be_directory }
 end
end
control "tmp-1.1" do
 impact 0.3
 title "/tmp directory is owned by the root user"
 desc "The /tmp directory must be owned by the root user"
 describe file('/tmp') do
 it { should be_owned_by 'root' }
 end
end
```

Slide 18



Now use 'inspec check` to verify the compliance profile code that you wrote. You should see no errors or warnings.

Slide 19

```
GL: Use `inspec exec` to Verify Your Profile

inspec exec secureprofile_01/

Finished in 0.0467 seconds (files took 1.47 seconds to load)

4 examples, 0 failures

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```

Now use 'inspec exec` to test your compliance profile against the node you are working on. You should see no failures.

Since your profile has passed the inspec tests, it is now ready to be uploaded to the Compliance Server. We can assume this new compl

Slide 20



In the preceding group lab you created a custom Compliance profile and tested your profile with InSpec.

Your code passed the `inspec check` test and your system passed the `inspec exec` test.

But what would an 'inspec exec' failure look like?

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5-20



Slide 21

Example of an 'inspec exec' Failure

Let's say you modified your ~ secureprofile_01/controls/tmp.rb and changed `should be_owned_by root` to `should be_owned_by other` and then ran `inspec exec` against that file...

```
...
control "tmp-1.1" do
impact 0.3
title "/tmp directory is owned by the root user"
desc "The /tmp directory must be owned by the root user"
describe file('/tmp') do
it { should be_owned_by other' }
end
end
```

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5-21



Slide 22

...this is an example of running `inspec exec` against the system using the `~/secureprofile_01/controls/tmp.rb' as modified on the preceding slide.

As you can see, based on the modified control, `inspec exec` expected the /tmp directory to be owned by `other` but in fact /tmp is owned by root.

Instructor Note: As an optional lab, you can have the students modify their `~/secureprofile_01/controls/tmp.rb' as shown on the previous slide and then run the command on this slide. If you do, make sure they change the `secureprofile_01/controls/tmp.rb' back so it checks that /tmp is owned by root.

Slide 23

Uploading Custom Profiles to Compliance Server

inspec v 0.14.2 and above uses the `inspec compliance upload PATH` command to upload profiles from a workstation to the Compliance Server.

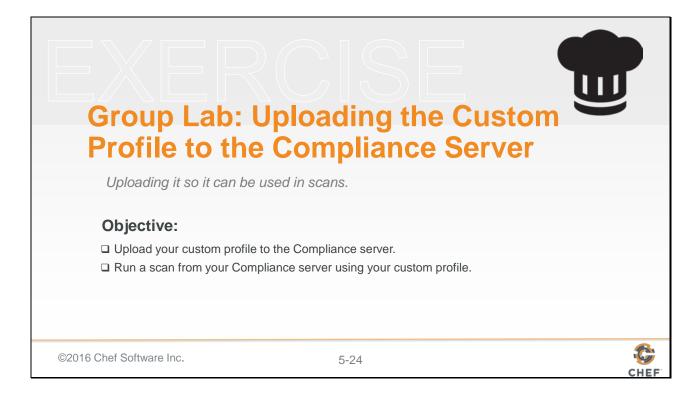
That command should be preceded by the `inspec compliance login SERVER --password=PASSWORD --user=USER` in order to first log in to the Compliance Server.

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5-23



Slide 24



In addition to the uploading procedure we'll do in the exercise, in the workplace you could also upload custom profiles using an API.

Slide 25

```
GL: Ensure You Are in the Home Dir

$ cd ~
$ 1s

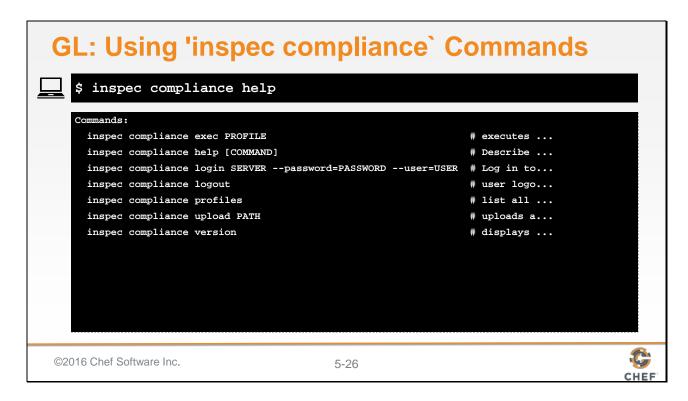
secureprofile_01

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5-25
```

From your Linux node, ensure you are in your Home directory and type `ls` to see your compliance profile

Slide 26



This example shows the options for the `inspec compliance` command. You'll be using the `inspec compliance login SERVER --password=PASSWORD --user=USER` in a moment to first log into your Compliance server.

Slide 27



Use your compliance server's IP address in place of SERVER in this example.

Note that the credentials used here are the credentials you created for your Compliance Server UI (admin/admin), not the node's.

Note: We are using the `--insecure option` in this lab because we are not using valid self-signed certificates.

Slide 28

```
GL: Viewing Your Custom Profile Tree

$ tree secureprofile_01

|-- controls
| |-- example.rb
| |-- inspec.yml
|-- libraries
|-- README.md
```

Notice that even though our VM is now logged into the Compliance server, commands such as `tree` are still executed against the VM we are on.

Slide 29



Again, this `inspec compliance profiles` command is executed against the VM we are on.

Slide 30

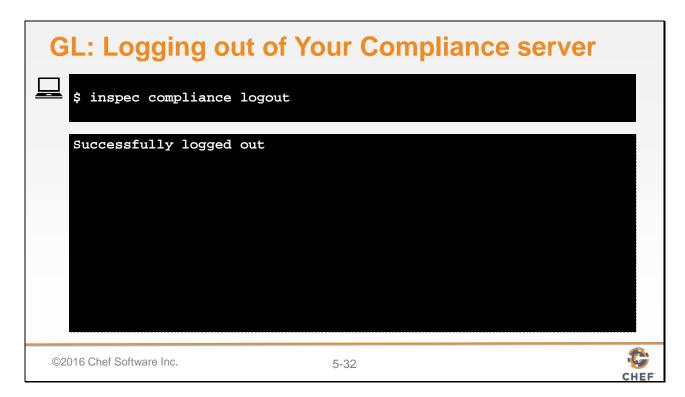


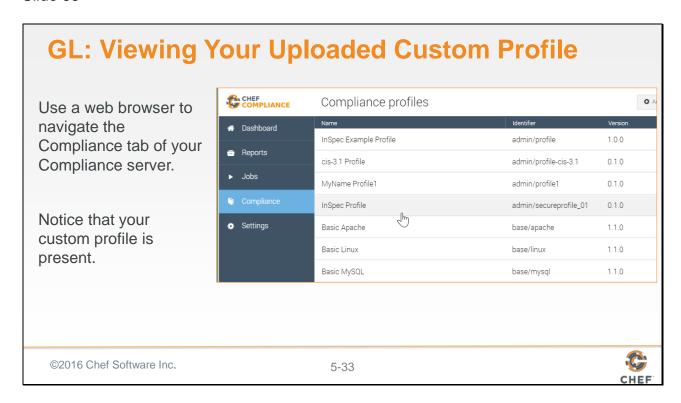
This `inspec compliance upload secureprofile_01` command is now uploading our custom profile to the Compliance server.

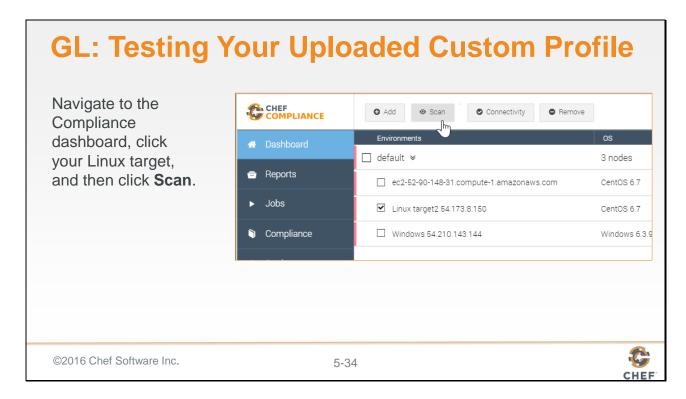
Slide 31



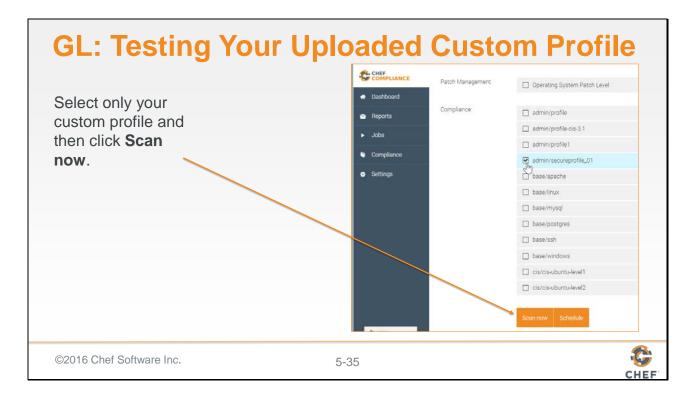
This `inspec compliance profiles` is now executing against our Compliance server, thus we are now looking at the Compliance profiles that reside on the Compliance server. Notice that your secureprofile_01 has been uploaded to the compliance server.

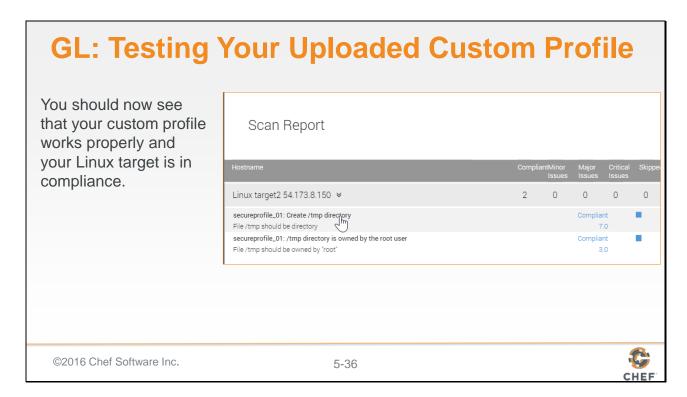




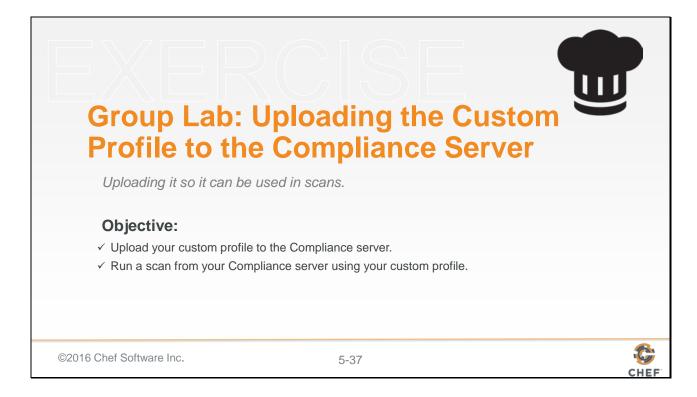


Slide 35





Slide 37



We have now completed this group lab.

Slide 38

Review Questions

1. What is the difference between `inspec check` and `inspec exec'?

2. What does 'inspec init profile' do?

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5-38



Instructor Note Answers:

1. `inspec check` just verifies the code--it doesn't actually test a system. `inspec exec' will run the tests against a system.

Additional questions will be added when we test this course on the Late February v1.0 Compliance software since inspec.yml will replace the inspec requirement of metadata.rb. Plus the new `generate profile` command will change the way we create profiles too.

2. It creates the directories and baseline files that are required fro creating profiles.

