

# Using Ansible and Redfish to automate systems management

Jose Delarosa May 9, 2018



### Before we start

- Thank you for coming to this session
- Please ask questions: It's OK to interrupt
- If time runs out, happy to talk to you afterwards



### Who am I?

- Linux Engineer
- Part time technology evangelist
- Part-time systems engineer
- Part-time developer
- @jdelaros1



# Why are we all here?

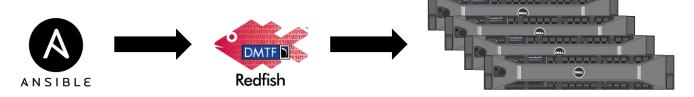
- Wrote some code using some really cool tools that will make your life easier.
- If you manage servers (i.e. sysadmin, SRE) in a lab or data center, this is for you.
- If you are an open source developer in IT, this is for you.
- If you like experimenting with new tools, this is definitely for you!

### **Motivation**

- I had a need to scale OOB management
- I had a need to automate OOB management
- Needed to be open source
- Could have used shell scripting for some of it, but wanted something different

# Agenda

- 1. Out-of-Band Management
- 2. Redfish (scalability)
- 3. Ansible (automation)
- 4. Scalability + Automation =





# Out-of-Band Management Overview

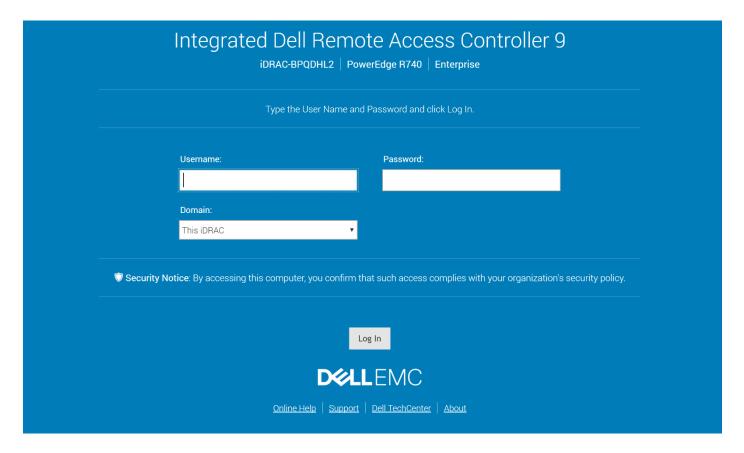


# What is Out-of-Band (OOB) management?

- Server management independent of the server's operating system and main power
- Provided by an embedded chip, has its own Ethernet port, usually connected to a separate management network
- Goes by many names: iDRAC, iLO, IMM, BMC
- Management includes:
  - Device inventory
  - Hardware failure detection
  - System event logs
  - BIOS configuration

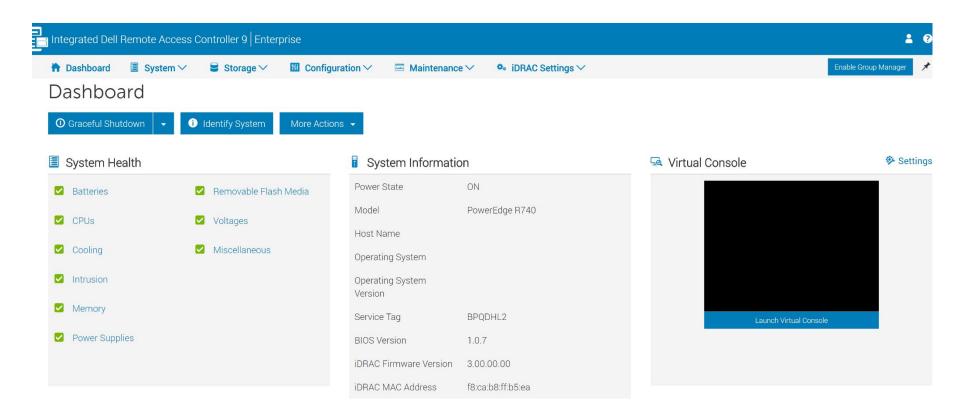


## Login



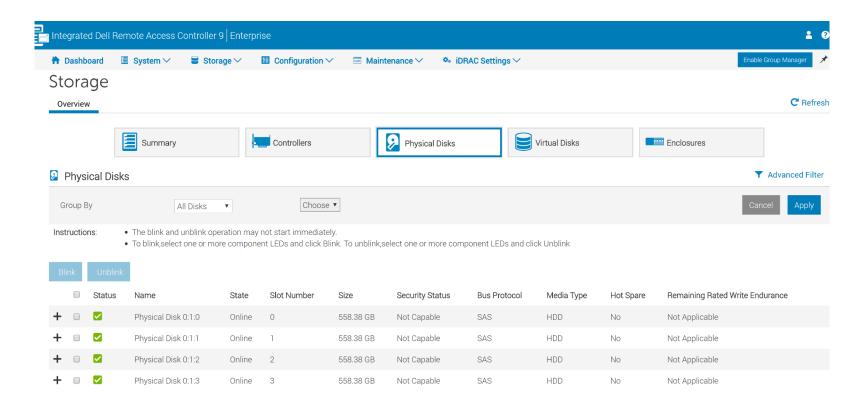


### **Dashboard**



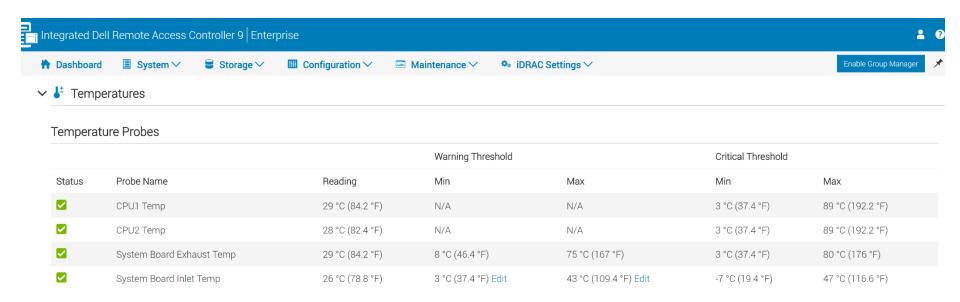


### **Hard Drives**



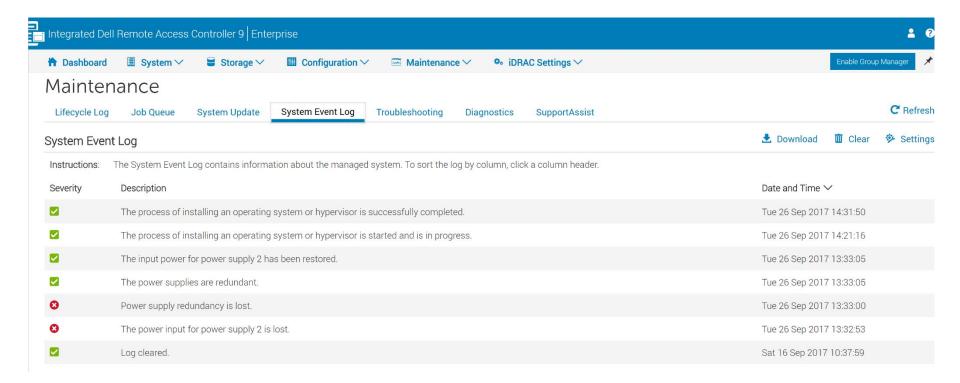


### **Thermal**



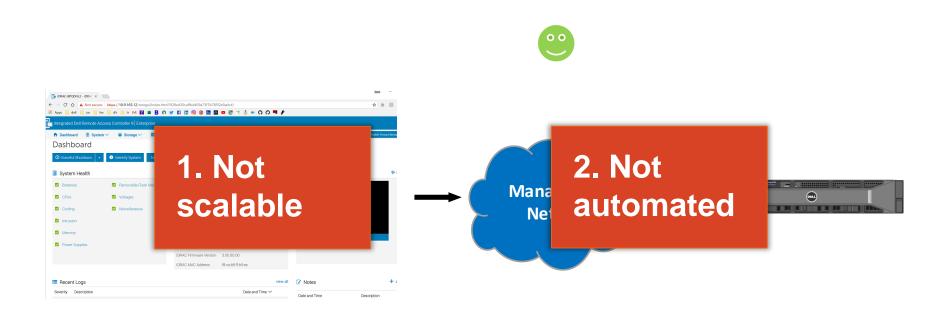


# System Event Logs





# Simple OOB Management





# Redfish Overview



### Redfish Overview



- Open source, open industry standard specification published by the DMTF for hardware management.
- Provides a RESTful API used to obtain information and exert control over servers via an OOB controller.
- Built on a modern tool-chain which includes HTTPS, JSON and the OData standard.
- A Redfish request is sent as an URI, so a client could be any application on a server, workstation or mobile device.

### What can we do with Redfish?



- Retrieve server health status
- Retrieve hardware and firmware inventory
- Power up, power down, warm boot, cold boot
- Chan
   Chan

  https://www.dmtf.org/standards/redfish
- Chan
- Configure OOB controller (i.e. users, network settings)
- Configure RAID
- Firmware updates



# Example: System Health



```
$ curl https://<00B>/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1 --user root:password | jq .Status
                                                Integrated Dell Remote Access Controller 9 | Enterprise
   "Health": "OK",
                                                ♠ Dashboard
■ System ∨
   "HealthRollUp": "OK"
                                                                           ■ Storage ∨

    □ Configuration ∨

                                                                                                          Maintenance 

♠ iDRAC Settings ∨

                                               Dashboard
                                                 O Graceful Shutdown
                                                                       i Identify System
                                                System Health
                                                                                                   System Information
                                                                                                   Power State
                                                                                                                      ON
                                                 Batteries
                                                                        Removable Flash Media
                                                                                                                      PowerEdge R740
                                                                                                   Model
                                                 ✓ CPUs
                                                                        ✓ Voltages
                                                                                                   Host Name
                                                 Cooling
                                                                        Miscellaneous
                                                                                                   Operating System
                                                 ✓ Intrusion
                                                                                                   Operating System
                                                                                                   Version
                                                 ✓ Memory
                                                                                                                      BPQDHL2
                                                                                                   Service Tag
                                                 ✓ Power Supplies
                                                                                                   BIOS Version
                                                                                                                      1.0.7
                                                                                                   iDRAC Firmware Version
                                                                                                                      3.00.00.00
                                                                                                   iDRAC MAC Address
                                                                                                                      f8:ca:b8:ff:b5:ea
```



## **Example: Hard Drives**



\$ curl https://<00B>/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Storage/Controllers/RAID.Slot.4-1 --user root:password | jq .Devices Dashboard ■ Configuration ∨ Enable Group Manager "CapacityBytes": 59955059 "Manufacturer": "SEAGATE" Summary Physical Disks Virtual Disks Enclosures Controllers "Model": "ST600MM0238", Physical Disks Y Advanced Filter "Name": "Physical Disk 0: "Status": { Group By All Disks ▼ Choose ▼ "Health": "OK", Instructions: · The blink and unblink operation may not start immediately. To blink, select one or more component LEDs and click Blink. To unblink, select one or more component LEDs and click Unblink "HealthRollup": "OK", Remaining Rated Write Endurance Security Status Bus Protocol Media Type Hot Spare Physical Disk 0:1:0 HDD Online 558.38 GB Not Capable SAS No Not Applicable "CapacityBytes": 59955059 Advanced Properties "Manufacturer": "SEAGATE' Device Description Disk 0 in Backplane 1 of BAID Controller in Slot 4 Manufacturer SEAGATE "Model": "ST600MM0238", Operational State Not Applicable Product ID "Name": "Physical Disk 0: Block Size Revision BS04 "Status": { Failure Predicted No Serial Number W0M0E1JG "Health": "OK", Power Status Soun Up Manufactured Day "HealthRollup": "OK", Progress Not Applicable Manufactured Week 28



## **Example: Thermal**



```
$ curl https://<00B>/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Thermal --user root:password | jq
'.Temperatures[] | {name:.Name, readingCelsius: .ReadingCelsius, health: .Status.Health}'
                               Integrated Dell Remote Access Controller 9 Enterprise
  "name": "CPU1 Temp",
                                             ■ System ∨
                                ♠ Dashboard
                                                           ■ Storage ∨

    □ Configuration ∨

    Maintenance 
    ✓

♠ iDRAC Settings ∨

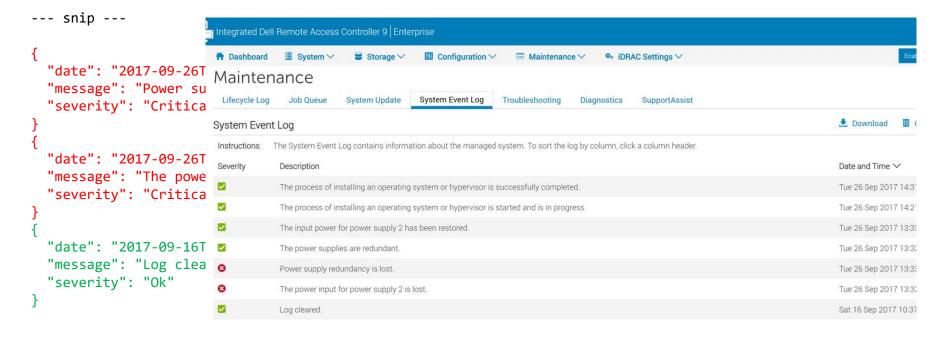
  "readingCelsius": 29,
  "health": "OK"
                               ✓ I Temperatures
                                 Temperature Probes
  "name": "CPU2 Temp",
  "readingCelsius": 28,
                                                                                                 Warning Threshold
  "health": "OK"
                                  Status
                                            Probe Name
                                                                               Reading
                                                                                                  Min
                                                                                                                        Max
                                            CPU1 Temp
                                                                               29 °C (84.2 °F)
                                                                                                 N/A
                                                                                                                        N/A
  "name": "System Board
  "readingCelsius": 29,
                                                                                                                        N/A
                                            CPU2 Temp
                                                                               28 °C (82.4 °F)
                                                                                                 N/A
  "health": "OK"
                                            System Board Exhaust Temp
                                                                                                                        75 °C (167 °F)
                                                                               29 °C (84.2 °F)
                                                                                                 8 °C (46.4 °F)
                                            System Board Inlet Temp
                                                                               26 °C (78.8 °F)
                                                                                                 3 °C (37.4 °F) Edit
                                                                                                                        43 °C (109.4 °F) Edit
```



# Example: System Event Logs



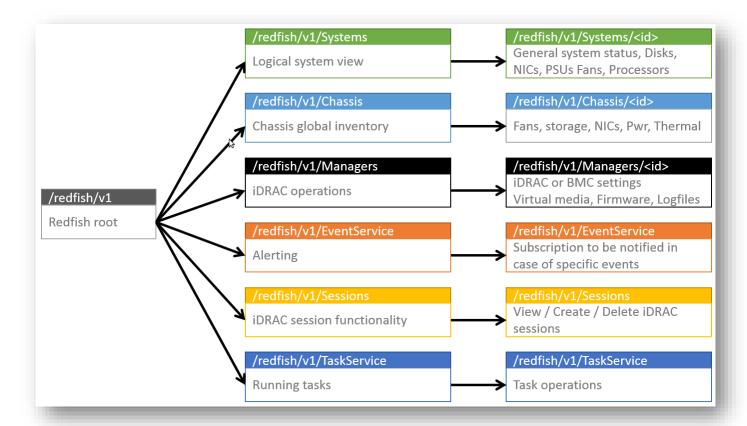
\$ curl https://<00B>/redfish/v1/Managers/iDRAC.Embedded.1/Logs/Sel --user root:password | jq
'.Members[] | {date: .Created, message: .Message, severity: .Severity}'





### Redfish API tree structure







# System APIs



Redfish API URIs
/redfish/v1
/redfish/v1/Systems
/redfish/v1/Systems/ <servicetag+nodeid></servicetag+nodeid>
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Actions/ComputerSystem.Reset
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Bios
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/BootSources
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Processors
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Processors/ <processor-fqdd></processor-fqdd>
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/EthernetInterfaces
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/EthernetInterfaces/ <ethernetinterface-fqdd></ethernetinterface-fqdd>
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/EthernetInterfaces/ <ethernetinterface-fqdd>/Vlans</ethernetinterface-fqdd>
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Storage/Controllers
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Power/PowerSupplies
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/SecureBoot
/redfish/v1/Systems/System.Embedded.1/Sensors/Fans

### Chassis APIs



#### Redfish API URIS

/redfish/v1/Chassis

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Thermal

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Sensors/Fans

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Sensors/Fans/<Fan-FQDD>

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Sensors/Temperatures

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Sensors/Temperatures/<Sensor-FQDD>

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Power

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Power/PowerControl

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Sensors/Voltages

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Sensors/Voltages/<Voltage-FQDD>

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Power/PowerSupplies

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Power/PowerSupplies/<PSU-FQDD>

/redfish/v1/Chassis/System.Embedded.1/Power/Redundancy/<PSRedundancy-FQDD>

## More than just GET!



### **Example: Reboot Server**

### Example: Change boot mode to UEFI

# Redfish Roadmap

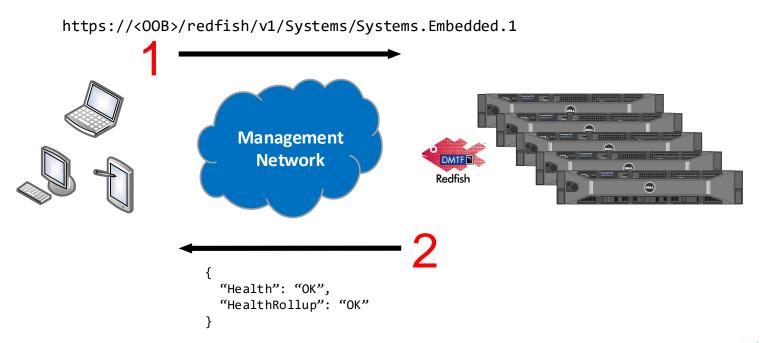


- Version 1.x focused on servers. Will expand to cover storage and network infrastructure.
- Will expand APIs over time to cover new technologies such as NVDIMMs and Multifunction Network Adapters.
- SNIA is developing 'Swordfish' to address advanced storage devices.
- DMTF expanding open source efforts (http://github.com/dmtf)
  - Client libraries (Python, Java, PowerShell)
  - Redfish Mockup Creator / Server
  - Redfishtool (CLI utility similar to ipmitool)

# Redfish provides scalability to OOB management







# Ansible Overview

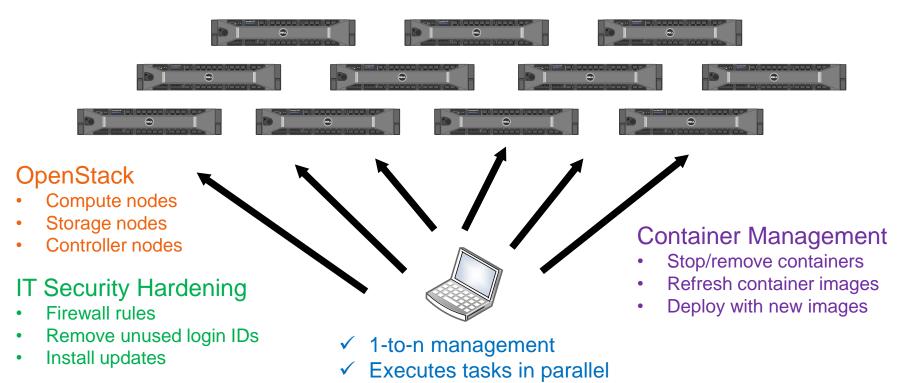


### Ansible 101

- Agentless → minimum footprint
- No database backend → easy to install
- Remote tasks are run in parallel → fast & efficient
- Easier to learn and use than shell scripts

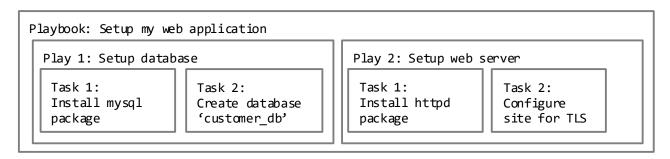


### Ansible use cases



# Ansible concepts

- Task: A task is the smallest unit of work. Examples: "install a package", "remove a user", "create firewall rule" or "copy a file to this directory".
- Play: A play is made up of tasks. Example: the play "Prepare a database" is composed
  of tasks:
  - √ Task 1: "Install the database package"
  - ✓ Task 2: "Set password"
  - √ Task 3: "Create database"
- **Playbook:** A playbook is composed of plays. Example: the playbook "Setup my web application" has plays 1) "Set up database server" and 2) "Set up web server".





# Simple implementation example

Say you provision 100 servers every day and you run these commands in <u>each</u> server:

```
$ groupadd admin
$ useradd -c "Sys Admin" -g admin -m sysman
$ mkdir /opt/tools
$ chmod 755 /opt/tools
$ chown sysman /opt/tools
$ yum -y install httpd
$ yum -y update
$ systemctl enable httpd
$ systemctl start httpd
$ rm /etc/motd
```

The same commands can be placed in an Ansible *playbook* and executed in 100 servers:

#### daily\_tasks.yml

- name: daily tasks
  hosts: my\_100\_daily\_servers
  tasks:
  - group: name=admin state=present
  - user: name=sysman comment="Sys Admin" group=admin
  - file: path=/opt/tools state=directory owner=sysman mode=0755
  - yum: name=httpd state=latest
  - yum: name=\* state=latest
  - service: name=httpd state=started enabled=yes
  - file: path=/etc/motd state=absent

\$ ansible-playbook daily\_tasks.yml



### Ansible module

- Whereas a playbook is where you specify the tasks to run; a module is the code to implement those tasks.
- Modules can be written in any language, but most popular is Python.
- If you are a system administrator, you will work mostly with <u>playbooks</u>.
- If you are a developer, you will work mostly with modules.

```
- name: daily tasks
hosts: my_100_daily_servers
tasks:
- group: name=admin state=present
- user: name=sysman comment="Sys Admin" group=admin
- file path=/opt/tools state=directory owner=sysman
mode=0755
- yum name=httpd state=latest
- yum name=* state=latest
- service name=httpd state=started enabled=yes
- file: path=/etc/motd state=absent
```

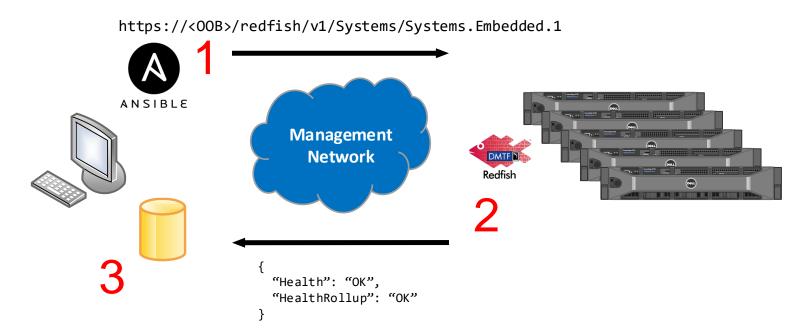


# Scalable and automated OOB management









# Coming together: Ansible module for Redfish



### Ansible module for Redfish

- Use it to manage your entire IT infrastructure (compute, network & storage) from one controller.
- Automated inventory, monitoring & provisioning at scale.
- It's open source, so you can write your own extensions and contribute back to the community.
- Working to submit upstream.
- DMTF will extend it and support it.

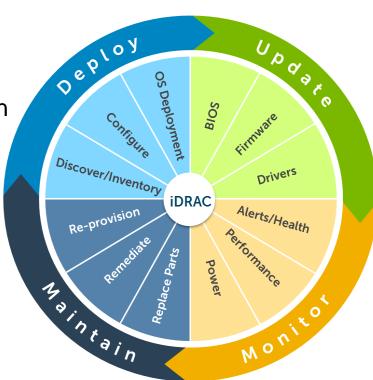


# Key Lifecycle Management Tasks

Device Inventory

iDRAC Configuration

Event Logs

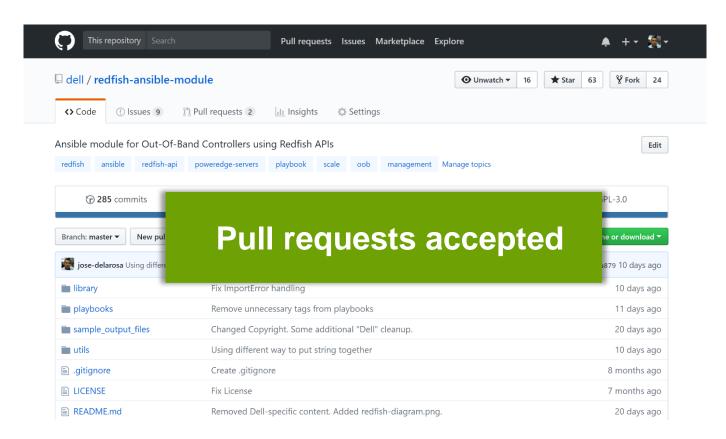


- BIOS Configuration
- Firmware Update

- Health Reporting
- Power Management



# https://github.com/dell/redfish-ansible-module





# Example: get system inventory

### 1. Playbook

```
- hosts: myhosts
 name: System Inventory
 gather facts: False
 tasks:
 - name: Define output file
  include_tasks: create_output_file.yml type=SysteTASK [Define file to place results]
 - name: Getting system inventory
  local action: >
    redfish category=Inventory command=GetSystem. TASK [Create dropoff directory for host]
     register: result
 - name: Copy results to output file
  dest={{template}}.json
```

### 2. Execute Playbook

\$ ansible-playbook system-inventory.yml

```
PLAY [PowerEdge iDRAC Get System Inventory]
***********
TASK [Define timestamp]
***************
ok: [r740-1]
ok: [r630]
ok: [r640-1]
*************
ok: [r630]
ok: [r640-1]
ok: [r740-1]
changed: [r740-1 -> localhost]
changed: [r630 -> localhost]
changed: [r640-1 -> localhost]
****************
ok: [r740-1 -> localhost]
ok: [r640-1 -> localhost]
ok: [r630 -> localhost]
TASK [Copying results to file]
*********
changed: [r630 -> localhost]
changed: [r740-1 -> localhost]
changed: [r640-1 -> localhost]
r630
                             changed=2
                                        unreachable=0
r640-1
                     : ok=5
                             changed=2
                                        unreachable=0
r740-1
                     : ok=5
                             changed=2
                                        unreachable=0
```

Playbook run took 0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes, 8 seconds

#### 3. Result

```
r640-1 20171016 163922 inventory.json
    "changed": false,
    "result": {
        "AssetTag": "",
        "BiosVersion": "1.0.7",
        "BootSourceOverrideMode": "UEFI",
        "CpuCount": 2.
        "CpuHealth": "OK",
        "CpuModel": "Intel(R) Xeon(R) Silver 4108 CPU
        "HostName": ""
        "Manufacturer": "Dell Inc.",
        "MemoryHealth": "OK",
        "MemoryTotal": 128.0,
        "Model": "PowerEdge R640",
        "PartNumber": "008R9MA02",
        "PowerState": "On",
        "SerialNumber": "CNIV 0347",
        "ServiceTag": "3Man 2",
        "Status": "OK".
        "SystemType": "Physical"
```



# Example: Inventory spreadsheet

Server	iDRAC IP	Model	IP address	BIOS	CPU	Туре	RAM	Service Tag	Status
webserver-1	192.168.2.10	PowerEdge R630	10.0.1.30	2.3.4	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630 v3 @ 2.40GHz	128	5W14Q52	ОК
webserver-2	192.168.2.11	PowerEdge R630	10.0.1.31	2.3.4	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630 v3 @ 2.40GHz	128	5XXYQ32	OK
webserver-3	192.168.2.12	PowerEdge R630	10.0.1.33	2.3.2	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630 v3 @ 2.40GHz	128	5XT3QYY	OK
appserver-1	192.168.2.13	PowerEdge R830	10.0.1.34	2.3.2	4	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630 v3 @ 2.60GHz	512	5XR7QXY	OK
dbserver-1	192.168.3.10	PowerEdge R740	10.0.2.30	1.2.11	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630 v3 @ 2.33GHz	256	5XR7Q88	OK
dbserver-2	192.168.3.11	PowerEdge R740	10.0.2.31	1.1.7	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630 v3 @ 2.33GHz	256	5WEYQ37	OK
dbserver-3	192.168.3.12	PowerEdge R740	10.0.2.32	1.2.11	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2630 v3 @ 2.33GHz	256	5WR4Q12	Fail
dbserver-4	192.168.3.13	PowerEdge T640	10.0.2.33	1.1.3	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2640 v3 @ 2.33GHz	512	5TEEQ21	ОК
dbserver-5	192.168.3.14	PowerEdge T640	10.0.2.34	1.2.11	2	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2640 v3 @ 2.33GHz	512	5TT1Q26	ОК



# Example: Set controller's NTP server

### 1. Playbook

```
- hosts: myhosts
 name: Set Manager NTP settings
 gather_facts: False
 vars:
   - ntpserver1: ntp.domain.com
 tasks:

    name: Enable NTP

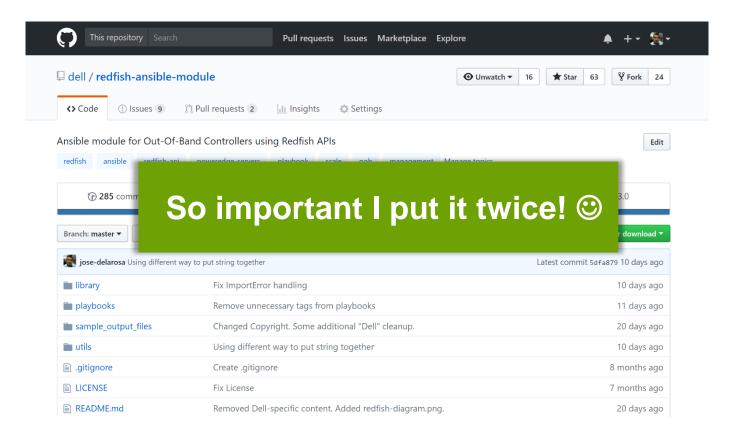
   local action: >
      redfish category=Manager command=SetAttributes
      user={{user}} password={{password}} baseuri={{baseuri}}
      mgr_attr_name=NTPConfigGroup.1.NTPEnable mgr_attr_value=Enabled
   ignore errors: yes
 - name: Set NTP server 1
   local action: >
      redfish category=Manager command=SetAttributes
      user={{user}} password={{password}} baseuri={{baseuri}}
      mgr attr name=NTPConfigGroup.1.NTP1 mgr attr value={{ntpserver1}}
   ignore errors: yes
 # Add more NTP servers as needed
 # To get exact attributes names, run the getattributes task first
```

### 2. Execute Playbook

```
$ ansible-playbook set manager ntp.yml
PLAY [Set Manager NTP settings] *****************
TASK [Enable NTP] ***
ok: [red1 -> localhost]
ok: [red4 -> localhost]
ok: [red2 -> localhost]
ok: [red3 -> localhost]
fatal: [t620 -> localhost]: FAILED! => {"changed": false, "msg": "Resource not supported"}
...ignoring
TASK [Set NTP server 1]
ok: [red1 -> localhost]
ok: [red4 -> localhost]
ok: [red2 -> localhost]
ok: [red3 -> localhost]
fatal: [t620 -> localhost]: FAILED! => {"changed": false, "msg": "Resource not supported"}
 ...ignoring
                                   *************
                                                 unreachable=0
                                                                 failed=0
red1
                          : ok=2
                                    changed=0
red2
                          : ok=2
                                    changed=0
                                                 unreachable=0
                                                                 failed=0
                                                 unreachable=0
                                                                 failed=0
red3
                          : ok=2
                                    changed=0
                          : ok=2
                                    changed=0
                                                 unreachable=0
                                                                 failed=0
red4
t620
                          : ok=2
                                    changed=0
                                                 unreachable=0
                                                                 failed=0
```

Playbook run took 0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes, 37 seconds

# https://github.com/dell/redfish-ansible-module





### Resources

- Redfish API specification: <a href="http://bit.ly/2gb9VBj">http://bit.ly/2gb9VBj</a>
- Getting started with Ansible: http://bit.ly/2oCj5xy
- PowerEdge Redfish API Overview: http://dell.to/2odsH1p
- iDRAC Redfish API Reference Guide: http://dell.to/2oyjMTy
- jq JSON parser: https://stedolan.github.io/jq/



### Conclusion

- Automation + scalability are useful when managing hardware.
- Module tested mostly on Dell EMC platforms, but should work on any controller that implements the Redfish API standard.
- Module was designed to be as simple as possible.
- Thank you for listening, hope this was useful.

# Thank you

Q & A



# DULLEMC