Nautobot 1.2.0 Key Features

Tim Fiola

Developer Advocate

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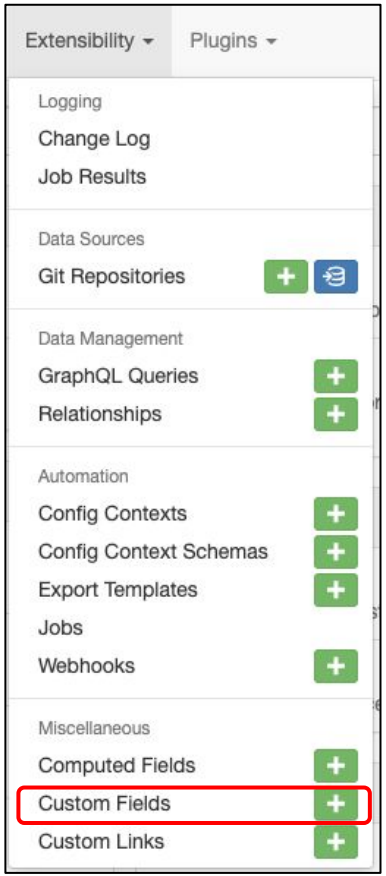
>>> View for Managing *Custom Fields* Outside of Django Admin (GH229)

Nautobot users can now manage *Custom Fields* outside of the Django Admin Panel

Custom Fields can now be accessed from the top-level Extensibility dropdown

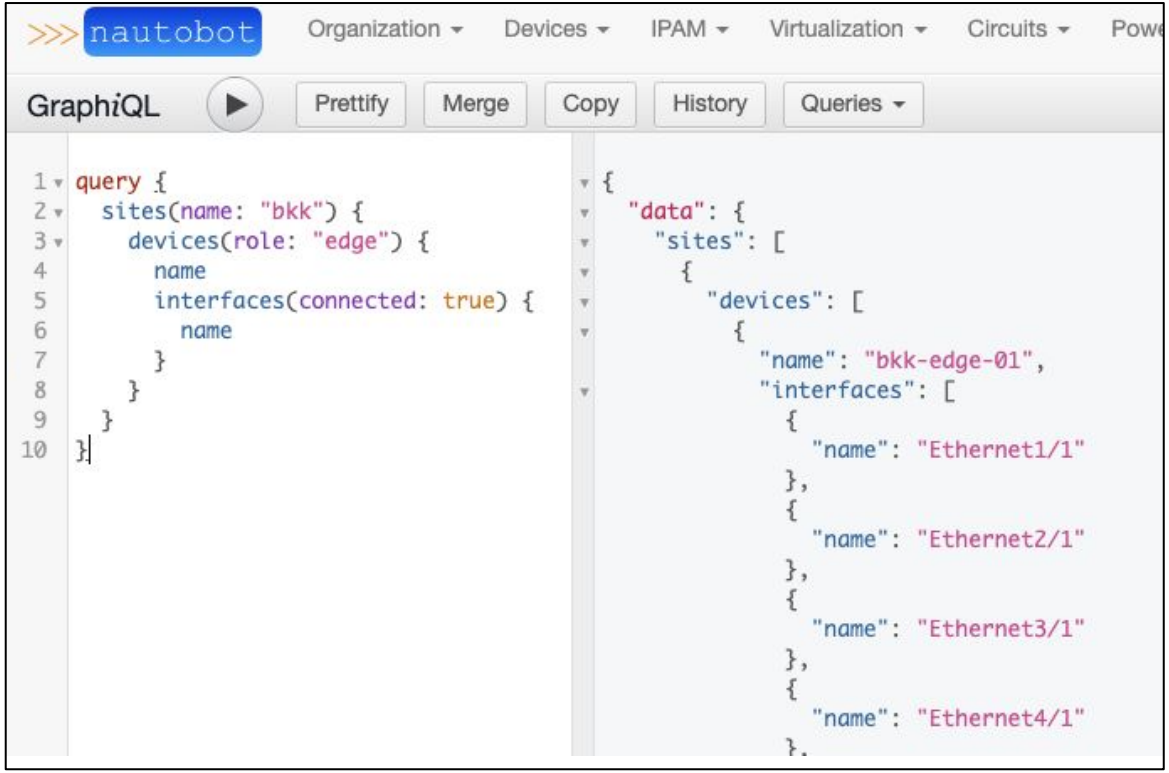
Non-admin users with appropriate permissions can now manage Custom Fields



>>> GraphQL Filters at All Levels (GH248)

The GraphQL API now supports query filter parameters at any level within a query

This greatly expands the types of queries Nautobot's GraphQL can handle

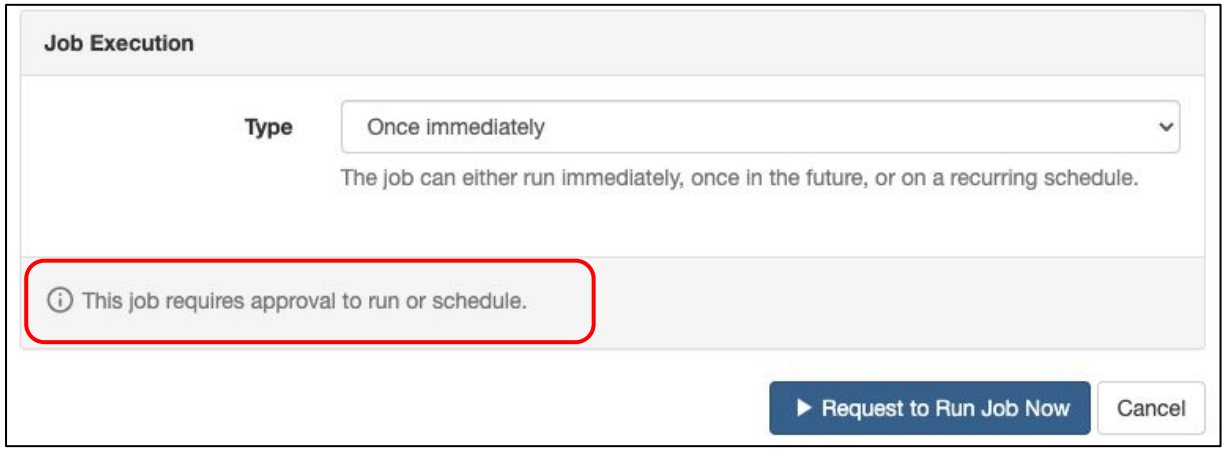


>>> Job Approval (GH125)

Jobs can now be optionally set to `approval_required = True` on their `Meta` object

Jobs with this attribute set to True

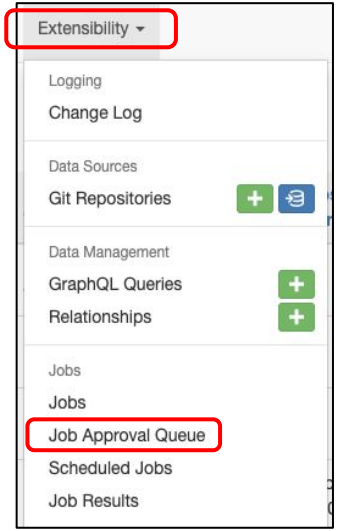
- Will have a marker, indicating approval is required
- Will be placed into an approval queue
- Require any other user other than the submitter to approve

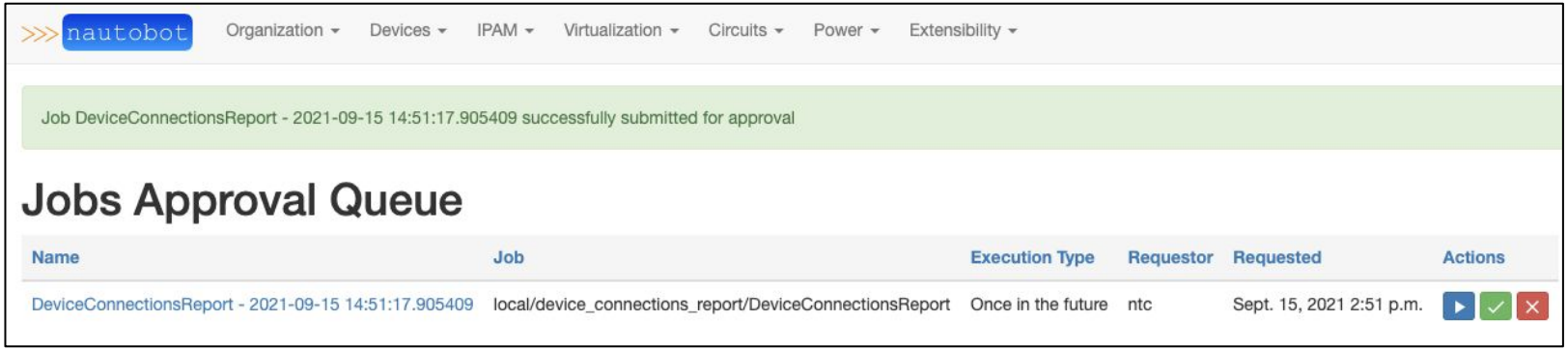


>>> Job Approval (GH125) (continued)

The Job Approval Queue is accessed from *Extensibility→ Jobs → Job Approval Queue*

Jobs can be approved via the UI or API

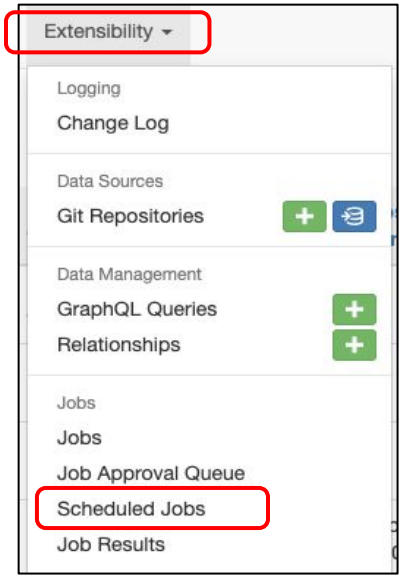


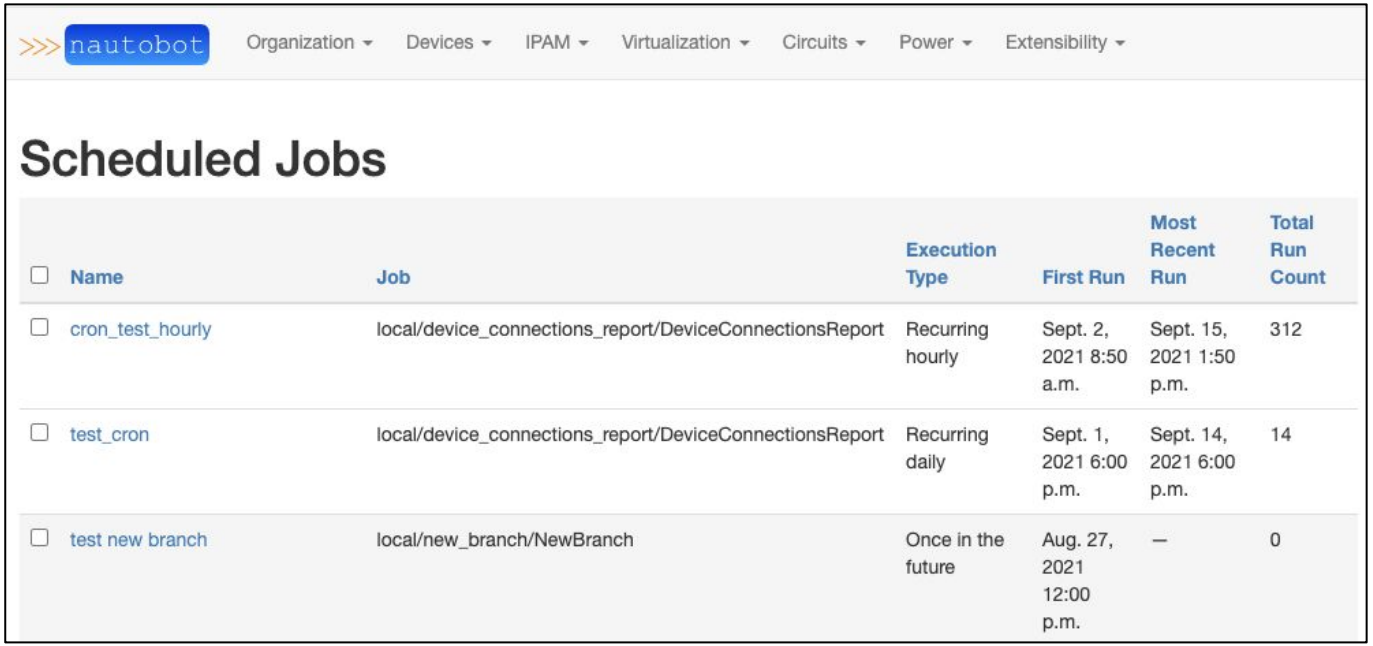


>>> Job Scheduling (GH374)

Jobs can now be:

- Scheduled for execution at a future date and time
- Scheduled for repeated execution on an hourly, daily, or weekly recurring cadence



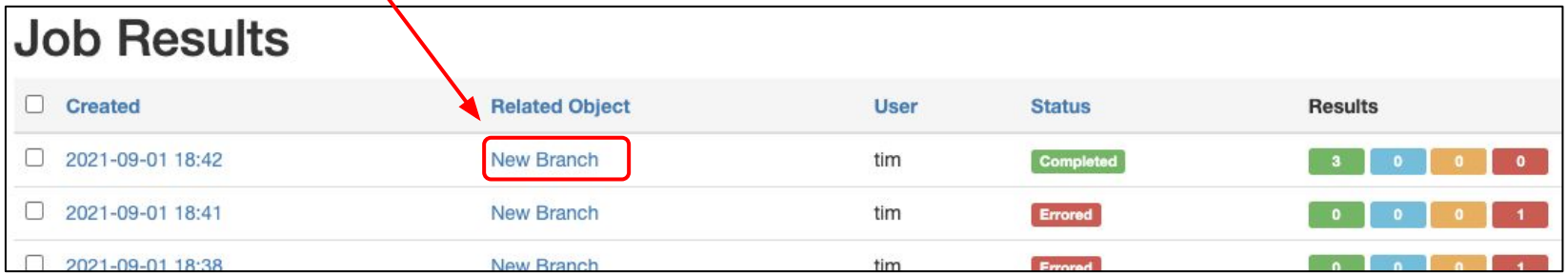


>>> Job Results Page - Use Meta Name Attribute (GH472)

Job Results page can now show user-friendly names for the jobs

- Users can specify a user-friendly job name by specifying the *name* in the Meta class for the job
- If no Meta *name* attribute is specified, the displayed name reverts to `/path/to/job`
- The job name appears in the **Related Object** column

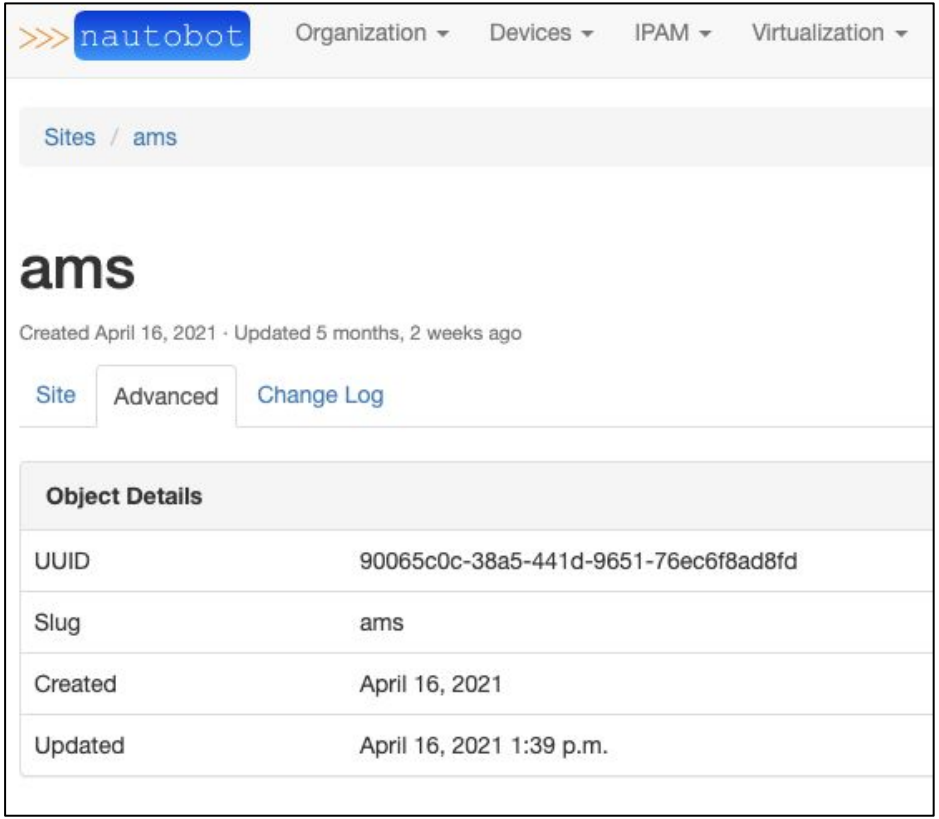
```
class NewBranch(Job):

    class Meta:
        name = "New Branch"
        description = "Provision a new branch site"
        field_order = ['site_name', 'switch_count', 'switch_model']
```



>>> *Advanced* Tab in Object Detail Views (GH585)

Added *Advanced* tab to object detail views including UUID and slug information

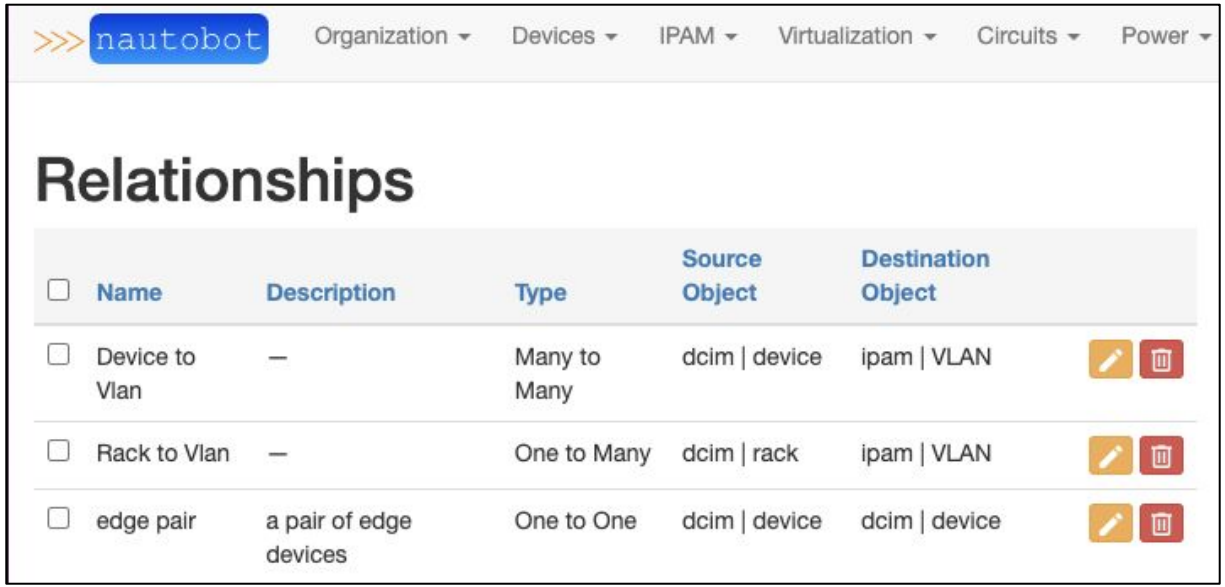
Helps in constructing REST API calls and GraphQL queries against specific objects because it quickly provides the specific slug and UUID information



>>> Same-Type and Symmetric Relationships (GH157)

The Relationships feature has been extended in two ways:

- Relationships between the same object type (e.g. device-to-device) are now permitted
- For same-object-type relationships specifically, symmetric (peer-to-peer rather than source-to-destination) relationships are now an option

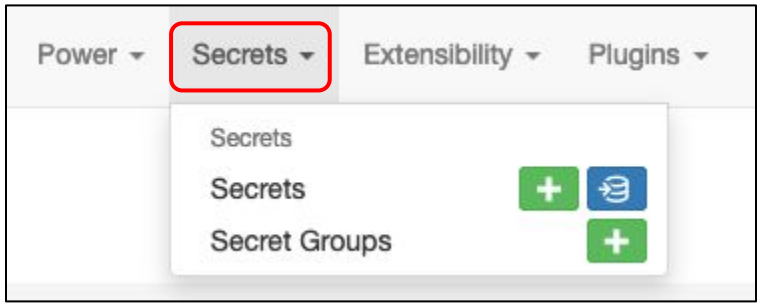


>>> Secrets Integration (GH541)

This feature allows secure retrieval and usage of arbitrary secrets

Allows for industry standard secrets storage tooling

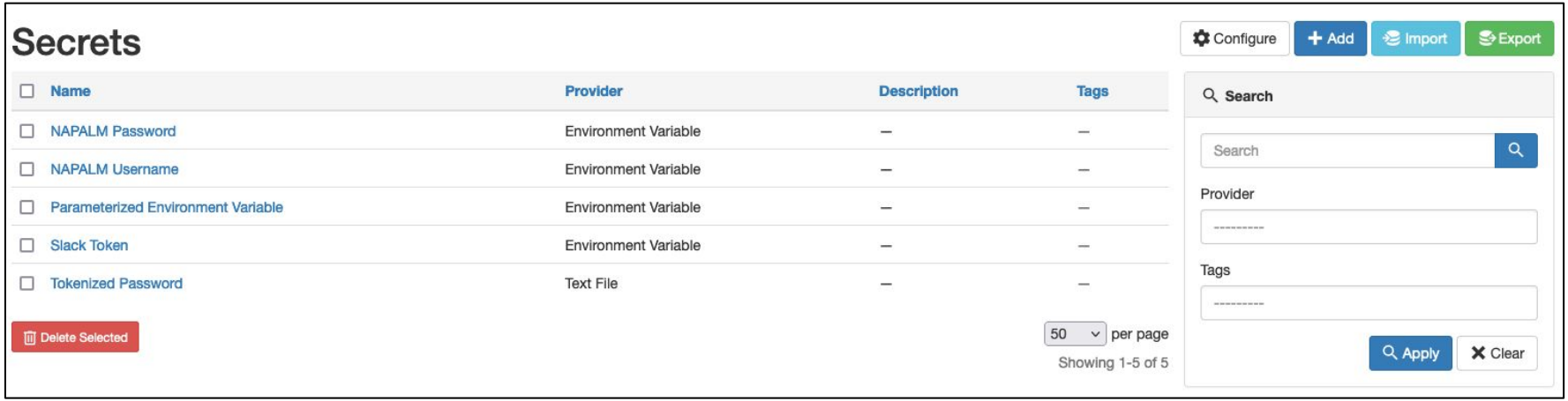
Secrets are not stored directly in Nautobot



>>> Secrets Integration (GH541) (continued)

Introduces *Secret* model

- Defines how Nautobot can **retrieve** secret value and use when needed
- Does **not** store secret value



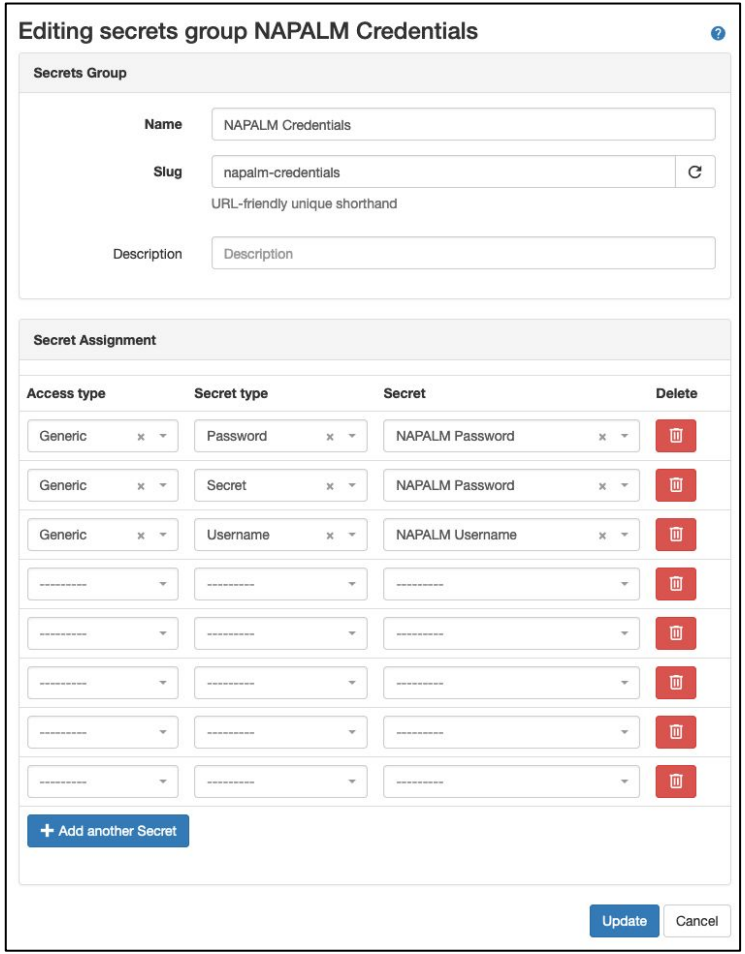
Secrets Integration (GH541) (continued)

Introduces *Secrets Group* model

- Collects and assigns meaning to secrets

The example to the right shows a Secrets Group consisting of three NAPALM credentials needed to access and configure a device

- Username
- Password
- Secret



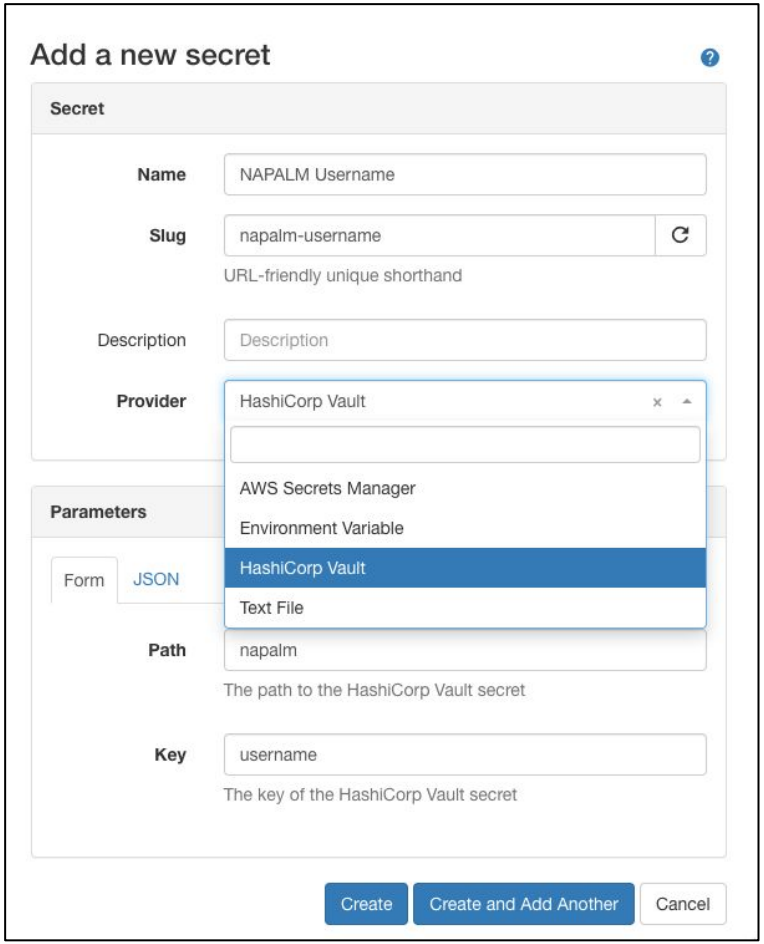
>>> Secrets Integration (GH541) (continued)

The feature's core code enables these two secret sources:

- Environment variable
- Text file

This feature also enables the *Nautobot Secrets Providers* app:

- Defines additional secret providers
- This app initially includes AWS Secrets Manager and HashiCorp Vault

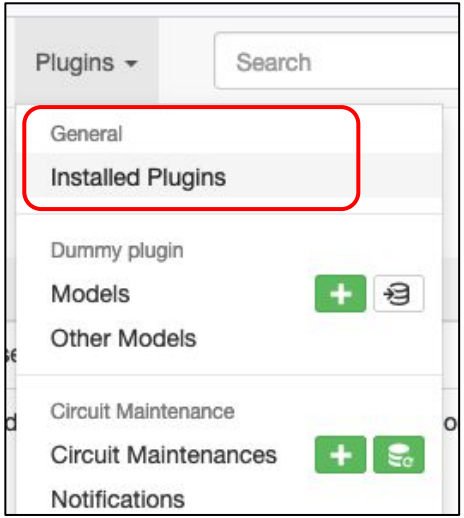


>>> Installed Plugins (Apps) View and Homepage (GH935)

Provides *Installed Plugins* view that is accessible by all authenticated users

- Replaces the *Installed Plugins* view that was accessible only to *admin* users

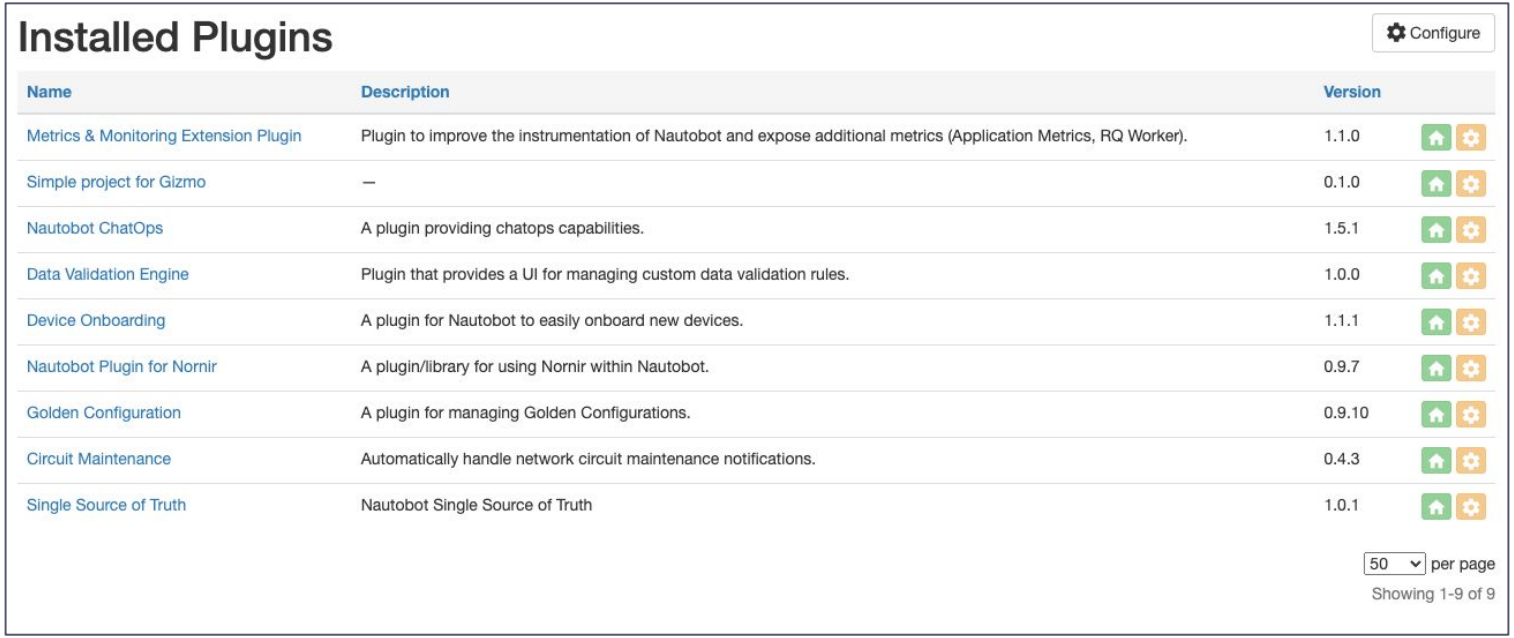
Access the view by navigating to *Plugins→Installed Plugins*



>>> Installed Plugins (Apps) View and Homepage (GH935) (continued)

Users are taken to the *Installed Plugins* list view

- Provides list view of installed and enabled plugins (apps)
- Similar to former administrator-only view



Installed Plugins

Configure

Name	Description	Version
Metrics & Monitoring Extension Plugin	Plugin to improve the instrumentation of Nautobot and expose additional metrics (Application Metrics, RQ Worker).	1.1.0
Simple project for Gizmo	—	0.1.0
Nautobot ChatOps	A plugin providing chatops capabilities.	1.5.1
Data Validation Engine	Plugin that provides a UI for managing custom data validation rules.	1.0.0
Device Onboarding	A plugin for Nautobot to easily onboard new devices.	1.1.1
Nautobot Plugin for Nornir	A plugin/library for using Nornir within Nautobot.	0.9.7
Golden Configuration	A plugin for managing Golden Configurations.	0.9.10
Circuit Maintenance	Automatically handle network circuit maintenance notifications.	0.4.3
Single Source of Truth	Nautobot Single Source of Truth	1.0.1

50 per page

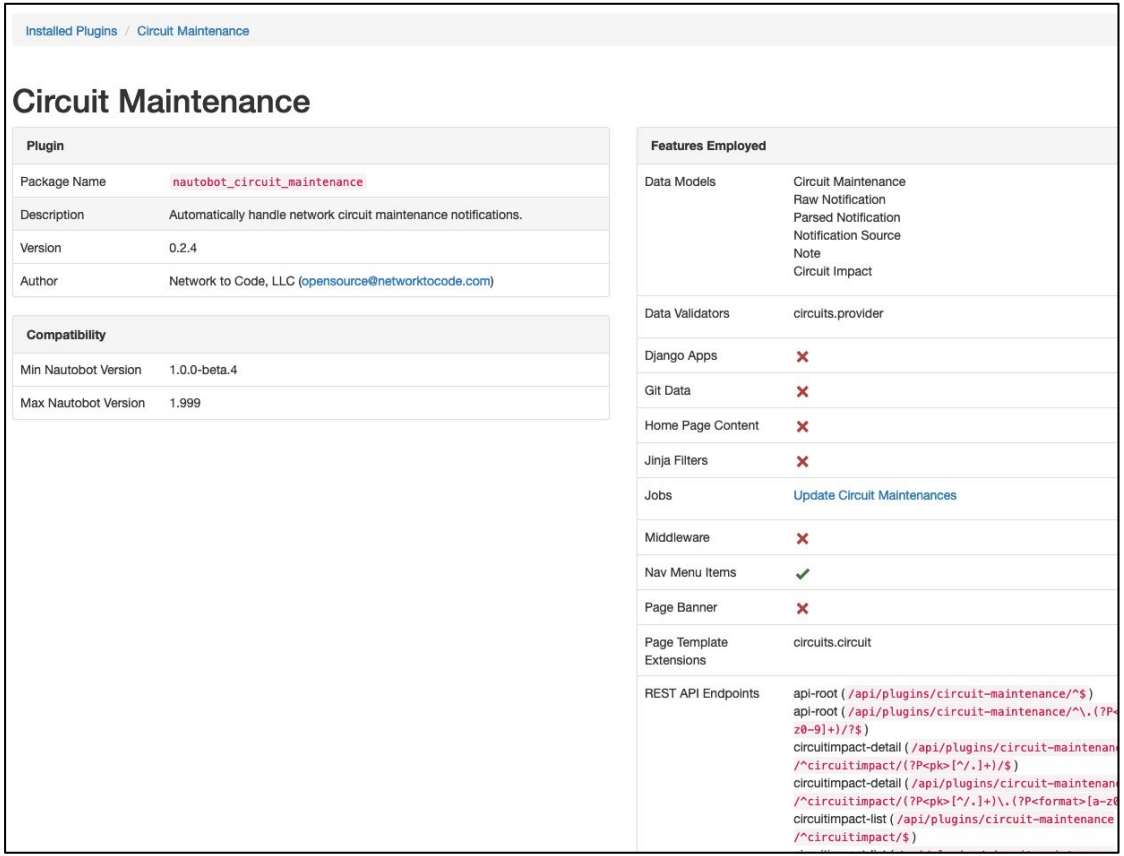
Showing 1-9 of 9

>>> Installed Plugins (Apps) View and Homepage (GH935) (continued)

Clicking on a plugin/app from the list view takes the user to a detail view of the plugin/app

This page includes an in-depth look at the capabilities of the plugin

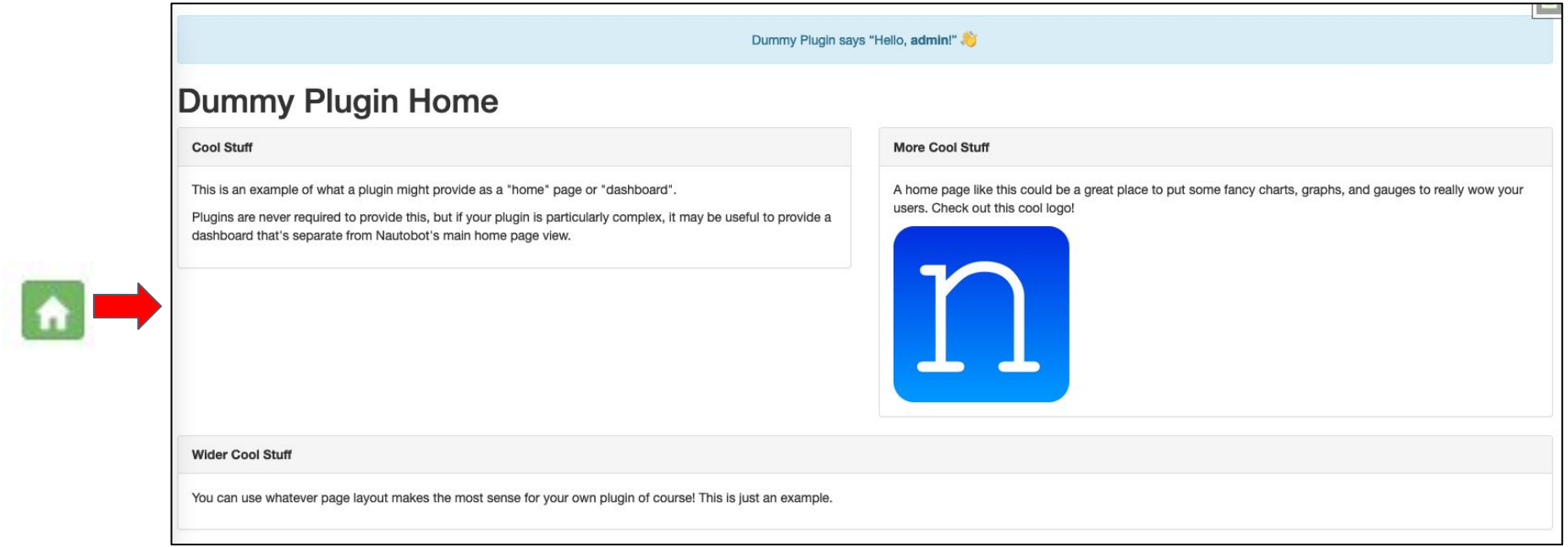
- Includes info on which Nautobot plugin features it uses



>>> Installed Plugins (Apps) View and Homepage (GH935) (continued)

This feature also allows for a home page for the app, accessible when the user clicks on the *home* icon for the app on the *Installed Plugins* page

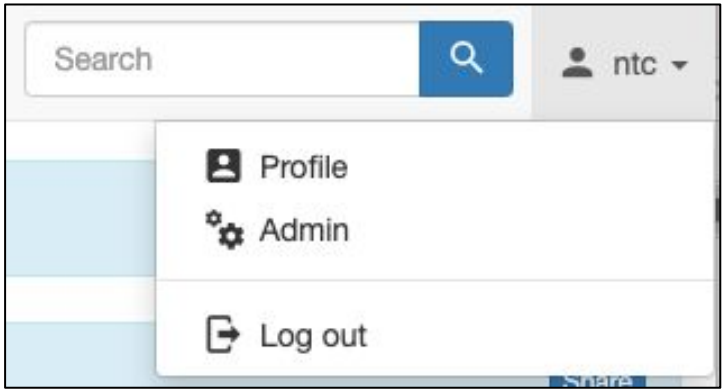
The app home page is highly customizable

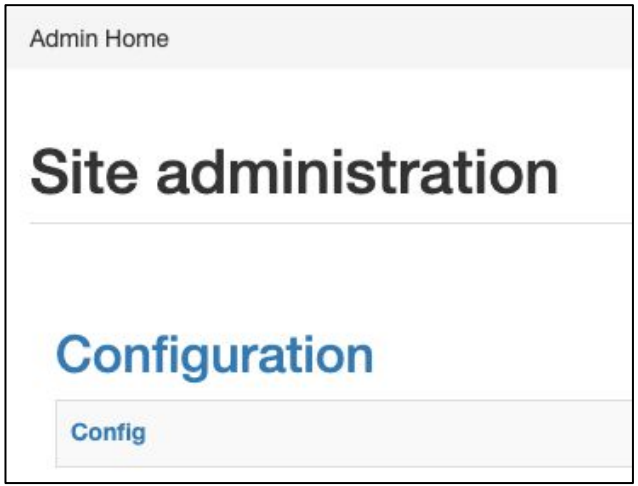


>>> Admin Configuration UI (GH370)

The Nautobot Admin UI now includes a *Configuration* page

- Navigate to *Admin* → *Configuration* → *Config*

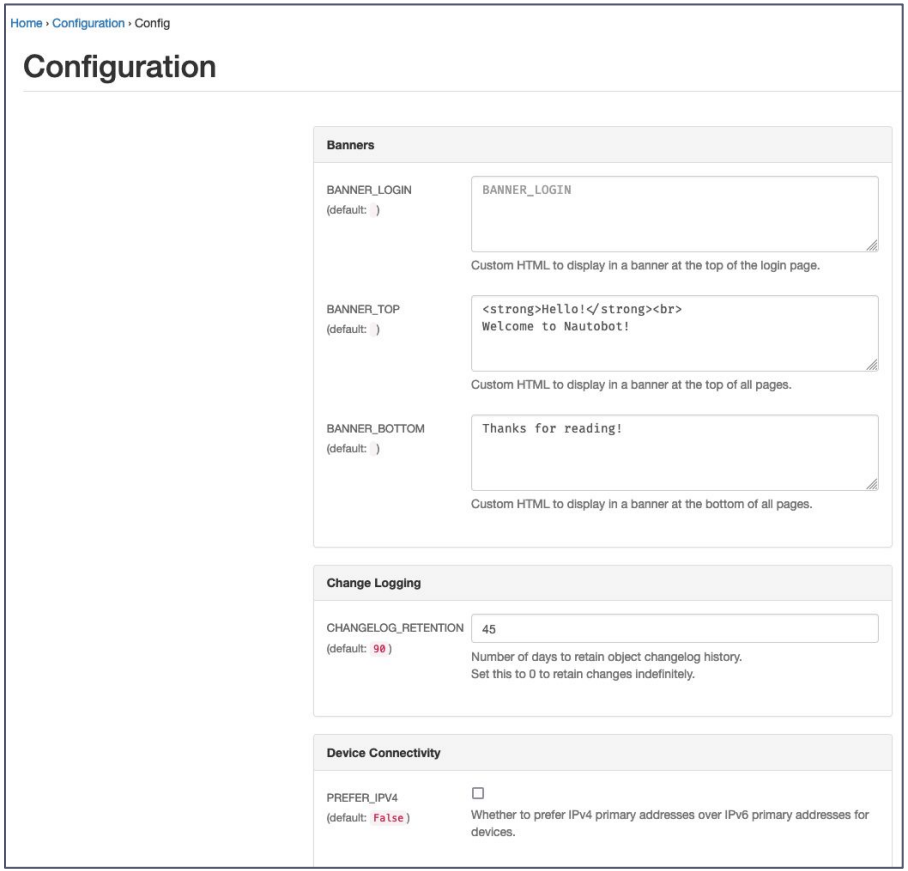




>>> Admin Configuration UI (GH370) (continued)

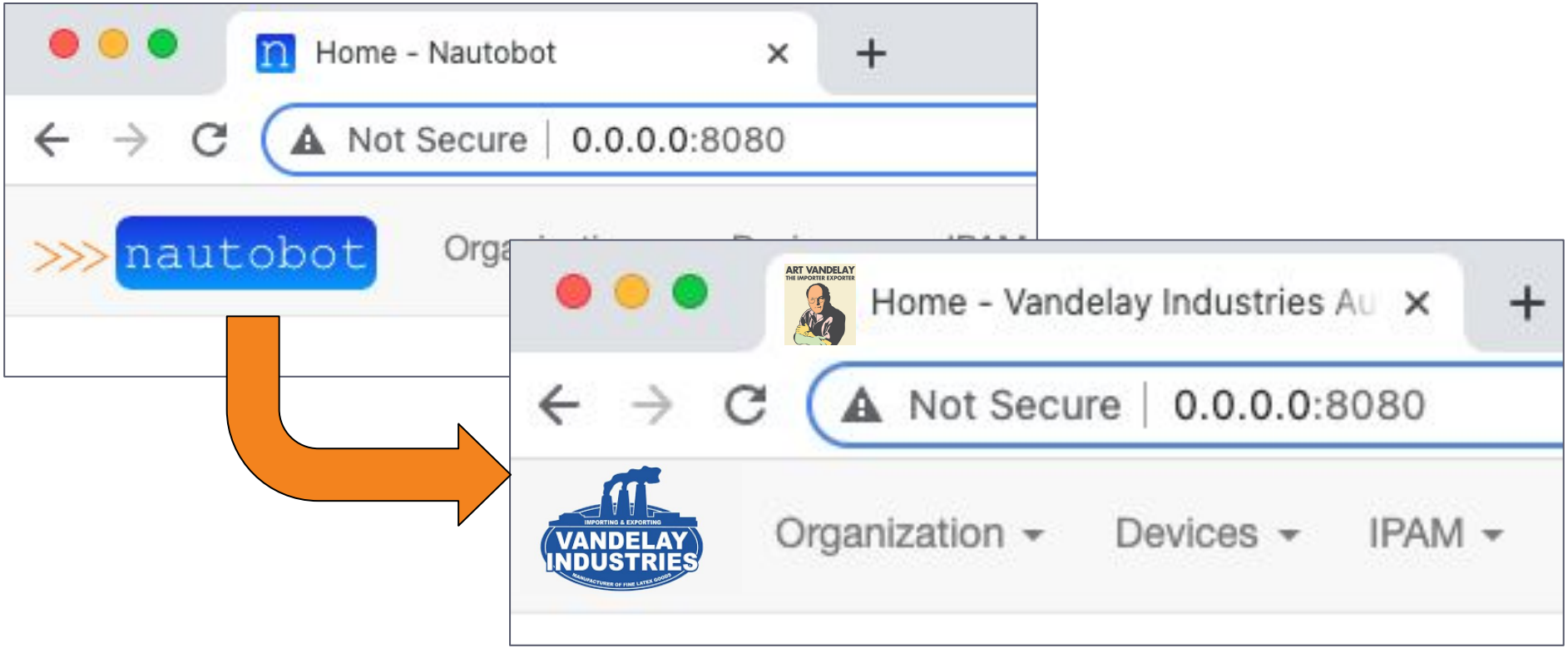
Features

- Admin user can dynamically customize a number of optional settings
- It's an alternative to editing **nautobot_config.py** and restarting the Nautobot processes
- Specific settings in *nautobot_config.py* will override corresponding sections on this page
- The settings available here do not affect the operation of the Nautobot service itself



Custom Branding (GH859)

Organizations may provide custom branding assets to change the logo, icons, favicon, and footer URLs to help Nautobot fit within their environments and user communities

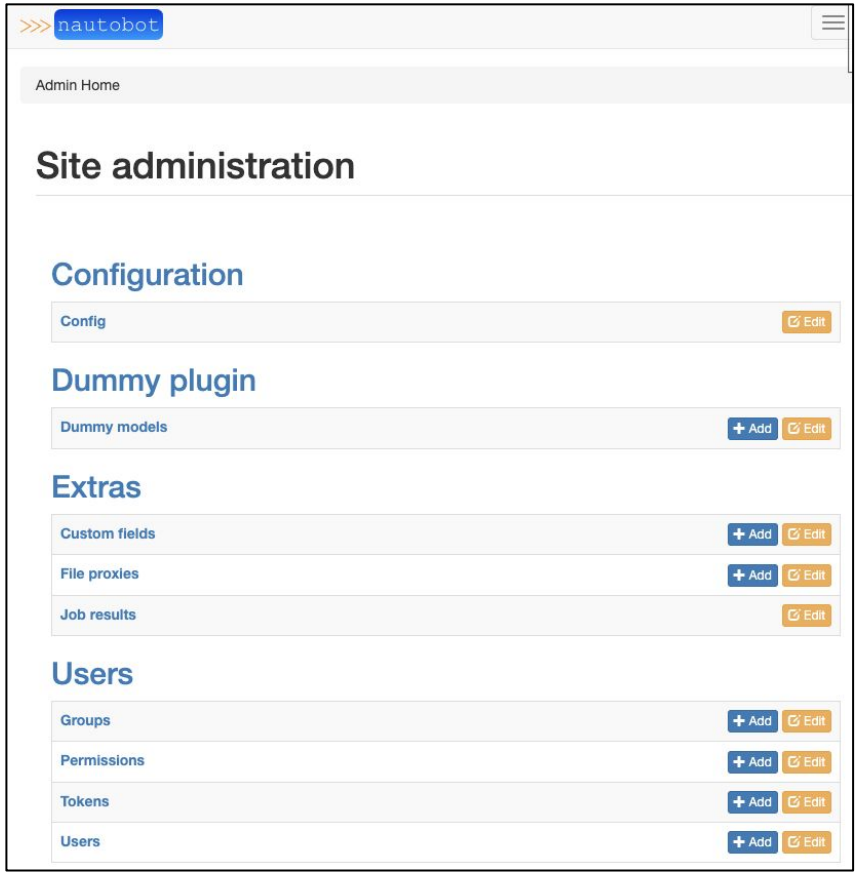


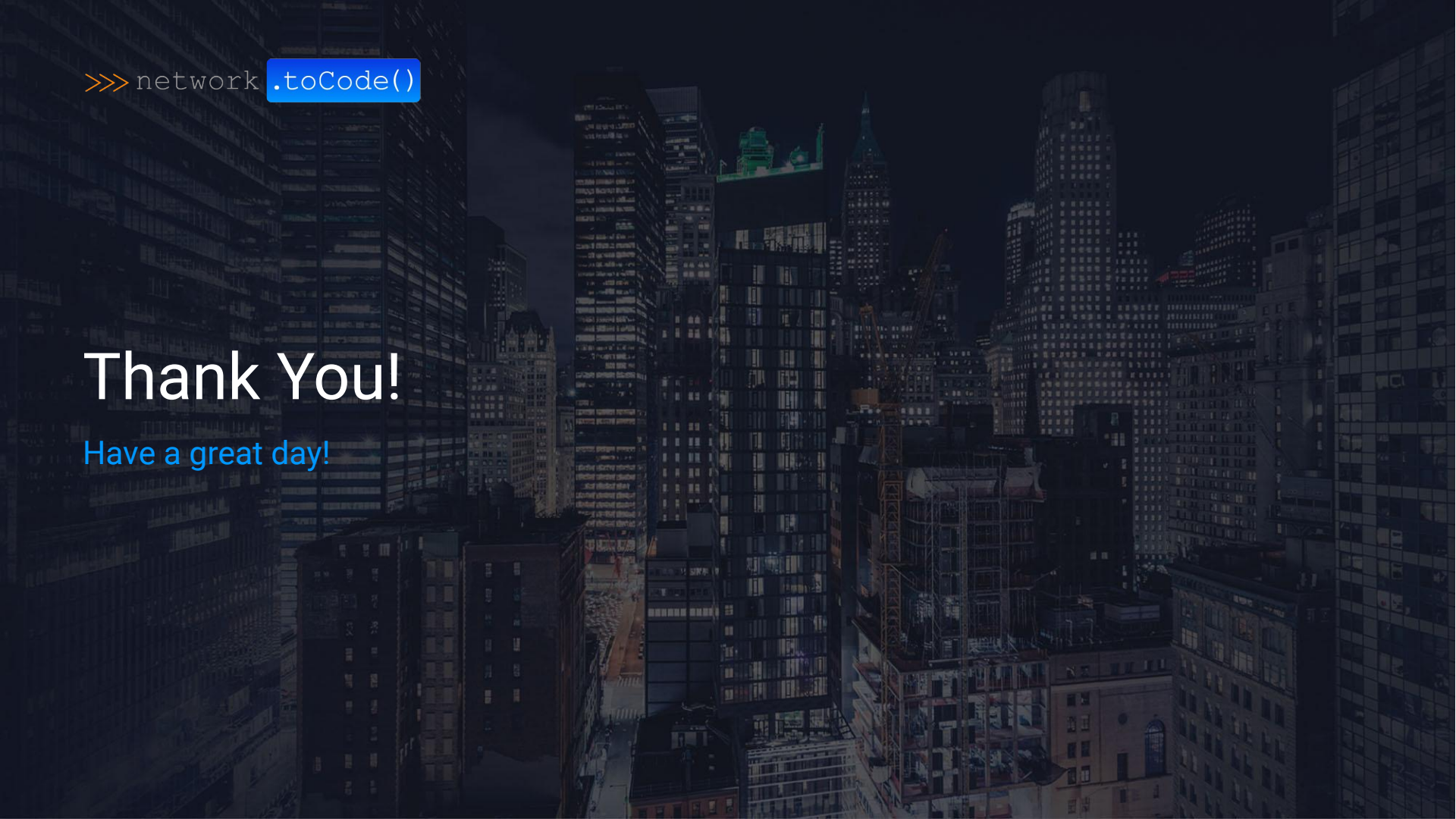
>>> New Skin For Django Admin Page (GH900)

Nautobot runs on the Django framework

Nautobot's Django *admin* section used the generic, default layout

In 1.2.0 the *admin* site has been revised and re-skinned to more closely match the core Nautobot UI




>>> network .toCode()
Thank You!
Have a great day!

Nautobot 1.2.0 Key Features

Special *developer-facing* overview

Tim Fiola

Developer Advocate

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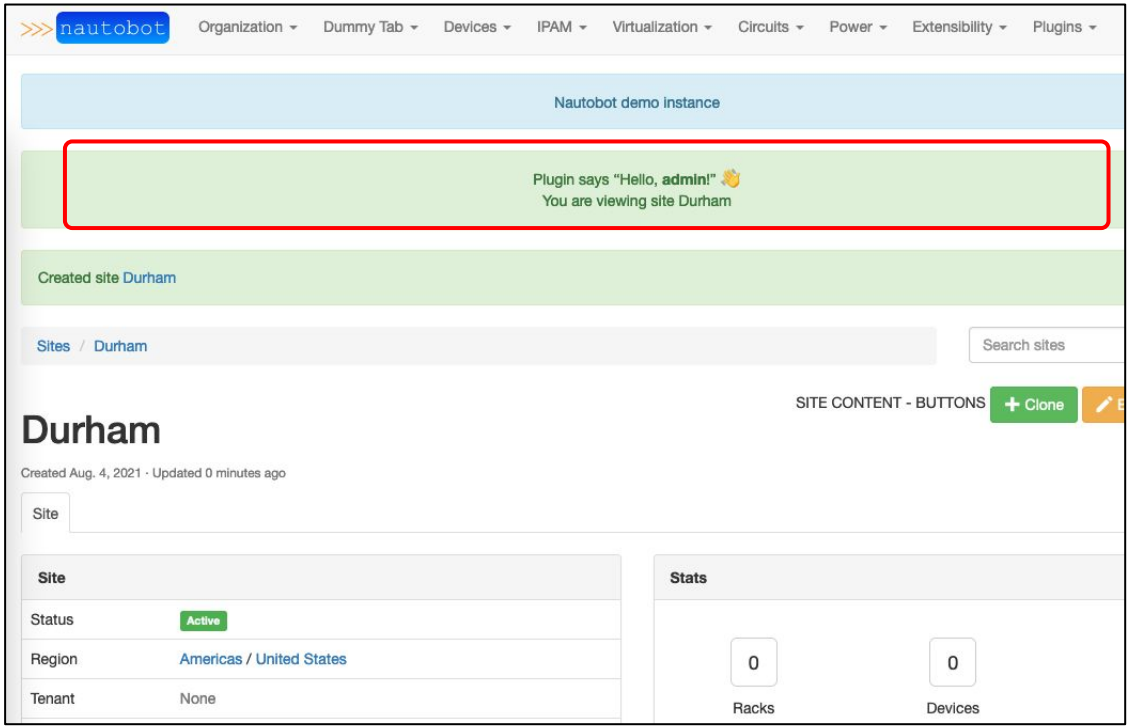
>>> Apps Can Add Banners (GH534)

Apps can add banners to display specific and/or important information to the user.

Examples include:

- Reminders
- Change window information
- Maintenance Notifications
- Last known network automation task or execution



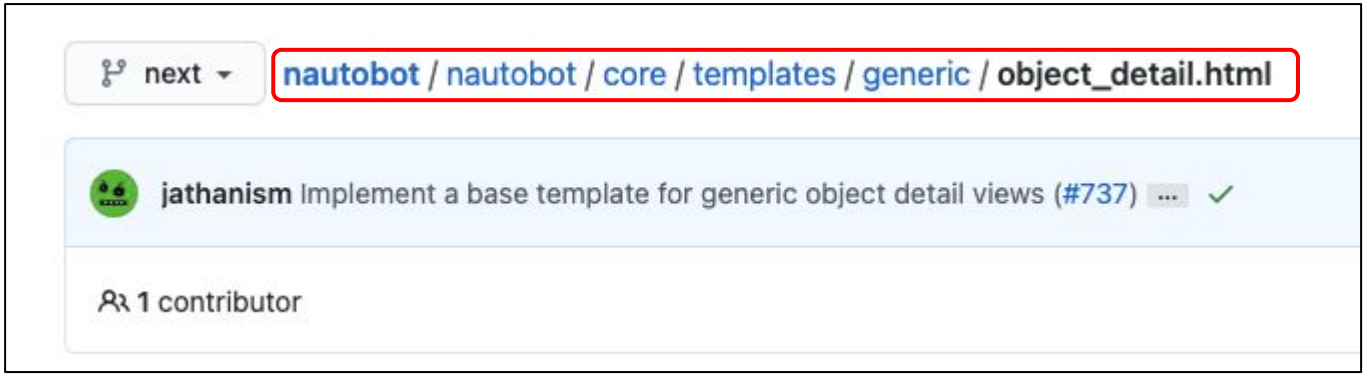
>>> Generic Base Template File for Object Detail Views (GH479)

Almost every detail page template has the same format

Nautobot 1.2.0 creates a generic detail view template

Nautobot app developers can use this consolidated, common detail view template as well

Additionally, adding this common template simplifies the code base, replacing multiple, similar detail view templates

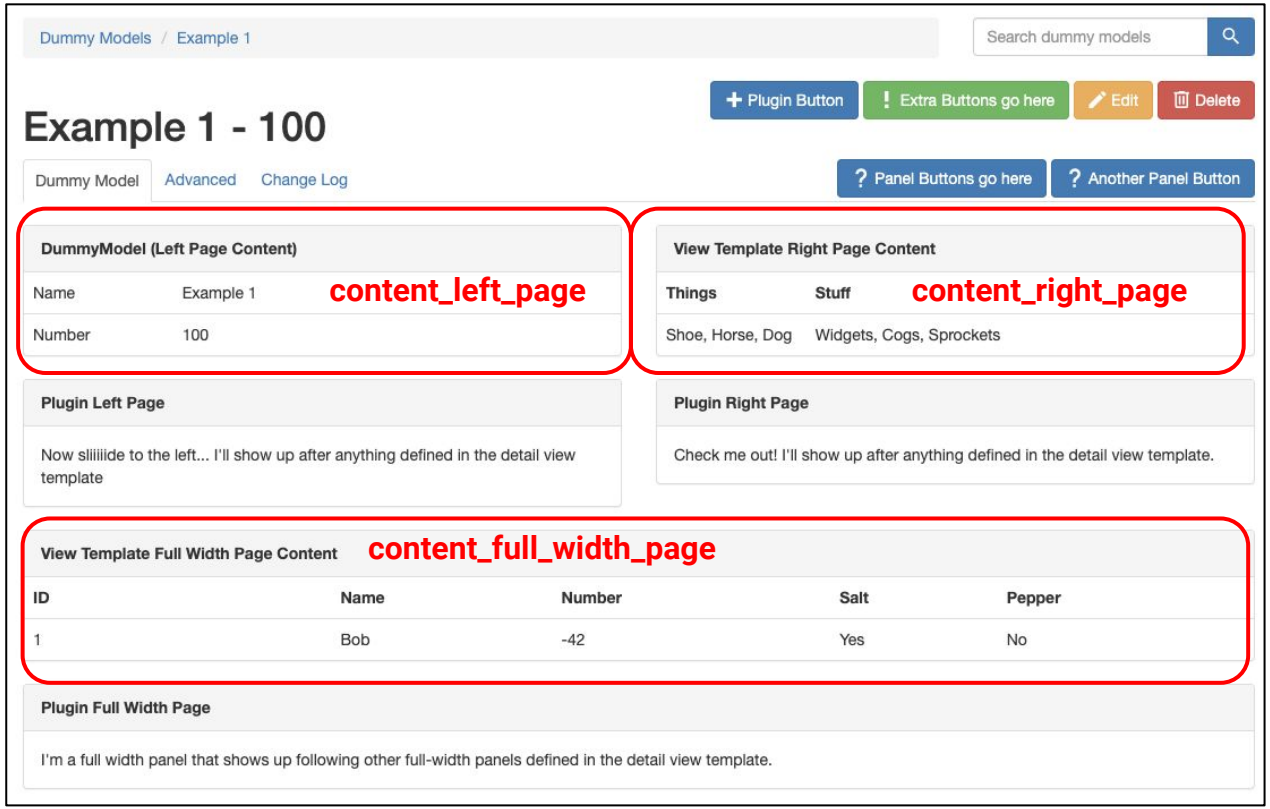


>>> Generic Base Template File for Object Detail Views (GH479)

The object_detail.html template has multiple blocks that can be overloaded in the `block content` block, including

- `content_left_page`
- `content_right_page`
- `content_full_width_page`

This example shows where these panes would render relative to plugin-defined sections in a detail view for a plugin-defined model

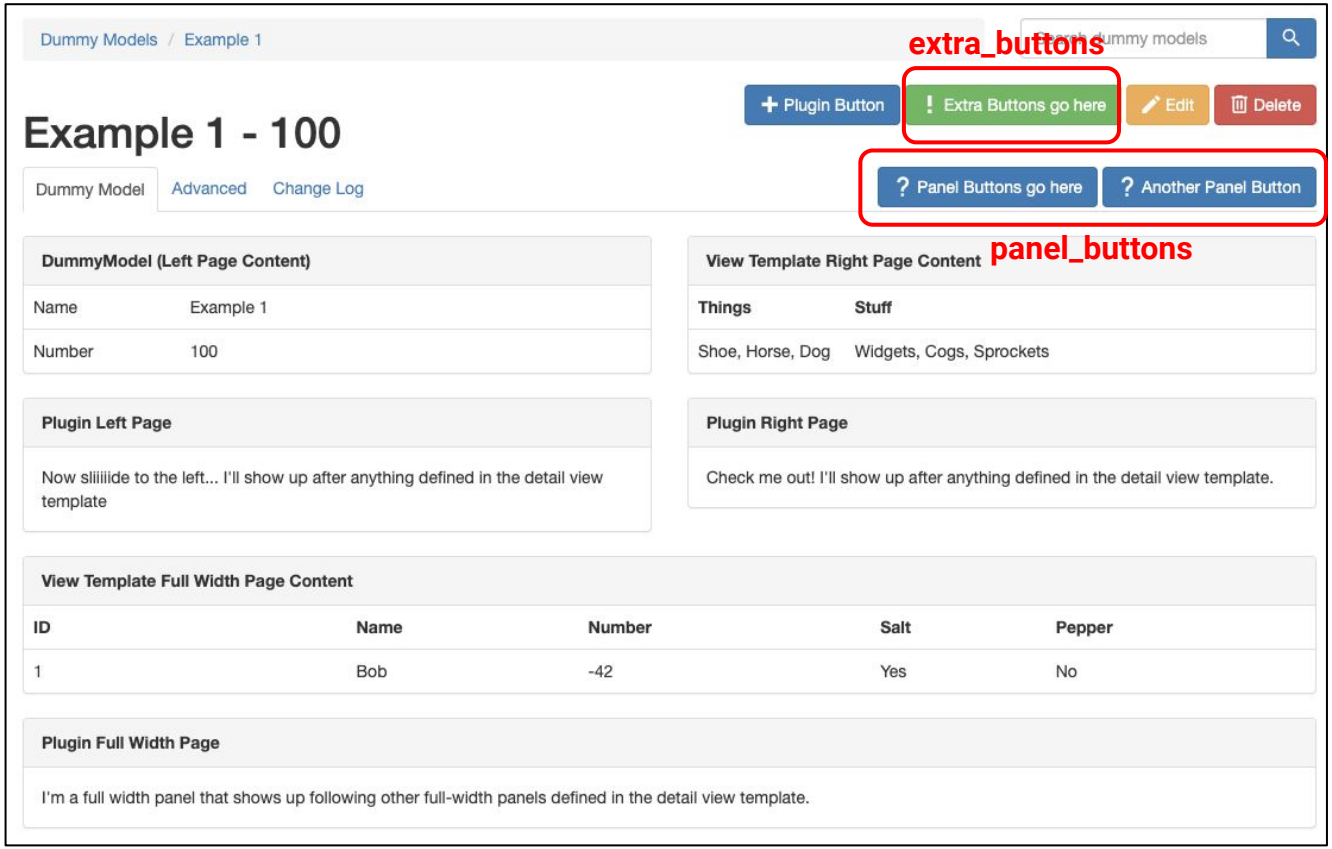


>>> Generic Base Template File for Object Detail Views (GH479)

The object_detail.html template has multiple blocks that can be overloaded in the `block buttons` block, including

- `extra_buttons`
- `panel_buttons`

This example shows where the buttons defined in the `extra_buttons` and `panel_buttons` blocks would render relative to plugin-defined buttons and the `edit` and `delete` buttons defined in the object_detail template



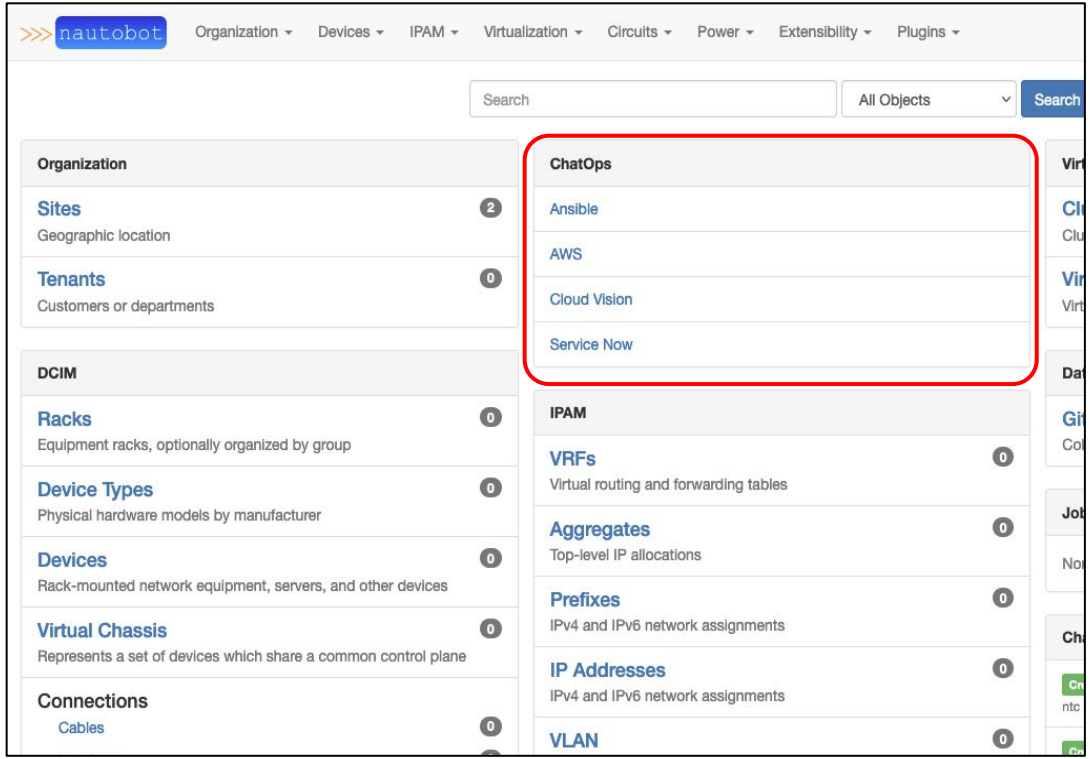
>>> Apps Can Add Content Panels to the Nautobot Home Page (GH546)

Nautobot apps can add custom content panels on the **Nautobot home page**

This allows users to prominently display important app capabilities

Examples

- Add ChatOps data to the homepage (shown)
- Add last devices automated
- Add devices that are failing to respond to tooling

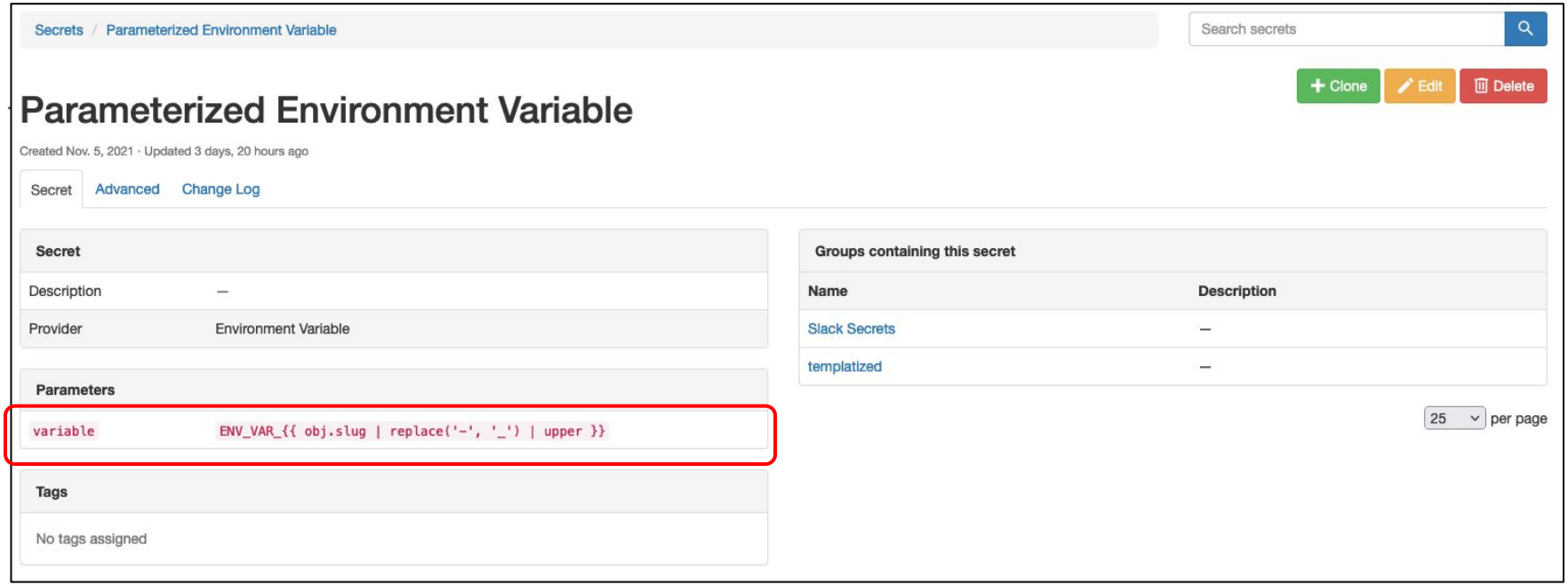


>>> Secrets Integration (GH541)

Allows for use of dynamically-defined *parameterized* environment variables

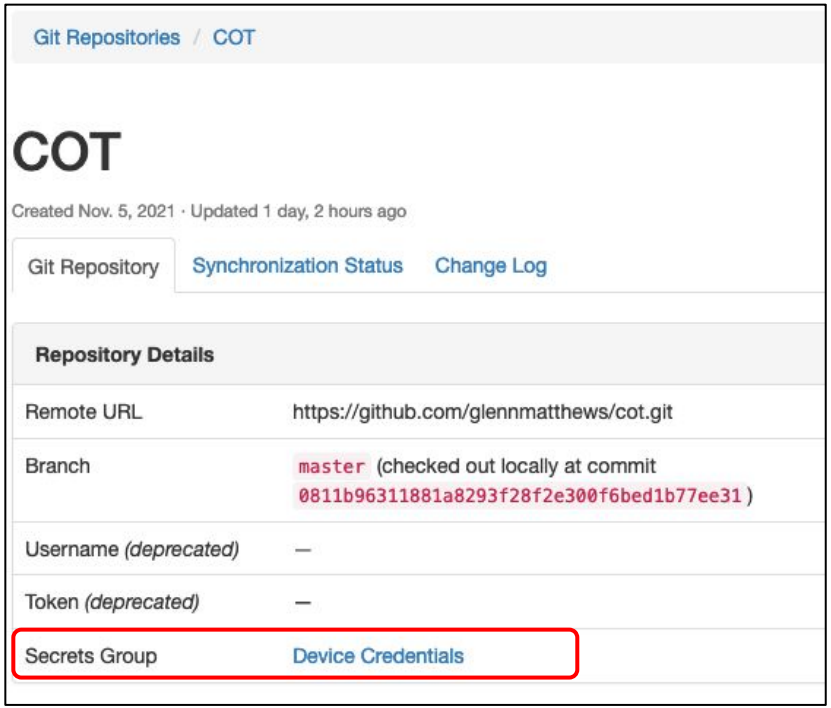
Environment variable names can be defined using Jinja templates

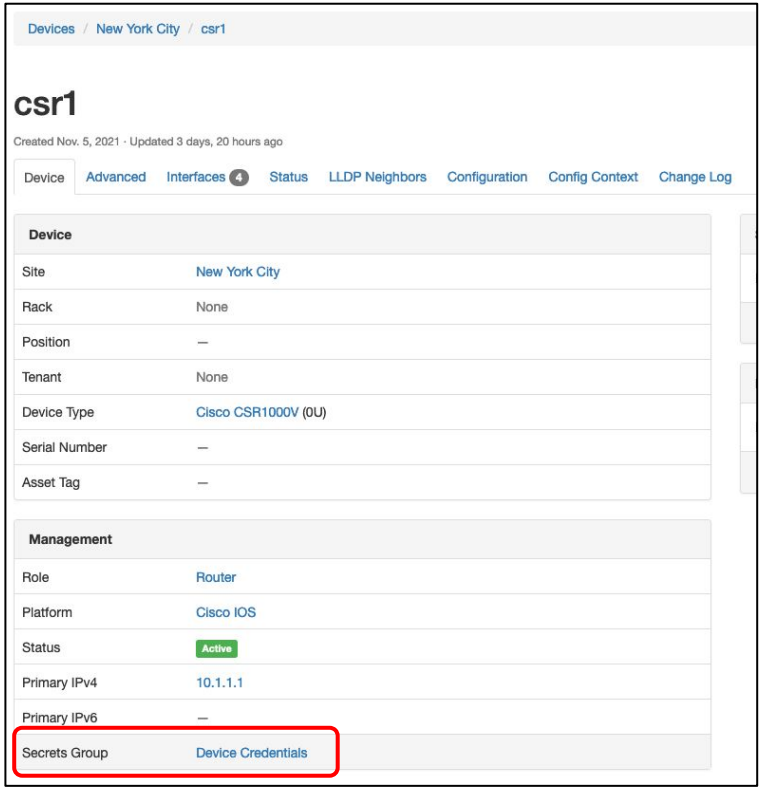
- When secret is retrieved, context can be passed



>>> Secrets Integration (GH541)

Devices and Git Repositories can now use *Secrets Groups* models:





>>> Database ready signal (GH13)

Introduces new `nautobot_database_ready` signal

- Triggered when running `nautobot-server migrate` or `nautobot-server post_upgrade`
- Upon a Nautobot install/upgrade, this signal is designed for apps to connect to, in order to perform automatic database population, including
  - Custom fields
  - Relationships
  - Webhooks
- Example: it can be useful for a plugin to automatically create a *custom field* or *relationship* as a result of being installed and activated

>>> Complex GraphQL Query Optimization (GH171)

Complex GraphQL queries are optimized

- Performance improvement via integration with `graphene-django-optimizer`
- Greatly reduces number of SQL queries generated per GraphQL query
- Designed to improve user experience and improve performance of automated queries

>>> IPAM custom lookups for filtering on REST API Calls (GH982)

Nautobot again supports custom lookup filters on the *IPAddress*, *Prefix*, and *Aggregate* models, such as address__net_contained, network__net_contains_or_equals, etc

Examples:

- network__net_contained="192.0.0.0/8" would include 192.168.0.0/24 in the result
- network__net_contained_or_equal="192.0.0.0/8" would include 192.168.0.0/24 and 192.0.0.0/8 in the result
- network__net_contains="192.168.0.0/16" would include 192.0.0.0/8 in the result

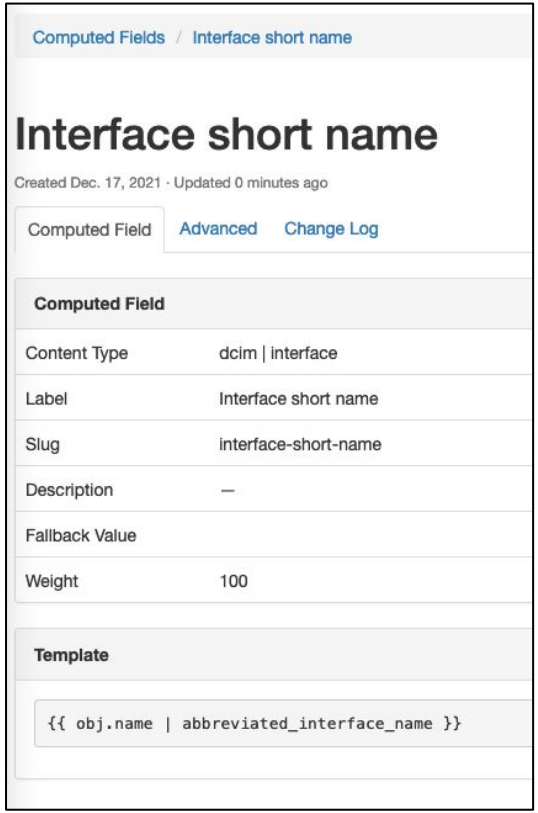
Many more examples @ https://nautobot.readthedocs.io/en/latest/rest-api/filtering/#network-and-host-fields

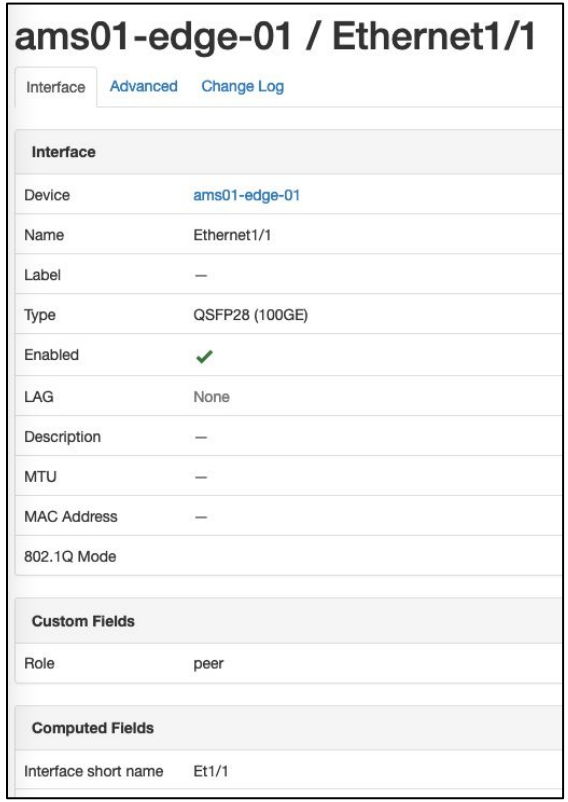
>>> Added netutils template filters for both Django and Jinja2 template rendering (GH1082)

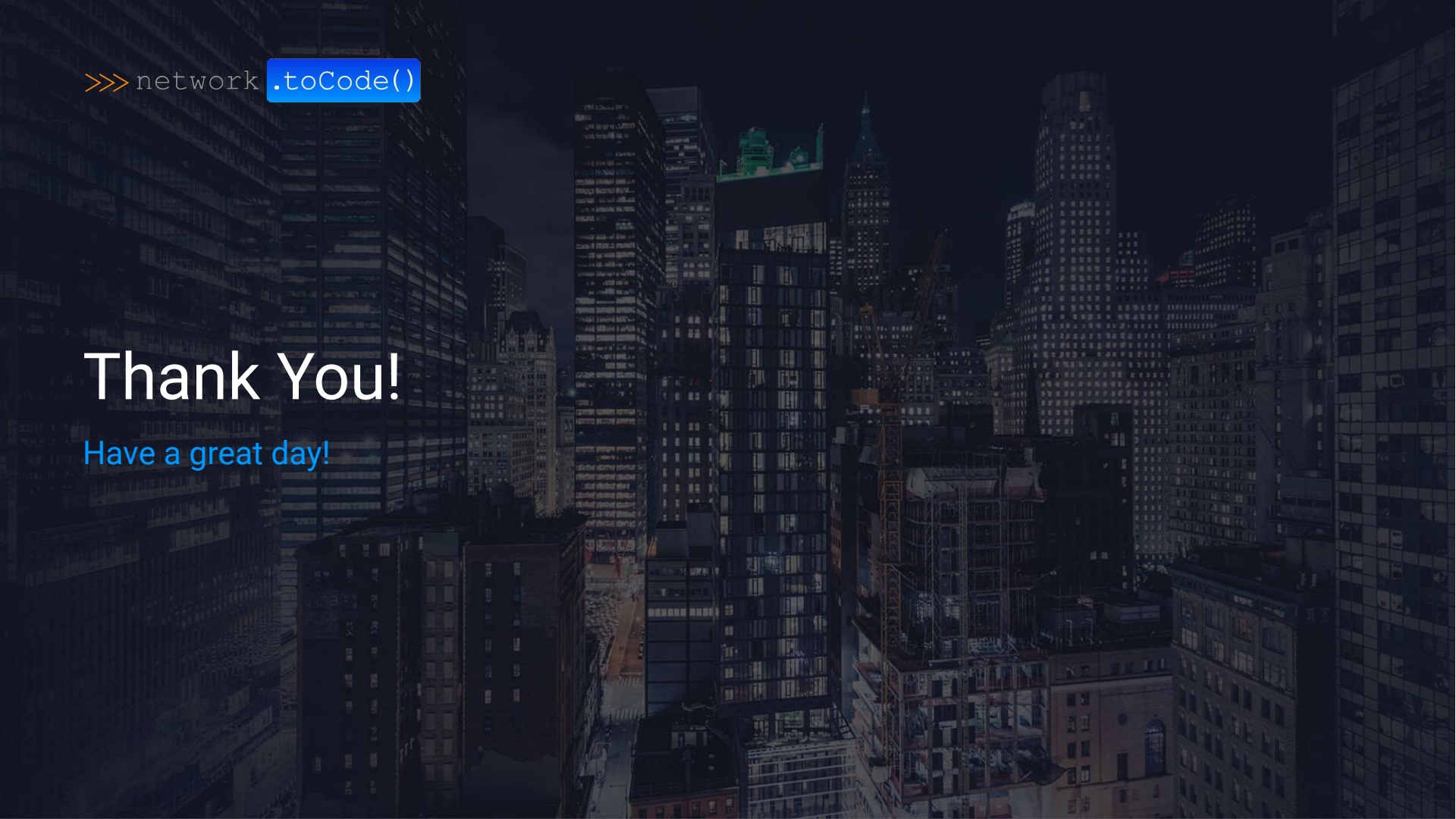
netutils is NTC library of python functions to do common ops around networking (processing interface names, IP addresses, etc)

These functions are now available in any object that uses Jinja2 or Django templated output (computed fields, export templates, page templates)

This example shows a computed field using netutils' abbreviated_interface_name filter to make the interface's short name easily accessible in the UI or REST API






>>> network .toCode()
Thank You!
Have a great day!