

Openshift 4 Disconnected Collection

Overview

The why

• The goal of this repository is to provide a standardized workflow for deploying OpenShift 4 in a disconnected environment using an agent-based installer.

The how

• The idea is to have all variables set in group_vars/all, with some defaults set in roles. The defaults in roles are only applied in case they are not set in group_vars.

Variables

- cluster_version: This variable controls the version of the cluster and allows for the pulling of operators and additional images (for the cluster) via oc-mirror. This requires an active subscription with a pull secret in ~/.docker/config.json. It will pull all the required binaries along with some additional nice-to-haves (such as Butane).
- cluster_deployment: This variable controls how the cluster is deployed. It will generate the install-config and agent-config based on configured variables.
- static this is used to set things that very rarely change or set variables defined in other vars, that are built ontop of other variables

Some assumptions include:

- SSH keys will not exist.
- SSL certificates for the hosted registry will be generated, which will run on the disconnected host. Post-Install Configuration

Goals

- The current goal for post-install configuration is to deploy ArgoCD and have it manage the configuration and enforcement.
- To assist with this, a local Git repository will be configured as described in this article.

Status

• This is a work in progress, and we will continue to make enhancements over time.

Requirements (disconnected system)

- · Packages:
 - nmstate
 - openssl
 - httpd-tools
- Ansible-collections
 - dellemc.openmanage

Additional Info:

View notes on recommended procedures for vm migrations

Thanks:

This started as as a fork from hyperkinetic nerd/ansible-ocp4-agent, but we have since diverged quite a bit away, but still would like to give credit.



Red Hat OpenShift Installation Guide

This guide covers the process for installing Red Hat OpenShift 4.15+ on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 with options for FIPS and STIG configurations. The instructions support deployment on both connected and disconnected environments.

Prerequisites

RHEL Install

RHEL 9 Installation: Install Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 and register it with your Red Hat account (if connected to the internet).

NOTE: If the goal is to have a FIPS-enabled cluster, the bastion host has to be FIPS-enabled as well. If you don't need FIPS, you can ignore the following configurations.

Environment Configurations:

NOTE: These configurations can be done post install. Changes to usbguard/sysctl.conf will require a reboot, while fapolicyd will only require restart on the service.

- 1. Ensure **FIPS** mode is enabled for RHEL 9.
 - Enable FIPS during installation; or
 - Enable FIPS post-installation
- 2. Configure **STIG** compliance as needed
- 3. Configure **fapolicyd** for Ansible Playbooks:
 - Allow regular users to run Ansible playbooks by creating a new file at /etc/fapolicyd/rules.d/22-ansible.rules with the following contents:

```
allow perm=any uid=1000 : dir=/home/user/.ansible
allow perm=any uid=1000 : dir=/home/user/.cache/agent
allow perm=any uid=1000 : dir=/usr/share/git-core/templates/hooks
allow perm=any uid=1000 : dir=/pods
allow perm=any uid=1000 : dir=/usr/bin
allow perm=any uid=0,1000 : dir=/tmp
```

NOTE: This was what was used for testing, you can use Group Identifier (GID) or User Ieentifer (ID). I used UID because it more narrow scoped that GID. Policy and best jugement should dictate which route you do

- 4. Adjust User Namespace Limits for Registry Pod:
 - Increase the user.max_user_namespaces setting to enable the registry pod to run as a non-root user. Update /etc/sysctl.conf as follows:

```
# Per CCE-83956-3: Set user.max_user_namespaces = 0 in /etc/sysctl.conf
user.max_user_namespaces = 5
```

- 5. Enable Access to External USB Devices (for Disconnected Environments):
 - Add the following commands to the %post section in your kickstart file:

```
systemctl disable usbguard
sed -i 's/black/\#black/g' /etc/modprobe.d/usb-storage.conf
sed -i 's/install/\#install/g' /etc/modprobe.d/usb-storage.conf
6. Install Ansible/Podman:
sudo dnf install -y ansible-core container-tools
```

Running the Automation

Getting Collection installed (connected side or connected cluster)

1. Clone this Repository:

```
git clone https://github.com/cjnovak98/ocp4-disconnected-config
```

- 2. Navigate to the Playbooks Directory: bash cd ocp4-disconnected-config/playbooks
- 3. Install Required Ansible Collections (1st time/connected system):

NOTE: This will install disconnected-collection and should be run on a fresh system, before anything else has been run.

```
ansible-playbook initial-ansible-collection.yml or ./initial-ansible-collection.yml
```

Directory Structure Assumptions

Ensure that the content resides in /pods/content (definable in playbooks/group_vars/all/cluster-deployment.yml). It is assumed this is the transferable media when running connected side for a disconnected cluster and disconnected config is /pods/content/ansible

Run Content Gathering Playbook to Prepare Disconnected Environments:

NOTE: Ensure a valid pull secret exists. You can get your pull secret from https://console.re dhat.com/openshift/create/local and store it in ~/.docker/config on the host where you're running the automation.

Update Environment Variables Modify group_vars/all/cluster-version.yml to customize it for your environment. Key variables include:

- common_openshift_release: Target cluster version
- common_previous_openshift_release: Previous version, used for updates
- common_trident_version: trident target version
- $\bullet \hspace{0.2cm} {\tt content_generation_disconnected_operators:} \hspace{0.2cm} {\tt Array} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt of} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt all} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt Catalog} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt sources} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt Openshift} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt will} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt use} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt openshift} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt openshift} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt will} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt use} \hspace{0.1cm} {\tt openshift} \hspace{0.1$
 - redhat-operator-index: Name of this catalog source
 - * name: Name of any operator to pull within this catalog source
 - · channel: specific version of operator to pull on
 - redhat-marketplace-index:
 - community-operator-index:
 - certified-operator-index:
- content generation additionalImages: an array of additinal images to pull

```
# Example group_vars/all/cluster-version.yml
common_openshift_release: 4.16.4
common_previous_openshift_release: 4.16.3
common trident version: v24.06.0
```

NOTE: for the operator portion of cluster-versions, if nothing is definded as an operator for a catalog source, the entire source is omitied, it is the same design for channel, however the latest is pulled vs being omitied

Run the automation If you are deploying on a disconnected system then you will first need to gather all of the openshift content on a machine that has internet connection and transfer it over. There is a playbook that you can run which will gather the appropriate content:

```
ansible-playbook -K gather-content.yml
or
./gather-content.yml
```

Once you have the content downloaded, transfer it to your disconnected machine and put in the content directory (i.e. /pods/content), you will also need the ocp4-disconnected-config folder used to run this playbook

Install the Collection on a Disconnected Machine

You can either transfter the content from the media used to get it to the disconnected side, or update playbooks/group_vars/all/cluster-deployment.yml to point to the mount point of the media

Example: For testing, im running from a 1TB external drive, mounted in /pods/content and the directory structure was:

```
ls /pods/content
bin downloads images ocp4-disconnected-config
Install required Ansible Collection from the previous step:
    NOTE: This will install need the media to be mounted, the group vars set, and be in the ocp4-disconnected-config/playbooks directory
ansible-playbook disconnected-ansible-collection.yml
or
./disconnected-ansible-collection.yml
```

Run the Deployment Playbook

Update Environment Variables

- Modify group_vars/all/cluster-deployment.yml to customize it for your environment. Key variables include:
 - common_openshift_dir: Directory for pulled content to live.
 - common_connected_cluster: Set to true if the cluster itself is connected.
 - mirror_content_pull_mirror: Set to true to pull content (set to false for disconnected environments).
 - common_fips_enabled: true if the host is stigged and FIPS is enabled.
 - common_cluster_domain: Top-Level Domain (TLD) for the cluster.
 - common_ip_space: First three octets of the IP address range for both the bastion and cluster.
 - common_nodes: Details of nodes, including name, last octet of the node IP, and MAC addresses.
 - idracs_user and idracs_password: iDRAC credentials.
 - idracs: Node name and IP of the node's iDRAC.

```
# Example playbooks/group_vars/all/cluster-deployment.yml
common_git_repos:
  - "https://github.com/cjnovak98/ocp4-disconnected-collection.git"
  - "https://github.com/cjnovak98/ocp4-disconnected-config"
common_openshift_dir: /pods/content
common connected cluster: false
mirror_content_pull_mirror: false
common_openshift_interface: ens1
common_fips_enabled: true
common_cluster_domain: example.com
common_ip_space: 192.168.122
common nodes:
  - name: master-0
   ip: '42'
   mac: 52:54:00:8d:13:77
  - name: worker-0
    ip: '43'
   mac: 52:54:00:8d:13:78
# iDRAC
#idrac user: test
#idrac_password: tester
#media_share_idracs:
# - name: master-0
    ip: '{{ ip_space }}.5'
 - name: master-1
    ip: '{{ ip_space }}.6'
#
 - name: master-2
   ip: '{{ ip_space }}.7'
  - name: worker-0
    ip: '{{ ip space }}.8'
```

NOTE: if cluster hardware supports idrac, uncomment to idrac vars.

For both connected and disconnected clusters, deploy the cluster by running:

```
ansible-playbook -K deploy-cluster.yml
```

or

./deploy-cluster.yml

Fix DNS for disconnected cluser without a DNS Server

If you are running a disconnected server (or at least on a network with no DNS), We recommend that you now point your bastion at master-0 node to be able to resolve cluster resources (ingress/api)

1. Open nmtui Interface:

Run the following command in your terminal:

sudo nmtui

2. Select "Edit a Connection":

Use the arrow keys to navigate to Edit a connection and press Enter.

3. Choose Your Interface:

Highlight the interface that lives in the same IP space and VLAN as your soon to be deployed cluster (e.g. eth0, or eth0.670).

Press Enter to edit the selected connection.

4. Edit IPv4:

Use the arrow keys to navigate to IPv4 CONFIGURATION.

5. Add DNS Server:

Navigate to the DNS servers field.

Enter the IP of master-0.

6. Save Changes:

Use the arrow keys to navigate to OK and press Enter to save the settings.

7. Activate the Connection:

Navigate back to the main nmtui menu and select Activate a connection.

Highlight the interface you just edited, and press Enter to deactivate and reactivate the connection, applying the changes.

8. Verify the DNS Settings:

Run the following command to ensure the DNS server is correctly applied:

```
nmcli dev show <interface_name> | grep IP4.DNS
```

Replace <interface_name> with the name of your network interface.

9. Test with oc:

You can test resolution with oc by running the following:

oc whoami

It should return:

sysadmin

Add an additional node

Check Variables Validate the variables definded from the Run the Deployment Playbook portion above

NOTE: Double check the add_worker_disk_type: sda playbooks/group_vars/all/cluster-deployment.yml matches the actual disk type of the target nodes; i.e. vda (virtual drives), sda (sata drives), or nvme drives.

Run the playbook

```
ansible-playbook -K create-worker-for-single-node.yml
or
./create-worker-for-single-node.yml
```

NOTE: DNS needs to be functional as definded in the previous section, or it will fail when pulling the worker ignition file from the "cluster".

OCP GitOps Day 1

This helm chart is in charge of some basic setup after the initial deployment of OpenShift.

The idea behind this is that without OpenShift GitOps, working with an easily observable and maintainable infrastructure as code setup becomes hard. This template essentially just sets up that GitOps installation to where is is useful for the next steps (day2) where the bulk of the cluster configuration is performed.

This helm chart currently is responsible for the initial deployment and configuration of the OpenShift GitOps operator, including the automated setup of the ArgoCD application for the 'Day 2' operations.

Values

In order to properly run this chart, you will need to either modify the existing values.yaml file or create your own values file specifying the values relevant to your setup.

This can be built by copying the existing values.yaml, and adjusting accordingly.

Mainly, you will need the IP of the system you ran the Ansible from, which is where resources are hosted for the disconnected install, as well as for continued GitOps work. You will also need the ssh private key of the user that was used to run the Ansible, as that is in turn used to access the Git repository for the aforementioned GitOps. Example values file:

```
gitOps:
```

```
#the namespace where the argood instance will reside, defaults to openshift-gitops since that is the
namespace: openshift-gitops
#This source variable represents the catalog source where the operator lives. For disconnected instal
source: cs-redhat-operator-index

gitRepoTemplate:
    # The URL of the repository setup in the Ansible step. replace the IP with that of your syscon
url: git@<ip of syscon>:repos/ocp4-disconnected-config
# The SSH key of the user that ran the Ansible step, used to connect to the git repo. Be sure to incl
sshPrivateKey: |
    ----BEGIN OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-----
----END OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-----
```

Usage

To apply this template to your cluster, simply run the helm install command:

```
helm install gitops-day1 . --values=./your/values.yaml
```

This applies the yaml to the cluster, and will perform the day 1 operations. Note that it might take a few minutes for everything to come up and be ready, so be patient. You can tell the installation has finished and was successful by navigating to ArgoCD (top right apps menu in OCP web ui -> ArgoCD), clicking 'Log in via OpenShift', and seeing the ArgoCD dashboard. You should see the cluster-day2 app already loaded and attempting to sync. If not you can create the day 2 application manually. You should also see your git repository that's hosted on the syscon by navigating to Settings (on the left) -> Repositories. You should see your gitOps git repo in the list, with a green checkmark indicating success.

You can also use the following command to output the finished product without actually applying it to OpenShift, in order to debug and check:

```
helm template test . --debug | less
```

OCP 4 Disconnected Config Day2 Helm Chart

This chart applies the cluster settings and resources necessary for day to day operations in the target environment. It is intended to be deployed via OpenShift GitOps as part of a infrastructure as code process.

In this case, comments have been provided in both the default values.yaml and each of the .yaml files in the templates/ directory to help explain each component.

Deployment

Configuring the Template

To use, you will simply add an application in ArgoCD (Openshift GitOps), and supply this repo/directory, as well as the values file customized for your environment.

Since the intent is to have ArgoCD automatically sync your configurations, it is important to first ensure you have prepared the appropriate values for your environment. When creating the application manually in argoCD you have the option to override the values but it is recommended to maintain the values in a file that can be managed and updated as needed. This method also allows for a more automated method of creating the ArgoCD application. To do this, it is recommended that you copy the default values file found at: ./helm/openshift-gitops-day2/values.yml to a separate file, like ./helm/openshift-gitops-day2/day2-values-prod.yml.

This template expects the following cluster specific configurations for the following in your helm values:

- 1. Cluster-wide certificiates
- 2. Networking configurations for each node in your cluster
- 3. LDAP sync configuration
- 4. Chrony configuration
- 5. Storage configuration

The example values file structure can be seen here

Configuring ArgoCD (Openshift Gitops)

To do this you can run the following command:

```
oc apply -f ./cluster-day2-app.yml
```

To create the ArgoCD application manually you can use similar values to the below:

- Application Name: cluster-day2
- Project Name: default
- Sync Policy: Automatic
- Source:

- Repository URL: Select the ocp4-disconnected-config repo running on the bastion host
- Revision: HEAD (or override to your desired branch)
- Path: ./helm/openshift-gitops-day2
- Destination:
 - Cluster URL: https://kubernetes.default.svc # Use this value to target the same cluster that Argo is running on.
 - Namespace: leave blank or set to default if required
- Values:
 - Override the values as needed. If Argo was able to successfully connect to the source repo configuration, then you should see a list of optional values to override. You can also upload your own values.yaml file.

To get to Argo, simply select it from the top right dropdown on the OpenShift web ui.

You can also use the following command to see what will be applied before actually applying:

```
helm template test . --debug | less
```

The default values yaml is designed to be give you the basic layout, as well as provide a template for your own custom values file. Simply make a copy of this default, and start filling in your real-world data. You can even run the above template command, adding -f /path/to/yourValues.yaml before the | to tell Helm to use your new file, in order to check your work.

Components overview

nmstate operator

Relevant templates:

- nmstate-namespace.yaml
- nmstate-operatorgroup.yaml
- nmstate-operator.yaml
- nmstate-instance.yaml
- nmstate-nncp-bond.yaml
- nmstate-nncp-nodes.yaml

The nmstate operator is what brings in the NodeNetworkConfigurationPolicy CRD's , allowing us to further tweak the network setup of the cluster.

Chrony

Relevant templates:

• chrony-configuration.yaml

LDAP

Relevant templates:

• ldap-accounts, secret, and oauth provider

Storage

Relevant templates:

- trident-sc.yaml
- NOTE Will trigger a reboot of the cluster: trident-machineconfig-master.yaml
- NOTE Will trigger a reboot of the cluster: trident-machineconfig-worker.yaml

Most Kubernetes distributions come with the packages and utilities to mount NFS backends installed by default, including Red Hat OpenShift.

However, for NFSv3, there is no mechanism to negotiate concurrency between the client and the server. Hence the maximum number of client-side sunrpc slot table entries must be manually synced with supported value on the server to ensure the best performance for the NFS connection without the server having to decrease the window size of the connection.

For ONTAP, the supported maximum number of sunrpc slot table entries is 128 i.e. ONTAP can serve 128 concurrent NFS requests at a time. However, by default, Red Hat CoreOS/Red Hat Enterprise Linux has maximum of 65,536 sunrpc slot table entries per connection. We need to set this value to 128 and this can be done using Machine Config Operator (MCO) in OpenShift.

For more information see https://docs.netapp.corn/us-en/netapp-solutions/containers/rh- os-n overview trident.html#nfs

Other

Proxy Relevant templates:

• proxy-custom-ca-cm.yaml

Ingress Relevant templates:

• ingress-config.yaml

VM Migration from VMware vCenter to OpenShift Virtualization

This guide outlines the steps to migrate virtual machines (VMs) from VMware vCenter to OpenShift Virtualization. It includes setting up networking, managing VM configurations, executing the migration, and troubleshooting common issues.

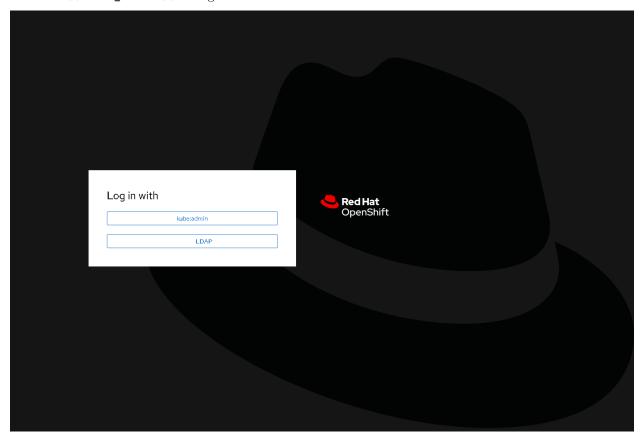
Step 1: Prepare ESXi/vSphere environment

- 1.1 EXPAND: migrate all target vms to single esxi host
- 1.2 EXPAND: remove esxi host from vcenter
- 1.3 EXPAND: disable fast-boot and gracefully shut down windows vms
- 1.4 EXPAND: gracefully shut down remaining linux vms if necessary

Step 2: Prepare OpenShift Virtualization environment

First we login to the OpenShift console in the web browser.

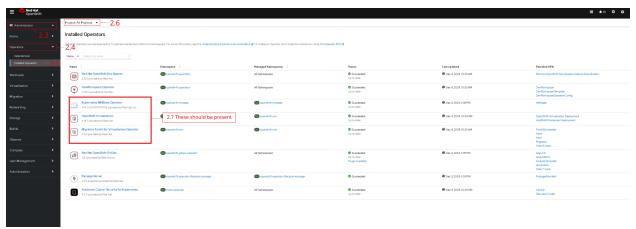
- 2.1 Go to {{OPENSHIFT_URL}}
- 2.2 Click {{LOGIN_BUTTON}} to login



In the next few steps we are making sure the automation successfully installed some critical components

- 2.3 Switch to Administrator perspective (if not already)
- 2.4 Click Operators in menu on left navigation

- 2.5 Click Installed Operators in sub-menu
- 2.6 Ensure project is set to All Projects at the top
- 2.7 Verify you see the following Openshift Virtualization Migration Toolkit for Virtualization Kubernetes NMState

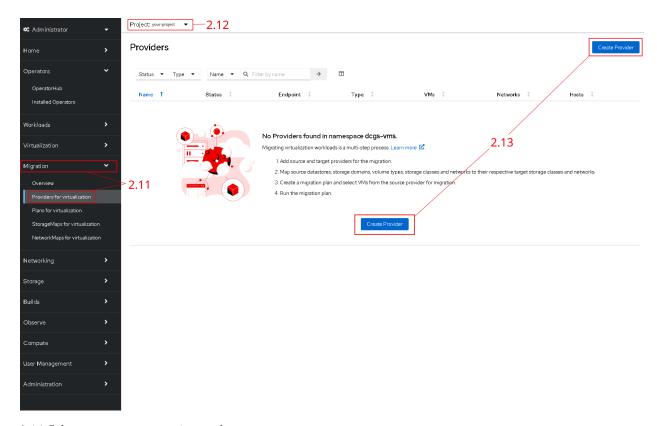


- 2.8 Click Networking in the left navigation menu
- 2.9 Click NodeNetworkConfigurationPolicy
- 2.10 Verify you see the following objects: bond0 etc

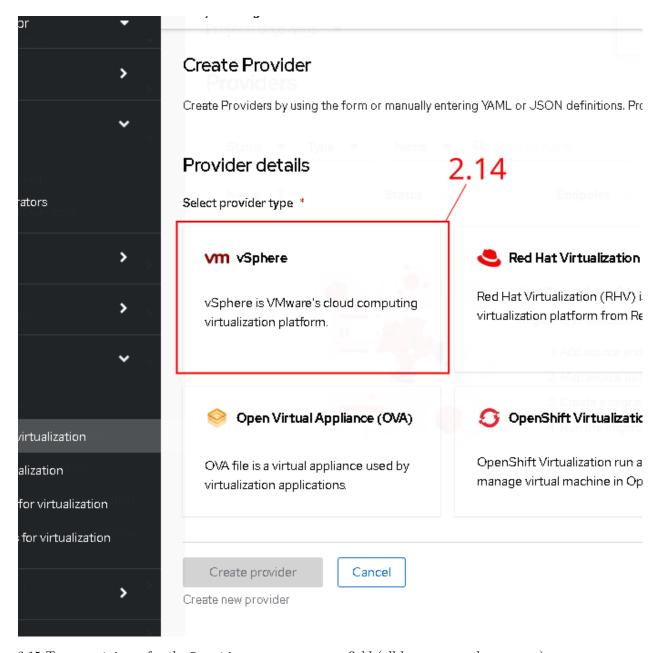
Now we will configure the Migration Toolkit operator so that it can see the source host where the vms will be migrated from

Note: you will need the username and login for the ESXi host

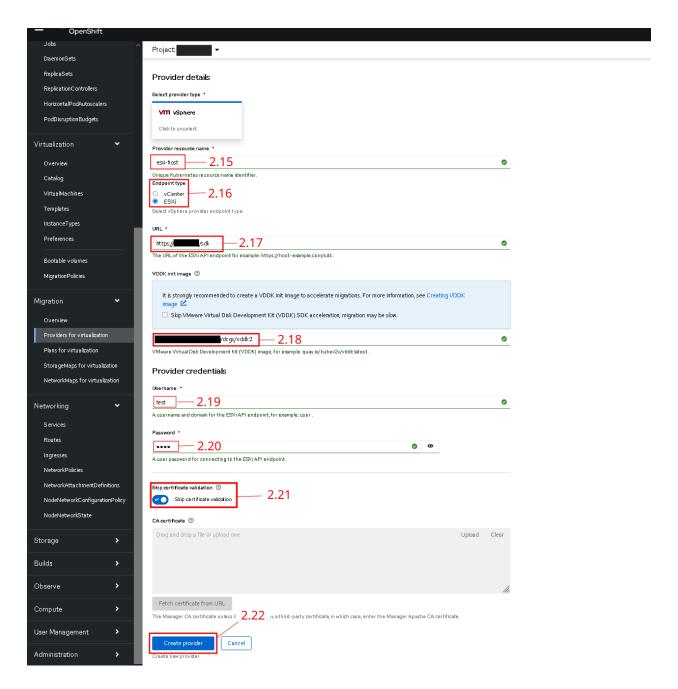
- 2.11 Click Migration -> Providers for virtualization in the left navigation menu
- 2.12 Ensure Project is set to {{PROJECT_NAME}} at the top
- $2.13~\mathrm{Click}~\mathrm{Create}~\mathrm{Provider}$



 $2.14 \; \mathrm{Select} \; \mathtt{VM} \; \mathtt{vSphere} \; \mathrm{option} \; \mathrm{under} \; \mathtt{Provider} \; \mathtt{details}$



- 2.15 Type esxi-host for the Provider resource name field (all lowercase and no spaces)
- 2.16 Change the Endpoint type from vCenter to ESXi
- 2.17 Type in the URL (i.e. https://1.1.1.1/sdk)
- 2.18 Type in {{SYSCON_IP_ADDR}}/dcgs/vddk:2 for the VDDK init image path field
- 2.19 Type in the ESXi username for Username
- 2.20 Type in the ESXi password for the Password
- 2.21 Click the Skip certificate validation radio button
- 2.22 Click the blue Create provider button



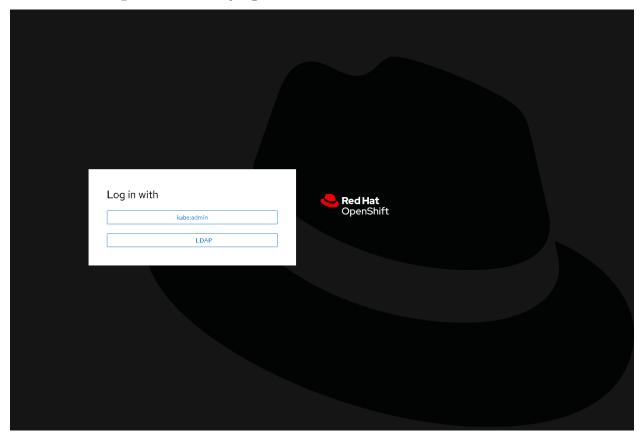
Now we will configure the Migration Toolkit operator so that it can see the OpenShift virtualization environment where the vms will be migrated to

In the first few steps we will get the OpenShift API token for your user so that we can add that credential. Note: some steps will be a repeat from above.

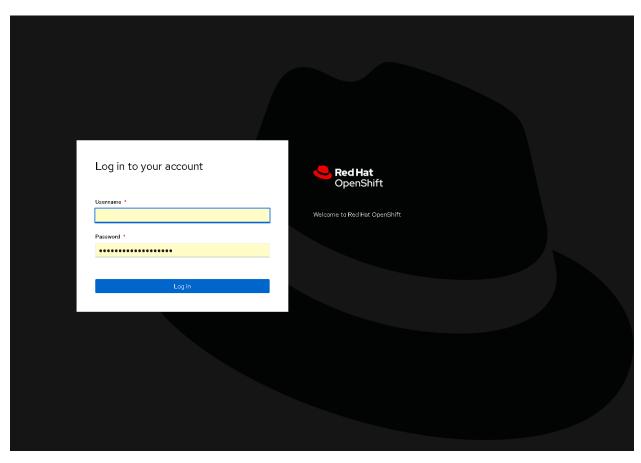
- 2.23 Click the down arrow next to your username at the top right
- $2.24~\mathrm{Click}~\mathrm{Copy}~\mathrm{Login}~\mathrm{Command}$



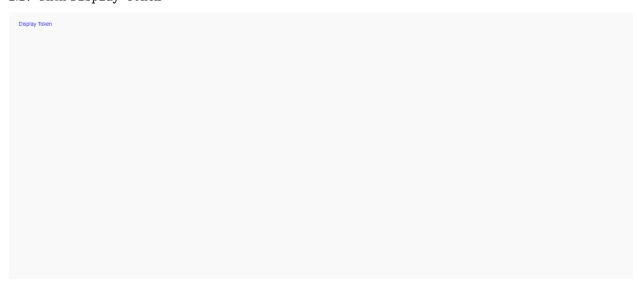
2.25 Click {{LOGIN_BUTTON}} to verify login



 $2.26~\mathrm{Type}$ in your username and password and click ${\tt Login}$



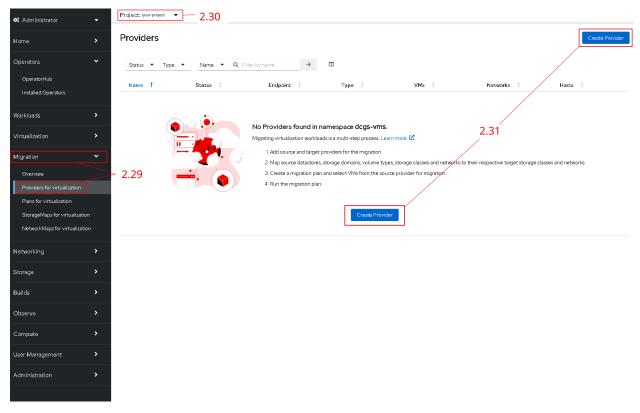
$2.27~\mathrm{Click}~\mathrm{Display}~\mathrm{Token}$



2.28 Copy the line where your sha256~.... token is displayed



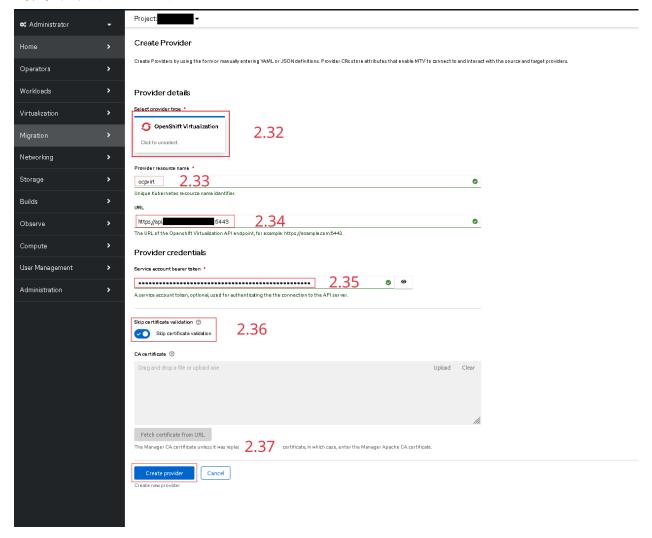
- 2.29 Click Migration -> Providers for virtualization in the left navigation menu. NOTE: This is a second provider being added, so some steps will be a repeat from earlier.
- 2.30 Ensure Project is set to {{PROJECT_NAME}} at the top
- 2.31 Click Create Provider



- 2.32 Select Openshift Virtualization for the provider type
- 2.33 Type ocpvirt for the Provider resource name
- $2.34~\mathrm{Type}$ {{OPENSHIFT_CLUSTER_API_URL}} for the URL
- 2.35 Paste in your sha256~ token value that you copied earlier into the Service account bearer token field

2.36 Click the Skip certificate validation radio button

2.37 Click Create Provider



- (1) Click Operators -> Installed Operators in the left navigation menu
- (2) Ensure project is set to All Projects at the top
- (3) Select the Migration Toolkit for Virtualization Operator option
- (4) Switch to the ForkliftController tab
- (5) Select the FC forklift-controller resource
- (6) Switch to the YAML tab at the top and wait for it to load (text will colorize once resource is loaded)
- (7) Type controller_max_vm_inflight: 5 immediately following the spec: line. (ensure proper spacing allignment)
- (8) Click Save
- (9) Click Migration -> Plans for virtualization in the left navigation menu
- (10) Ensure project is set to dcgs-vms at the top
- (11) Click Create Plan
- (12) Select esxi-host source provider
- (13) Once the list of available VMs is loaded, change the number of displayed results to 100 for easier selection process
- (14) Select vms intended to be migrated over
- (15) Click Next
- (16) Type dcgs-vm-migration-initial for the Plan name field. (all lowercase and no spaces)

- (17) Verify the number of Selected VMs is what you expect
- (18) Select ocpvirt for the Target provider
- (19) Ensure dcgs-vms is selected for Target namespace
- (20) Complete the network mappings by matching the appropriate vlan ids
- (21) Verify storage map is set to basic-csi on the right.
- (22) Click Create migration plan
- (23) Wait for Migration Plan to be validated (you can expect to see a Warning flag and this validation may take several minutes before the next button is available)
- (24) Once validation is complete, click Start Migration button.
- (25) Once the migration has started the page should display some progress bars
- (26) Switch to Virtual Machines tab to monitor progress
- (27) Once all VMs have been migrated, go back to syscon console
- (28) Change directory to the config repo if not already there (i.e. /opt/syscon/ocp4-disconnected-config)
- (29) Run command ./scripts/update-drivers.sh
- (30) Go back to the Openshift Console in the browser window
- (31) Select Virtualization -> VirtualMachines in the left navigation menu
- (32) Ensure the project is set to dcgs-vms at the top
- (33) You should see a list of your migrated virtual machines on this screen and be able to click on them to manage them.
- 5 Troubleshooting and more information
- 6 Alternate migration method (manual ova copy instructions)