

Red Hat Battlecard: Ansible Automation Platform

What is Ansible Automation Platform?

Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform (AAP) is a tool that can automate almost anything within a datacentre.

Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform adds capability to the well known free version named simply "Ansible". The main differences added in Ansible Automation Platform are the added security and features that are necessary for using Automation at scale across an Enterprise.

The key power of AAP is the ability to orchestrate and manage automation across multiple devices and domains. Where historically customers have only had point solutions from individual vendors, AAP can automate everything with one central tool.

Commercial Value Proposition

Reduce Risk & Improve Security by reducing human error through automating tasks.

Improve Efficiency, Reduce Costs and Accelerate Time to Market by speeding up the mundane, repetitive tasks ansible can help reduce the amount of time teams dedicate to keeping the lights on and free them up to focus on tasks that drive the business forward.

Eliminate Islands of Automation & Allow Collaboration Across Silos by giving teams one tool to use, reducing the need for proprietary tools and preventing different teams automating different things with different tools.

Improve Retention of Talent by ensuring staff aren't being loaded with boring, mundane repetitive tasks.

Technical Value Proposition

It is Agentless so you don't need to install any other software to start automating.

Idempotent meaning that you can run the same automation multiple times and it will only make changes if they're needed

Easy to Read and Learn Language called YAML, meaning its easy to share and quick to begin automating with

Built-in Compliance and Governance via additional features in AAP, such as role based access control and encryption

Business Value of Ansible Automation Platform

667% 5 year ROI - 10 months to payback

30% More efficient Infrastructure Management

29% More efficient Networking Infrastructure Management

75% Faster deployment of Storage Resources

39% Faster Application Deployment Teams

Execution Environments mean that you can centralise on one standard Ansible Platform while still allowing your technical teams flexibility on the Ansible version they use.

Access to Red Hat Certified Content meaning that Red Hat have collaborated with other vendors to ensure it will reliably and securely connect to the device you want to automate

Automation Mesh makes AAP incredibly scalable across multiple datacentres whilst still maintaining control in one place

Event Driven Ansible allows you to trigger automation based on events

Key Use Cases

Infrastructure Automation:

Problem with how its currently done:

- Siloed teams with proprietary or domain specific tools
- Tasks are unnecessarily time consuming due to crossing silos
- Inconsistencies in configurations make troubleshooting hard

How can AAP help?

- AAP can automate everything
- AAP cuts across silos
- Provide consistency through automation

Application Deployment:

Problem with how its currently done:

- Slow development caused by difficulty getting infrastructure provisioned
- Difficulty in getting new services provisioned
- Inconsistencies with infrastructure lead to inconsistencies with applications

How can AAP help?

- Automatically deploy the infrastructure for an application
- Automatically deploy and configure a new application or service
- Provide consistency via automation

Networking Automation:

Problem with how its currently done:

- Everything is CLI oriented
- Single vendor or product-oriented automation tools
- People have domain specific skills – generally one vendor
- New network devices for teams to manage e.g cloud and edge

How can AAP help?

- Connect to every vendor device through one central tool
- Networking automation is written in one common format & syntax for all networking devices
- Remove over-reliance on CLIs – code once and reuse

Cloud & Platform Automation:

Problem with how its currently done:

- Different management tools across different cloud providers
- Different tools again for private cloud or cloud native
- Existing tools only cover provisioning / de-provisioning not full lifecycle

How can AAP help?

- A single tool that can manage cloud, on-prem, edge
- A tool that can manage the entire lifecycle of an application or service

Security Automation:

Problem with how its currently done:

- People make mistakes
- Talent shortages are leaving organisations understaffed
- Security teams need to use lots of tools from lots of different vendors and often have more added

How can AAP help?

- Automation reduces the chances of mistakes
- Ansible does mundane tasks to help give people time
- Integrates security tools, systems and processes into one central place

Conversation Starters

- Are you actively seeking ways to drive cost savings through automation? How is that being addressed in your strategy?
- How do you currently handle automation across your infrastructure? Are there any pain points you've encountered?
- Security and compliance are crucial. How do you currently ensure your automation processes meet security requirements?
- Are there any manual tasks that you believe could be automated to save time and effort?
- How would you describe your organization's readiness for handling complex automation workflows?
- Have you encountered any instances where delays in IT processes affected your overall business outcomes?
- What's the level of collaboration among your IT teams when it comes to managing automation tasks?
- Could you provide examples of IT tasks that require cross-functional coordination? How do you handle those? Do you currently automate any part of that process?

Customer Success Story

The British Army were experiencing a lot of unplanned downtime when they needed to do tasks like patching. This was due to the fact that they needed lots of people to interact with complex systems, which was often required outside of standard hours when they couldn't easily get support from all the required divisions.

Different teams had therefore created different scripts in different languages to fulfil the gap if they weren't available at the required time. However these would often fail multiple hours into a change.

Using Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform, the British Army were able to take the time it took to patch a complex set of systems from 3 days down to 3 hours. In addition to improving their speed of patching, The British Army were able to use Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform to standardise by enforcing the required configurations across different environments. This standardisation helped them to improve their ability to diagnose and fix issues if and when they arose.

They were also able to create a self service catalogue for staff to provision different environments, improving their productivity.



How to Get Help!

TD Synnex can support you with qualifying calls or conversations with your customers. If required this can also include a remotely administered demo.

Please engage with your TDSynnex aligned Red Hat contact or reach out to RedHat.UK@TDSynnex.com if you are unsure who to speak with.

Contact your Red Hat TD Synnex team at RedHat.UK@TDSynnex.com or ask your aligned Field Sales Executive to facilitate an introduction to the Red Hat team at TD Synnex.

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