

How to Use the AWX Collection

“Tower as Code”

John Westcott IV
Senior Consultant

Bianca Henderson
Software Engineer, Ansible
Tower API

What We'll Cover

- Meet your presenters
- Meet the assistants
- What is a Collection?
- The old Collection modules vs new
- What you will do in this Lab
- Further reference
- Accessing the Lab
- Lab Link

Meet the Presenters



John Westcott IV

Senior Consultant with Red Hat focused on the
Ansible Automation Platform

GitHub username `john-westcott-iv`

Meet the Presenters



Bianca Henderson

Software engineer on the Ansible Tower API team

Twitter handle is @bizonks

GitHub username is beeankha

Meet the Assistants



Nick Awtry
Consultant, Red Hat



Sean Sullivan
Consultant, Red Hat

What is a Collection?

Collections are a distribution format for Ansible content that can include playbooks, roles, modules, and plugins.

Decouple modules from Ansible Core

Enable faster reaction time between downstream products and modules

Old Tower Modules vs. AWX/Tower Collection

Old modules

- 23 modules
- Requires Tower CLI
- Shipped until Ansible 2.10
- Released with Ansible Core
- Community Supported

AWX/Tower Collection

- Almost 40 modules
 - 2 lookup plugins, 1 inventory plugin
- Mostly backwards-compatible
- Most have no dependencies
- Integrated testing with products
- Released with AWX/Ansible Tower
- `awx.awx` community supported
- `ansible.tower` is officially supported by Red Hat

What will you do in the lab?

General Lab

- Review Environment
- Set Tower Welcome Message
- Configure Tower via Playbooks
- Resolving Naming Conflicts
- Create Tower -> Tower Migrations
- Get Help
- Create Your Own Cleanup Playbook

Advanced Section

- Download AWX
- Install devel Version of Collection
- Review Collection
 - Unit Tests
 - Integration Tests
 - Plugins
 - Tools
- Review Submitting Enhancements

Further Reference

AWX Collections Intro Blog Post:

<https://www.ansible.com/blog/introducing-the-awx-collection>

Other Ansible Blog Posts About Collections:

<https://www.ansible.com/blog/topic/collections>

AWX Collections Repository:

https://github.com/ansible/awx/tree/devel/awx_collection

awx.awx on Ansible Galaxy

<https://galaxy.ansible.com/awx/awx>

Accessing the Lab

Please access this URL:

<http://login.161a.open.redhat.com/>

It will take you to the lab management tool.

Please provide **name** and **email** (just make sure they're unique) to get a lab assigned to you.

Click **Submit**, this takes you to the next page with the access instructions

Note down the **studentNumber**

Workbench Information

Please enter your Name and Email address.

Name:

Email:

Submit

Accessing the Lab: Access Instructions

Workbench Information

Student1

VS Code access

To login to Visual Studio Code via your web browser please go here:

UI link: <https://student1-code.8b6a.open.redhat.com>

password: q0dKrnbDxzF9Vn

SSH access

To login to the Ansible Control Node use the following for SSH access:

username: student1 `ssh student1@3.123.31.25`

password: q0dKrnbDxzF9Vn DNS: student1.8b6a.open.redhat.com

IP <https://student1.8b6a.open.redhat.com> `ssh student1@student1.8b6a.open.redhat.com`

Address: 6a.open.redhat.com

Ansible Tower access

To login to the Ansible Tower UI use the following credentials:

UI link: <https://student1.8b6a.open.redhat.com>

username: admin

password: q0dKrnbDxzF9Vn

The management tool will take you to a **landing page** with all **access information** you need.

The **page will** show the information for all students but **fold out for your username**.

Please make sure to use your environment!

The **information** you **need** is:

- ➔ **VS Code access** URL/Credentials
- ➔ **Ansible Tower access** URL/Credentials

Disregard all other information on the landing page!

Do **NOT** click on other student login details!

Lab URL

How to Use the AWX Collection

https://github.com/john-westcott-iv/ansiblefest2020/tree/devel/lab_exercises