### 2022.02.03

**Home Depot:** George Hinson | Andrew Beasley | Jim Vulchard | John Thebault | Ravi Saridey

**Puppet:** Erwin Solis | Michael Weintraub | Randy Greenburg | Ken Jackson |

**General Updates**

* Upcoming Puppet Holiday Feb 21, 2022
* Spacewalk to Artifactory status
* Ravi to provide feedback on Orchestrator token status (ref. 6 on THD Features and Bugs tracker)
* Onsite meetings - QBRs etc could be onsite but challenged with geographically dispersed team

**Molly Erdle / Tom Beech - Using Puppet with Ansible**

* Rescheduled for March 3rd meeting
* Mollie and Tom will review the current work we have been doing in support of using Ansible with Puppet

**PE Upgrade Planning**

* Next upgrade to 2019.8.9

**Features & Bugs**

*In-progress*

| **Onceover integration with PDK** | This is part of the Puppet Content Validator build | Slated for beta 0.1.0 release January 2022. |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PDK testing** | Check the syntax matches across all 3 (Puppetfile, Hiera data, and roles/profiles) | This is on the roadmap for FY23Q2 |

*Additional updates covered in the attached THD Features and Bugs Tracker*

**Support**

* No new support cases in the last month

**Training & Enablement**

18 [vouchers](https://puppet.lightning.force.com/lightning/r/Account/001G000000iGImYIAW/related/Vouchers__r/view) available with an expiration date of 2022.09.22 - [Puppet course catalog](https://learn.puppet.com/course-catalog?_ga=2.101058433.162067274.1635783533-1028369747.1632835460)

**New Blog posts**

* [Find and mitigate Log4j vulnerabilities with Puppet Enterprise](https://puppet.com/blog/find-and-mitigate-log4j-vulnerabilities-with-puppet-enterprise/)
* [How GitHub’s protocol changes impact your Puppet code deployments](https://puppet.com/blog/how-githubs-protocol-changes-impact-your-puppet-code-deployments/)
* [Puppet announces new competency-based channel partner program](https://puppet.com/blog/puppet-announces-new-competency-based-channel-partner-program/)
* [Puppet’s new Cloud Migration Service helps migrate your PE installation](https://puppet.com/blog/puppets-new-cloud-migration-service-helps-migrate-your-pe-installation/)

**Upcoming New Releases**

* PE 2019.8.10/2021.5 in February 2022

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# Previous Meetings

### 2022.01.06

**Home Depot:** Andrew Beasley | Jim Vulchard | John Thebault | Ravi Saridey

**Puppet:** Erwin Solis | Jenna McCarthy | Michael Weintraub | Randy Greenburg

**General Updates**

* Upcoming Puppet Holiday Jan 17, 2022
* Intro Erwin Solis & Michael Weintraub
* Spacewalk to Artifactory status
  + Stores are completed; Spacewalk is still installed on the servers
  + DC is still in progress; changes started 2022-01-05 final Prod should be complete
  + Ravi is working with the decommission team
* Erwin/Michael will recreate the invite for our standing sync meeting
* Ravi to provide feedback on Orchestrator token status (ref. 3.4 on THD Feature & Bug List)
* Onsite meetings - QBRs etc could be onsite but challenged with geographically dispersed team

**Mollie Erdie - Using Puppet with Ansible - postponed**

* Mollie to review the current work we have been doing in support of using Ansible with Puppet - postponed for the demo piece but we will plan for the next meeting

**PE Upgrade Planning**

* Next upgrade to 2019.8.9
* CRs are open for about a week
* Month from CR to Prod install completed

**Features & Bugs**

*In-progress*

| **Onceover integration with PDK** | This is part of the Puppet Content Validator build | Slated for beta 0.1.0 release January 2022. |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PDK testing** | Check the syntax matches across all 3 (Puppetfile, Hiera data, and roles/profiles) | This is on the roadmap for FY23Q2 |

*Additional updates covered in the attached Feature List*

**Support**

* 2 - recently closed support cases:
  + 46717 - [Certs revoked in MoM](https://puppetlabs.zendesk.com/agent/tickets/46717) **-** RCA: manual revocation of the certificate using puppetserver ca clean or puppet node purge was ran via API with root(sudo) access
  + 46323 - [does not have a connection type that supports running tasks/plans](https://puppetlabs.zendesk.com/ticket/46323) - Carried over from previous sync call. Closed without final response from THD - Ravi to reopen if they see this error again

**Training & Enablement**

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**New Blog posts**

* [How to achieve CIS Compliance with Puppet](https://puppet.com/blog/how-to-achieve-cis-compliance-with-puppet/)
* [Red Hat removing support for Puppet in Satellite: What you can do](https://puppet.com/blog/red-hat-removing-support-for-puppet-in-satellite-what-you-can-do/)

**Upcoming New Releases**

* PE 2019.8.10/2021.5 in February 2022

### 2021.12.02

**Home Depot:** Andrew Beasley | Jim Vulchard | John Thebault | Ravi Saridey

**Puppet:** Jenna McCarthy | Chris Webster | Cwyn Weldy | Jarret Lavallee | Randy Greenburg

**General Updates**

* Upcoming Puppet US holidays: December 24, 27, 31

**Support**

**46323:** [**does not have a connection type that supports running tasks/plans**](https://puppetlabs.zendesk.com/agent/tickets/46323)

*THD concerns with adding server\_list to puppet.conf*

1 – why am I adding a list of servers to puppet.conf when we went through all the pain of putting these behind a load balancer?

* Missing param - primary URI needs to be changed to the LB (only for tasks)
* Server\_list is not required in this scenario

2 – Puppet need a thorough understanding of our environment and make a complete decision about what is needed. I don’t like ‘try this, then this, now this’, it is painful for us.

* THD would like information shared among team members at Puppet to remove pain or constant readdressing. *Complete*
* LP = Linux production
* LN = non-production environment with production-like workload and environment
* LN = QA - List to be provided by [John Thebault](mailto:john_thebault@homedepot.com) - *Complete*

3 – why am I adding server\_list to puppet.conf when I already have a file for all of that (/etc/puppetlabs/pxp-agent/pxp-agent.conf), which we just changed to use our load balancer names. Yes I understand pxp-agent is really to allow orchestration kick off things. What does this change do to how pxp-agent and puppet function? Are these things really completely independent of each other? Will this cause some issues with how our configuration works? What am I missing here?

* We want to use your load balancer not a list of servers - “server\_list” should always point to the load balancer
* Working on upgrading pxp-agent.conf
* Run puppet update file only with tags function
  + puppet agent -t --tags puppet\_enterprise::pxp\_agent
  + That will limit the application of the catalog to only apply items with the puppet\_enterprise::pxp\_agent tag.
  + Option 2 would be to run a task to update the pxp-agent.conf file or update it manually.
  + The puppet run is only run when initiated due to THD deployment process rules.

**Features & Bugs**

*In-progress*

| Onceover integration with PDK | We are refactoring how PDK works: 1. The new suite of tools will contain smaller and more focused tools that all work together. 2. A major benefit of doing this is that one of first tools we're building (right now) is a runtime manager. This means that we don't have to "include Onceover in the PDK" because the runtime manager will just run Onceover like any other PDK tool. 3. Public Beta will be available in FY23 Q1 | There is currently not a way for PDK to test via onceover using PDK to test duplicate declarations in modules. |
| --- | --- | --- |
| PDK testing | Check the syntax matches across all 3 (Puppetfile, Hiera data, and roles/profiles) | There is currently not a way for PDK to test the control repository to ensure the Puppetfile, hieradata, and roles/profiles are using the proper syntax |

**PE Upgrade (January)**

* Next upgrade to 2019.8.9
* *r10k deletes files in environments pointed to by symlinks in PE 2019.8.8*
  + When control repositories contain symlinks, r10k incorrectly interprets the files in symlinked locations as duplicates and then deletes these files. If you use Code Manager and include symlinks in your control repository, do not upgrade to PE version 2019.8.8. This issue will be resolved in an upcoming release.
* [Other Known Issues for 2019.8.8](https://puppet.com/docs/pe/2019.8/known_issues_pe.htm)
* Ref Ticket: [RK-381](https://tickets.puppetlabs.com/browse/RK-381) Related Issues: [PE-33050](https://tickets.puppetlabs.com/browse/PE-33050), [CODEMGMT-1466](https://tickets.puppetlabs.com/browse/CODEMGMT-1466)
* PE Upgrade Automation: PEADM testing - bolt usage is a challenge because of SSH keys; wants built into Puppet and not managing SSH keys.

**Spacewalk to Artifactory (Dec 2021)**

* QA+Production stores complete
* DC pending
* Most of the client systems are updated

**Training & Enablement**

**18** [vouchers](https://puppet.lightning.force.com/lightning/r/Account/001G000000iGImYIAW/related/Vouchers__r/view) available with an expiration date of 2022.09.22 - [Puppet course catalog](https://learn.puppet.com/course-catalog?_ga=2.101058433.162067274.1635783533-1028369747.1632835460)

**New Blog posts**

* [Features, the forgotten feature of Puppet](https://puppet.com/blog/features-the-forgotten-feature-of-puppet/)
* [How Puppet supports desktop and laptop automation in a changing world](https://puppet.com/blog/how-puppet-supports-desktop-and-laptop-automation-in-a-changing-world/)
* [How to connect Puppet Enterprise to Okta using SAML](https://puppet.com/blog/how-to-connect-puppet-enterprise-to-okta-using-saml/)
* [Eight new Puppet Practice Labs to make automation easier with Puppet](https://puppet.com/blog/eight-new-puppet-practice-labs-to-make-automation-easier-with-puppet/)

**New Releases**

**Puppet Enterprise 2019.8.9 & 2021.4.0 (platform 6.25.1/7.12.1)**

[Release notes](https://puppet.com/docs/pe/2019.8/release_notes_pe.html#release_notes_pe)

##### Highlights:

* Agent & Server support for AlmaLinux 8 and Rocky Linux 8
* Run patches sequentially in the group\_patching plan
* Run the puppet infra run command with WinRM
* TLS v1.3 by enabled by default

##### Vulnerabilities addressed:

* [CVE-2021-27023 - Unsafe HTTP Redirect](https://puppet.com/security/cve/cve-2021-27023) 6.5 ([Medium](https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln-metrics/cvss#)) leak of HTTP credentials when following HTTP redirects to a different host. This is similar to [CVE-2018-1000007](https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CVE-2018-1000007).
* [CVE-2021-27025 - Silent Configuration Failure](https://puppet.com/security/cve/cve-2021-27025) 6.3 ([Medium](https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln-metrics/cvss#)) the agent may silently ignore Augeas settings or may be vulnerable to a Denial of Service condition prior to the first pluginsync.
* [CVE-2021-27026 - Sensitive Information May be Logged](https://puppet.com/security/cve/cve-2021-27026) 4.4 ([Medium](https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln-metrics/cvss#)) sensitive plan parameters may be logged

Fixes:

* [Windows agent installation failed if user name contained a space](https://puppet.com/docs/pe/2019.8/release_notes_pe.html#resolved_issues_pe_x_y_9-pe-32358)
* [Failed or in-progress reboots reported that they finished rebooting successfully](https://puppet.com/docs/pe/2019.8/release_notes_pe.html#resolved_issues_pe_x_y_9-pe-31824)
* [Client-side lockfiles were not deleted on startup](https://puppet.com/docs/pe/2019.8/release_notes_pe.html#resolved_issues_pe_x_y_9-codemgmt-1458)

**Upcoming releases**

* Windows 2022 PE support is targeted for our February 2022 release
* PE 2019.8.10/2021.5 in February 2022

# Previous Meetings

### 2021.11.04

**Home Depot:** Andrew Beasley | Jim Vulchard | John Thebault | Ravi Saridey

**Puppet:** Jenna McCarthy | Randy Greenburg

**General Updates**

* Puppet Holiday Nov 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 26th, Jenna will be OOO this week but support is available if needed.

**Support**

* **1** Ticket open/closed in the last **60** days
  + [does not have a connection type that supports running tasks/plans](https://support.puppet.com/hc/en-us/requests/46323)

**Features & Bugs**

Focus items

* Self-healing
* Orchestrator

**PE Upgrade**

* Next upgrade to 2019.8.9 *(once released)*
* *r10k deletes files in environments pointed to by symlinks in PE 2019.8.8*
  + When control repositories contain symlinks, r10k incorrectly interprets the files in symlinked locations as duplicates and then deletes these files. If you use Code Manager and include symlinks in your control repository, do not upgrade to PE version 2019.8.8. This issue will be resolved in an upcoming release.
* [Other Known Issues for 2019.8.8](https://puppet.com/docs/pe/2019.8/known_issues_pe.htm)
* Ref Ticket: [RK-381](https://tickets.puppetlabs.com/browse/RK-381) Related Issues: [PE-33050](https://tickets.puppetlabs.com/browse/PE-33050), [CODEMGMT-1466](https://tickets.puppetlabs.com/browse/CODEMGMT-1466)
* PE Upgrade Automation: PEADM testing - bolt usage is a challenge because of SSH keys; wants built into Puppet and not managing Keys.

**Spacewalk to Artifactory (Dec 2021)**

* QA+Production stores complete
* DC pending
* Most of the client systems are updated

**Training & Enablement**

**18** [vouchers](https://puppet.lightning.force.com/lightning/r/Account/001G000000iGImYIAW/related/Vouchers__r/view) available with an expiration date of 2022.09.22 - [Puppet course catalog](https://learn.puppet.com/course-catalog?_ga=2.101058433.162067274.1635783533-1028369747.1632835460)

**New Blog Posts**

* [Don’t let compliance & security haunt you: What to expect in an audit](https://puppet.com/blog/dont-let-compliance-security-haunt-you-what-to-expect-in-an-audit/)
* [How to mitigate the 0-day Apache path traversal vulnerability with Puppet or Bolt](https://puppet.com/blog/how-to-mitigate-the-0-day-apache-path-traversal-vulnerability-with-puppet-or-bolt/)

**Upcoming releases**

* Puppet Enterprise (PE) 2019.8.9/2021.4 - Beginning/Mid November
* Windows 2022 PE support is targeted for our February 2022 release
* Rocky & Alma support 2022 Q1

**Next Actions**

* Randy to sync with George on Relay discussion
* Jenna will provide Product feedback specifically around Orchestrator asks on the attached Action items pdf

### 2021.10.09

**Home Depot:** Andrew Beasley | George Hinson | Jim Vulchard | Patrick Mayes | Ravi Saridey

**Puppet:** Jenna McCarthy | Randy Greenburg

**Home Depot**

1. Moving from Spacewalk to Artifactory(estimated completion December 2021)
   1. QA stores
   2. DC pending
   3. Most of the client systems are updated
2. Seasonal Code/Change sensitivity (Black Friday to mid-January)
3. The next fiscal year, FY23, starts February 1st, 2023
4. Code manager improvements - THD plan to begin testing in FY23Q1
5. Historical Data Platform follow-up will be set by THD team in the future

**Puppet**

1. Puppet support for [CentOS Linux 8](https://wiki.centos.org/About/Product) will be removed December ‘21 due to it going EOL CentOS Linux 7 maintenance only updates until 2024.06.30, [Puppet Platform support lifecycle documentation](https://puppet.com/products/puppet-enterprise/platform-support-lifecycle/)
   1. *What does this mean for how we are packaging and testing?* We will stop testing CentOS 8, but will continue to support the rest of the operating systems in the EL 8 package that we currently build and test.
   2. *Are we adding anything to replace CentOS 8?* For PE and FOSS server, we’re adding support for Rocky and Alma, targeted for Q1 2022.
   3. *For the Puppet agent side:* both FOSS and PE, we’re adding support for Rocky and Alma, targeted for the November ‘21 release.
   4. THD Puppet agents are on RHEL 8, RHEL 7, Ubuntu 18/20
2. [Puppetize Digital 2021 Playlist on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLV86BgbREluXXryoUCww0sTzwz8ckeT1A) or alternately [you can click on an event](https://events.puppet.com/puppetize-agenda) in the agenda to see the recording
   1. Patrick requested Closed Captioning during the live sessions - [Jenna McCarthy](mailto:jenna.mccarthy@puppet.com) followed up to confirm this is a top prior for the next event and we will have Closed Captioning on the live sessions. They also very much appreciated Patrick’s feedback.
3. Training Vouchers available: 18 - Valid through 2022.09.10
4. [Feature Request & Bugs review](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19JZ9Mj8vkI83AUSWcaPH5U7BO6tLFSIVq900lXlm1g0/edit#gid=1211754203)
5. Randy: Service Graph Connector(SNOW) - Microservices built to support PE sync with SNOW.
   1. Related blog post: https://puppet.com/blog/accelerate-operational-tasks-with-puppet-and-servicenow

##### **Releases**

* [**Compliance Enforcement Modules**](https://puppet.com/solutions/continuous-compliance/) announced at Puppetize. These modules are available on a subscription basis with Puppet Comply the following The modules can be found at on the forge with the  label filter. The first two to launch are:
* [Compliance Enforcement Module for Windows](https://forge.puppet.com/modules/puppetlabs/cem_windows)
* [Compliance Enforcement Module for Linux](https://forge.puppet.com/modules/puppetlabs/cem_linux)
* See the [Puppet Blog](https://puppet.com/blog/announcing-puppet-compliance-enforcement-modules/) for more details
* Dashboard views that are refined for scanning
* **Forge Malware Scanning**
* We have implemented a malware scanning framework for Forge modules
* On the Forge there is now a “Quality Checks” tab which details the result of the scanning
* For more information see <https://puppet.com/blog/announcing-new-malware-scanning-on-the-puppet-forge/>
* The first modules to be scanned will be Supported, then Partner Supported and then Approved. By the end of the year, all modules released will be scanned.

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### 2021.09.09

##### **Attendees:**

Home Depot: Andrew Beasley | George Hinson | Jim Vulchard | John T | Ravi Saridey

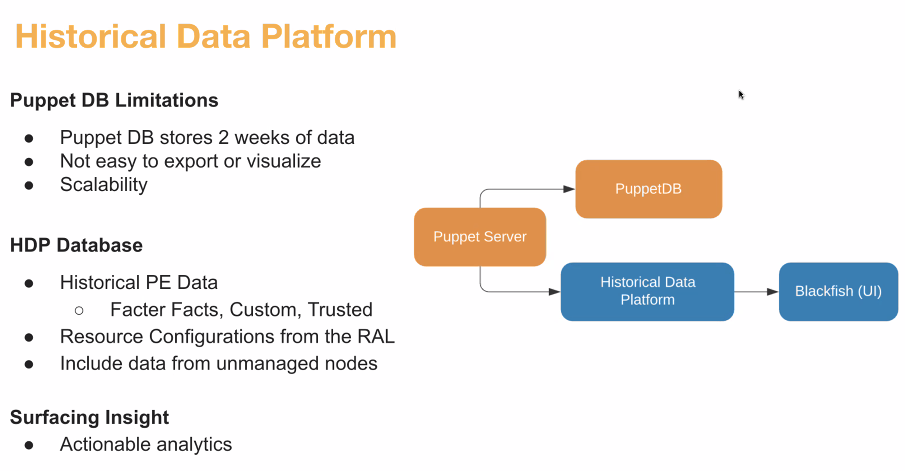
Puppet: [Olufemi Oluwafemi](mailto:femi.oluwafemi@puppet.com) | Jenna McCarthy | Paul Riley | [Randy Greenburg](mailto:randy.greenburg@puppet.com)

**Home Depot**

1. Working on moving to Artifactory
2. Follow-up on conversation with Carol
   1. THD feature requests feedback from Carol is in progress and targeting this week.

**Puppet**

1. New TAM Intro
2. Support Review
3. 19.8.8 Review (current LTS)
   1. Code manager improvements
   2. Metrics Collection
   3. PE database module built-in - will help with space issues
   4. THD does not have linux enterprise 5 - deprecation will not impact THD
4. Change Reporting Demo with Femi
   1. Femi is working on data engineering at Puppet
   2. [Paul Riley](mailto:paul.riley@puppet.com) to send slide deck after meeting
   3. Puppet DB keeps data for 2 weeks currently
   4. George:
      1. Can you track as a percentage or value in changes over time?
      2. Changes over time - THD would like to see:
         * 1. trending average and alert for when the threshold drops after a period of growth.
           2. Would like it to alert on percentage over fixed values due to reduced support costs over time.
      3. They are looking for a macro view they can then dive into macro views as needed
      4. Changes By Grouping
         1. Using AI
         2. Group by facts (e.g. applications, roles, etc)
      5. POC of Historical Data Platform - THD will discuss internally if they will consider this. The THD internal ecosystem that supports the execution of Puppet at THD. What will this support, superseded, cost, etc for THD to use this product
5. Need alerting functionality for CA - API or Push..they send things to slack
   1. They don’t want to login to a console to identify problems; preference with self-healing
   2. Are they using ServiceNow? Discussed but not implemented as it goes back to their microservices (codemanager replacement) environment?
   3. Custom internal monitoring solution



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### 2021.08.26 - Product Session

##### Attendees:

Home Depot: George Hinson | Ravi Saridey

Puppet: [Carol Wilder](mailto:carol.wilder@puppet.com) | Jenna McCarthy | Paul Riley | [Randy Greenburg](mailto:randy.greenburg@puppet.com) | Stephen Potter

Notes:

1. George Hinson insights:
   1. Stateful configuration management is important to him
   2. Democratization of resources
      1. This allows for engineers to not focus on sys admin work
      2. ..
   3. What is a single thing that Puppet is not focused on?
      1. Refocus on cost of engagement
      2. Hiera, Module Hiera, R10K..codemanager has a high cost of engagement?
      3. PDK has come along way
      4. Is there a way to extend a GUI on top of things?
         1. Windows user experience mentioned
      5. How do I get someone excited about using Puppet? The tertiary user engagement and growth has to be sold to other departments/engineers where this is not their day to day job.
2. Carol’s insights
   * 1. Mean time to value is 6 months to a year. Ansible doesn't solve day two problems
     2. Goal of Mean time to value of two months (users to be 75% proficient in 1-2 months)
     3. “What are you trying to achieve or do” hasn’t been asked historically.
     4. Self-service, low code/no code is on the roadmap
     5. Data solution with Puppet needs to be extensible & scalable
     6. Bring your own containers is a thing
     7. We don’t right size containerization.
     8. Moving to outcome based roadmaps vs. product focused roadmaps.
        1. This is how you use it
        2. How do we solve… migration, integration, etc.
        3. How do we measure the outcome of that use case.
        4. Whole team working on this.
     9. What are the customer problems?
        1. What do we say yes to. What do we say no to?
           1. People said we can wait.
           2. VP hammer. Yes or no. No more wishy washy
        2. Team got through it.
     10. We need to be specific.
     11. Carol is putting together a computer system for customers
         1. Discussion about non-profit stuff.
3. George
   1. Federation is important. I want to speak about this.
   2. There are still independent stacks.
   3. What would be fantastic:
      1. If I could have a Puppet instance that is specific to groups stores, infrastructure, etc.
4. Carol
   1. We had the notion of classification
   2. I don’t know if that would help or not help
   3. We need the meta data notion of what belongs
5. George
   1. Described stores differences from Distro Centers, etc.
   2. Wants a visibility plane across
6. Product discussion about feature requests
   1. Self-Healing
      1. Puppet has never said we are selfing healing
      2. Config mgmt is self healing
      3. What is THDs Definition?
         1. George is 4 months in
         2. External and internal
         3. External
            1. Brute force of state
            2. When a run fails are we getting intelligent stuff back
            3. “I can get it to the right team”
            4. Puppet would take a stab at fixing it, then report back.
         4. Internally
            1. Puppet infra status

List of stuff comes back pdb is down on compiler.

* + - * 1. Puppet should have a threshold of good.
        2. This service is failing. Should we look at it?

1. Carol:
   1. Telemetry data.
   2. We have tons of data, but every two weeks we do nothing with it
   3. POC for historical data. Resources came from Intel
   4. Going to do SAAS on GCP
   5. Would like to open up that work to you.
   6. Recommendation of data.
   7. Carol would like George to talk to the team.
   8. We are going to market with something early next year.
2. George
   1. I’m interested in this.
   2. There are considerations that are soft considerations and historical
      1. A lot of the conversation addresses those topics
         1. Mainly ease of consumption
      2. Code Manager

#### Next Steps

1. George and product team meeting to discuss Historical Data Platform
2. Work with Nick to get current state and future state with code-manager to be shared with THD