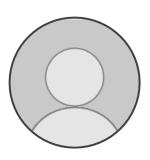


PowerShell & PowerCLI Starting from Scratch

India VMUG UserCon September 2022

Mike





- ▶ 35+ years in tech
- Principal Technologist @ Cohesity
- Experience from Helpdesk to Architect
- Scripter, not a coder
- Passion for community, teaching, learning
- ► Beer, BBQ, & Gadgets











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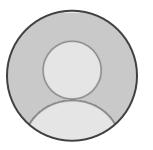
PowerShell (PoSH)

Started as a scripting framework for automation & evolved into a command line interface (CLI) and a scripting language

Native executables, cmdlets, scripts, functions, aliases, modules, help, profiles, parameters, and more



Why use PowerShell?



Versions

.Net Framework



<=5.1 Windows

.NET Core







7.x

Windows Linux

MacOS



Profiles

- The PowerShell profile is a script that runs when a PowerShell session is started (unless the -noprofile switch is used)
- ► Basically, it is a logon script for PowerShell containing commands, aliases, variables, drives, functions, modules, etc.
- Profiles can be for all users, the current user, all hosts, and the current host. You can have a mix of none, some, or all of these and there is a precedence order.
- ► There is no default profile
- ➤ Your current user profile is stored in the \$profile variable. To edit your current user profile with VSCode, type code \$profile at a PowerShell prompt.



Variables

- ► A unit of memory in which a value is stored
- PowerShell variables are text strings represented by the dollar sign "\$"prefix (ex. \$a, \$my_var, \$var1, etc.)
- Although special characters and spaces allowed, variable names should be kept simple
- ► Types of variables:
 - User user defined and deleted on exit (add to your PowerShell Profile to sustain)
 - Automatic defined by Posh & not editable (ex. \$PSHOME)
 - ▶ Preference defaults defined & are user editable
- Get-Variable to show all variables defined in a session

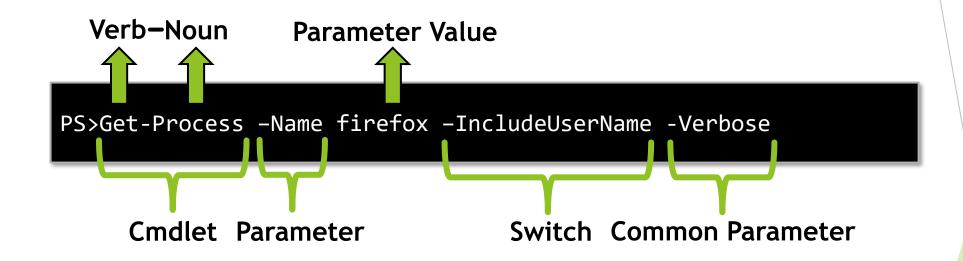
Cmdlets

"command-lets"

- ► A type of command in PowerShell
- Common syntax & options
- Usually take object input & return objects
- ► Stored in .ps1 file for scripts



Syntax



Parameters

Named

Positional

Dynamic

Common

Sets

- ► Allow for users to provide input or options
- A pre-hyphen ("-") is not always necessary (ie. positional)
- Some parameters have default values (dev decision)
- Different Types:
 - ► Named -> default full name of parameter
 - Positional -> typed in a relative order (caution)
 - Dynamic -> only available under special conditions
 - Common -> built-in parameters
 - Sets -> expose different parameters & return different information



Pipelines

Pipeline operator

PS>Get-Process -Name firefox -IncludeUserName | Stop-Process

Object returned by first cmdlet sent to second cmdlet

"One-liner"



Functions

A list of PowerShell statements that run like you had entered them on the command line

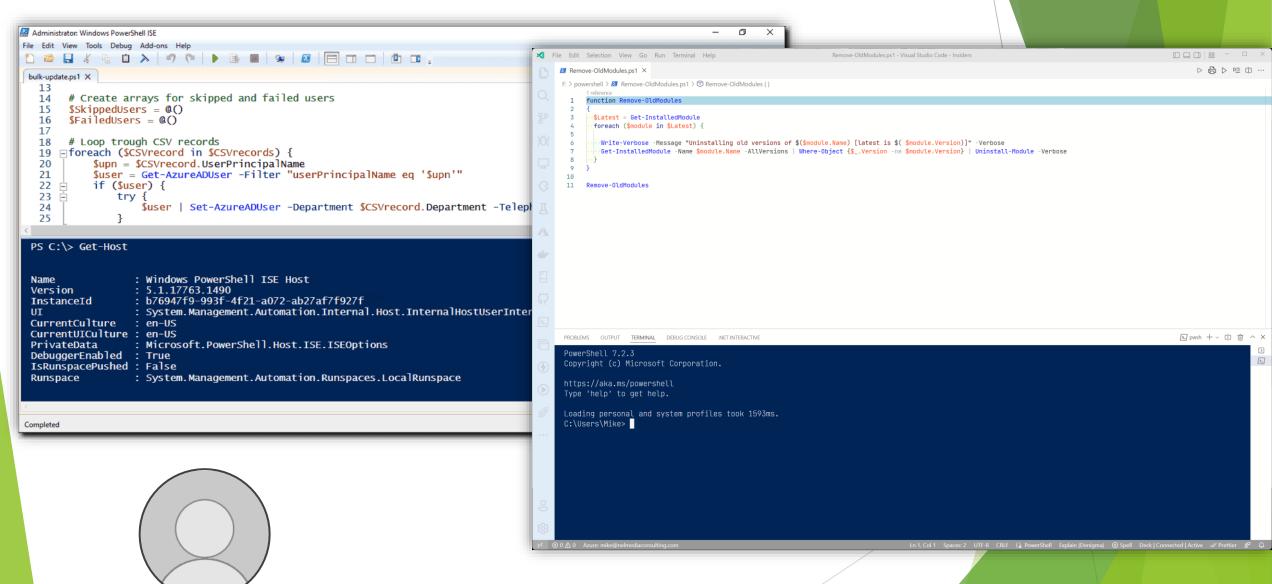
```
function Get-FirefoxProcess { Get-Process firefox }

function Get-FirefoxProcess {
    $a = Get-Process firefox
        if ($a -eq $null) {
            Write-Host "No Firefox process present"}
        return $a
}
Get-FirefoxProcess
```

Modules

- .psm1 file
 - Imported as itself or launched from .psd1 file (a module manifest file)
 - Commands, providers, variables, functions, help context, aliases, workflows
- Auto-Loading capability
- Stored in \$env:PSModulePath

Creating / Editing / Running



Core Commands to Know

Get-Command Get-Help Update-Help Update-Module Get-Member **Show-Command**

PowerCLI

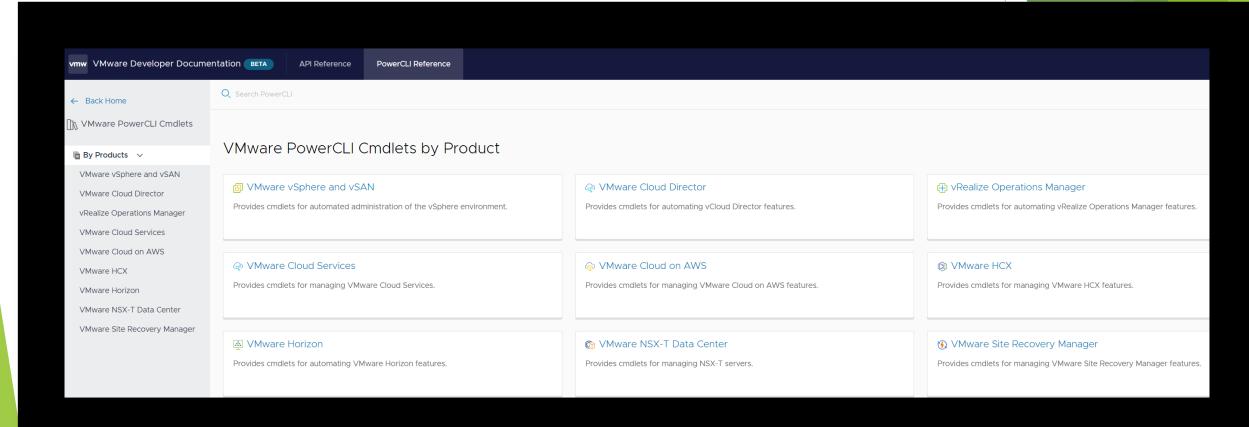
- Install-Module VMware.PowerCLI
 - -Allow-Clobber, -Force & -SkipPublisherCheck may be necessary

Install-Package: The following commands are already available on this system: 'Export-VM, Get-VM, Get-VMHost, Move-VM, New-VM, Remove-VM, Restart-VM, Set-VM, Set-VMHost, Start-VM, Stop-VM, Suspend-VM'. This module 'VMware.VimAutomation.Core' may override the existing commands. If you still want to install this module 'VMware.VimAutomation.Core', use -AllowClobber parameter.

- If certificate error, Update-Module will not work
- Cmdlet collisions such as Get-VM
- 800+ cmdlets in 15+ modules
- Set-PowerCLIConfiguration creates PowerCLI_Settings.xml
 file
 - For Connect-VIServer certificate errors, use -InvalidCertificateAction Ignore

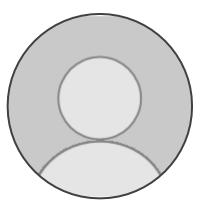
```
# Modules that must be imported into the global environment prior to importing this module
RequiredModules = @(
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Sdk";"ModuleVersion"="12.5.0.19093564"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Common"; "ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19600917"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.Vim";"ModuleVersion"="7.0.3.19601056"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Core"; "ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19601570"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Srm"; "ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19609133"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.License"; "ModuleVersion"="12.0.0.15939670"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Vds";"ModuleVersion"="12.5.0.19167830"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.CloudServices";"ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19606210"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Vmc"; "ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19609014"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Nsxt"; "ModuleVersion"="12.5.0.19168180"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.vROps";"ModuleVersion"="12.5.0.19167825"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Cis.Core"; "ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19601368"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.HorizonView";"ModuleVersion"="12.5.0.19033914"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Cloud";"ModuleVersion"="12.0.0.15940183"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.DeployAutomation";"ModuleVersion"="7.0.3.19599828"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.ImageBuilder";"ModuleVersion"="7.0.3.19599828"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Storage"; "ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19609013"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.StorageUtility"; "ModuleVersion"="1.6.0.0"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VumAutomation"; "ModuleVersion"="12.1.0.16941488"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Security";"ModuleVersion"="12.3.0.17833870"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.Hcx";"ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19606303"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.VimAutomation.WorkloadManagement";"ModuleVersion"="12.4.0.18627055"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.Sdk.Runtime";"ModuleVersion"="1.0.106.18628394"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.Sdk.vSphere";"ModuleVersion"="1.0.104.18678708"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.PowerCLI.VCenter"; "ModuleVersion"="12.6.0.19600125"}
@{"ModuleName"="VMware.Sdk.Nsx.Policy";"ModuleVersion"="3.2.0.19610335"}
```

https://developer.vmware.com/docs/powercli/latest/products/





Demos



Thank you!

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