Complete Ansible Automation Training

Securing Ansible

Ansible Vault

- Ansible can automate tasks for teams such as:
  - Hardware
  - Operating systems
  - Virtualization
  - Database or Storage
  - Applications/Software etc.

- Oftentimes you have to share Ansible code with these groups over the network and anything you share over network has a risk to end up in wrong hands

- It is best practice to use **Ansible vault** feature which will password protect your code

Ansible Vault

- yaml file with ansible-vault

```
# ansible-vault create httpbyvault.yml

---
- name: Install httpd package
  hosts: localhost

  tasks:
  - name: Install package
    yum
      name: httpd
      state: present
```

```
# ansible-playbook httpbyvault.yml = ERROR!
```

- To run a vaulted yml file
  ```
  # ansible-playbook httpbyvault.yml --ask-vault-pass
  ```

- To view a vaulted yml file
  ```
  # ansible-vault view httpbyvault.yml
  ```

- To edit an existing vaulted yml file
  ```
  # ansible-vault edit httpbyvault.yml
  ```

- To get a list of options
  ```
  # ansible-vault --help
  ```

- **`httpbyvault.yml`** file was created with ansible-vault, what about exiting files???

  ```
  # vim testbyvault.yml

  # ansible-vault encrypt testbyvault.yml
  ```

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Encrypt Strings within a Playbook

- Strings/words can be encrypted within a playbook

```
# ansible-vault encrypt_string httpd
# ansible-vault create/encrypt outputbystring.yml

---
- name: Test encrypted output
  hosts: localhost
  vars:
     secret: !vault |
         $ANSIBLE_VAULT;1.1;AES256
         343430663635356335383138383833363616161633163326638303737383537316563633865653166
         3237613536323465326636623465343866646332633362630a636533303762636630313830303531
         66613766666130346135623436356138303262656162353330623535346135613566333439663230
         32653333738653532310a353632373565386138373832656336393861323030643263323535326230
         3164

 tasks:
     - name: Print encrypted string
      debug:
          var: secret
```

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