



Desired State: A close look at the PowerShell and DSC integrations with Chef

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Agenda

- What do we know about Chef?
- A history of our PowerShell and Windows support
- What problems are we still trying to solve?
- Demos
- Summary
- Questions/Feedback session

What do we know about Chef?

- Configuration Management/Policy Management
- Client/Server, pull based model
- Ruby, cross-platform – including Solaris and AIX
- Cookbooks, Recipes, Resources
- Attributes (ohai/automatic, custom)
- Environments (override attributes)
- Two-phase compilation on client
- Ecosystem – Chef Supermarket

PowerShell Timeline

- 2003 – No native support in Chef
- 2008 – PowerShell 3.0, **powershell_out** “mixin”
- 2012 – PowerShell 4.0, **dsc_script**
- 2016 – PowerShell 5.0, **dsc_resource**
- Future tbc

What problems are we trying to solve?

- We want contributors to build amazing things
- Using their existing skills and knowledge
- Current PowerShell script execution is not fast
- Lots of “screen scraping” and hacks
- Existing patterns mainly deal with script output, not objects

Demo

Code is available at:

<https://github.com/stuartpreston/psconfeu2018>



Summary

1. DSC Script example
2. DSC Resource example
3. “notifies” and “subscribes” in resources
4. PowerShell Script example
5. powershell_out benchmark
6. Introducing “powershell_exec”
7. powershell_exec benchmark
8. Custom resource example using powershell_exec

The Future

- Project Honolulu/Windows Admin Center
- PowerShell Core
- Open Source LCM ?

Feedback

Next Steps

- Now: 15 min break
- Grab a coffee
- Stay here to enjoy next presentation
- Change track and switch to another room
- Ask me questions or meet me in a breakout session room afterwards