Why is it important to automate OS installation? Chapter 1 – Exercise 8

Consistency within the installation and configuration will cause less problems down the road. As discussed in class and within the textbook, humans if it were one person or different people following a specific process no matter how specific it is will differ. These differences can cause problems down the road that can potentially snowball into something worse, and possibly take longer to complete tasks within the workplace. If we were to automate OS installation, we would be able to ensure that all machines are the same with no differences and should not have any compatibility issues with each other or new processes put in place.

Why are big batches more risky than small batches? Chapter 2 – Exercise 2

Big batches are problematic because they work in large chunks then after they are done, they go back and check if everything is done correctly and depending on the situation (like the wood example within the book or the multiple patch update example) it could cost more money, and downtime for the situations. Small batches check a lot more frequently and finds errors a lot sooner the big batches and causes less downtime due to error down the road. Specific benefits from the technology perspective are that features arrived faster, no more hell month because problems were fixed when they appeared, and had more time to work on other things.

Explain the pets and cattle analogy for computers. Chapter 3 – Exercise 1

It’s the idea of either taking individual, special care, and specific configurations for a select few of computers similar to how families will have pets that they take specialized care of and that’s catered towards that Pet. Compared to a group of computers that will have the exact same configuration, and care for them, and if something were to happen, they would just replace it very similar to cattle and how farmers would treat them.

What is a snowflake server? Why are they a bad idea? Chapter 3 – Exercise 2

Snowflake server is a server that is very unique in the idea of it being customized modified, and very different from any other server. The issue is that there’s a chance that server could not be produced exactly the same way, testing is more difficult, and things overall are more difficult because of the difference and complexity of that server.