Automation with Ansible

Why Automation?

Automation saves time

Enables Confirmability

"You did something to fix that server last week. What was that again?"

Enables Reproduceability

"I need exactly the same setup, again"

Why Ansbile?

No Agent, uses SSH

No DSL, just plain YAML

Large Repository of existing playbooks

Twitter

RedHat

Who uses Ansible?

Cisco

Juniper

1&1 Dev M&M

My SSH setup

- Dedicated ansible user per target
- Dedicated SSH key(s)
- Sudo password
- Shell script to bootstrap

The inventory

Introducing Playbooks

Using Playbooks

ansible-playbook

```
--ask-become-pass (sudo password)
--inventory <file> (inventory file)
--extra-vars="foo=bar" (extra vars)
--limit <host> (use only this host)
--tags (use tags)
--step (confirm every step)
--check (dry run)
--forks=N (number of parallel steps)
```

Working with Variables

Configuration with Templates

Templates use Jinja2

```
{{ ansible_managed }}


{{ ansible_nodename }}


{% for item in ntp_servers -%}
    {{ item }}
{%- endfor %}


{%- if ssh_allow_groups -%}
AllowGroups {{ ssh_allow_groups }}
{% endif %}


{# ... #}
```

Working with Facts

Use Roles

Encrypt Data with Vaults

Q & A