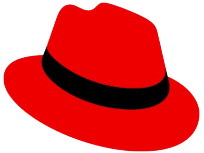
Red Hat Summit

Connect

Ansible Automation Platform
Roadmap

Red Hat

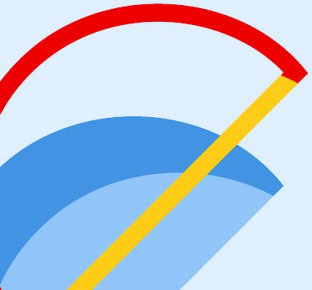


Red Hat

Richard Henshall

Director, Product Management
Red Hat Ansible

Product strategy + update



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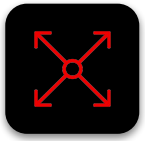
Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform | **Product strategy**

Serve as a mission-critical platform for our customers, by providing enterprise features and strategic ISV integrations for comprehensive, multi-domain automation.

Focus on ease of use, leveraging a re-imagined getting started experience combined with integrated GenAI features to accelerate the onboarding process for platform engineers



Help organizations scale their automation, setting the foundation for strategic automation adoption and accelerating time to value

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Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform | **Product vision**

A unified solution for end-to-end automation across the enterprise

Create

Streamline the process of creating automation workflows for dozens of use cases across IT domains

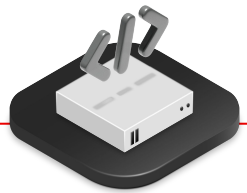
Manage

Centralize maintenance and management for multi-team deployment with a lower learning curve for all teams.

Scale

Organize automation tasks across all kinds of applications, platforms, and providers to achieve results.

Network



Operating systems

Cloud

Virtualization

Application delivery

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Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform | **Use cases**

	Operating systems	Cloud	Network	Application delivery	Virtualization
Provision	+ Driver and firmware upgrades + Install applications, modify settings and deploy services	+ Provisioning of public cloud resources, virtual networks, subnets and interfaces + Create/delete autoscale groups	+ Provisioning of controllers, firewalls, routers, switches, load balancers, access points + Datacenter to branch OS updates and compliance	+ Self service infrastructure requests + Deployment strategy automation + Infrastructure as Code	+ Provisioning of bare metal servers, containers and HPC clusters + Install applications, modify settings and deploy services
Configure	+ Automated patching and upgrades + User access configuration + Configuration management + Application configuration and updates	+ Virtual machines + Serverless functions + K8s clusters	+ Deploy standard Network configuration and hardening, Config as Code + Automate configuration backups of network equipment	+ Rollback and forward application versions on demand + Configuration and lifecycle of On/Off prem resources via SSH, WinRM or API	+ Certificate, entitlement and package management + System configuration validation and drift management
Manage	+ Maintain OS to best practices and company standards + Automate compliance, and vulnerability management while eliminating drift	+ Governance + Infrastructure optimization + Business continuity	+ Gather facts and create dynamic reports for compliance + Health checks and operational state validation triggered by events	+ GitOps + Control app deployment in containers + Automate moves from dev to test to prod	+ Virtualization layer and hypervisor management + Lifecycle management + Business continuity

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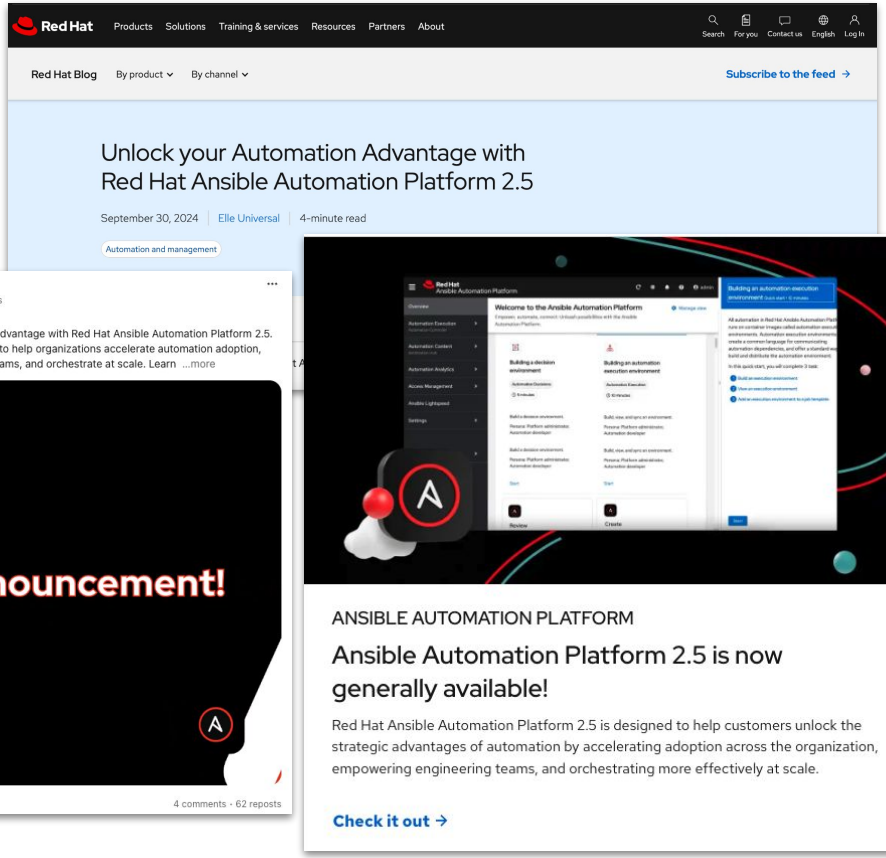
Product Delivery Update

- Ansible Automation Platform 2.5:
  GA on September 30th

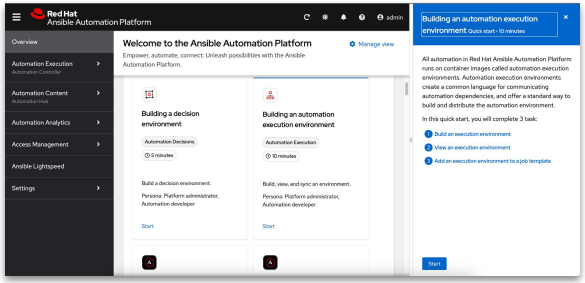
- Upgrade path from Ansible Automation Platform 2.4:
  Planned GA for October 28th



Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform | **Our latest release**

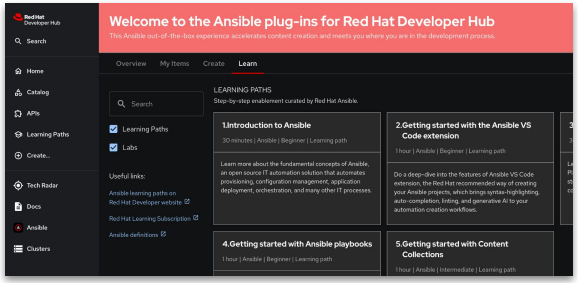
Ansible Automation Platform 2.5

Ease of Use



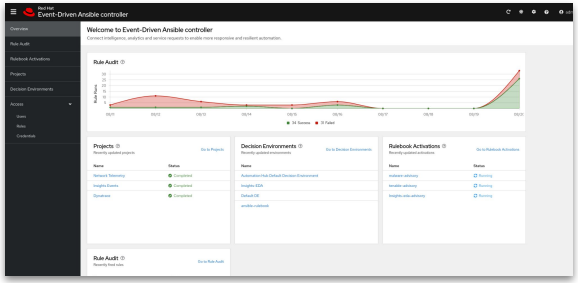
- Unified UI
- Containerized installation
- Ansible quick starts
- New collections for managing AAP

Scaling Automation



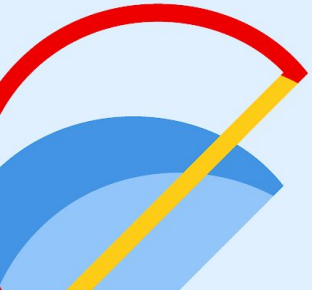
- Ansible development tools
- Ansible Lightspeed with IBM watsonx Code Assistant enhancements
- Ansible plug-ins for Red Hat Developer Hub

Mission Critical Platform



- New and enhanced ecosystem collections + partnerships across all domains
- Enhancements to Event-Driven Ansible:
  - New event streams for simplified event routing
  - High availability + scalability
  - Integrated RBAC, SSO + authentication, and credential management

Product roadmap



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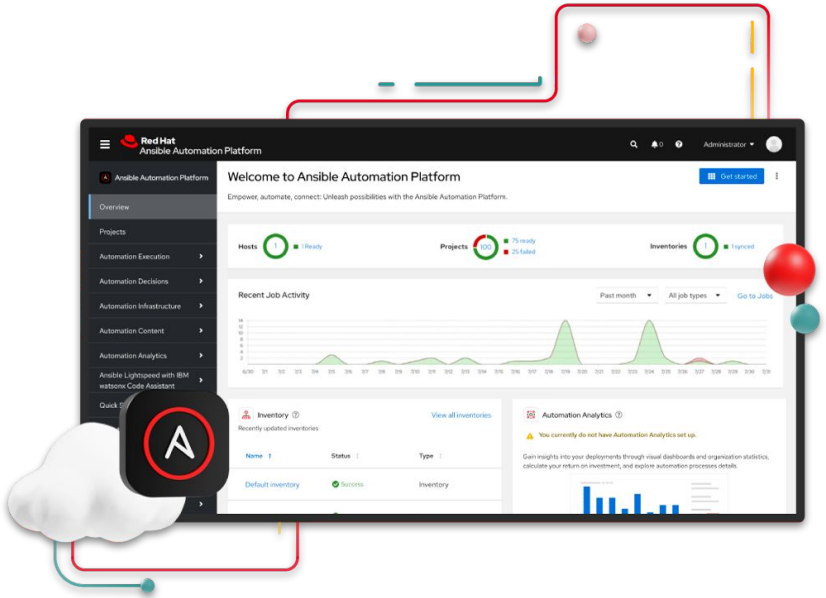
AAP Modernization | **Enabling product evolution**

Changes upstream enable us to accelerate the product service strategy

- ✓ **Analytics Service** | Counting of indirect and direct devices to make subscription reporting easier for customers
- ✓ **Content Service** | Provides content loaded into AAP including EE builder, templates, projects, templates and workflows populated into UI, and quickstarts to help users start automating as soon as they log in
- ✓ **Policy As Code Service** | Policy as Code deployed as a new service to enable policy based actions in AAP
- ✓ **Auth Service** | Centralization all of the disparate authentication components from Controller, Hub and EDA



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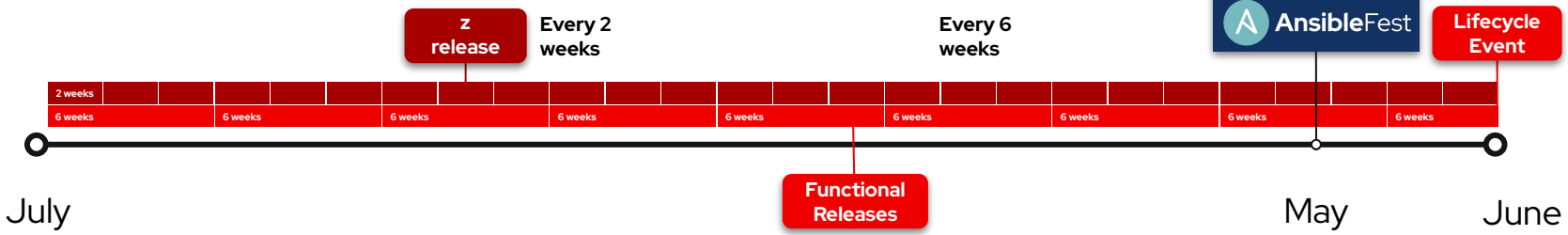
Product roadmap | **Updated release cadence**

Ansible Automation Platform is now also backed by a 3-year support cycle

Before (AAP 2.4):

Now (2.5 and later):



Product roadmap | **Overview**

Timeframe	Create	Manage	Scale
Immediate term (Q4 2024)	✓ Containerized Install ✓ Unified UI	Ansible as a Service (AWS) ✓ Event-Driven Ansible: High Availability	✓ Event-Driven Ansible: Credential management ✓ Event-Driven Ansible: RBAC + SSO
Short term (1H 2025)	Enhanced onboarding experience Push-button provisioning Ansible development workspaces	Artifact management Ansible Lightspeed: Ecosystem collections + feature enhancements	Automated policy as code
Medium term (2H 2025)	Enhanced Platform experience	Pre-seeded automation use cases	GRC reporting integrations

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Product roadmap | **The Road to Summit '25**

	9.30.24 **AAP 2.5 GA**	**Oct '24**	**Nov '24**	**Dec '24**	**Jan '25**	**Feb '25**	**Mar '25**	**April '25**	**RH Summit 2025**
Ansible Automation Platform		*10.24.24* AAP 2.5 upgrades support		Updated Deployment Topologies	Improved Docs Usability	Pluggable Credential Service integrated into AAP	Improved AAP analytics to count managed nodes directly and indirectly		Policy as Code | Enhanced Platform Experience | Platform Architecture evolution
Ansible on Clouds			*11.14.24* AAP on AWS GA			Ansible on Azure Upgrades to 2.5			
Ansible Lightspeed				AAP Chatbot Cloud Service		AAP Chatbot On-Premise with OAI & RHELAI	RCA + Remediation of Job Failures		
AAP Modernisation		Centralised RBAC service Design	Design for next gen messaging service (Redis alternative)	API Mocking and Testing implemented for new service based architecture	Credential and Inventory Plugins Partner Onboarding		Content Service Integrated into AAP to Build EE and Content into AAP		

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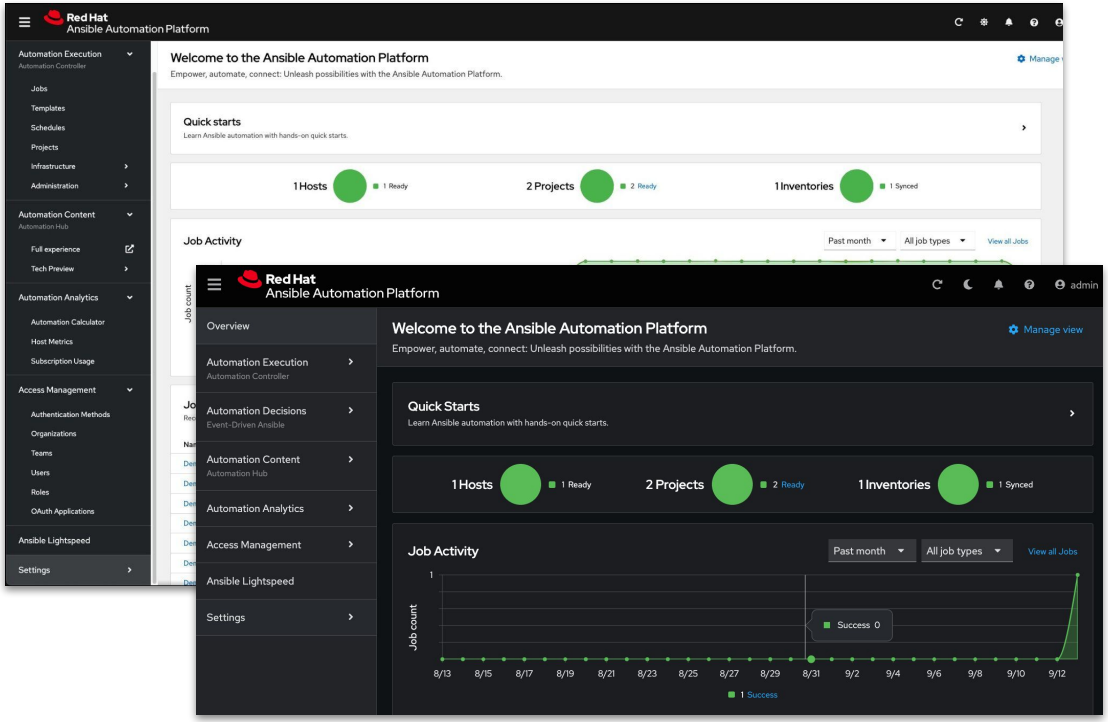
Product roadmap | **Unified UI - Upgrades**

Timeframe: Q4 2024

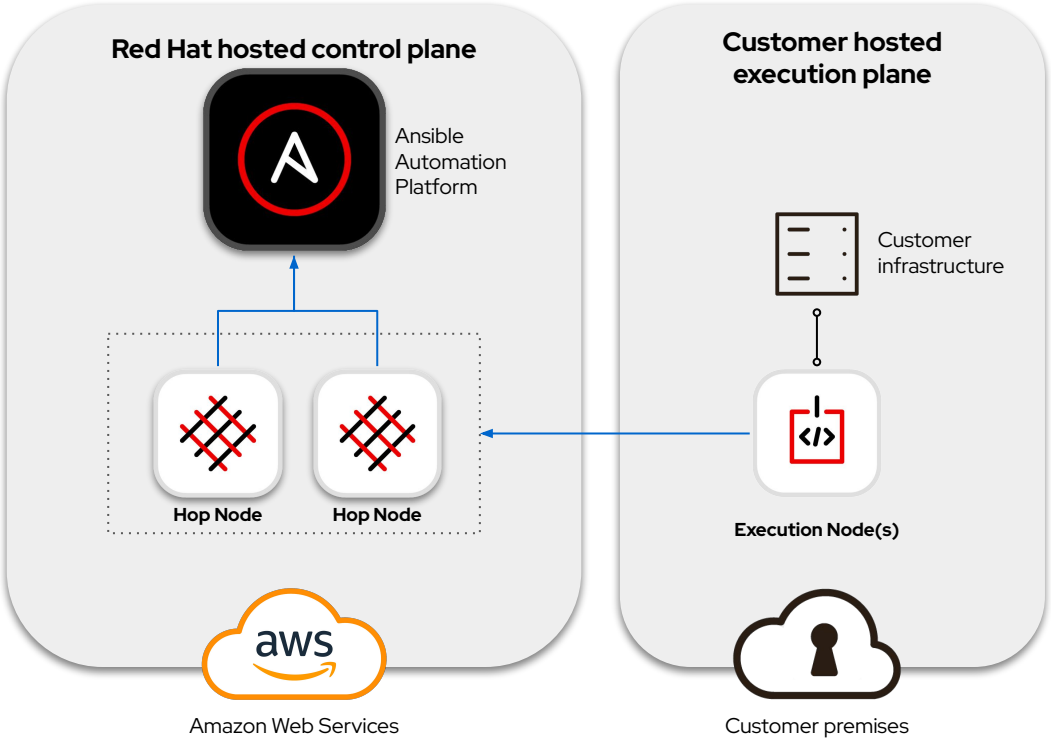
- A new interface that delivers an improved experience for operators, developers and platform administrators, with a more consistent and centralized:
  - WebUI
  - API
  - Authentication and authorization
  - Role based access controls (RBAC)

- Upgrades in AAP 2.5 lay the foundation for future enhancements to the Day 2 operations platform experience.



Product roadmap | **Ansible Automation Platform Service on AWS**

Timeframe: Q4 2024



- **Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform Service on AWS** is a fully managed Ansible Automation Platform control plane
- **EDA** to be delivered 1H 2025
- **Execution nodes** - deployed in your infrastructure, with the ability to pull automation tasks vs push, simplifying networking and minimizing network security configuration

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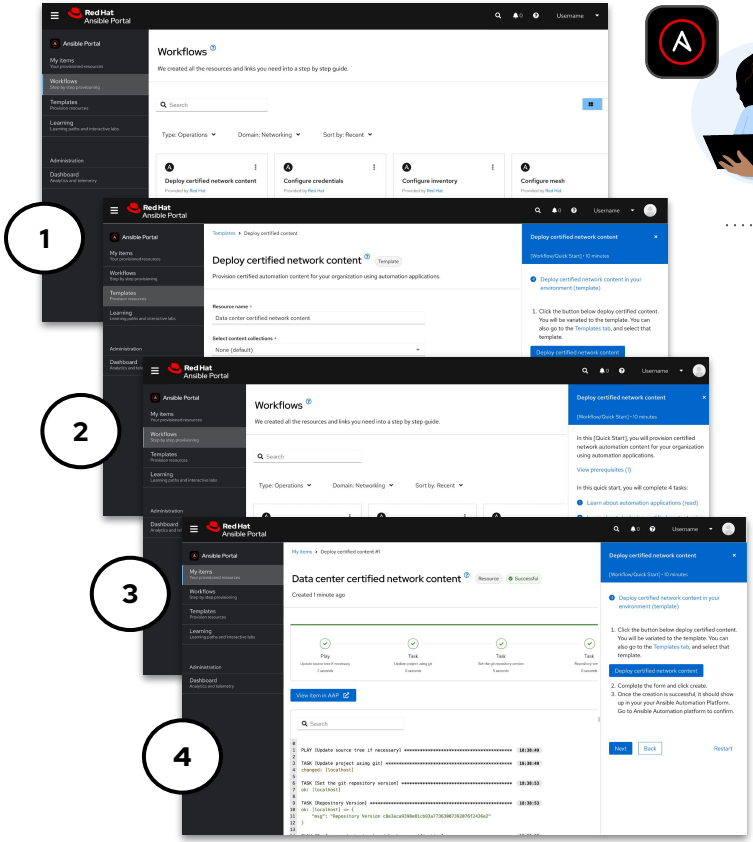
Product roadmap | **Enhanced platform experience**

Timeframe: 1H 2025



Persona: New Ansible Automation Platform operator

Scenario: *"I've completed my onboarding. Now I need to provision automation content for my networking team"*

1. Learn | How do I populate Ansible Certified Content in AAP?

2. Provision | Selects "Provision certified network content" guided wizard

3. Configure | Configures content for environment

4. Deploy | Deploys Ansible certified network content

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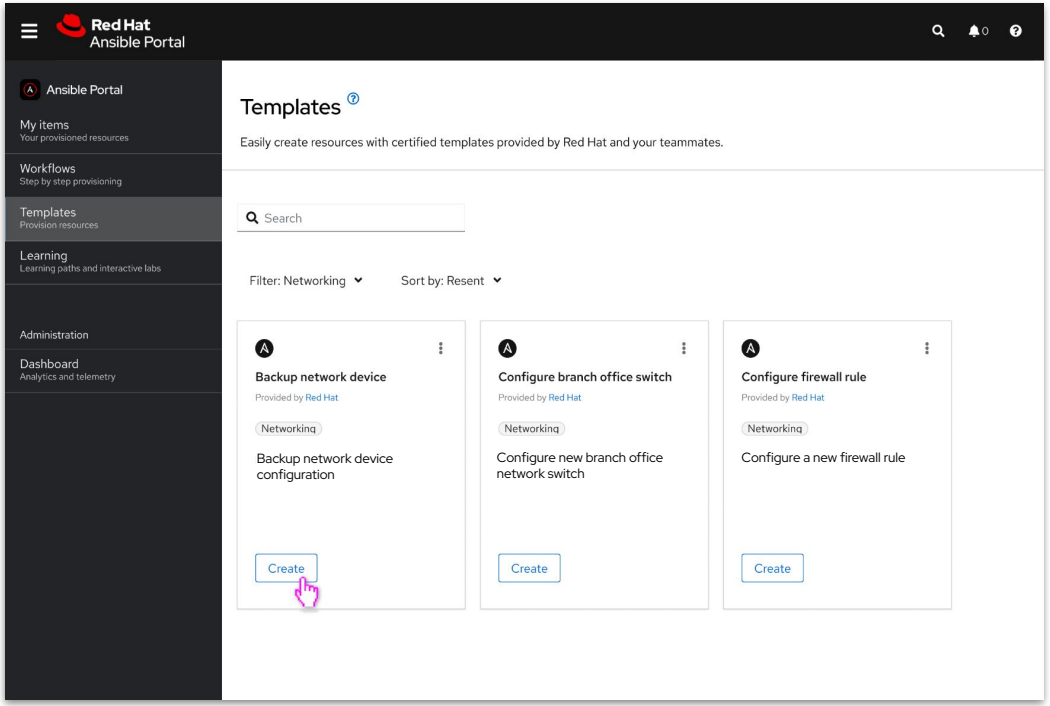
Product roadmap | **Ansible Automation Templates**

Timeframe: 1H 2025



Aligns development with operations

- Establishes trust and collaboration among teams; connects Ansible content creation with the deployment of IT workflows

Reduces friction through self-service operations

- Users can consume trusted automation to perform their jobs without needing to speak or learn "Ansible."

Enhances IT productivity

- Users are enabled with an opinionated set of operational tasks that adhere to organizational standards and best practices.

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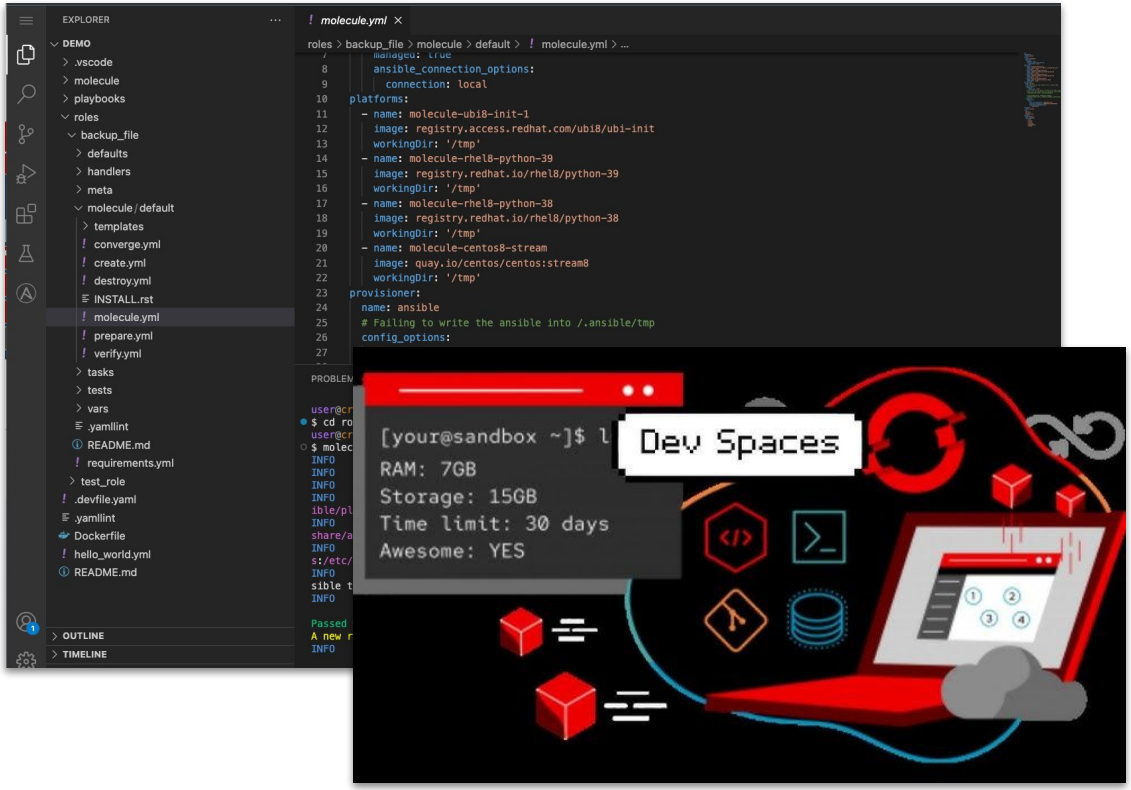
Product roadmap | **Browser-based Ansible development workspaces**

Timeframe: 1H 2025



- One-click provisioning of an integrated development environment (IDE) with Ansible-specific tooling + generative AI.
- Provides centralized browser-based environments that adhere to Ansible best practices, ensuring consistency and security.

Designed to help AAP customers…

- ✓ **Simplify creation**, testing, and deployment of Ansible content
- ✓ Improve **onboarding, quality, trust, and reliability** with a **supported** framework built for the enterprise.

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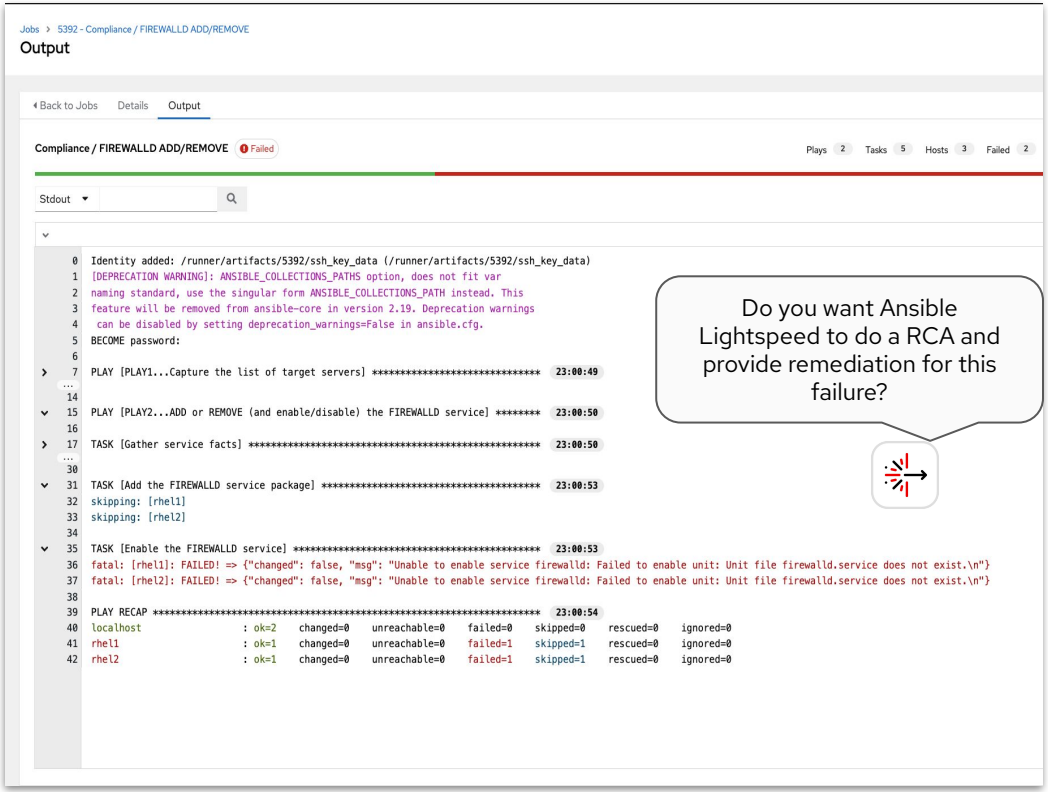
Product roadmap | **Ansible Lightspeed enhancements**

Timeframe: 1H 2025



Chat-bot integrated into the user experience

- Intelligent chat-bot assistant provides real-time support and guidance to improve user productivity.

Insight into Ansible content reliability

- Root cause analysis of associated playbooks with guidance to understand misconfigurations, network issues, or playbook errors.

Resolution of errors and code failures

- Suggests improvements and provides step-by-step instructions on how to remediate; can directly apply remediations given appropriate user permissions.

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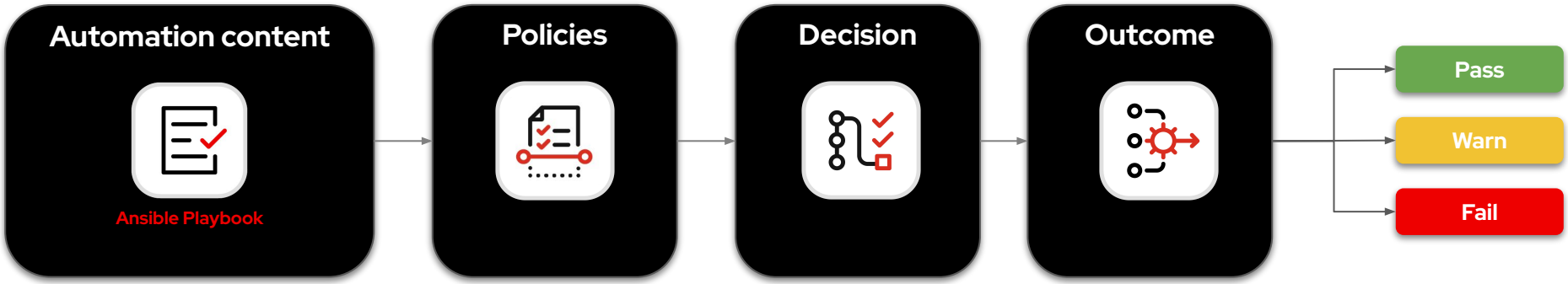
Product roadmap | **Automated policy enforcement**

Process overview



Automation content is executed

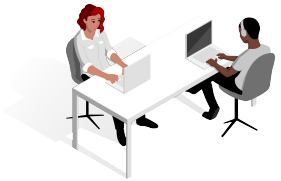
Automation content is scanned and will be validated against configured policies

The decision maker controls what to do if non compliance is detected.

Product roadmap | **Automated policy as code**

Timeframe: 2H 2025

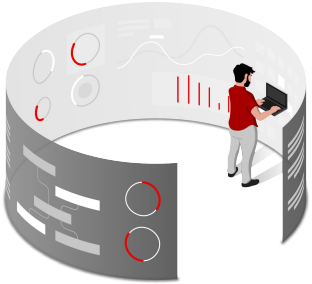
Ansible Automation Platform as a solution for governance, risk, and compliance



Create

Verify policy enforcement during the development cycle

Accelerate policy review during automation content development



Manage

Deliver integrated policy enforcement based on individual needs

Discretionary or mandatory checks before or during automation runs

Scale

Reporting mechanisms to support compliance status and audit tracking

Streamline compliance and audit reporting

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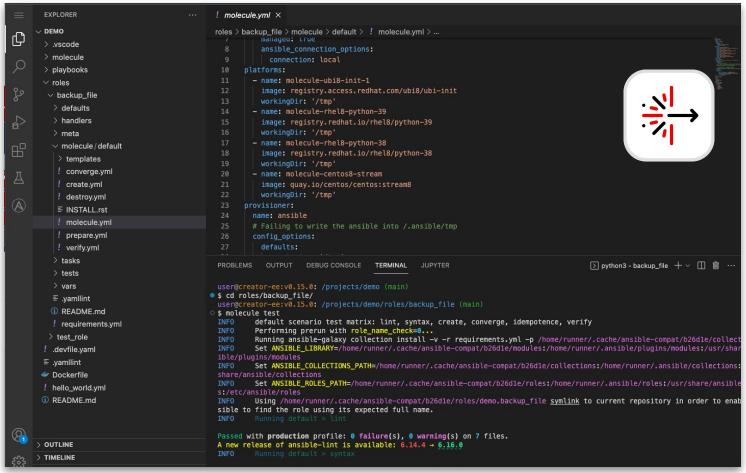
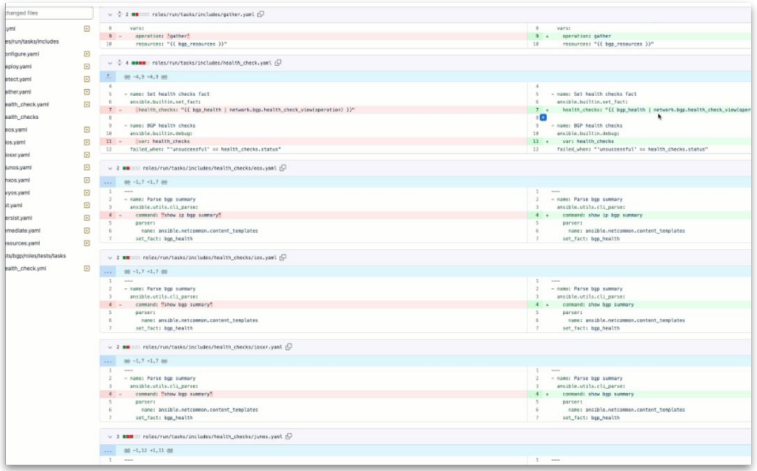
Product roadmap | **AI-generated ecosystem collections**

Timeframe: 2H 2025





AI-powered VSCode Chat-Bot

- Integrating a chatbot into VSCode will drive adoption by empowering users to quickly generate new content streamlining the automation within their development environment.

Code Transformation and Modernization

- Auto-scan and run modernization updates, including migrating to and building collections from large automation projects, making automation shareable, and upgrading Ansible versions.

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Resources + next steps

- AAP homepage ▸
- YouTube Playlist ▸
- The AAP blog channel ▸
- Datasheet ▸
- Self-paced interactive labs ▸

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