

Red Hat Launches Ansible-Native Container Workflow Project

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Community-powered Ansible Container enables complete container creation from Ansible Playbooks, reducing reliance on external Docker tools

RALEIGH, N.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Red Hat, Inc. (NYSE: RHT), the world's leading provider of open source solutions, today announced the launch of Ansible Container under the Ansible project, which provides the leading simple, powerful, and agentless open source IT automation framework. Available now as a technology preview, Ansible Container allows for the complete creation of Docker-formatted Linux containers within Ansible Playbooks, eliminating the need to use external tools like Dockerfile or docker-compose.

While standardization is emerging for container formats in the form of the Open Container Initiative, the tooling space is still fragmented, with developers often forced to work outside of the enterprise workstream to create and deploy containerized applications. Ansible Container changes this dynamic, by bringing Linux container development into the existing workstream through the easy-to-consume Ansible Playbook, adding cloud-native application development side-by-side with traditional application building.

Alongside Ansible Container, the Ansible project has also launched new Kubernetes modules which allow for the production of Kubernetes templates directly from an Ansible playbook. Combining the two new offerings, IT teams can now build Linux containers directly from a playbook and deploy to a Kubernetes-based container application platform, like Red Hat OpenShift, in a more streamlined and efficient manner.

Ansible enables developers and IT operators to more easily and quickly deploy IT applications and environments, empowering them to remove barriers between IT teams by automating routine activities such as network configuration, cloud deployments, and creation of development environments. Ansible's modular code base, combined with ease of contribution, and a community of contributors in GitHub, enables the powerful IT automation platform to manage today's infrastructure, but also adapt to new IT needs and DevOps workflows.

With the capabilities of Ansible Container, users will be able to automate their existing infrastructure and networks with Ansible playbooks, while using additional playbooks to containerize their applications and deploy them on a container application platform. This allows for continuity of operations by preserving existing IT investments and critical applications/systems without sacrificing innovation in the form of cloud-native applications and container orchestration at scale.

The automated container creation and deployment offered by Ansible factor into Red Hat's existing container infrastructure stack, which now includes:

A stable, container-centric operating system in Red Hat Enterprise Linux Atomic Host.

An enterprise-grade, Kubernetes- and Docker-native container application platform through Red Hat OpenShift and the recently announced next-generation [OpenShift Online public cloud service](#).

Infrastructure management, automation and monitoring across hybrid environments with Red Hat CloudForms, Red Hat Insights, Red Hat Satellite and Ansible Tower by Red Hat.

Massively-scalable private and hybrid cloud architecture for large-scale container deployments through Red Hat OpenStack Platform and Red Hat Cloud Suite, which also includes Red Hat OpenShift.

Red Hat's container stack provides a fully-open, enterprise-grade experience, from developers building cloud native applications to operations teams managing and monitoring a diverse set of hybrid applications and environments. Built entirely from upstream, community-driven projects, Red Hat's container portfolio provides the innovation to drive the next-generation of enterprise IT while also allowing for the retention of mission-critical modern and legacy systems.

For more details or to try it in its current form, visit the [Ansible Container project](#).

Supporting Quote

Greg DeKoenigsberg, director, Ansible community

"Many users in our community have already grown accustomed to using Ansible to deploy and manage their containers, and the Ansible Container project is an encapsulation of many of the community's best ideas, brought together into a single tool. The user traction we've received in a fairly short period of time indicates to us that we're targeting a critical need in the container tooling space."

Additional Resources

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Attend Ask an Expert [Webinar](#) on Containers, Wednesday, July 13

Attend [AnsibleFest San Francisco](#), Thursday, July 28

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