Red Hat
Ansible Automation
Platform

Ansible Automation Platform 2.5

What's new & Roadmap

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Ansible vs AWX vs Ansible Automation Platform
Terminology may be similar but command-line Ansible, AWX & AAP are different

Singular workloads
Free, unsupported open source command line tool for automation.

Small teams, sandboxes
Free, unsupported open source software. A GUI and API tool for wrapping around community Ansible.

Enterprise automation
Subscription enterprise product. Combines 20+ upstream projects in a fully supported automation platform for enterprise.

AWX Modernization | Background

- The AWX application is still largely based on Ansible Tower code Red Hat acquired when it acquired Ansible in 2015. Red Hat has favored stability in the code base to best serve our customers as we were the primary contributors - **but the current architecture of AWX makes the addition of new capabilities difficult and time-consuming**. Maintaining the current design of AWX has created a situation where we have functional, structural and performance challenges in AWX. Due to its age AWX, needs to be modernized along cloud native application principles.

- This is a now affecting releases of Ansible Automation Platform, as working within the confines of the dated AWX architecture is complicating the release of new capabilities.

  As a result, AWX has a very small community of contributors because of the complexity of the monolithic stack. The majority of the contributors (99 %) and all the maintainers are Red Hat employees.

- To solve for this, we are working on changes that will modernize AWX. These changes are not without precedent. In 2018, collections were removed from core in order to accelerate collection development and remove their dependency on Ansible core release cycles.

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AWX Modernization | **Architectural changes**

- In order to modernize AWX, we will be moving to a services based architecture with multiple repositories and components (see diagram below)

- Once this initiative is complete, "AWX" will just be the Scheduler. The other components will be distributed separately across other repositories.
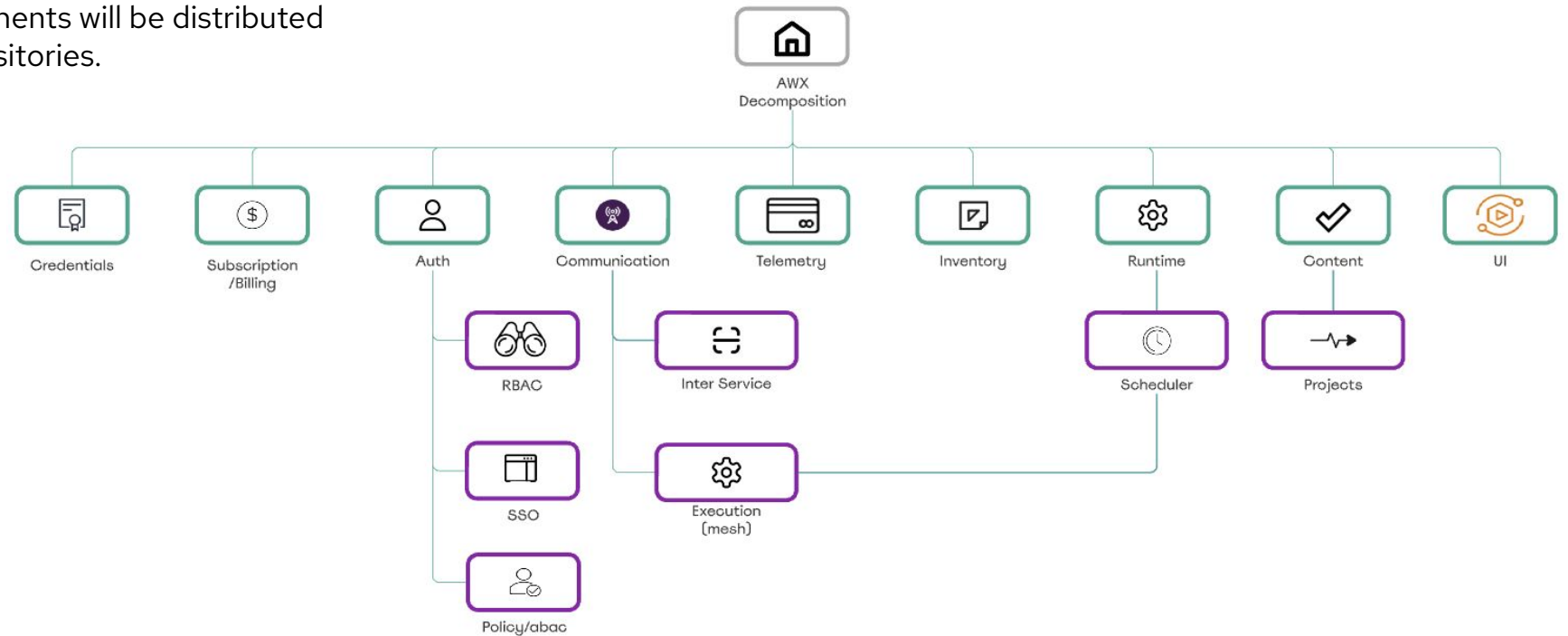
AWX Modernization | Implications

- AWX is changing from a single, monolithic GitHub repository to multiple repos corresponding to different services (libraries)

- Functionality already moved to its own repositories:
    - UI (legacy UI removed from AWX repo)
    - Inventory and Credentials plugins

- Functionality receiving its own repositories will be:
    - Authentication & RBAC (in progress)
    - Telemetry
    - Subscription and Billing

- Back to the roots: AWX is becoming a proper innovative upstream project again

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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.
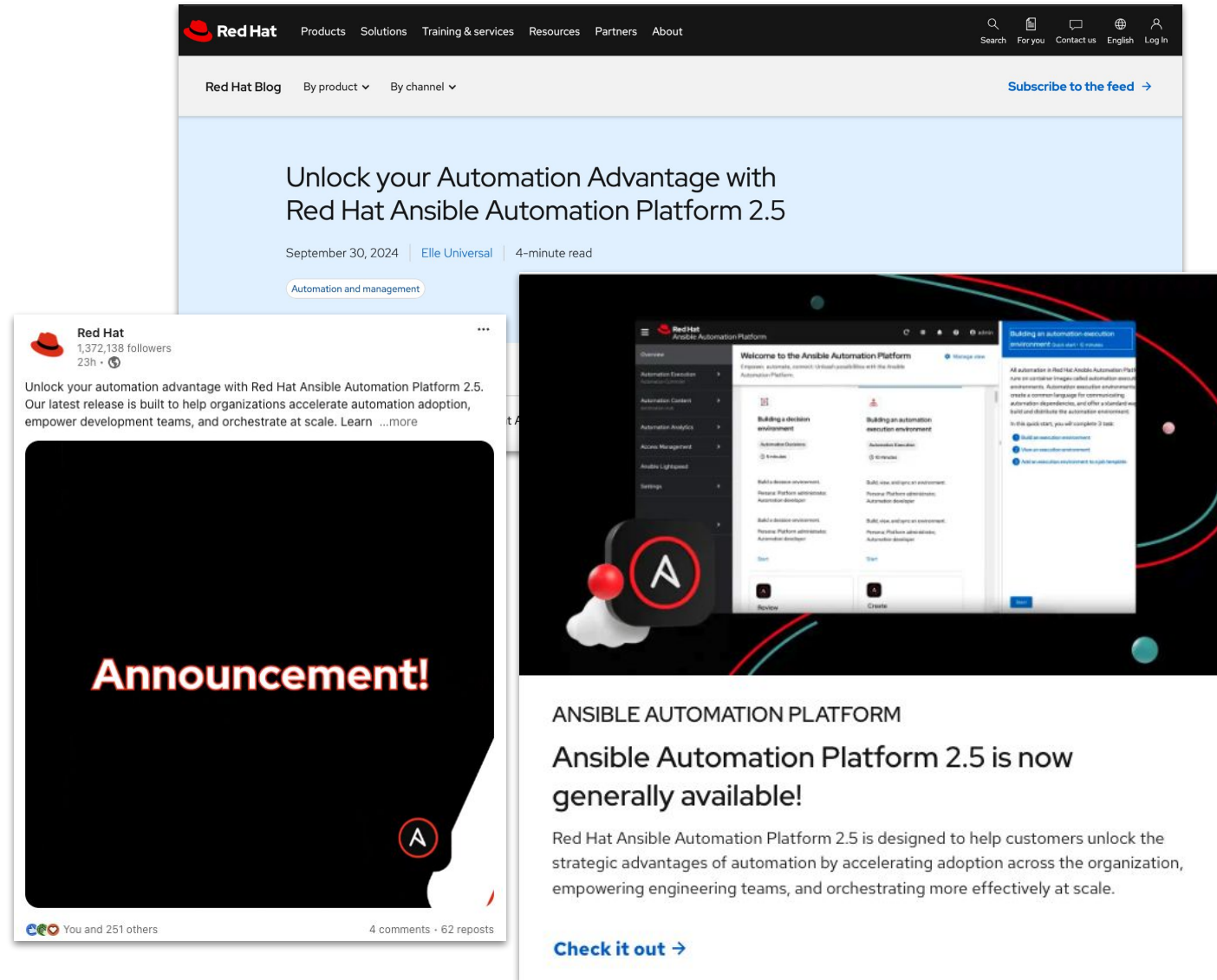
Scale

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

Network
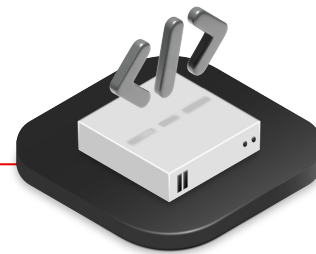
Operating systems

Cloud
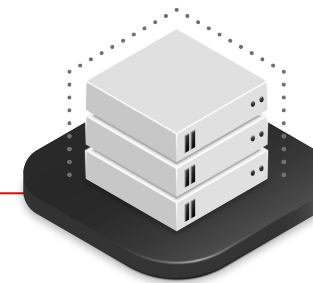
Virtualization

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:
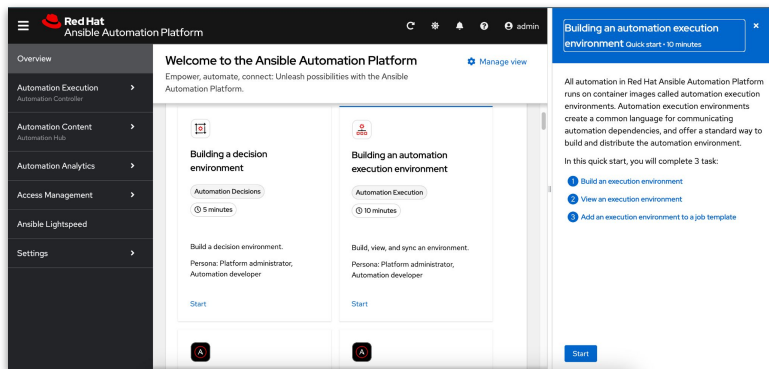> **Planned GA for October 28th**

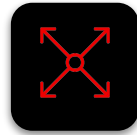# Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform | **Our latest release**

Ansible Automation Platform 2.5

Ease of Use

> Unified UI

> Containerized installation

> Ansible quick starts

> New collections for managing AAP

Scaling Automation
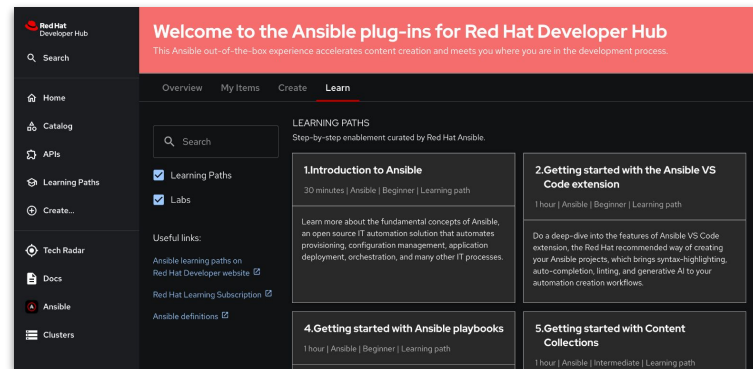
> Ansible development tools

> Ansible Lightspeed with IBM watsonx Code Assistant enhancements

> Ansible plug-ins for Red Hat Developer Hub

Mission Critical Platform
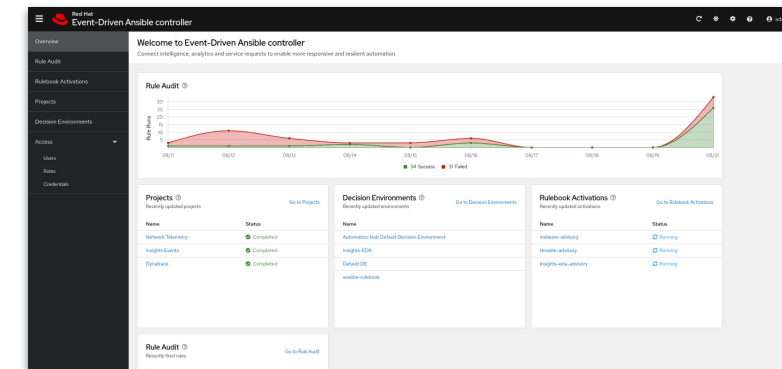
> New and enhanced ecosystem collections + partnerships across all domains

> 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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Platform
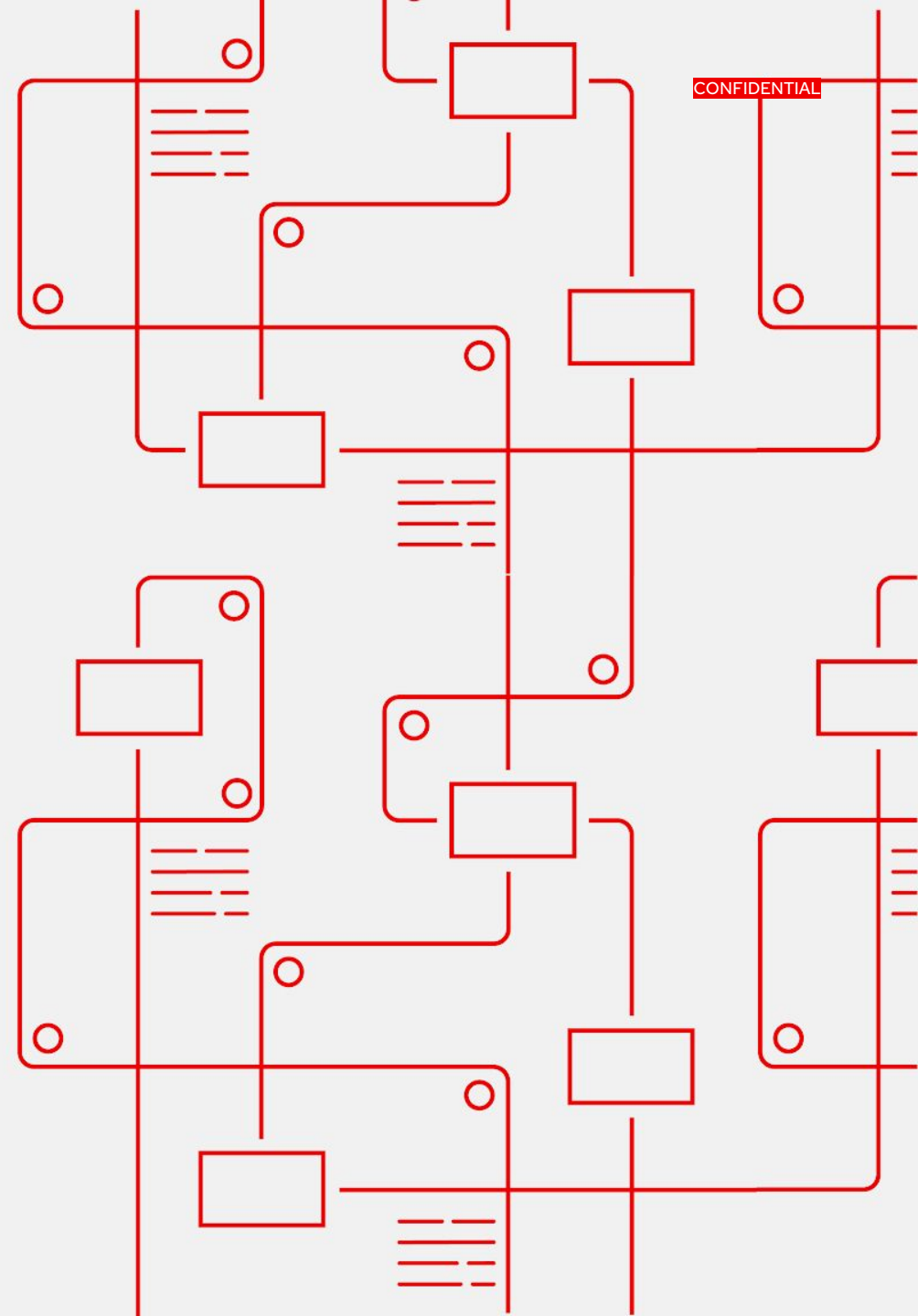
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AAP Modernization | **Enabling product evolution**

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, projects, templates and workflows populated into UI, and quickstarts to help users start automating as soon as they log in

✓ **Policy As Code** | Policy as Code deployed into AAP to connect with external policy services to enable policy based actions in AAP

✓ **Auth Service** | Centralization all of the disparate authentication components from Controller, Hub and EDA

Ansible BU strategy + roadmap
State of the market
Product vision + strategy
What's ahead in 2025
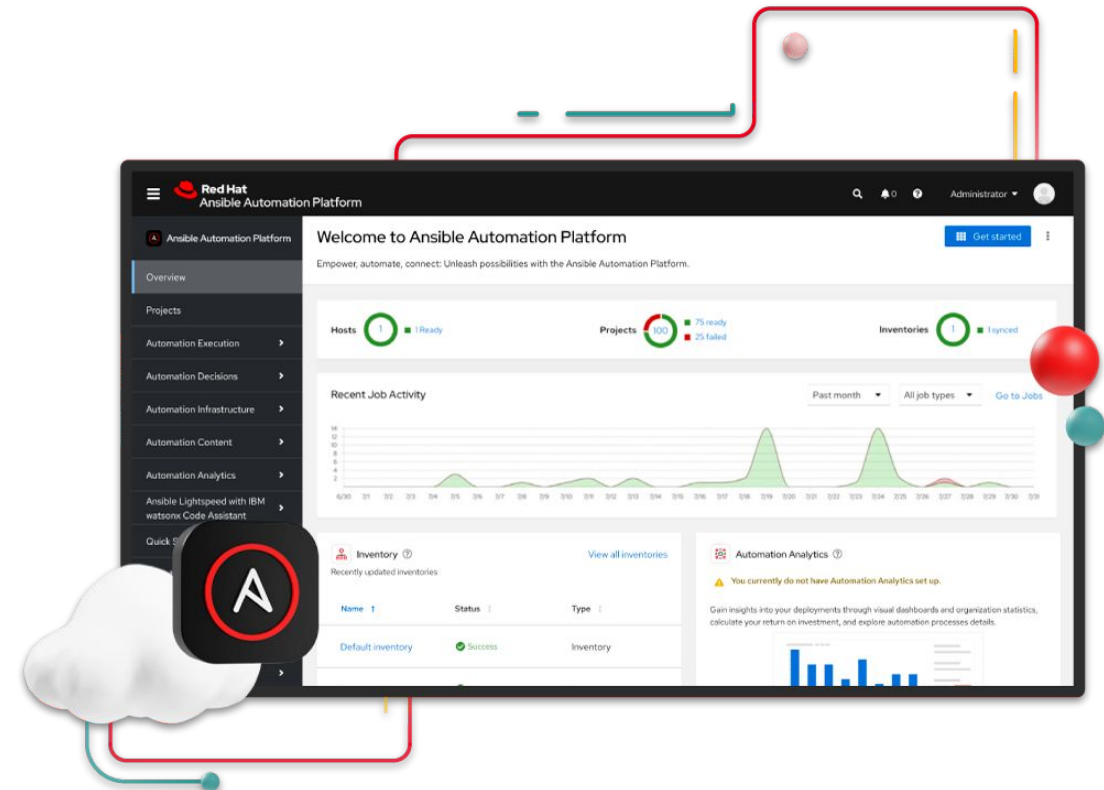
Updated release cadence

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

Before (AAP 2.4):

z release — Every 2 weeks

2 weeks

1 year

AnsibleFest

AAP Release — Once a year

July

May

June

2.5. YYYMMDD

Major
Minor
z streamless

Now (2.5 and later):

z release — Every 2 weeks

Every 6 weeks

2 weeks

6 weeks | 6 weeks | 6 weeks | 6 weeks | 6 weeks | 6 weeks | 6 weeks | 6 weeks | 6 weeks

AnsibleFest

Lifecycle Event

July

May

June

Functional Releases
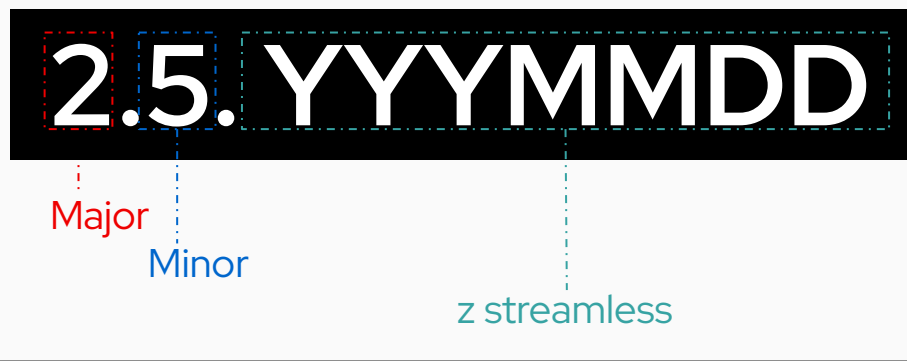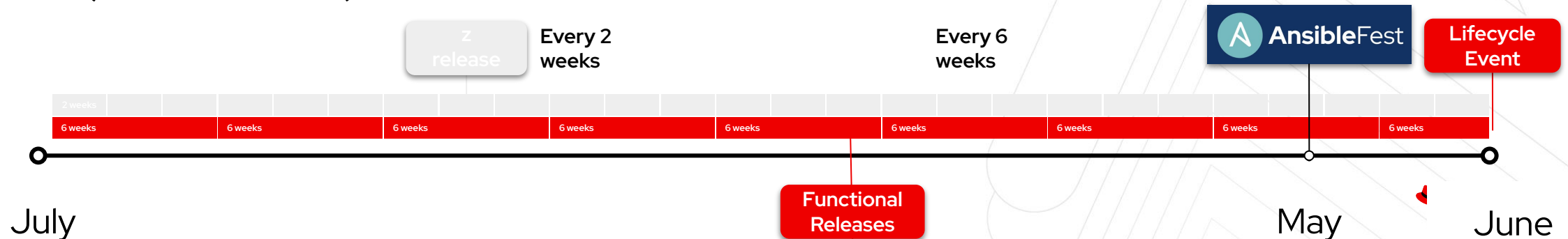
Product roadmap | Unified UI – Upgrades
Timeframe: Q4 2024
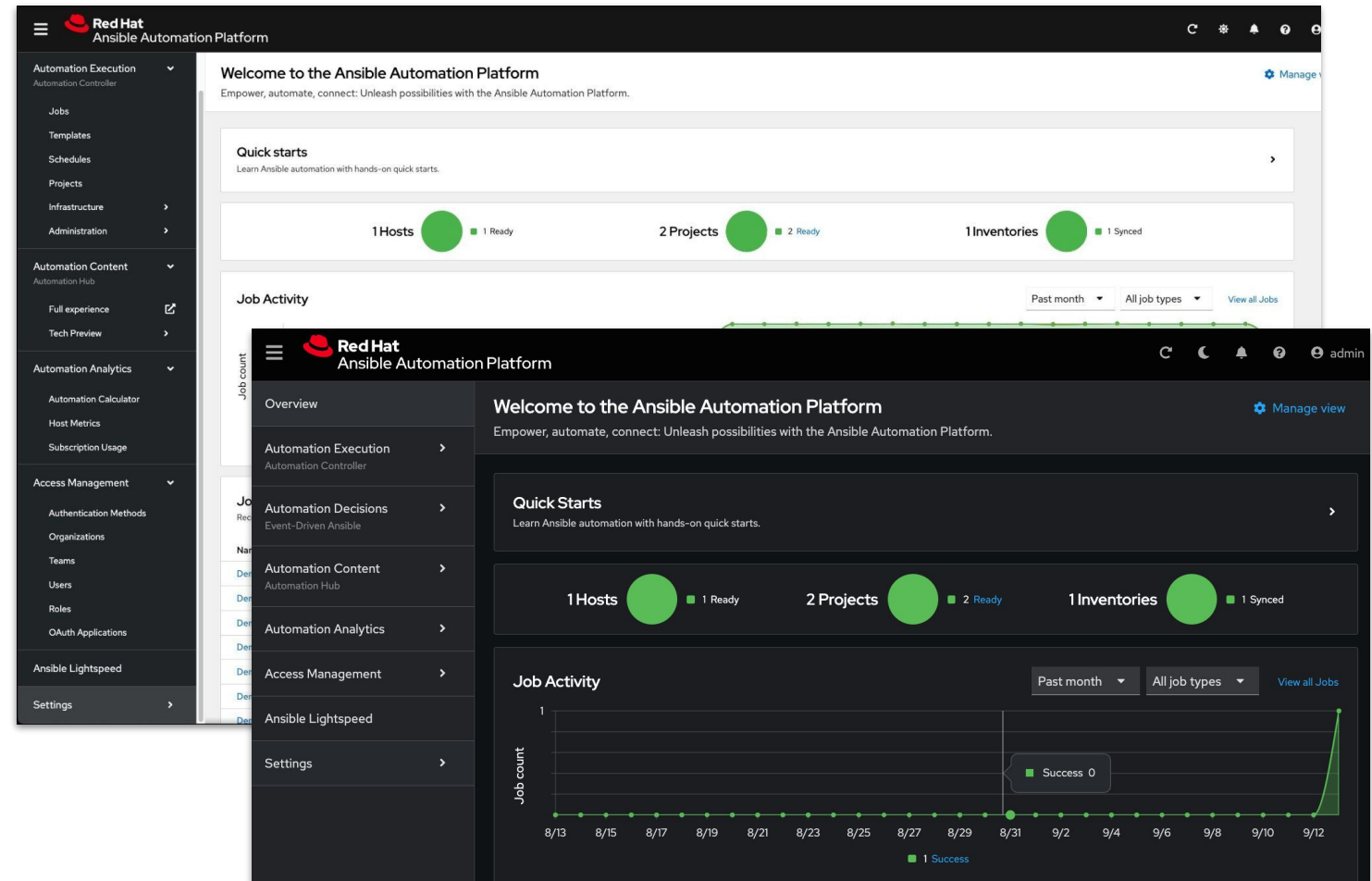
> A new interface that delivers an improved experience for operators, developers and platform administrators, with a more consistent and centralized:
>> WebUI
>> API
>> Authentication and authorization
>> Role based access controls (RBAC)

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

Roadmap | **Enhanced platform experience**
Timeframe: 2H 2025
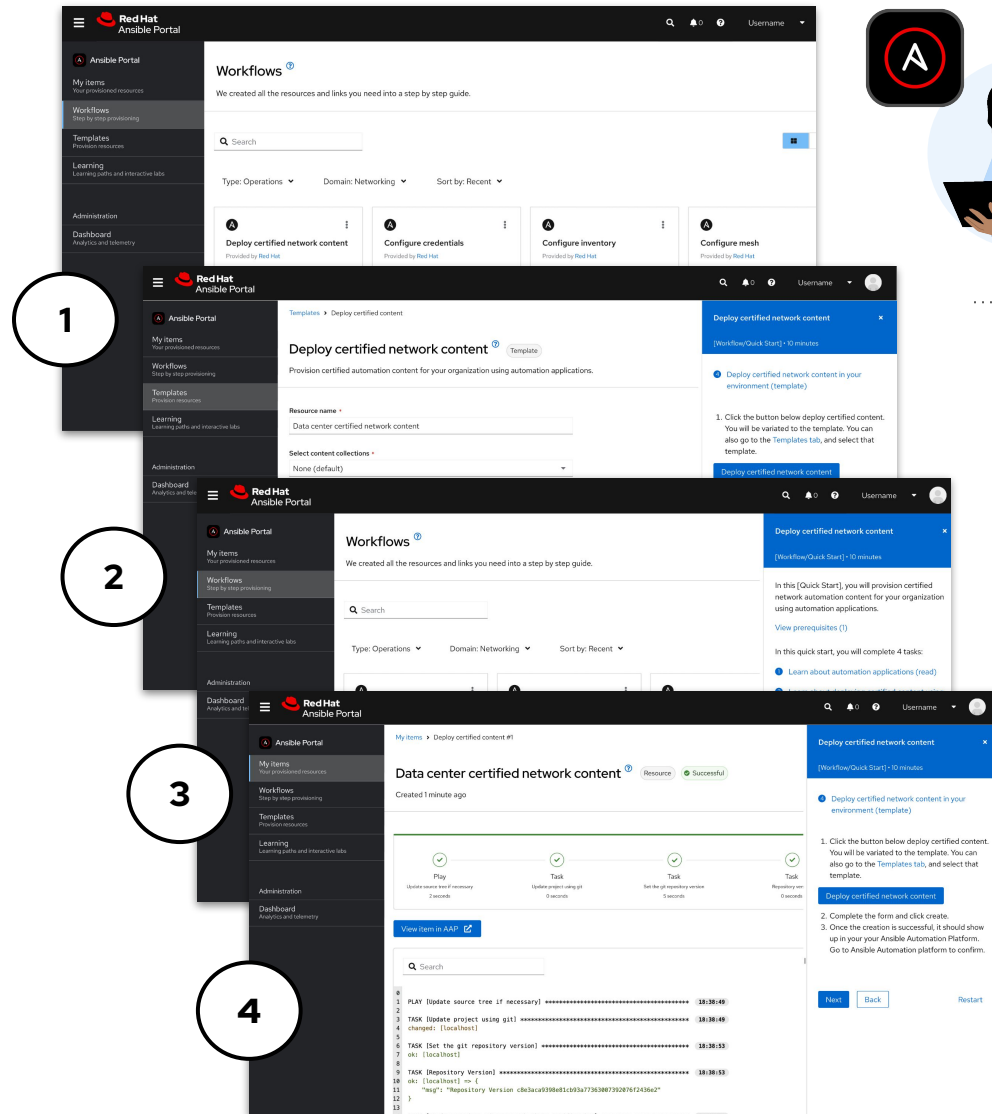
Persona: New Ansible Automation Platform operator

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

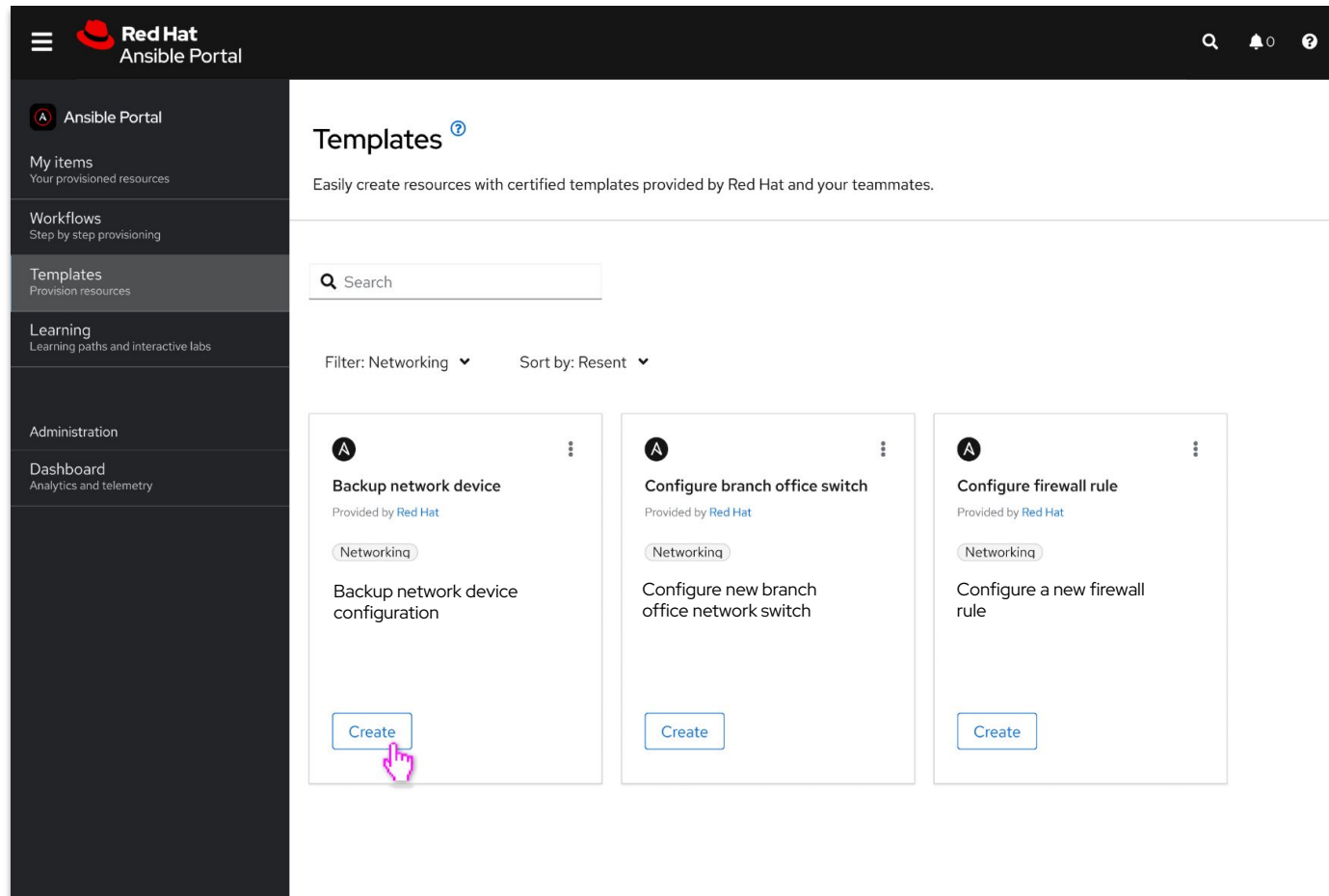**3. Configure** | Configures content for environment

4. Deploy | Deploys Ansible certified network content

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."
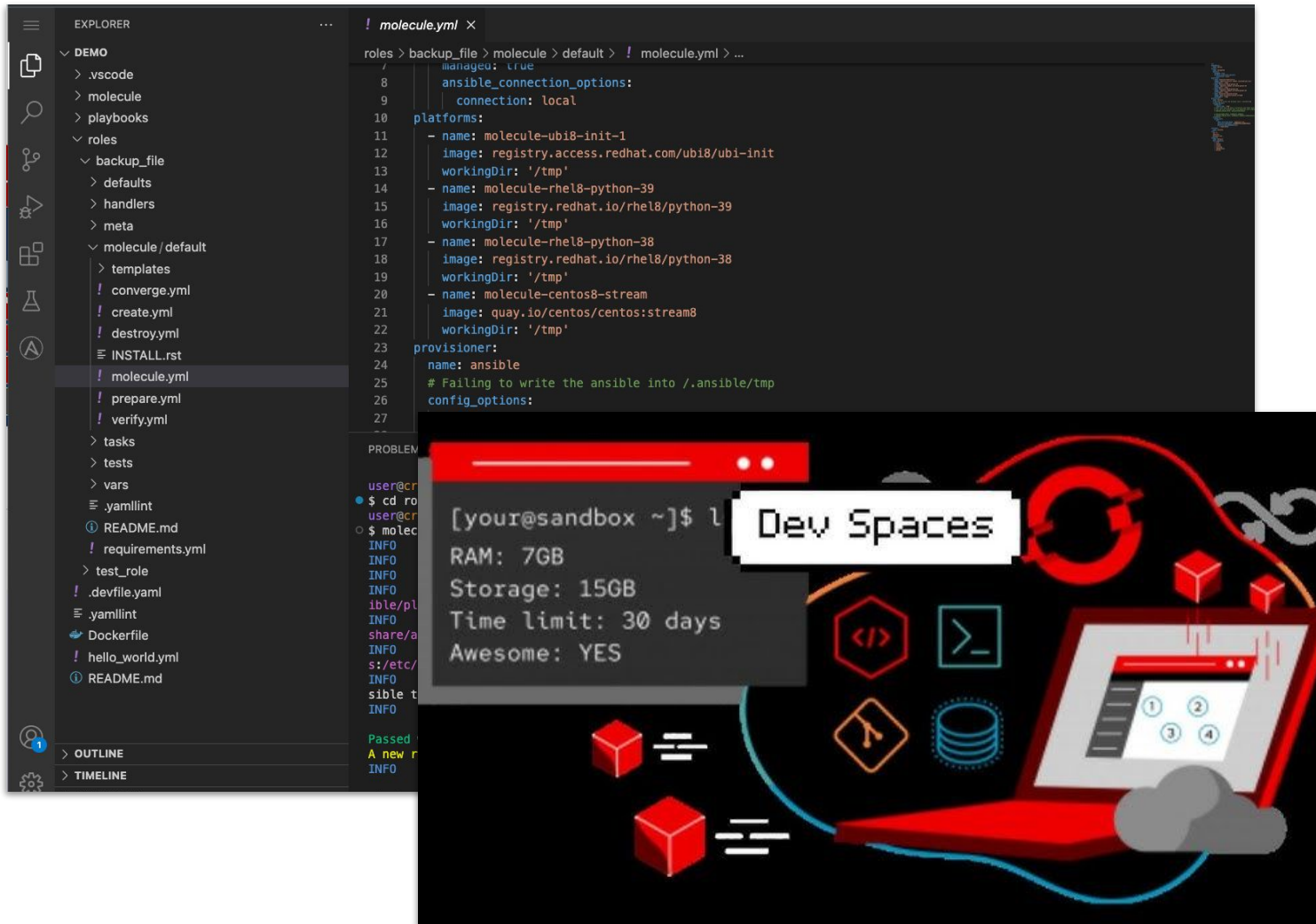
Enhances IT productivity

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

# 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.

Product roadmap | **Ansible Lightspeed enhancements**

Timeframe: 1H 2025
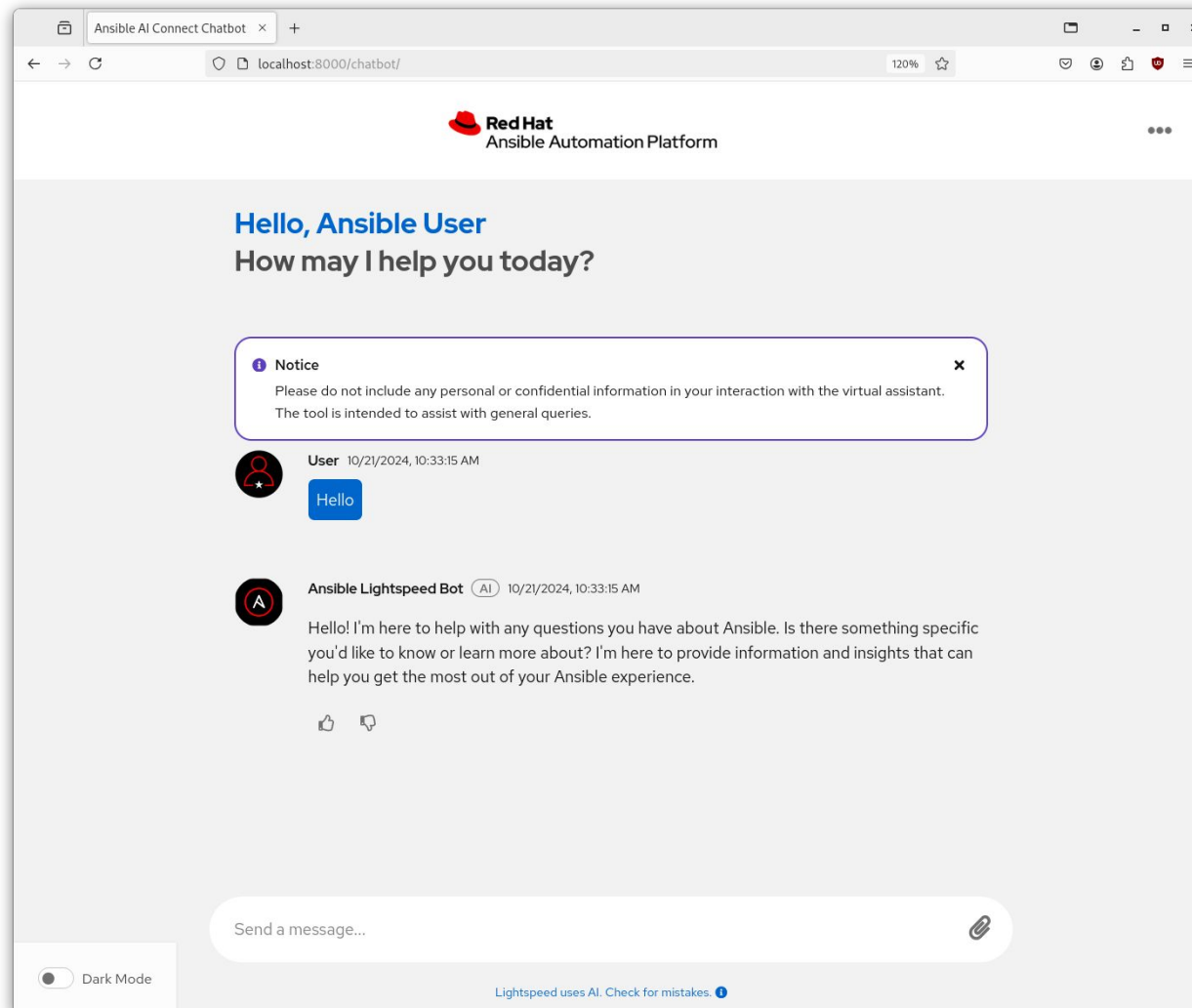
Chat-bot integrated into the user experience

> 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.
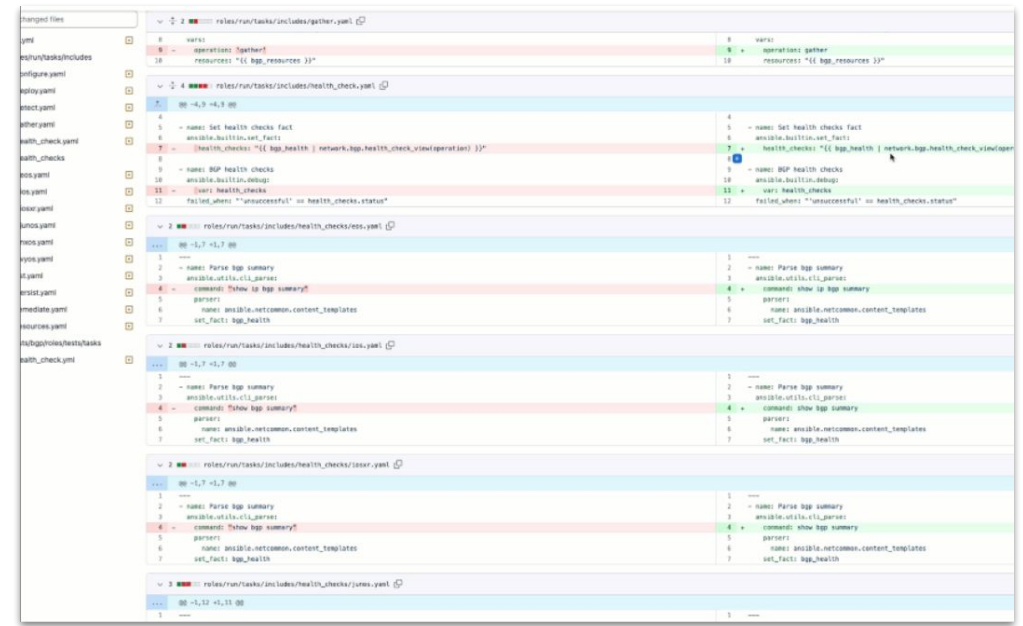
Product roadmap | AI-generated ecosystem collections

Timeframe: 2H 2025
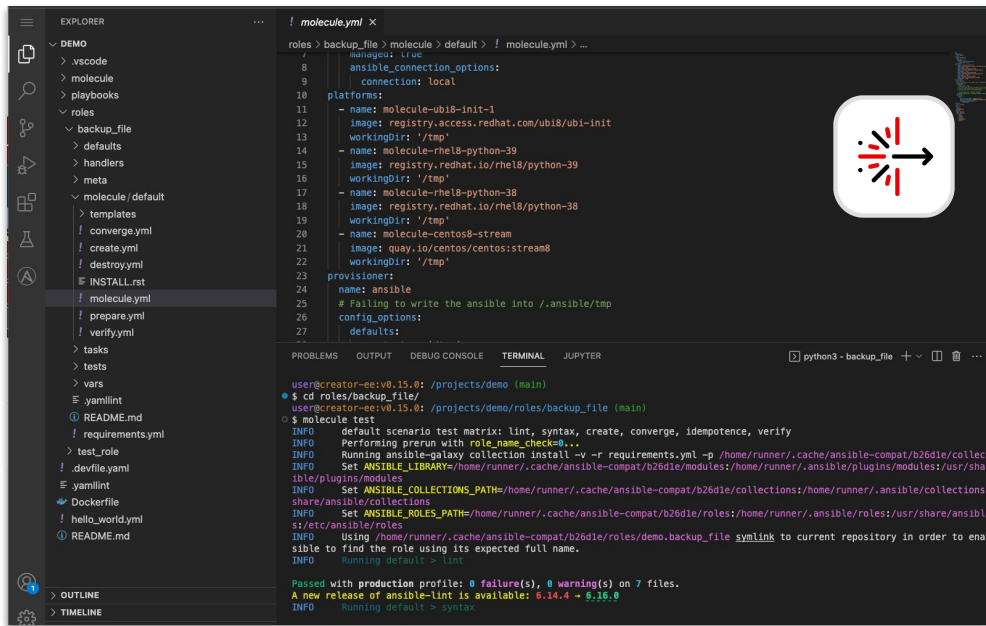
AI-powered VSCode Chat-Bot

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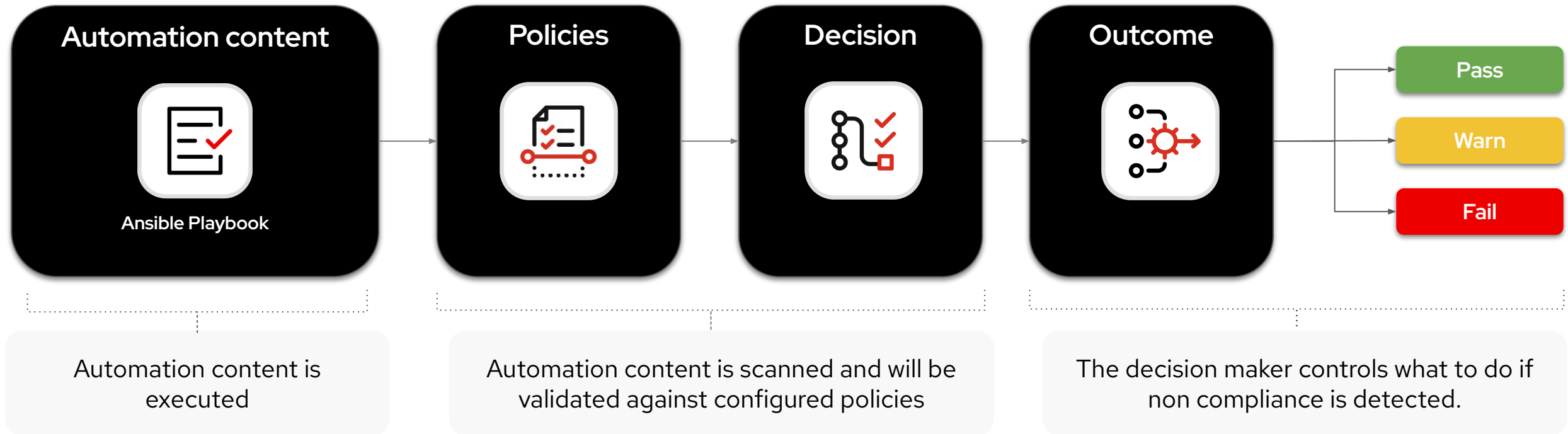
Code Transformation and Modernization

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

Product roadmap | **Automated policy enforcement**

Process overview

Automation content	Policies	Decision	Outcome	
Ansible Playbook				Pass Warn Fail

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.

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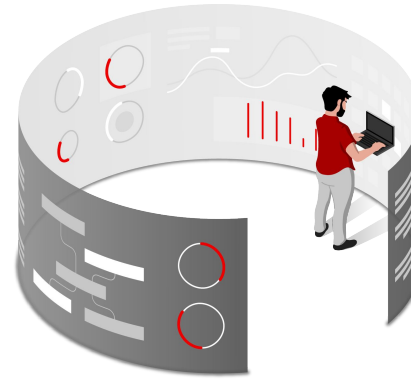# Product roadmap | **Automated policy as code**

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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Ansible Automation Platform

Tech Journey
Build your automation strategy

A series of webinars, demos, and workshops

REGISTER   NEXT SESSIONS   ON-DEMAND ACCESS   OTHER TECH JOURNEYS   EXPLORE MORE   MANAGE YOUR SESSIONS

With technology constantly evolving, it is on all of us to take the lead on IT innovation. Join our Red Hat® experts for a Tech Journey series of sessions designed to empower your organization with powerful automation tools. Take a look at the sessions taking place over the coming months and register for the ones that align with your interests.

What's in it for you?

Join us for an immersive journey into enterprise automation with Red Hat Ansible® Automation Platform. This journey includes interactive Ansible Automation Platform demo versions, allowing you to experience the system in real-life scenarios. You'll have the opportunity to engage directly with Red Hat

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red.ht/ansible-tech-journey

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Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform

Tech Journey

Build your automation strategy

Next Sessions

April 1, 2025 10:00 AM CET
Webinar
Your fast track to IT Automation with AWS and Red Hat

April 9, 2025 10:00 AM CET
Workshop
Getting started with Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform

April 24, 2025 10:00 AM CET
Demo
Installing Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform 2.5

May 6, 2025 10:00 AM CET
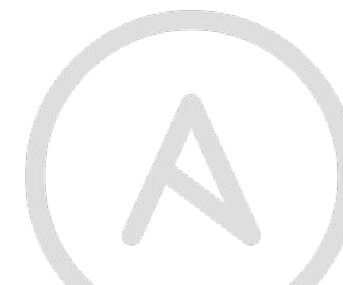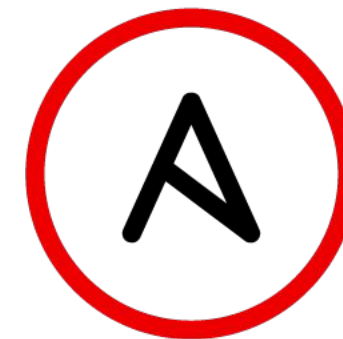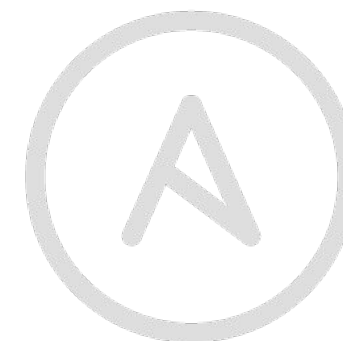**Demo**
Introduction to the new containerized installation

May 28, 2025 10:00 AM CET
Workshop
Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform 2.5 Deep Dive

June 5, 2025 10:00 AM CET
Demo
Ansible-Plugins for Red Hat Developer Hub (backstage)

Other Tech Journeys

[Adopt and scale AI](#)

[One platform. Unlimited potential](#)

[Straightforward migration. Lasting modernization.](#)

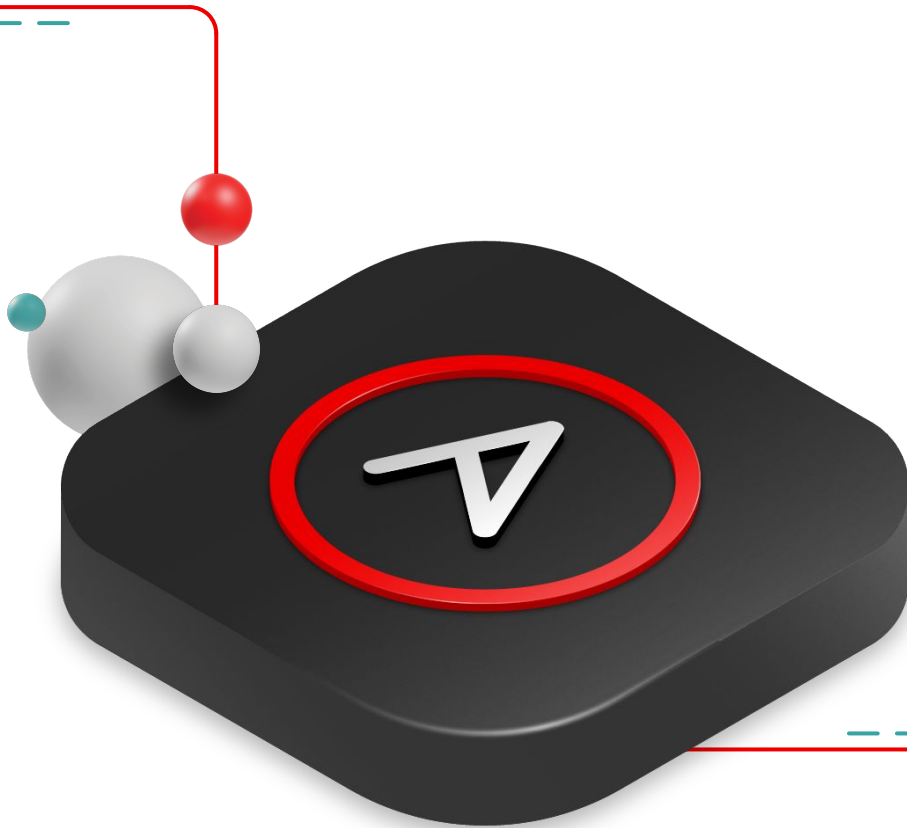[Accelerate your application modernization journey](#)

[Modernize your network with automation](#)

Resources + next steps

[AAP homepage ▸](#)

[YouTube Playlist ▸](#)

[The AAP blog channel ▸](#)

[Datasheet ▸](#)

[Self-paced interactive labs ▸](#)

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