Dell EMC OpenManage Ansible Modules for PowerEdge Servers

Accelerate automation for your PowerEdge Server infrastructure

Overview

Dell EMC OpenManage Ansible modules enable IT to use RedHat Ansible to automate and orchestrate important PowerEdge functions. OpenManage Ansible modules configure, deploy, and update rack, tower, and modular PowerEdge Servers and Chassis platforms. They operate by leveraging REST APIs provided by iDRAC, OpenManage Enterprise-Modular and OpenManage Enterprise.

Improve Agility with Intelligent Automation

Today's large IT data centers are complex, managing up to thousands of server configurations. It's important to unite workflows into a single pipeline. Automated provisioning ensures your business applications deploy against correctly configured environments. This brings scalability and rapid service deployments.

By automating common deployment tasks, Dell EMC OpenManage Ansible modules can save administrators significant time and effort over manual approaches[1]. You can write an Ansible playbook in human readable YAML code to automate the entire bare metal server configuration, deployment and update workflow. This allows you to introduce PowerEdge server provisioning into the same playbook used to deploy software stack. Using a software driven approach to entire server hardware and software stack management gives IT the much-needed agility to deliver new and updated services on an on-demand basis.

Accelerate DevOps with Infrastructure as Code

In recent years, Infrastructure as Code (IaC) has gained widespread adoption with DevOps. IaC defines the configuration of compute, network and storage through source code that can be treated like any software. You can provision a dynamic infrastructure in a matter of seconds rather than days by simply running software commands. It takes 72% less time and 33 fewer steps to configure a new server using OpenManage Ansible modules[1]. This guarantees rapid deployment with a consistent and compliant infrastructure.

Server Configuration Profiles (SCP) and Server templates seamlessly integrate into an Infrastructure as Code framework. Using SCP and Server templates, system administrators and developers can easily control versions and provision their PowerEdge servers. This simplifies server deployments and helps your organization to be more agile and innovative.

[1] Source: Principled Technologies, Give administrators time back with Dell EMC OpenManage Integrations, facts.pt/mvbghft

OpenManage Ansible Modules for iDRAC

Features	Description	Benefit
Automated Provisioning and Deployment	• Use Server Configuration Profiles (SCP) to automate the entire server configuration, OS deployment and firmware update	• Reduce IT staff hours required for server deployments and ensure consistency for every single deployment
Agent-less (Out-of-Band) BIOS and Firmware Updates	• Automate the BIOS and Firmware updates for PowerEdge servers from a network share (CIFS, NFS, HTTP/S) using a catalog and firmware repository containing Dell Update Packages (DUPs)	• Maintain infrastructure compliance with rolling firmware upgrades to maintain security standards and optimize performance
Redfish based REST APIs	• Leverages iDRAC RESTful APIs based on Redfish standards and Dell EMC extensions for automation of rack, tower and modular servers	• Optimized at-scale management in line with industry standard

OpenManage Ansible modules for OpenManage Enterprise Modular and OpenManage Enterprise

Features	Description	Benefit
Automated server deployment	• Import, clone, edit and apply server templates on target servers based on service tags or device IDs	• Decrease deployment time while preventing costly errors and downtime
Configuration and firmware baseline compliance	• Automate firmware and configuration baselines compliance monitoring and remediation for non-compliance	• Employ baselines compliance automation to maintain security standards, performance optimizations and management conformity.
Virtual identities and identity pools support	• Automate assignment and management of virtual identities with server templates and identity pools	• Reduce the time and effort to manage IT environments seamlessly

Dell EMC OpenManage EcoSystem Portfolio for full-stack visibility and control

In modern IT infrastructures, management visibility and control across the ecosystem is critical. Dell EMC OpenManage systems management offerings help provide seamless management of PowerEdge servers and solutions on-premises and across your cloud infrastructures. Our ecosystem of solutions for Microsoft, VMware, RedHat Ansible and ServiceNow are designed to break down the information silos between vendors for full-stack management of your virtual and cloud infrastructures. Our solutions also provide customized scripting and deeper control of your environment. By enabling native access to the integrated Dell Remote Access Controller (iDRAC) and the OpenManage Enterprise console, OpenManage Integrations and APIs give you real-time access to OpenManage innovations from a single interface. The Dell EMC OpenManage ecosystem of solutions enables industry-leading visibility and control across your server, operating system and hypervisor.

For more information, please visit Dell.com/en-us/work/learn/openmanage-integration-and-connections

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