

# Automation strategy for financial services

## Benefits of a standardized approach for infrastructure automation

### Business value highlights of Red Hat Ansible® Automation Platform:<sup>1</sup>

- 498% five-year ROI
- 5 months to payback
- US\$1.13 million in additional new revenue gained per year
- 41% more efficient application environment management teams
- 135% more applications developed per year
- 25% more efficient IT security teams
- 53% reduction in unplanned downtime

### Accelerate adaptability through automation

The financial services industry is changing at a fast pace and with increasing volatility. Dynamic customer preferences, demands for digital services, and more involved assistance continue to present challenges for companies. With the ongoing desire to address consumers' needs in an industry of complex regulations and requirements, constant vigilance and adaptability are needed.

To overcome current and future challenges, IT organizations are working to increase the flexibility of their infrastructure and operations. With security at the forefront, regulatory and compliance controls, and adherence requirements, digital products and services must be efficiently developed, deployed, and managed. Often this means that infrastructure and related processes require updates that support digital offerings to protect against costly security breaches and cybercrime-related risks.

An automation platform can help organizations achieve this transformation, improving agility, flexibility, and speed to adapt to changing requirements. Optimization of resources and increased efficiency to control costs allow innovation and the delivery of digital customer experiences with less risk. Organizations seeking to automate infrastructure should consider the following best practices.

### Deliver results with people, tools, and processes

#### Start with your people

All initiatives, including automation, start with people. Some questions to consider are:

- Have you built momentum with cultural buy-in, soliciting technical advice from staff who will implement, administer, and use the automation technology?
- Have you identified isolated activities that result in time-consuming manual processes?
- Have you defined scope and objectives that include associated success measures?
- Have you developed a means to encourage participation?
- How will you promote and inspire collaboration?
- Have you solidified teams and technical domains for tooling that can be used by the entire organization to drive the biggest rewards?

A successful start to your automation strategy needs consensus among all stakeholders and elimination of isolated activity that counteracts the technology and business advantages possible with a standardized automation approach. With clearly determined objectives and unified participation, you can establish a culture of automation to produce optimized benefits at the organizational and individual job levels.

#### Select appropriate processes

Not all processes are candidates for automation. When you're planning what to automate, some considerations include:



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<sup>1</sup> Johnston Turner, Mary, and Harsh Singh. "Red Hat Ansible Automation Improves IT Agility and Time to Market." An IDC White Paper, sponsored by Red Hat, June 2019.



# Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform

Brief

## About Red Hat

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to deliver reliable and high-performing Linux, hybrid cloud, container, and Kubernetes technologies. Red Hat helps customers integrate new and existing IT applications, develop cloud-native applications, standardize on our industry-leading operating system, and automate, secure, and manage complex environments. Award-winning support, training, and consulting services make Red Hat a trusted adviser to the Fortune 500. As a strategic partner to cloud providers, system integrators, application vendors, customers, and open source communities, Red Hat can help organizations prepare for the digital future.

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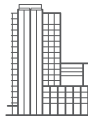
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- Have you prioritized automation use cases that involve repeatable, time-intensive processes with predictable outcomes?
- Can you measure the benefits achieved with automation?
- Can you illustrate success that might provide more momentum for future projects?
- Have you planned for efficient ongoing maintenance?

Identification of the best possible processes for automation is crucial to realize the best outcomes. Instances of automating a process with significant customization, or a single delivery to an external team, might not rank as the highest priority. Because automation can be considered an ongoing objective, it is wise to select easily maintained automation processes in the beginning. This type of automation can help you stay current with business, process, and technical changes—with a reduced level of effort.

## Choose the right tools

The right—or wrong—tools can greatly impact the success of your automation project. Answer the following questions as part of your selection process:

- Have you ensured that the tools to automate infrastructure are adaptable and will perform without complex configuration or customization?
- Do the tools easily integrate and operate with your other automation and management solutions?
- Is the solution easy to install, configure, manage, and maintain at scale?
- Are the tools accessible, featuring simple, human-readable syntax and graphical user interfaces (GUIs) to help users without advanced coding skills contribute to automation projects?

To select the right automation tools, you must address present and potential situations. The tools need to support popular external platforms across multiple browsers and platforms for web, desktop, and mobile applications. But because needs and services are dynamic, the tools must have the capability to adapt to change and prepare you for the future.

## Automate for success with Red Hat

Red Hat helps financial services organizations move forward with higher performance and advanced automation. With a solution that eliminates manual, repetitive tasks, you can gain IT agility and speed, which boosts efficiency and allows the opportunity to focus on new initiatives. Using modern platforms that meet today's needs and can adapt to tomorrow's requirements can result in competitive advantage, which enables innovative digital customer experiences with less risk and at lower cost.

Contact your Red Hat® sales representative to see how a high-performance, automated environment can support your business in a fast-changing market. Learn more at <http://redhat.lookbookhq.com/fsi-automation>.