Case Study

CBTS rebuilds outdated legacy platforms with Ansible Automation Platform

Client: A global telecommunications company

Even major corporations with a global footprint occasionally need guidance when modernizing their legacy platforms. A global telecommunications company seeking to revitalize aging network infrastructure recently turned to CBTS to help push its IT capabilities to new levels of automation, reliability, and performance.

Challenge	CBTS solution	Results
• The client required a new automation platform to reliably deliver network services.	• CBTS worked with the client to architect, design, and implement a secure and production-ready Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform architecture.	• The client now benefits from a modern self-service infrastructure platform capable of large-scale automation that provides full control and transparency.
• The client lacked the time and expertise to modernize its aging platform alone.	• The infrastructure provisioning and security transformation process included the design and implementation of a full automation platform with dedicated project management.	• A previously limited IT staff is now able to focus on core functionality rather than mundane and repetitive tasks.
• Limited automation capabilities threatened the organization's bottom line and security readiness.	• The Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform solution introduced enterprise standards for support and security that address compliance and regulatory requirements.	• A single-version control system now applies new configurations to production at speeds far exceeding the client's previous infrastructure.

Challenge

The client, a worldwide wireless carrier providing communication access to hundreds of millions of subscribers, relies on an efficient automation platform for the delivery of simple, reliable, and secure network services. However, the company's aging platform infrastructure inhibited growth and negatively impacted the introduction of new products and services due to slow and manual efforts to provision, maintain, and secure their infrastructure platforms.

Further, the client lacked the time, staff-based skill set, or expertise to modernize its existing automation platform. Relying on a broken legacy system with limited automation capabilities would only harm the bottom line, it emphasized the need for foundational improvements.

CBTS solution

The client tasked CBTS with a thorough discovery process and architectural review of its existing automation environment. After walking the client through use cases of the old platform, CBTS designed and implemented a secure and production-ready Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform architecture. The new platform, strengthened by dedicated CBTS professional services, oversees functions such as infrastructure provisioning, networking, line of business, security, operations, and development. Additional improvements and efficiencies were also added to the client's automation platform including operations dashboards, source code versioning systems, disaster recovery, and role based access control for operations personnel.

The Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform frees up limited IT staff to focus on core business functions. The platform's automation component also allows the enterprise to manage diverse IT applications in a simple and optimized manner.

Ansible Automation Platform utilizes a streamlined user interface—called Red Hat Ansible Tower—to harness integrated notifications and enhanced role-based access control competencies. A web-based UI allows operators to schedule jobs while enabling greater control and compliance management.

As the client desired an infrastructure automation architecture capable of more robust disaster-recovery operations, CBTS determined that the Ansible Automation Platform would be the best option to enhance the enterprise's core competencies. Platform benefits include:

- Productivity improvements leading to infrastructure standardization as well as automated IT tasks and processes
- Certified technical assessment, design, development, integration, and optimization
- Enterprise standards for support and security that address compliance and regulatory requirements
- Increased scale and deployment speed using automated CI/CD toolchains
- Improved application performance and availability thanks to reductions in unplanned downtime

CBTS automation training brought the client's staff up to speed on best practices, while disaster recovery testing walked IT technicians through a full data wipe and platform recovery. Extensive disaster simulations demonstrated the efficacy of the CBTS DR plan while also acting as a teaching tool in the event of a crisis.

Results

A modern network infrastructure capable of large-scale automation now gives the client full control and transparency, allowing technical staff to leverage the platform to its full potential. The client now has an easy-to-operate infrastructure automation solution equipped for administrative use, configuration, inventory tracking, and more.

Whereas the older system required IT specialists to spend valuable time on routine tasks, newly implemented automation functionality frees up the client's technicians and allows them to focus on driving value to the bottom line. Additionally, the organization now maintains a single version control system that applies new configurations to production—all at speeds far exceeding what was possible with the client's previous manual workflows.

Contact us for more information on how CBTS can implement advanced solutions to modernize your automation environment.