LEVVEL

Introduction of Modern Tooling Optimizes Cost For Leading Transportation Data Company

Automating complex and tedious operations to lower error and defect rates within daily operations

MOBILITY | AUTOMATION | DEVOPS

Introduction

Looking to optimize and control costs, a leading data company in the transportation and logistics space was looking for the simplest way to deploy workloads to promote efficiency. With Levvel's help, they could find the right automation tooling for their needs without negatively affecting operational security, performance, and productivity.

Challenge

Like many companies, the client's primary challenge was a lack of expertise in automation tooling. Further, existing team culture and outdated tools made it difficult to embrace modernization.

Other challenges included:

- Reliability and operational security (elements of control)
- Improvement of procedures; people vs. machines (self-documentation vs. machine-based)
- Staff retention and turnover (needing to automate certain job responsibilities)
- Restrictions and permissions of a proprietary and custom data center

> In these cases, it's not necessarily always directly about time-to-market. What is your error rate, and how quickly can you improve? It was about finding a way to lower the defect rate and promote cost control.
>
> Jim Van Fleet, Principal Engineering Consultant, Levvel

Approach

Levvel's mission was to help educate the client on modern tooling, as well as design a tailored path to automation. Guided by Levvel's strategic directive, a roadmap was created to modernize applications. The focus was on finding a tool for enablement—not the replacement—of any core processes.

This approach included:

- **Modern Tooling:** After a thorough evaluation of automation tools, Ansible emerged as the best option for this client, as it is used for application deployment and configuration management. The client team wanted to learn how this tool could perform tasks that would otherwise be time-consuming, complex, repetitive, and full of errors.
- **Demonstration:** Levvel's strategic directive provided a demonstration of how to use Ansible and provided a starting place on how it can help smooth and improve business-critical tasks through virtual machines.
- **Take Over and Expansion:** Levvel prepared the client team to take over and expand their automation, including ad hoc usage.

Results

The adoption of Ansible was a great success, as its introduction greatly simplified repetitive and tedious business operations.

PHASE 1	
TEAM SIZE	TIMELINE
x1	3-6 weeks

PHASE 2	
TEAM SIZE	TIMELINE
x2	6-9 weeks

With the magic of modern tooling, the client could:

- Automate business-critical tasks and overcome former complexities
- Break down IT silos, reduce defect and error rate, and improve performance times
- Deploy applications and maintain systems more efficiently
- Leverage the investment to save costs in other areas

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