Empowering IT Resource Managers through Automation

Chef Desktop provides a set of capabilities that allows IT teams to automate the deployment, management, and ongoing compliance of any IT resources like laptops, desktops, and kiosk workstations, from a centralized location on a range of operating systems. By automating the management process, IT resource managers will gain the flexibility to maintain an extensive set of variables for setting up and managing laptops.

**Benefits**

- **Automation:** Automate IT resource configuration and desired state management through code.
- **Visibility:** Maintain continuous visibility and insight into the state of the IT resource fleet.
- **Ease:** Easily manage the configuration of IT resource fleet through Chef curated content.
- **Auditable:** Audit IT resource fleet for continuous compliance through CIS (Center for Internet Security) benchmark content.
- **Detection and Correction:** Detect when any IT resource configuration changes against desired state and correct any identified configuration drifts.
- **Flexibility:** Maximize flexibility via customized configuration profiles or third-party integrations.

**Challenges**

The rapid growth of digital business, cloud, and hybrid IT has made the need for automation more urgent than ever. Organizations are looking for ways to control and monitor their very large IT resource fleet, in a way that promotes productivity and reduces security risk.

Organizations struggle to configure and manage thousands of IT resources and maintain them under continuous compliance. With limited resources, organizations want to eliminate many of the time-consuming manual steps needed to configure and maintain the IT resource fleet while also needing a dynamic way to enforce enterprise security and compliance across IT systems. Existing in-market tools lack the ability to provide change control, so organizations have no way to know what is really happening with their IT resource estate, and even less ability to properly audit the entire process. Organizations are looking for a single IT Resource management solution that accommodates a range of platforms beyond a single operating system.

Organizations lack a comprehensive, enterprise-wide compliance visibility tool that provides an easy way to establish “risk profiles” of a given IT resource, explicitly with a determined level of access by role or responsibility. So they crave an easier, automated way to establish processes and tooling for maintaining an inventory of IT resources and the continued auditability of these resources

**Features**

- Zero touch enrollment and provisioning of laptops/desktop endpoints
- Automated software or app deployment and management
- Automated policy setting with flexibility to fine tune
- Consolidated dashboard
- Low lift rollout of software/application updates
- Transparent device known states to facilitate auditing and remediation
- Easy onboarding with Chef Curated Content and YAML templates
- Security policy enforcement via configuration profiles, data encryption, and system updates

**Solution**

Chef Desktop applies lessons learned from agile and DevOps practices to IT resource management, enabling new levels of efficiency, scale, and risk management. Instead of point-and-click, manual configuration, desired state is defined in code, and can be reliably and repeatedly applied to the fleet. Best of all, Chef Desktop comes with the code already written, with curated content to audit and harden popular laptop and desktop operating systems. This approach helps IT resource managers gain value immediately while maintaining ultimate flexibility to meet enterprise-specific needs.

Chef Desktop allows for the automation of IT resources regardless of operating system, enabling a centralized change-control process for deploying and managing the fleet. This eliminates mistakes and time wasted arising from manual processes,
thither increasing organizational velocity. Chef Desktop enables continuous compliance auditing against Center for Internet Security (CIS) benchmarks that can be tuned to enterprise- or role-specific needs.

**Why Chef Desktop Management**

Chef Desktop is the only IT resource configuration automation tool of its kind that enables organizations to apply a consistent approach to automate the configuration, management, and secure maintenance for the continuous compliance against CIS (Center for Internet Security) benchmarks of a large fleet of IT resources from a centralized location on a range of operating systems (MacOS, Windows, Linux).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>windows.rb</th>
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| ```
| desktop_repo > cookbooks >chefdesktop > recipes > windows.rb
| 2 | desktop_screensaver 'Sets up a ScreenSaver to come on and require a password after xx minutes' do
| 3 | make_the_screensaver_active true
| 4 | make_the_screensaver_secure true
| 5 | pc_idle_time_before_screensaver_comes_on 20
| 6 | int_users_have_lower_idle_time false
| 7 | use_this_scr_as_my_screen_saver 'mystifyscr'
| 8 | action :enable
| 9 | end
| 10 | disk_encryption 'Turns on Bitlocker Drive Encryption' do
| 11 | action :enable
| 12 | end
| 13 | windows_password_policy 'Settings for password complexity, length and duration' do
| 14 | require_complex_passwords true
| 15 | minimum_password_length 20
| 16 | maximum_password_age 11
| 17 | action :set
| 18 | end
| 19 | ```

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**Common use cases**

- Large number of IT resources to manage
- Customizable and extensible configuration controls
- Configuration and management of air-gapped devices
- Consistent IT resource management
- Consistent and reduced tickets or mistakes when configuring IT resources
- Lower cost of maintenance and reduced manual effort to manage IT resources
- Consistent enforcement of compliance and security policies on IT resources
- Customizable risk profiles per device or user group
- Continuous detection of compliance desired state
- Automatic correction to maintain compliant state

**Bringing Automation to IT Resource Management**

Take control of your enterprise-wide fleet and continuously monitor for compliance by automating IT resource (desktop, laptop, kiosk) management with Chef Desktop. This customizable, extensible solution eliminates manual processes and helps you meet your organization’s unique needs at velocity from a single location.

- Automate the management of company-wide IT resource fleet regardless of operating system
- Enable a change-control process at velocity for deploying and managing the fleet from a centralized location
- Easily extensible with third-party apps and custom tooling
- Provide customized, extensible configuration controls to meet each organization’s unique needs
- Enable the configuration and management of non-traditional setups, such as air-gapped devices

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**Centralized Visibility and Traceability**

Enhance efficiency and productivity across your organization. Automate tasks, eliminate time-consuming manual processes, and reduce costs for managing your large fleet of IT resources all from a single tool with Chef Desktop.

- Reduce internal IT workload and minimize configuration issues and errors
- Manage resources more consistently to reduce tickets and mistakes
- Lower the cost of maintaining IT resource fleet and eliminate manual processes by automating tasks to manage many devices
Continuous Compliance for IT Resources

Maintain consistent and continuous compliance monitoring of your large fleet of IT resources with Chef Desktop. Take advantage of curated Chef content to maintain compliance with industry standards, and easily customize policies to support specific auditing and compliance needs.

- Consistently enforce security policies based on Center for Internet Security (CIS) benchmarks.
- Provides for custom extensibility to meet customer-specific system security standard
- Continuously detect security or compliance issues and correct them for continuous compliance

Related Products/Solutions

Chef Desktop Management

Automate the configuration, management of macOS, Windows and Linux IT resources from a single tool.

Chef Desktop Compliance

Consistently enforce security and company policies allowing to automatically monitor, detect variations and automatically correct your IT resource fleet.

Explore Chef Desktop Today!


Chef Desktop Documentation: [http://docs.chef.io/desktop/](http://docs.chef.io/desktop/)

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