

Automation through the lens of the IT architect

Automation is a key component to many organizations' technology stacks, as they are facing pressure to deliver services and experiences faster than before. Improving processes to help people increase productivity and efficiency is important in today's rapidly changing business climate.

Automation has also become a catalyst for digital transformation, helping organizations move faster, operate more efficiently, and take advantage of new opportunities that provide a competitive edge in the marketplace.

But for many organizations, automation is only happening in a few areas or is primarily task-centric. Automation at scale, across the organization regardless of location, platform, or team, is where the full value lies. This is why the IT architect plays a crucial role in overall automation strategies.

Automation at scale is a strategic imperative, but it requires buy-in across the C-suite. Automation architects can help build an automation-first mindset and overarching strategy that can be deployed throughout the enterprise, which is a crucial role.

Getting started with automation architecture

The uses for automation in an enterprise can seem endless, making it feel daunting for an architect to get started. But with the right plan, platform, and partner support, full scale automation can be achieved. We recommend that architects consider the following as they move along in their automation journey.

- Understand where to start. End-to-end automation can be the overall goal, but breaking it up into smaller, more achievable goals will get more buy-in.
- Usability. Finding an automation platform that is uncomplicated for people of multiple skill levels
 across the organization will lead to more adoption.
- Platform agnostic. Interoperability of an automation platform is critical. To gain full value, employees need to be able to use the platform with their existing technology solutions.
- Modular growth. Using a platform that can scale up, down, and across the enterprise as needed will ultimately lead to end-to-end automation.
- Collaborate with a partner. Finding a partner who can use their skills and experiences to augment automation teams will help foster long-term success.

Automation is continuously evolving, which is why the automation architect plays a crucial role in helping their organization find the platform that can improve efficiencies, maximize performance, and gain a strategic advantage. Red Hat[®] Ansible[®] Automation delivers the tools that every architect needs to achieve end-to-end automation—from the datacenter to the edge. To discover more about how automation can help your enterprise, watch the video series Autom8 with Ansible.

Use cases for automation architects

As enterprises everywhere are discovering how automation can transform their processes, architects can help the C-suite fully understand that it is more than just a cost-savings tool. For example, a Red Hat client¹ was using 50 employees to perform the same repetitive tasks every day. With the help of automation, the job is now being done by only 5 people. The C-suite might only see this as cost savings, but 45 employees are now available to work on higher-value and more revenue-generating tasks.

1 Red Hat case study. "Siemens automates communication security with Red Hat Ansible." Sept. 2019.



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