



Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform 2.4

Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform operator backup and recovery guide

Safeguard against data loss with backup and recovery of Ansible Automation Platform operator on OpenShift Container Platform

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Abstract

This guide provides procedures and reference information to backup and recover installations of the Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform operator on OpenShift Container Platform.

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PREFACE

Thank you for your interest in Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform. Ansible Automation Platform is a commercial offering that helps teams manage complex multi-tier deployments by adding control, knowledge, and delegation to Ansible-powered environments.

Use the procedures in this guide to create backup resources that can be used for recovering your Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform deployment in the event of a failure.

PROVIDING FEEDBACK ON RED HAT DOCUMENTATION

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CHAPTER 1. BACKUP AND RECOVERY OF RED HAT ANSIBLE AUTOMATION PLATFORM

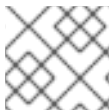
To safeguard against unexpected data loss and application errors, it is critical that you perform periodic backups of your Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform deployment. In addition to data loss prevention, backups allow you to fall back to a different deployment state.

1.1. ABOUT BACKUP AND RECOVERY

Red Hat recommends backing up deployments of Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform in your Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform environment to prevent data loss.

A backup resource of your Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform deployment includes the following:

- Custom deployment of specific values in the **spec** section of the Ansible Automation Platform custom resource object
- Back up of the **postgresql** database
- **secret_key**, **admin_password**, and **broadcast_websocket** secrets
- Database configuration



NOTE

Be sure to secure your backup resources because they can include sensitive information.

1.1.1. Backup recommendations

Recovering from data loss requires that you plan for and create backup resources of your Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform deployments on a regular basis. At a minimum, Red Hat recommends backing up deployments of Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform under the following circumstances:

- Before upgrading your Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform deployments
- Before upgrading your Openshift cluster
- Once per week. This is particularly important if your environment is configured for automatic upgrades.

CHAPTER 2. CREATING RED HAT ANSIBLE AUTOMATION PLATFORM BACKUP RESOURCES

Backing up your Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform deployment involves creating backup resources for your deployed automation hub and automation controller instances. Use these procedures to create backup resources for your Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform deployment.

2.1. BACKING UP THE AUTOMATION CONTROLLER DEPLOYMENT

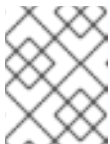
Use this procedure to back up a deployment of the controller, including jobs, inventories, and credentials.

Prerequisites

- You must be authenticated with an OpenShift cluster.
- The Ansible Automation Platform Operator has been installed to the cluster.
- The automation controller is deployed to using the Ansible Automation Platform Operator.

Procedure

1. Log in to **Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform**
2. Navigate to **Operators → Installed Operators**.
3. Select the Ansible Automation Platform Operator installed on your project namespace.
4. Select the **Automation Controller Backup** tab.
5. Click **Create AutomationControllerBackup**.
6. Enter a **Name** for the backup.
7. Enter the **Deployment name** of the deployed Ansible Automation Platform instance being backed up. For example, if your automation controller must be backed up and the deployment name is **aap-controller**, enter 'aap-controller' in the **Deployment name** field.
8. If you want to use a custom, pre-created pvc:
 - a. Optionally enter the name of the **Backup persistent volume claim**
 - b. Optionally enter the **Backup PVC storage requirements** and **Backup PVC storage class**



NOTE

If no pvc or storage class is provided, the cluster's default storage class is used to create the pvc.

- c. If you have a large database, specify your storage requests accordingly under **Backup management pod resource requirements**.

**NOTE**

You can check the size of the existing postgres database data directory by running the following command inside the postgres pod.

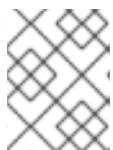
```
$ df -h | grep "/var/lib/pgsql/data"
```

9. Click **Create**.

A backup tarball of the specified deployment is created and available for data recovery or deployment rollback. Future backups are stored in separate tar files on the same pvc.

Verification

1. Log in to Red Hat **Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform**
2. Navigate to **Operators → Installed Operators**.
3. Select the Ansible Automation Platform Operator installed on your project namespace.
4. Select the **AutomationControllerBackup** tab.
5. Select the backup resource you want to verify.
6. Scroll to **Conditions** and check that the **Successful** status is **True**.

**NOTE**

If **Successful** is **False**, the backup has failed. Check the automation controller operator logs for the error to fix the issue.

2.2. BACKING UP THE AUTOMATION HUB DEPLOYMENT

Use this procedure to back up a deployment of the hub, including all hosted Ansible content.

Prerequisites

- You must be authenticated with an Openshift cluster.
- The Ansible Automation Platform Operator has been installed to the cluster.
- The automation hub is deployed to using the Ansible Automation Platform Operator.

Procedure

1. Log in to **Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform**
2. Navigate to **Operators → Installed Operators**.
3. Select the Ansible Automation Platform Operator installed on your project namespace.
4. Select the **Automation Hub Backup** tab.
5. Click **Create AutomationHubBackup**.

6. Enter a **Name** for the backup.
7. Enter the **Deployment name** of the deployed Ansible Automation Platform instance being backed up. For example, if your automation hub must be backed up and the deployment name is **aap-hub**, enter 'aap-hub' in the **Deployment name** field.
8. If you want to use a custom, pre-created pvc:
 - a. Optionally, enter the name of the **Backup persistent volume claim**, **Backup persistent volume claim namespace**, **Backup PVC storage requirements**, and **Backup PVC storage class**.
9. Click **Create**.

A backup of the specified deployment is created and available for data recovery or deployment rollback.

CHAPTER 3. RECOVERING A RED HAT ANSIBLE AUTOMATION PLATFORM DEPLOYMENT

If you lose information on your system or issues with an upgrade, you can use the backup resources of your deployment instances. Use these procedures to recover your automation controller and automation hub deployment files.

3.1. RECOVERING THE AUTOMATION CONTROLLER DEPLOYMENT

Use this procedure to restore a previous controller deployment from an `AutomationControllerBackup`. The deployment name you provide will be the name of the new `AutomationController` custom resource that will be created.



NOTE

The name specified for the new `AutomationController` custom resource must not match an existing deployment or the recovery process will fail. If the name specified does match an existing deployment, see [Troubleshooting](#) for steps to resolve the issue.

Prerequisites

- You must be authenticated with an OpenShift cluster.
- The automation controller has been deployed to the cluster.
- An `AutomationControllerBackup` is available on a PVC in your cluster.

Procedure

1. Log in to **Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform**
2. Navigate to **Operators** → **Installed Operators**.
3. Select the Ansible Automation Platform Operator installed on your project namespace.
4. Select the **Automation Controller Restore** tab.
5. Click **Create AutomationControllerRestore**.
6. Enter a **Name** for the recovery deployment.
7. Enter a **New Deployment name** for the restored deployment.



NOTE

This should be different from the original deployment name.

8. Select the **Backup source to restore from Backup CR** is recommended.
9. Enter the **Backup Name** of the `AutomationControllerBackup` object.
10. Click **Create**.
A new deployment is created and your backup is restored to it. This can take approximately 5 to 15 minutes depending on the size of your database.

Verification

1. Log in to Red Hat **Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform**
2. Navigate to **Operators → Installed Operators**.
3. Select the Ansible Automation Platform Operator installed on your project namespace.
4. Select the **AutomationControllerRestore** tab.
5. Select the restore resource you want to verify.
6. Scroll to **Conditions** and check that the **Successful** status is **True**.



NOTE

If **Successful** is **False**, the recovery has failed. Check the automation controller operator logs for the error to fix the issue.

3.2. RECOVERING THE AUTOMATION HUB DEPLOYMENT

Use this procedure to restore a previous hub deployment into the namespace. The deployment name you provide will be the name of the new AutomationHub custom resource that will be created.



NOTE

The name specified for the new AutomationHub custom resource must not match an existing deployment or the recovery process will fail.

Prerequisites

- You must be authenticated with an Openshift cluster.
- The automation hub has been deployed to the cluster.
- An AutomationHubBackup is available on a PVC in your cluster.

Procedure

1. Log in to **Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform**
2. Navigate to **Operators → Installed Operators**.
3. Select the Ansible Automation Platform Operator installed on your project namespace.
4. Select the **Automation Hub Restore** tab.
5. Click **Create AutomationHubRestore**.
6. Enter a **Name** for the recovery deployment.
7. Select the **Backup source to restore** from. **Backup CR** is recommended.
8. Enter the **Backup Name** of the AutomationHubBackup object.
9. Click **Create**.

A new deployment is created and your backup is restored to it.

CHAPTER 4. TROUBLESHOOTING

Use this information to diagnose and resolve issues during backup and recovery.

4.1. AUTOMATION CONTROLLER CUSTOM RESOURCE HAS THE SAME NAME AS AN EXISTING DEPLOYMENT

The name specified for the new AutomationController custom resource must not match an existing deployment or the recovery process will fail.

If your AutomationController customer resource matches an existing deployment, perform the following steps to resolve the issue.

Procedure

1. Delete the existing AutomationController and the associated postgres PVC:

```
oc delete automationcontroller <YOUR_DEPLOYMENT_NAME> -n <YOUR_NAMESPACE>

oc delete pvc postgres-13-<YOUR_DEPLOYMENT_NAME>-13-0 -n
<YOUR_NAMESPACE>
```

2. Use AutomationControllerRestore with the same deployment_name in it:

```
oc apply -f restore.yaml
```