

ProLUG Automation

Unit 13 Worksheet

Instructions

Fill out this sheet as you progress through the lab and discussions. Hold your worksheets until the end to turn them in as a final submission packet.

Discussion Questions:

Unit 13 Discussion Post 1: Your management has been discussing ways to reduce errors in your current “wild wild west” environment. Read about configuration management here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Configuration_management

- a. What overlap of terms and concepts do you see from this week’s meeting?
- b. What are some of the standards and guidelines organizations involved with configuration management?
 - i. Do you recognize them from other IT activities?

Unit 13 Discussion Post 2: Review the SRE guide to treating configurations as code. Read as much as you like, but focus down on the “Practical Advice” section:

https://google.github.io/building-secure-and-reliable-systems/raw/ch14.html#treat_configuration_as_code

- a. What are the best practices that you can use in your configuration management adherence?
- b. What are the security threats and how can you mitigate them?
 - a. Why might it be good to know this as you design a CMDB or CI/CD pipeline?

Definitions/Terminology

Notes During Lecture/Class:

Links:

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Terms:

- CMDB
- Configuration Management Best Practices
- Change management
 - Engineering Change Boards (ECBs)
 - Change Advisory Boards (CABs)
 - Change Windows
 - Downtime Windows
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Useful tools:

Lab and Assignment

Unit 13 Remediating Drift - https://killercoda.com/het-tanis/course/Automation-Labs/Unit13_Remediating_Drift

Digging Deeper

1. Read about how AWS, and other cloud vendors detect and remediate drift in systems.

1. <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/systems-manager/latest/userguide/remediating-configuration-drift.html>

Reflection Questions

1. What questions do you still have about this week?
2. How are you going to use what you've learned in your current role?