

# BLACKROCK

## Portable Ansible IT Automation and Monitoring

Expedite program readiness from anywhere with consistent, error-free, and secure Ansible automation for all types of clouds, hardware systems, and applications.

Blackrock is a self-contained service that is deployable to the cloud or at the edge for reliable IT-automation when connectivity is challenging.



## Blackrock automation for faster cloud and edge deployments

- **Provisioning**  
With a single click, go from factory default to production ready with Ansible agentless automation
- **Cloud Operations**  
Streamline cloud to edge operations by orchestrating complete workflows
- **Monitoring**  
Monitor and view the status of all your IT infrastructure with Nagios IT infrastructure monitoring
- **Updates**  
Consistent management and security with open-source and custom Ansible playbooks and collections
- **PKI Management**  
Take the human out of the loop for securer digital certificate management, automated certificate creation, and revocation requests



Figure: Blackrock Ansible automation provisions devices with minimal manual intervention

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## Specifications

### BLACKROCK FUNCTIONS AND FEATURES

The following is a high-level overview of the supported features and capabilities of Blackrock.

CATEGORY	FEATURES
<b>Ansible Automation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ansible agentless automation (no additional software required on device).</li><li>• Pre-installed Ansible playbooks.</li><li>• Support for most third party networking devices through custom playbooks and integration of Ansible Galaxy Collections.</li><li>• Playbook execution results and logs are stored for future analysis.</li><li>• Ansible real-time logging.</li><li>• Role-based access controls</li></ul>
<b>Cloud Operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Built-in Ansible cloud modules.</li><li>• Secure credentials with Ansible vault.</li><li>• Dynamic cloud inventory listing.</li><li>• Template-built configuration job files.</li><li>• Role-based access controls.</li></ul>
<b>Inventory Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nautobot support for dynamic host inventory listing and golden configuration of devices.</li><li>• Easy addition of managed hosts that is intuitive and user friendly.</li><li>• Group devices by geographic location, firmware, or hardware characteristics.</li><li>• View the running configuration and date of last modifications.</li><li>• Comparison Diff Tool to compare device configuration with expected configuration.</li><li>• View devices by location using Blackrock integrated maps.</li></ul>
<b>Edge Provisioning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deploy as a standalone edge automation platform.</li><li>• Take any device from factory to deployment ready with pre-installed playbooks.</li><li>• Automation of hypervisor installs such as VMware ESXi or Keel on Klas hardware.</li><li>• Configurable and flexible provisioning bundles including hypervisor image, firmware images, device configuration, and virtual machines.</li></ul>
<b>PKI - Digital Certificate Management</b>	<p>Use Blackrock as a Certificate Registration Authority to manage IPSec PKI certificates between Klas or Cisco IOS or ASA devices and a certificate authority (CA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Integrated support for NIAP approved CA, e.g. ISC Certagent.</li><li>• Automated Certificate Signing Request (CSR) and certificate push to device.</li><li>• Notification of expiring certificates with automatic rotation of certificates.</li></ul>
<b>Nagios Monitoring With Grafana Visualization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nagios IT infrastructure monitoring.</li><li>• Monitor and view the status of all networked devices and systems under management.</li><li>• Drill down into unique performance stats and view with Grafana graphs.</li><li>• Create custom Grafana graphs as required.</li></ul>
<b>360° Visibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interactive dashboards and maps.</li><li>• High level view of device status and location.</li><li>• Traffic light color scheme, ease of identifying assets with issues.</li></ul>
<b>Web-Based Service Portal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intuitive web-based user interface portal.</li><li>• SSL-based security, support for bring your own trusted certificate.</li><li>• Role-based access control for multiple user types: Admin, User (read-write-execute), and Auditor (read-only).</li><li>• API based on OpenAPI 3 standards for ease of integration with other third party management solutions.</li></ul>