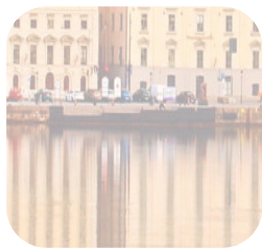
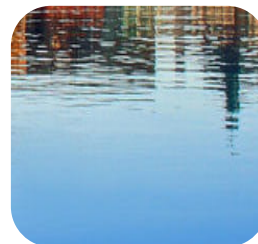


CRAY



**XC System Management Usability BOF
CUG 2018
Harold Longley & Eric Cozzi, Cray Inc.**



Goals of XC System Management Usability BOF

- **Facilitate direct conversation between customers and feature developers**
- **Draw upon experiences with CLE 6**
- **Identify areas of improvement within the product**
- **Identify industry standards or software which would be valuable**
- **Determine which aspects of software people use the most and want enhanced first**

- **BOF discussion led to change in how eLogin nodes are managed!**
 - Replacement of CMC/eLogin product based on CSMS and OpenStack software with SMW/eLogin
 - See first part of tutorial from Monday
 - Managing SMW/eLogin and ARM XC nodes



Suggested Discussion Topics

- **What is best part of management software?**
- **What is done well with system management?**
- **What is worst part of management software?**
- **What can be improved with system management?**
- **Possible areas:**
 - Configuration management
 - Image management
 - Software installation, updates, patches
 - System management documentation
 - Customization and flexibility
 - Managing multiple systems



Configuration Management

- Too much or too little?
- How valuable is cfgset validation?
- How useful has nodegroups been?
- How are you backing up cfgsets, if at all?
- Is anyone using anything other than Ansible?
- Is there a more preferable method to do configuration?
- What kinds of Ansible plays are you finding yourself needing to write as site-local playbooks?
- Would there be value in sharing the Ansible plays?

Image Management

- **How often are you making custom image recipes?**
- **How useful is the image root format?**
- **Would you prefer to use another image building tool?**
 - diskimage-builder (DIB)
 - imagefactory
 - KIWI – next generation
 - packer
 - Others?
- **How valuable would capturing live node images be?**

Software installation, updates, patches

- **Are the processes working well?**
- **What could be improved?**
- **Are you using Live Updates?**
 - What kinds of software are you installing post-boot?
- **Are you using docker/shifter containers?**
- **Would your site make use of online software repositories, if made available?**
- **How can we make the patching process better?**

System Management Documentation

- **What is explained or described well?**
- **Is there any particular document which is most helpful?**
- **Is there any particular document which needs more work?**
- **Is locating the information you need easy or difficult?**

Legal Disclaimer

Information in this document is provided in connection with Cray Inc. products. No license, express or implied, to any intellectual property rights is granted by this document.

Cray Inc. may make changes to specifications and product descriptions at any time, without notice.

All products, dates and figures specified are preliminary based on current expectations, and are subject to change without notice.

Cray hardware and software products may contain design defects or errors known as errata, which may cause the product to deviate from published specifications. Current characterized errata are available on request.

Cray uses codenames internally to identify products that are in development and not yet publicly announced for release. Customers and other third parties are not authorized by Cray Inc. to use codenames in advertising, promotion or marketing and any use of Cray Inc. internal codenames is at the sole risk of the user.

Performance tests and ratings are measured using specific systems and/or components and reflect the approximate performance of Cray Inc. products as measured by those tests. Any difference in system hardware or software design or configuration may affect actual performance.

The following are trademarks of Cray Inc. and are registered in the United States and other countries: CRAY and design, SONEXION, URIKA and YARCDATA. The following are trademarks of Cray Inc.: CHAPEL, CLUSTER CONNECT, CLUSTERSTOR, CRAYDOC, CRAYPAT, CRAYPORT, DATAWARP, ECOPHLEX, LIBSCI, NODEKARE, REVEAL. The following system family marks, and associated model number marks, are trademarks of Cray Inc.: CS, CX, XC, XE, XK, XMT and XT. The registered trademark LINUX is used pursuant to a sublicense from LMI, the exclusive licensee of Linus Torvalds, owner of the mark on a worldwide basis. Other trademarks used on this website are the property of their respective owners.

Q&A

A scenic view of a historic city, likely Copenhagen, with colorful buildings and a prominent church spire, reflected in a body of water. The sky is clear and blue.

Harold Longley, htg@cray.com
Eric Cozzi, ecozzi@cray.com