

# Chef in Government

Accelerate the ATO process using continuous compliance

DATA SHEET



## Strategic Defense Mission Partner

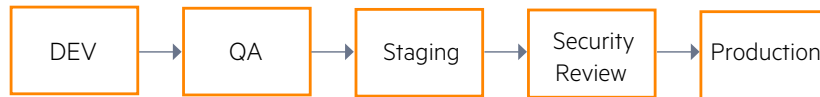
“I was able to identify a given CVE vulnerability within **12 minutes** for our entire production environment, and it took our Operations Center **7 days.**”

IT practitioners in the US government are challenged with delivering a magnitude of mission-specific applications across different domains. These challenges are compounded by varying compliance requirements in complex hybrid environments. All are looking to align numerous federal standards and certifications such as FIPS 140-2, FISMA, FedRAMP, to list a few. Traditional approaches for ensuring standards compliance involve slow, manual, post-build security scanning as part of an Authority to Operate (ATO) process. With different gates of approval and specific rules for different situations, these processes catch compliance & security-related defects far too late. This creates rework and the need for engineering change proposals across development, security, and operational teams.

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**The Chef platform helps you solve these problems and achieve ATO faster, by incorporating compliance processes into every stage of the development cycle:**

- The open-source InSpec language allows developers and systems engineers to replace lengthy & opaque security specification documents – written in PDF or Excel – with unambiguous tests that are easily readable by all parties involved: security engineers, auditors, systems administrators, and others.
- Chef provides a standard set of security baselines that you can easily customize and extend for your own use. Examples of baselines included are CIS Compliance Benchmarks and several DISA STIGs. Chef can also convert existing, hard-to-use formats like SCAP XCCDF and Microsoft SCCM XML to human-readable InSpec in order to take advantage of NIST baselines published in those formats.

- The open-source Chef configuration management language can be used to remediate any findings and keep systems in their correct, remediated state, thereby ensuring continuous compliance.

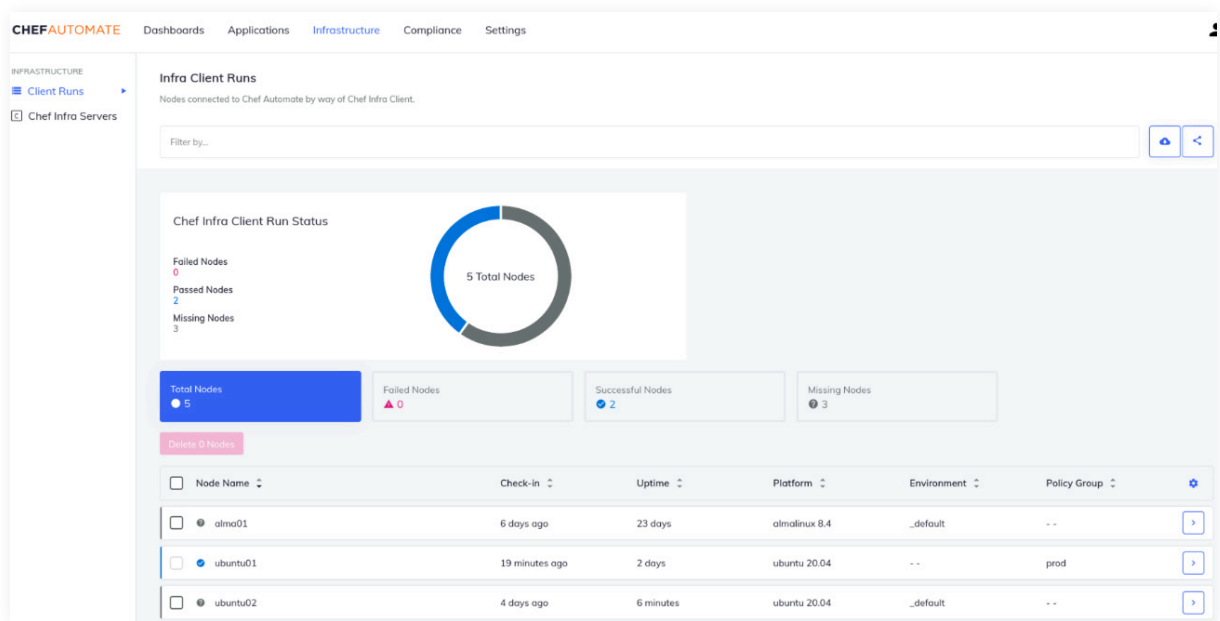
Chef Automate's UI collaboration and management capabilities allow all parties involved in both an ATO process, production operations, and security the ability to see, in real-time, the compliance status of infrastructure. Teams no longer need to rely on many expensive, infrequently used tools that introduce complexity and are accessible to only certain groups. Teams using Chef can set up, schedule, and manage scans, receive compliance status and integrate into multifaceted frameworks. The agile nature of its "As Code" base allows agencies to integrate more into their existing workflows and mature your pipelines without investing in new tools.

## Contrast With InSpec Rule

```
control 'RHEL-06-000106' do
  impact 0.5
  title 'The operating system must connect to external networks or information systems only through managed IPv6 interfaces consisting of boundary protection devices arranged in accordance with an organizational security architecture.'
  desc 'The "ip6tables" service provides the system's host-based firewalling capability for IPv6 and ICMPv6.'
  tag group: 'SRG-OS-000145'
  tag vulid: 'V-38551'
  ref 'http://iasecontent.disa.mil/stigs/zip/U_RedHat_6_V1R15_STIG.zip'
  only_if { kernel_module('ipv6').loaded? }
  describe service('ip6tables') do
    it { should be_enabled }
    it { should be_running }
  end
end
```

Government IT can move from "reactive" compliance to "always" compliant throughout your phased delivery process. Whether testing during development, within your pipeline stages or upon ATO review, Chef enables agencies the complete compliance and delivery picture in hybrid and multi-provisioned environments. Visibility, compliance, and delivery management in one tool for multiple environments will position your group for:

- clean migrations
- reduced dependency error
- reduced audit times
- faster alignment
- autonomous automated delivery
- continuous compliance



With Chef, you can significantly improve your velocity in delivery time cycles. Create policy-driven agility for mission-specific requirements. Reduce costs in engineering effort, tool consolidation, and mission objective outcomes. And best of all, Chef grows with you as the program matures and expands its requirements.



**“Scanners are slow and you can’t run them all the time in production. They don’t keep up very well... whereas with Chef Compliance, I can write a remediation for things that day & put them online. That’s the kind of benefit you get when you go with Chef Compliance.”**

**John Ray**, Senior Consultant, Shadow-Soft (GSA Schedule 70 partner)

## About Progress

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