

IBM Software Demos
IBM BladeCenter Configuration Manager

IBM_BladeCenter_Configuration_Manager_D_Feb06 Script

1a 0:00 16sec

The IBM BladeCenter Configuration Manager makes it easy to deploy multiple BladeCenter chassis' that will have similar configurations. In this example, we are installing a single BladeCenter chassis in each of our branch offices.

1b 0:16 14sec

To begin, we select our first branch where the equipment has been physically installed, but not yet configured. IBM Director has automatically discovered the BladeCenter chassis and the components it contains.

1c 0:30 5sec

We now select this chassis and launch the configuration manager

1d 0:35 8sec

Since we will be installing multiple branches, we want to create a new profile and name it Branch Offices.

1e 0:43 15sec

IBM Director has now examined the chassis and shows the components available for configuration. When we choose to include all the components, the Configuration Manager opens with all the elements available.

2a 0:58 19sec

Here, we configure the IP address pool. This defines a range of IP addresses to be used for configuration of the remaining components. Note that this range will contain enough addresses for multiple chassis since we plan to use this profile for each branch office.

2b 1:17 18sec

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Next, we will configure the ethernet switches. The configuration manager recognizes the Cisco switches and allows us to configure general protocol settings as well as more detailed VLAN settings. Let's now start with the general settings

2c 1:38 5sec

First, we change the default userid and password

2d 1:44 5sec

We choose to assign the switches an address from the pool

2e 1:50 7sec

We enable HTTP access to the device for Remote management via browser

2f 1:57 6sec

We enable SNMP and choose to send the traps to the director server

2g 2:04 7sec

And finally we enable external ports to allow the switches to communicate on the network

3a 2:11 8sec

In the interest of time for this demo, we will skip the next steps in the process, however we would typically

3b 2:18 5sec

finish configuration of the ethernet switch by setting up its VLANs

3c 2:24 5sec

and configure the fibre channel switches and the management modules.

3d 2:28 6sec

We will move on from configuring switch modules to deploying the blades servers.

4a 2:38 20sec

On this screen, we will match processor blade bay numbers with Remote Deployment Manager tasks. Remote Deployment Manager, or RDM, is an IBM Director plug-in which allows us to define installation tasks which will be executed to deploy the Blades installed within the chassis.

4b 2:58 15sec

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These tasks can perform hardware setup such as flashing firmware and defining RAID arrays, as well as initial software installations such as pushing a Windows image or doing an unattended installation of Linux.

4c 3:14 22sec

In this case, we have already used RDM to create a number of common installation tasks and are now matching these to our blades. As you can see, the first two slots will contain Citrix server blades, slot 3 will be a web server, slot 4 a branch print server and slot 5 will be a branch mail server.

4d 3:40 22sec

Finally, we select “detect and deploy” for the processor blades, the Ethernet switches and the fibre channel switches. With detect and deploy enabled, Director will automatically detect any new or replacement blades or switches as soon as they are installed into this chassis and then automatically deploy them with the settings we have chosen.

4e 4:03 7sec

Since we want to use this profile to deploy a number of different branch offices, we make sure to save it first.

4f 4:12 16sec

We then select “run” to begin deployment of the selected chassis. With these few steps, we have not only configured our first chassis in New York, but we have also laid the ground work to make all our subsequent BladeCenter deployments even easier.

4g 4:30 16sec

Here, for example, we choose the recently installed Miami chassis and then select the same “Branch Offices” profile. By pressing the “execute now” button, we have quickly and easily configured another branch BladeCenter installation.