# Checkmk #11 Conference



# Checkmk 2.4 at a glance

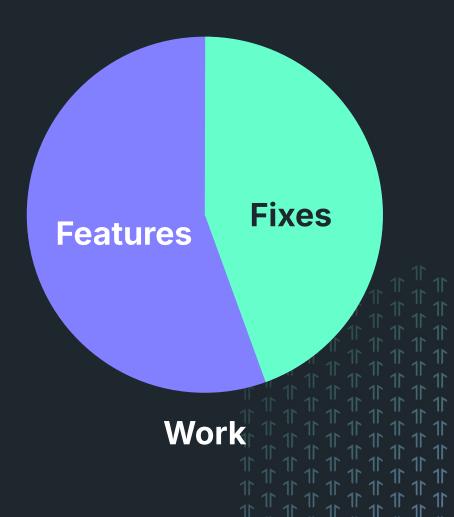
May 20, 2025 - Live from Paulaner am Nockherberg, Munich

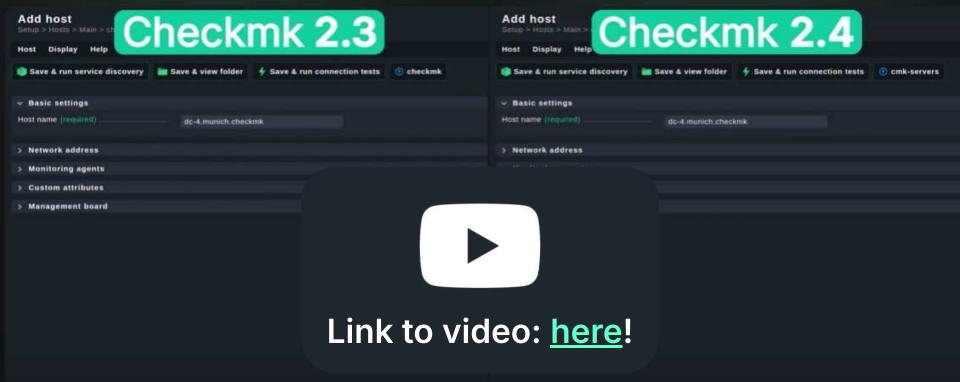


Martin Hirschvogel
Chief Product Officer
Checkmk GmbH

# 1325 werks







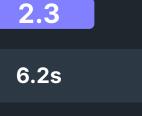












5.6s

35.1s

2.4 2.2s

2.8x faster

1.8x

4.4x

Activate changes

**Service discovery** 

2.4s

2.4x faster

Parameters of this service

2.5s

0.7s

3.8x faster

Manpages

3.0s



3.0x faster

faster

faster

Bake agents

**Adding 8 services manually** 





8.0s

Note: Two identical systems were compared with 421 hosts, 4483 services, 4 cores, 8 GB RAM.



### The new automation helpers

1100

Performance boost for Checkmk

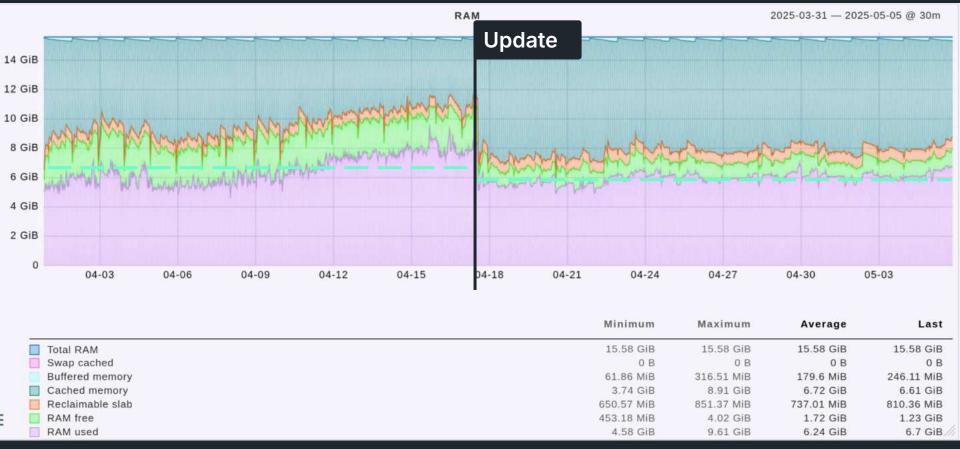




3+ processes

~200 MB ~200 MB ~200 MB

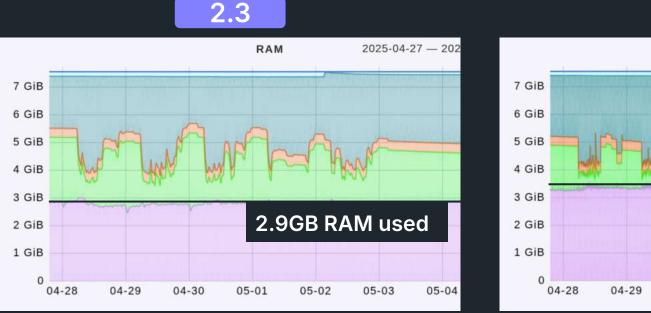
# We improved memory usage to compensate!



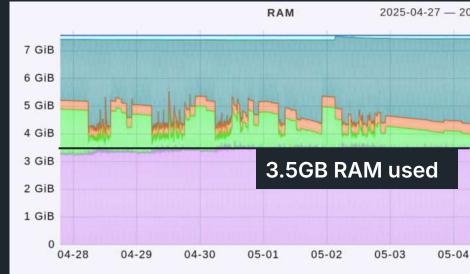
### But ... it depends!



Memory consumption could also increase

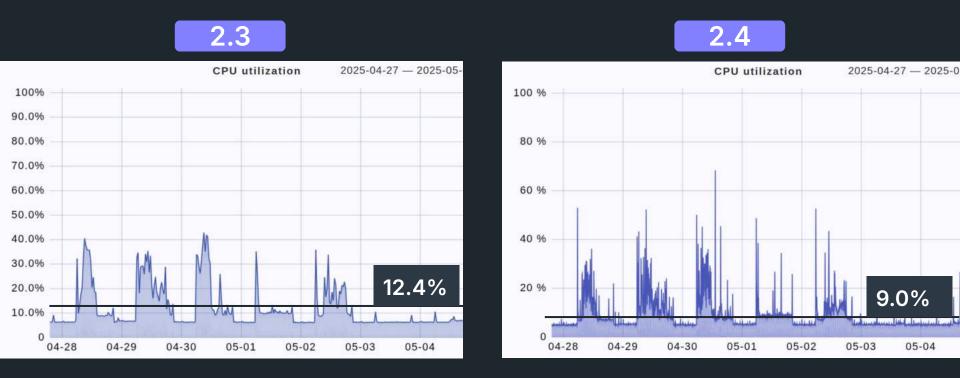


2.4



## Then again. We improved CPU usage.







Ever wanted to monitor a Kubernetes cluster with pods changing every minute?

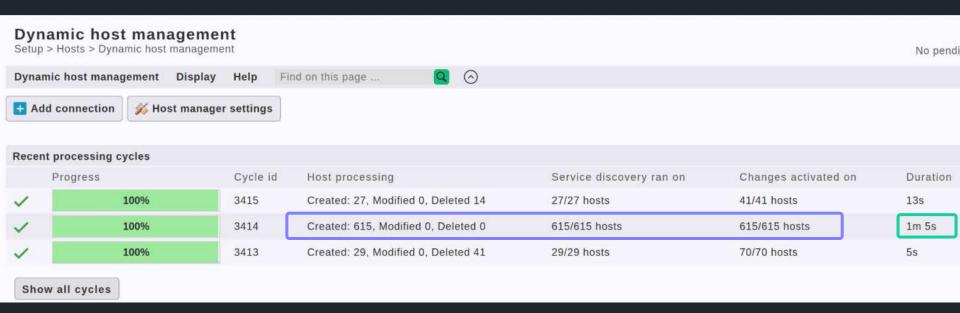
Ever wanted to add hundreds of hosts in a short time?

Reliably?

# Monitoring 600+ new hosts instantly? No problem!



Also larger numbers are no problem!





# **Smaller changes? Done!**



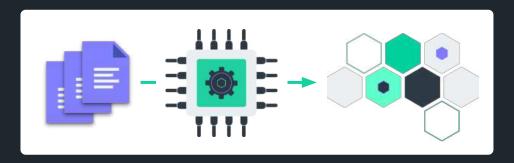
Includes activating changes...

Progress	Cycle id	Host processing	Service discovery ran on	Changes activated on	Duration
100%	2957	Created: 0, Modified 0, Deleted 1	Skipped	1/1 hosts	1s 🗷
100%	2956	Created: 0, Modified 0, Deleted 1	Skipped	1/1 hosts	2s 📜
100%	2955	Created: 2, Modified 0, Deleted 12	2/2 hosts	14/14 hosts	4s 📜
100%	2954	Created: 1, Modified 0, Deleted 11	1/1 hosts	12/12 hosts	3s 📈
100%	2953	Created: 13, Modified 0, Deleted 45	13/13 hosts	58/58 hosts	4s 🗾
100%	2952	Created: 22, Modified 0, Deleted 0	22/22 hosts	22/22 hosts	4s 🔼
100%	2951	Created: 0, Modified 0, Deleted 22	Skipped	22/22 hosts	2s 🗾
100%	2950	Created: 0, Modified 0, Deleted 1	Skipped	1/1 hosts	2s 📕
100%	2949	Created: 0, Modified 0, Deleted 10	Skipped	10/10 hosts	2s 📁
100%	2948	Created: 1, Modified 0, Deleted 3	1/1 hosts	4/4 hosts	3s 📜
100%	2947	Created: 0, Modified 0, Deleted 3	Skipped	3/3 hosts	1s 📕

Checkmk #1

# Automatic configuration for dynamic hosts





- Hosts are automatically created with 'dynamic host management'
- Typical use case: piggyback hosts
  - VMware vSphere: ESXi hosts + VMs
  - Kubernetes: anything
  - AWS, Azure, GCP: VMs, Load Balancers, Databases, ...

#### What does a connector do?



Checkmk 2.3

Collect piggyback data across sites

Calculate change

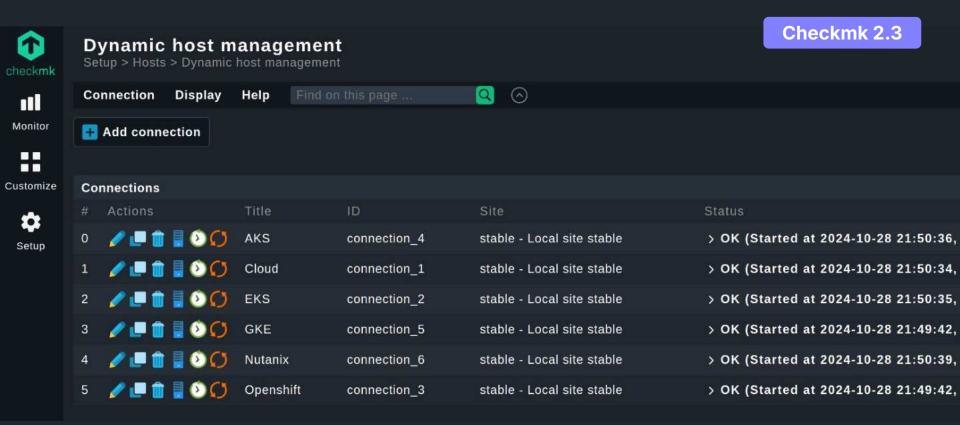
Create / modify / delete hosts

Discover services

**Activate** changes

## Dynamic host mgmt = all 'connections'





# So, what's the problem?



It's not just performance...

Collect piggyback data across sites	Create / modify / delete hosts	Discover services	Activate changes



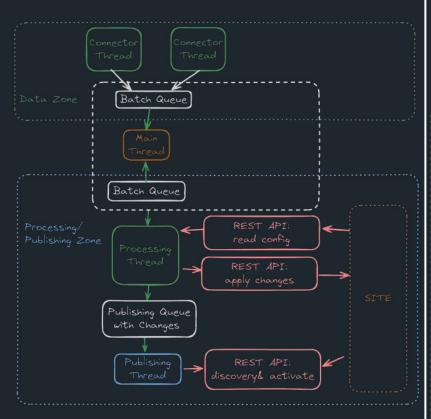
# Parallel processing meets concurrency:

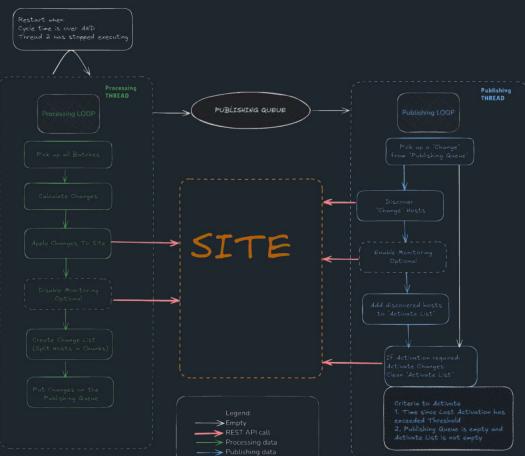




Collect piggyback data across sites	Calculate change	Create / modify / delete hosts	Discover services	Activate changes

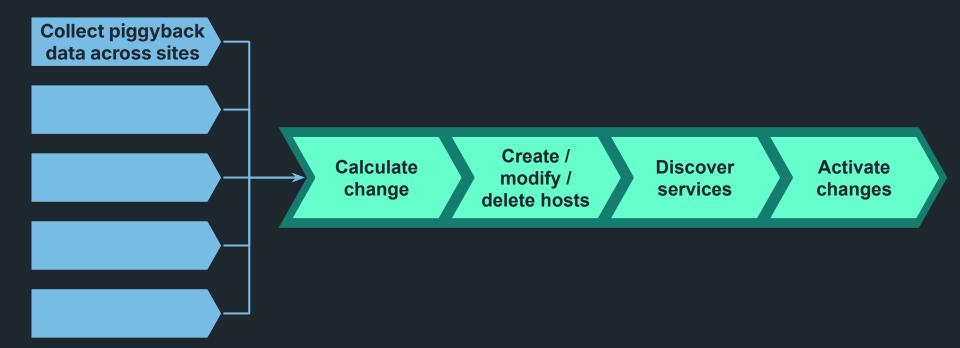
# Decoupling of connector and configuration changes

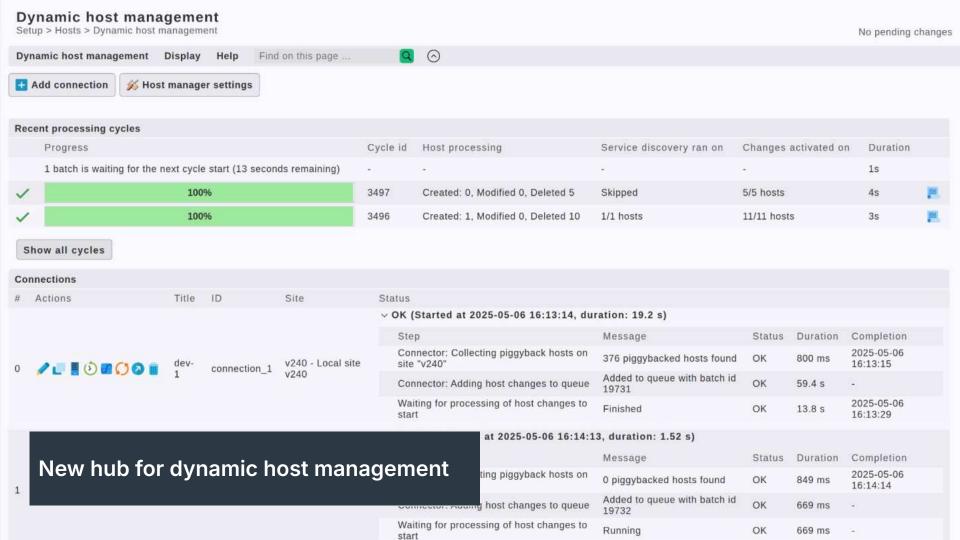




# The new architecture for dynamic configuration









# Stable

# Dynamic environments won't break Checkmk anymore



# Fast

# Utilizing incremental activation



# Smooth

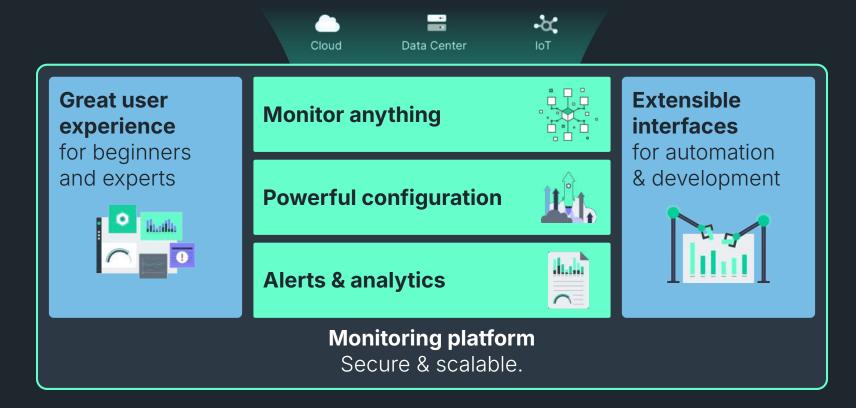
# No migration needed\*

\* Except for: Exclude "Activate changes" for time ranges

# Checkmk 2.4 at a glance

#### Our focus for Checkmk 2.4





### Our focus for Checkmk 2.4







# Piggyback unleashed a.k.a distributed piggyback

Today 15:00 - 15:25



Moritz Kiemer
Team Lead Development
Checkmk GmbH

#### The (in)famous automation user

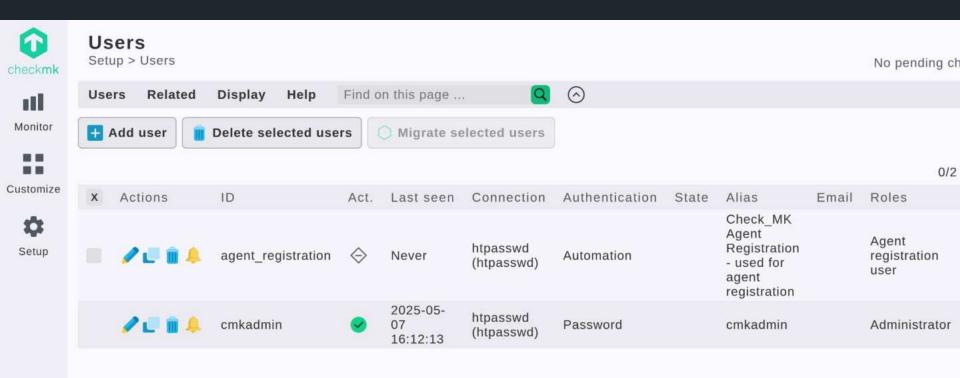


Hi I'm very speaking of the user automation. It is a built-in user which is hard coded with its name. If you do not further have it, please just create it with a secret. You do not need to use it, but CheckMK has some internal routins (espacially for the API) which uses it. The outdated warning only comes for users with passwords, not with secrets as they are handled differently. Best Regards Edit · Delete added a comment - 24/Jan/24 12:47 PM & REPORTER Hello OMG... that was indeed the problem. I accidentally removed that user during the user outdated warning cleanup. Recreating the user fixed this issue. Thanks for your patience & help! This ticket can be closed. Best regards,

# And it's gone! No internal dependency anymore.



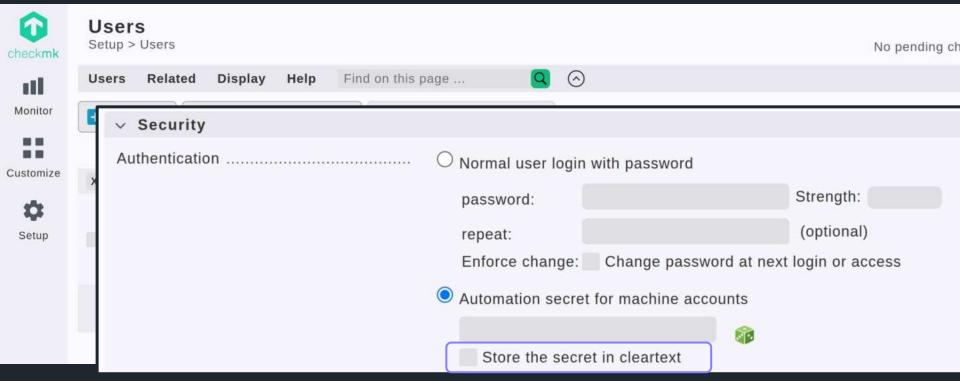
On fresh 2.4.0 sites



# And it's gone! No internal dependency anymore.



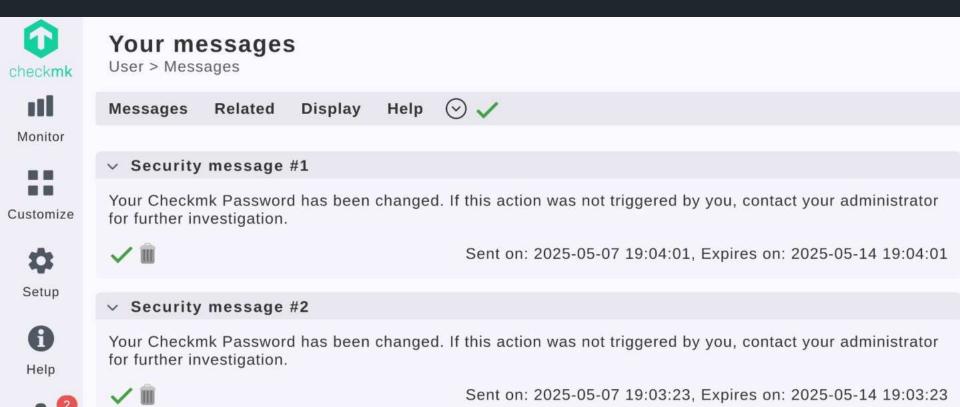
On fresh 2.4.0 sites

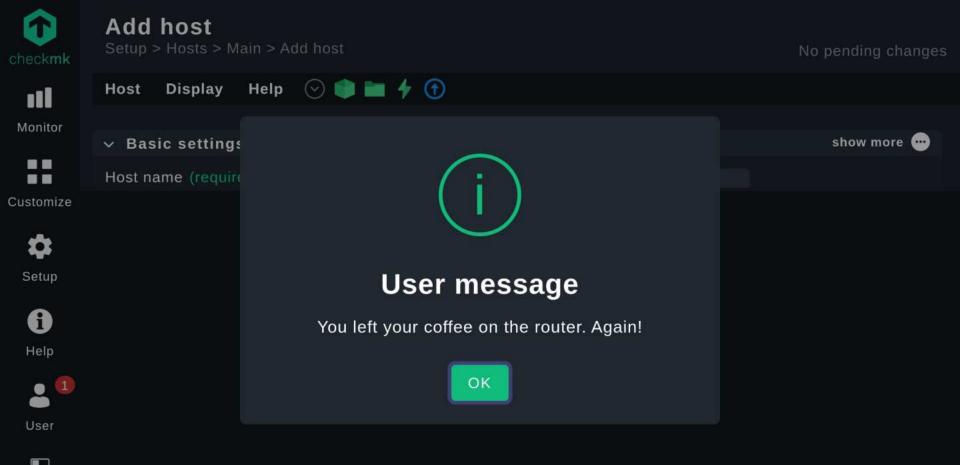


# **Security warnings**



### Sent by mail if possible, fallback: personal messages





Sidebar

#### Two-factor authentication can now be enforced



Small change, huge impact!

Clobally		
Globally		
<ul> <li>Enforce two factor authentication</li> </ul>		
Current setting Factory setting Current state	Enforce for all users off This variable is at factory settings.	
Per role		
∨ Basic properties		
Internal ID (required)		user (built-in role)
Alias		Normal monitoring user

Enforce two-factor authentication



#### What's with all the CVEs

What our security team actually does

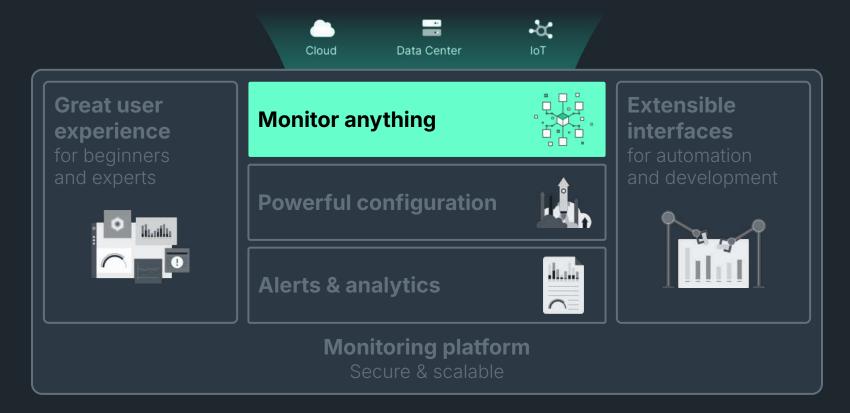
Today 17:30 - 18:00

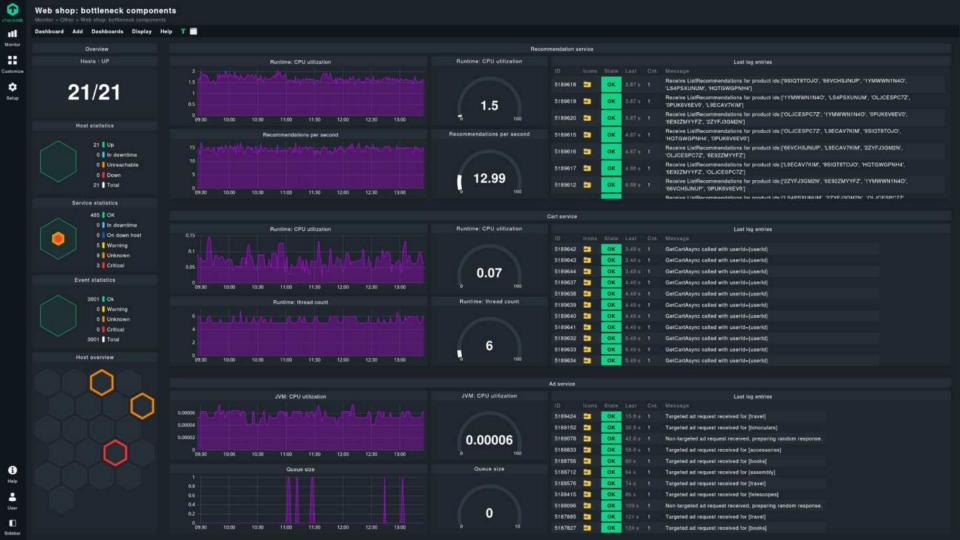


Hannes Rantzsch Security Specialist Checkmk GmbH

#### Our current focus for Checkmk







# The two sides of application monitoring



#### **Supported already by Checkmk**







**HAPROXY** 









elasticsearch



Jenkins





many more ...

active checks



# The two sides of application monitoring



**Supported already by Checkmk Business applications** Not 'your' software

### The two sides of application monitoring



**Supported already by Checkmk** 

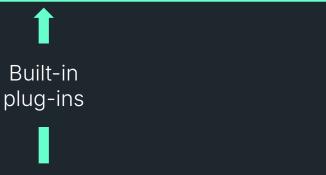
**Business applications Not 'your' software** 

**Custom applications 'Your' software** 

### Monitoring applications with Checkmk







Business applications
Not 'your' software

Custom Local plug-ins checks

Custom applications 'Your' software

# Standardization being massively pushed





- Large number of exporters generating Prometheus metrics.
- Many applications already expose Prometheus metrics natively.

http\_server\_request\_duration\_seconds\_bucket{method="get",path="/"} 0.0

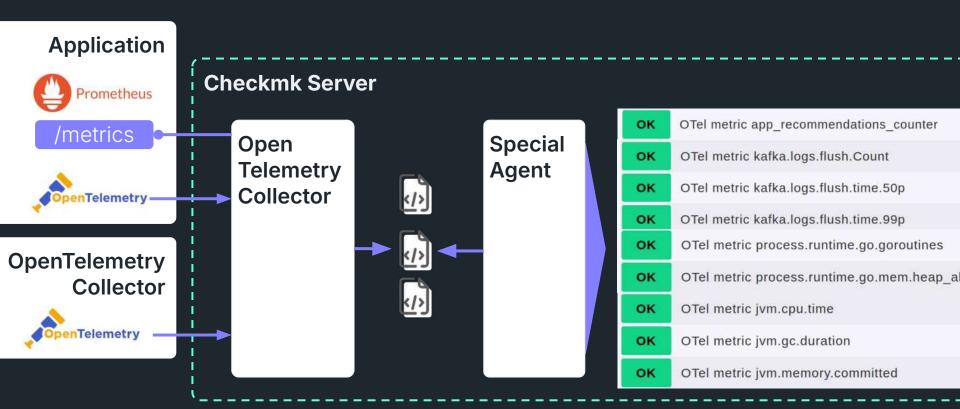


- The standard for observability: metrics, logs and traces.
- For instrumenting, generating, collecting, & exporting telemetry

#### Makes application monitoring much simpler.

# Integrating OpenTelemetry and Checkmk





Checkmk #1



#### Ceph statistics



A Owner: Robert Sander <r.sander@heinlein-support.de

@ Views: 56754

4, Downloads: 13631

Updated on: 11 Feb 2025

Number of versions: 15

Source: Website



5 Stars (1) 4 Stars (0) 3 Stars (0) 2 Stars (0) 1 Stars (0)

View all ratings

Subscribe to package updates





State	Service	Icons	Summary	Perf-O-Meter
ОК	Ceph Class nvme	=>=<	Used: 38.40% - 42.9 TiB of 112 TiB (warn/crit at 96.46%/98.23% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +352 GiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +0.31%, Time left until disk full: 200 days 9 hours	38.4 %
ок	Ceph OSD 0	=>≡≝	Used: 46.45% - 3.25 TiB of 6.99 TiB (warn/crit at 93.83%/96.91% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +27.0 GiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +0.38%, Time left until disk full: 142 days 2 hours, PGs: 29, Apply latency: 0ms, Commit latency: 0ms	46,45 %
ок	Ceph OSD 0 DB	=>■≝	Used; $0.18\% - 12.8$ GiB of $6.99$ TiB (warn/crit at $93.83\%/96.91\%$ used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: $+239$ MiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: $+<0.01\%$	0.18 %
ок	Ceph OSD 1	=>≥<	Used: 38.45% - 2.69 TiB of 6.99 TiB (warn/crit at 93.83%/96.91% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +22.3 GiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +0.31%, Time left until disk full: 197 days 3 hours, PGs: 24, Apply latency: 0ms, Commit latency: 0ms	38.45 %
ок	Ceph OSD 1 DB	=>■≝	Used: 0.14% - 10.3 GiB of 6.99 TiB (warn/crit at 93.83%/96.91% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +305 MiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +<0.01%	0.14 %
ок	Ceph OSD 2	=>≥<	Used: 38.37% - 2.68 TiB of 6.99 TiB (warn/crit at 93.83%/96.91% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +22.1 GiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +0.31%, Time left until disk full: 199 days 21 hours, PGs: 24, Apply latency: 0ms, Commit latency: 0ms	38.37 %
ок	Ceph OSD 2 DB	=>≡≝	Used: 0.11% - 8.12 GiB of 6.99 TiB (warn/crit at 93.83%/96.91% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +286 MiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +<0.01%	0.11 %
ок	Ceph OSD 3	=>=<	Used: 36.81% - 2.57 TiB of 6.99 TiB (warn/crit at 93.83%/96.91% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +20.7 GiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +0.29%, Time left until disk full: 218 days 4 hours, PGs: 24, Apply latency: 0ms, Commit latency: 0ms	36.81 %
ок	Ceph OSD 3 DB	≡>≡≝	Used: 0.11% - 8.08 GiB of 6.99 TiB (warn/crit at 93.83%/96.91% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +180 MiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +<0.01%	0.11 %
ок	Ceph Pool .mgr	=>==	Used: <0.01% - 21.3 MiB of 15.1 TiB (warn/crit at 94.71%/97.36% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: -28 B, trend per 1 day 0 hours: -0.00%, Objects: 6.00, Read IOPS: 0.00, Write IOPS: 0.00, Read Throughput: 0 B, Write Throughput: 0 B	0.0001 %
ок	Ceph Pool nvme1	=>■<	Used: 48.51% - 14.3 TiB of 29.4 TiB (warn/crit at 95.37%/97.69% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +117 GiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +0.39%, Time left until disk full: 132 days 11 hours, Objects: 4088557.00, Read IOPS: 193.05, Write IOPS: 770.12, Read Throughput: 49.1 MiB, Write Throughput: 15.9 MiB	48.51 %
ок	Ceph Status	=>=~	Overall health OK, Used: 38.40% - 42.9 TiB of 112 TiB (warn/crit at 96.46%/98.23% used), trend per 1 day 0 hours: +352 GiB, trend per 1 day 0 hours: +0.31%, Time left until disk full: 200 days 9 hours, Objects: 4088563, Placement groups: 129, PGs in active+clean: 129	38.4 %

# Thanks Robert! (1/2)



# Some love for check\_http + check\_cert



Introduced in 2.3. Refined in 2.4.

play.checkmk.com									
State	Service	Icons	Summary	Age	Checked	Perf-O-Meter			
ОК	CERT play.checkmk.com	≡ <u>~</u>	Verification: OK, Subject CN: play.checkmk.com, Server certificate validity: 76 day(s)	39 h	25.1 s	76 d			
ок	HTTPS play.checkmk.com	$\equiv \simeq$	Version: HTTP/2.0, Status: 200 OK	157 s	37.1 s	0.26 s			

#### check\_http

- Connect to an explicit server
- Ignore certificates
- Enforce IPv4 or IPv6
- Macro support for user agent & for IPv6

#### check\_cert

- Proper service summary, service details and metrics
- Certificates valid in the future
- Macro support for Issuer & Subject

OMD[mysite]:~\$ cmk-migrate-http -h

# A lot of new, improved & fixed monitoring plug-ins



Disk health

S.M.A.R.T.

systemd Performance



















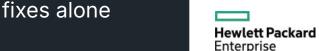










































500+



# Monitoring servers via Redfish

**Tomorrow 09:45 – 10:15** 



**Andreas Döhler** Community Hero



### How to run the agent as non-root

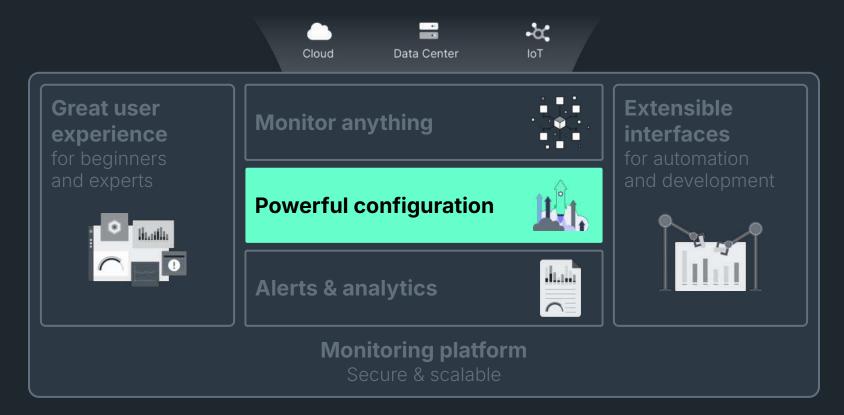
Today 15:25 - 15:40



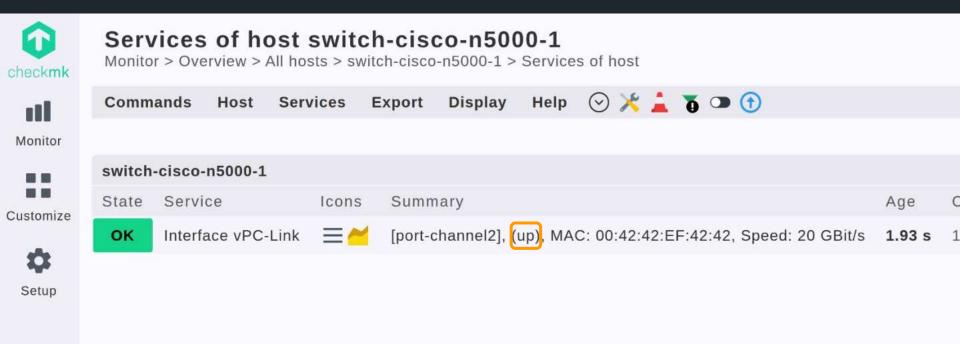
Andreas Umbreit Software Developer Checkmk GmbH

#### Our current focus for Checkmk

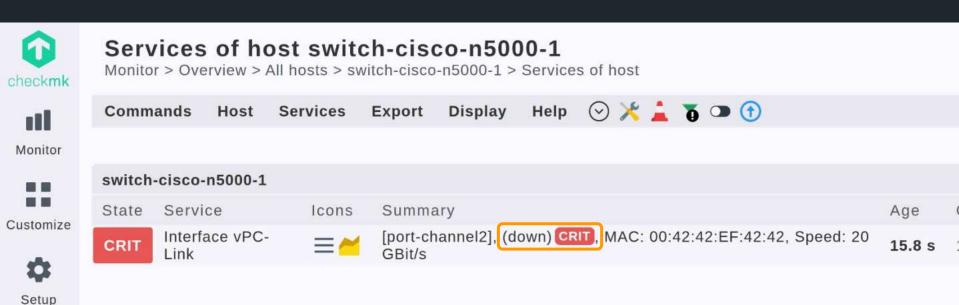












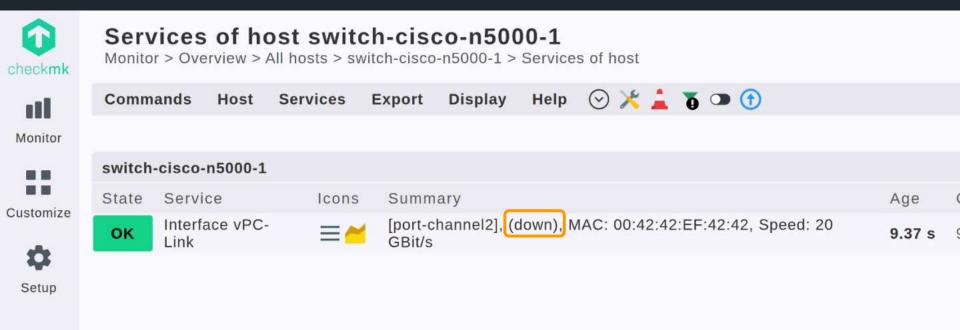












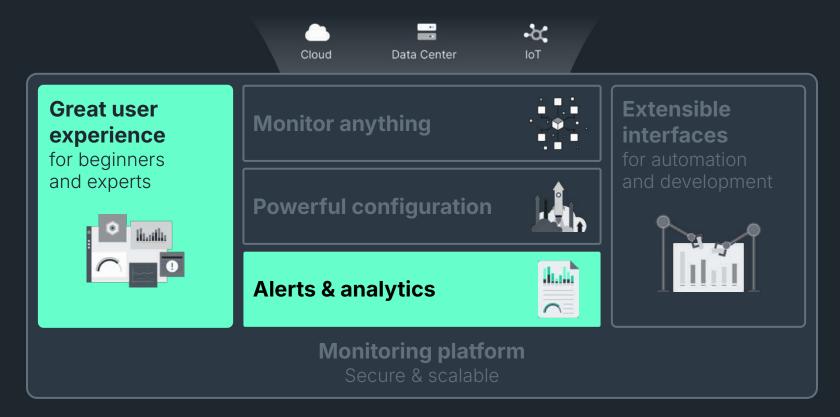


# **Set-up cloud monitoring in minutes**

Today 14:00 - 14:20 Wontek Hong Tech Lead Checkmk GmbH

#### Our current focus for Checkmk

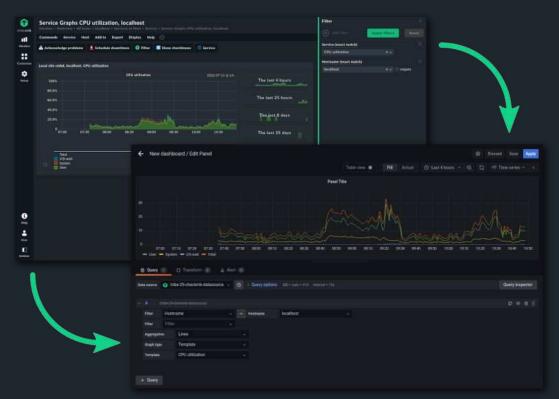




### **Integrating Checkmk and Grafana**

110

https://github.com/Checkmk/grafana-checkmk-datasource



**Developed by Checkmk** 

**Open source** 

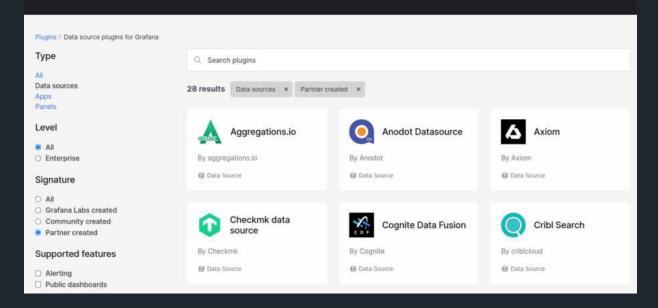
**Available for free** 



# Grafana Cloud requires officially 'signed' plug-ins



Data source plugins for Grafana



**Developed by Checkmk** 

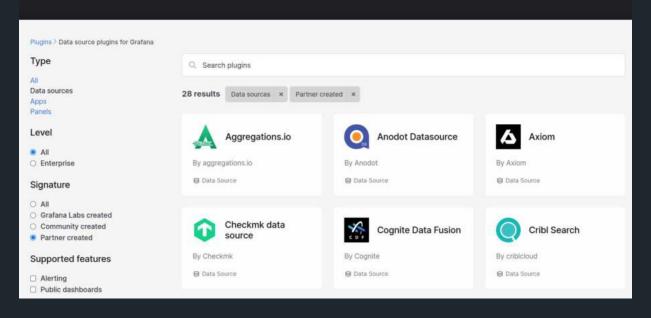
**Open source** 

Requires Charlet Kmk Cloud

#### Signed plug-in available for all CMK editions now



# Data source plugins for Grafana



**Developed by Checkmk** 

**Open source** 

Available for all editions\*



#### You'll love notifications with Checkmk!

Today 14:20 - 15:00



Tanja Hohenstatt
Team Lead UX Design
Checkmk GmbH

#### Our current focus for Checkmk

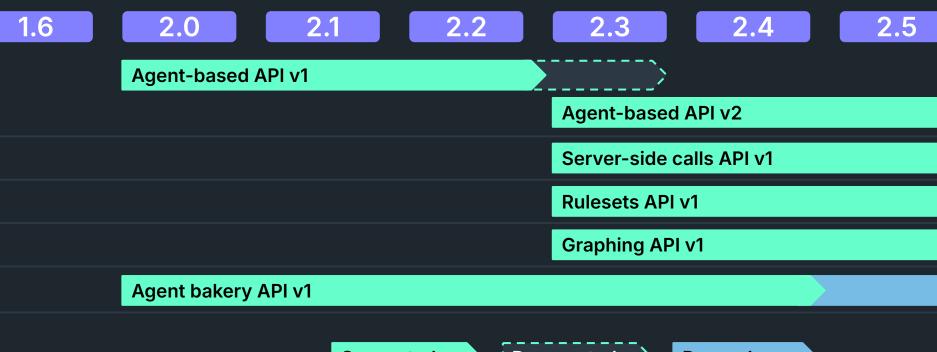




### Lifecycle of plug-in development APIs



Agent-based API v1 removed in 2.4.0!



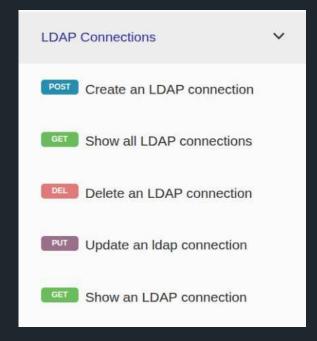
Checkmk #1

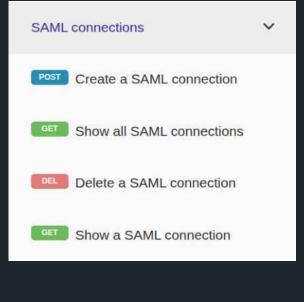
Supported | Deprecated

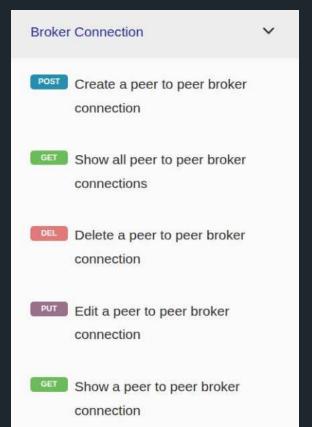
**Depends** 

### **New REST API endpoints**









# Activate changes endpoint reports details per site



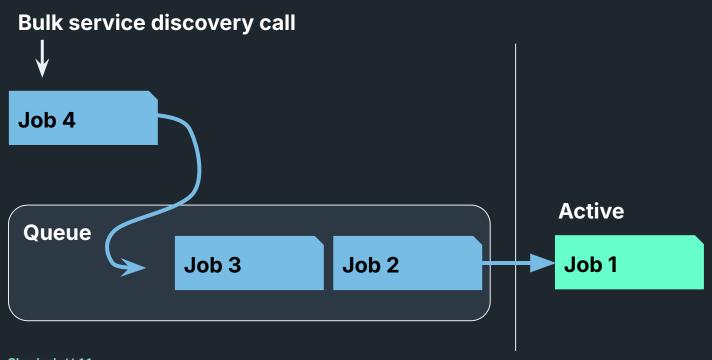
Select REST-API improvements

```
"status per site": [
      "site": "munich",
      "phase": "done",
      "state": "success",
      "status text": "Success",
      "status details": "Started at: 16:29:11. Finished at: 16:29:12.",
      "start time": "2025-03-06T15:29:11.801165+00:00",
      "end time": "2025-03-06T15:29:12.846029+00:00"
  },
      "site": "atlanta",
      "phase": "done",
      "state": "success",
      "status text": "Success",
      "status details": "Started at: 16:29:11. Finished at: 16:29:15.",
```

### **Enhanced bulk service discovery**



Select REST-API improvements



#### More performance for key endpoint 'Hosts'



- POST Bulk create hosts
- POST Bulk delete hosts
- Bulk update hosts
- POST Create a cluster host
- POST Create a host
- Show all hosts
- Delete a host
- Show a host
- PUT Update a host
- POST Move a host to another folder
- Rename a host
- Wait for renaming process completion
- Update the nodes of a cluster host

#### **Bulk update:**

Plain higher efficiency

#### **Show all hosts:**

Filtering of result content for faster responses (I)

```
resp = session.get(

f"{API_URL}/domain-types/host_config/collections/all"
,
    params={
        "fields": '(valre~id))',
    },
)

2.2x faster than with default fields
```

#### More performance for key endpoint 'Hosts'



- POST Bulk create hosts
- POST Bulk delete hosts
- Bulk update hosts
- POST Create a cluster host
- POST Create a host
- Show all hosts
- Delete a host
- Show a host
- Update a host
- POST Move a host to another folder
- Rename a host
- Wait for renaming process completion
- Update the nodes of a cluster host

#### **Bulk update:**

Plain higher efficiency

#### **Show all hosts:**

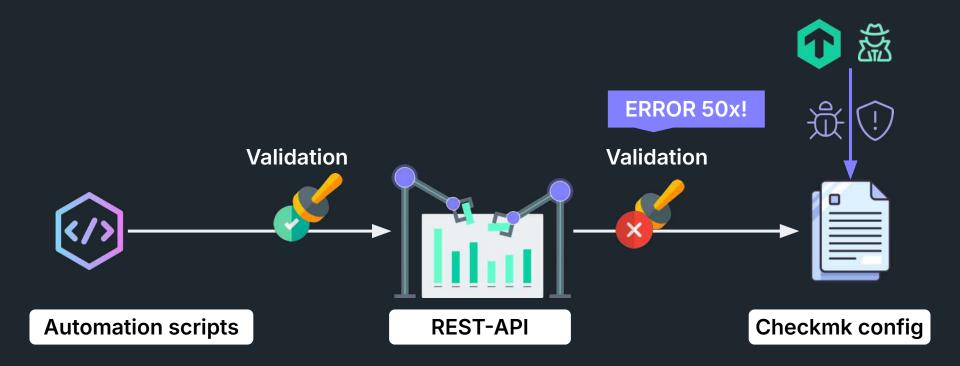
Filtering of result content for faster responses (II)

```
resp = session.get(

f"{API_URL}/domain-types/host_config/collections/all"
,
    params={
        "hostnames": ['host1', 'host2'],
        "site": 'site1',
    },
)
```

# Improving the runtime stability of Checkmk





# Validation warns during update on inconsistencies



#### Config object (.mk) Update

Users **User Roles Contacts Contact Groups Host Groups Host Tag Groups Service Groups Aux Tags Passwords Notification Rules** IDAP **Time Periods Site Management** DCD

#### Config validation

We have identified an issue with the configuration of your site.

Currently, this is a warning to make you aware of a potential problem.

Our validation process checks your configuration files against a work-in-progress internal representation. In this case, we found at least one mismatch between the two.

For now you can proceed with the update of your site. However, in the future we will treat this as an error and stop the update procedure.

The following mk files had issues during the validation: ...

### This is Checkmk 2.4 at a glance









Blog: Product news
Simply smarter notifications The new Checkmic Notification Hub



#### What's new in Checkmk – Version 2.4 at a glance

Discover the key highlights of the latest Checkmk release and how version 2.4 enhances your monitoring.

changes, improvements, and new features introduced in Checkmk 2.4.0.

Read More →

Explore the full list of technical

Checkmk 2.4 introduces a revamped notification system that's just as powerful as before — but far easier to use.

The new Checkmk

**Notification Hub** 

Read More →

Plenty of resources!

https://checkmk.com/blog/checkmk -24-whats-inside-latest-release

Read More  $\rightarrow$ 

Blog: How-to

Migrating to the new HTTP active Check

Read More →





Product news
Update to Checkmk version 2.4.0

2.4

Update to Checkmk version

Product news
The relevant werks for Checkmik 2.4.0

2.4

# Migrating to the new HTTP active check

Learn how to migrate to the new HTTP active check with Checkmk 2.4.

2.4.0
In this article, you'll find the key topics relevant for updating your Checkmk from version 2.3.0 to 2.4.0.

# The relevant werks for Checkmk 2.4.0

Checkmk 2.4 includes more than 1,000 werks. Check out the most relevant changes.

/ \_

