

Shakespeare's guide To Network Maintenances

Advices you should probably never follow.

*W. Shakespeare, J. Linkova
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This show contains sarcasm, Comic Sans
and
ideas that some viewers may find disturbing.

Viewer discretion advised.

Intended for humorous audiences only.

After attending this talk you would be able to
drastically reduce time you spent on
preparing and executing network changes

...SO...

You can have more time to work on
network change post-mortems...



Listen to many,
speak to a few.

Hamlet, act 1, sc. 3

Keep Communication To Minimum

Never:

- Ask for the change plan review
- Send notifications
- Specify timezone or expected impact



Have more than thou showest,
Speak less than thou knowest

King Lear, act 1, sc 4

Avoid Details

DO:

- 1) Turn up a router
- 2) Configure BGP
sessions

DON'T:

- 1) set interface
xe-0/0/0 family
inet6 address
2001:db8::1/127
- 2) edit protocol bgp
- 3) set neighbor
2001:db8::2 peer-as
1234



O, swear not by the moon, th'
inconstant moon,
That monthly changes in her circle orb,
Lest that thy love prove likewise
variable.

Romeo and Juliet, act 2, sc 2.

Don't prepare configuration in advance:

- Network keeps changing
- Outdated configs are dangerous

DO NOT AUTOMATE! NEVER! EVER!



Boldness be my friend!

'Cymbeline' act 1, sc. 6.

Never Test Your Changes Beforehand

You know what you are doing.

Two lines config change, what could go wrong?



Since brevity is the soul of wit

Hamlet, act 2, sc 2

Keep Verification Steps Brief

DO:

"Check connectivity"

"Verify that it works"

DON'T:

"ping www.facebook.com"

"ping6 www.facebook.com"

"http://test-ipv6.com
should show 10/10"

"sh ./verify.sh"



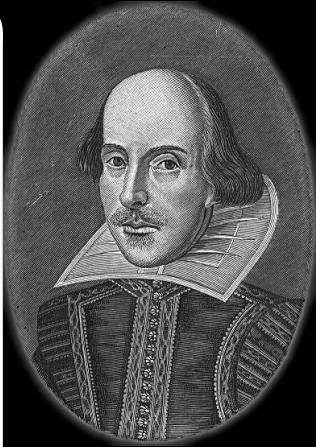
Better three hours too soon
than a minute too late

The Merry Wives of Windsor, act 2, sc 2

Save Time. Avoid Extensive Verification

Never Test:

- Before/after and compare
- Actual traffic. Verifying configs would do.
- Things expected to fail actually do
 - Traffic which needs to be blocked **is** blocked



What's done can't be undone.

Macbeth, act 5, sc. 1

Don't prepare the rollback plan.

If you have the plan:

- never test it
- only plan immediate rollback

Make sure only high-skilled engineers can rollback

Keep the Rollback Plan Simple.

DO:

"Rollback all previously
made changes"

"Rollback 1"

DON'T:

"delete interface xe-0/0/0"

"ipv6 nd prefix 2001:db8::/64
preferred-lifetime 0"



~~To be or not to be:~~

Two beer or not two beer:
that is the question.

~~Hamlet, act 3, sc 1~~

After finishing your maintenance:

turn off your phone,

go to the pub.

It's Friday night after all!