ActiveState®

The Secret to Managing Shared Secrets



ActiveState "State Tool" Webinar

Welcome



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Housekeeping

- Webinar recording and slides will be available shortly
- Share questions with panelists using the Question panel
- Q&A session following presentations



About ActiveState

- Track-record: 97% of Fortune 1000, 20+ years open source
- Polyglot: 5 languages Python, Perl, Tcl, Go, Ruby
- Runtime Focus: concept to development to production



















About ActiveState Platform

- Runtimes: automatically builds runtime environments in minutes
- Dependency Management: automatically pulls in & resolves all dependencies
- Multilingual; Multiplatform: automatically packages Python & Perl runtimes for Windows & Linux



Overview

- Activating a Project
- Project Configuration
- Constants & Secrets
- Scripts & Events
- Real World: Project Setup
- Q&A



ActiveState Platform

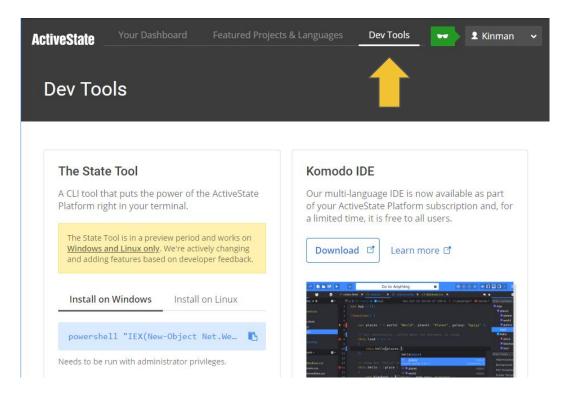
What if we could reduce your entire development environment setup to a single command?

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ActiveState Platform

- Sign up now for an account and to download the state tool:
 - https://platform.activestate.com







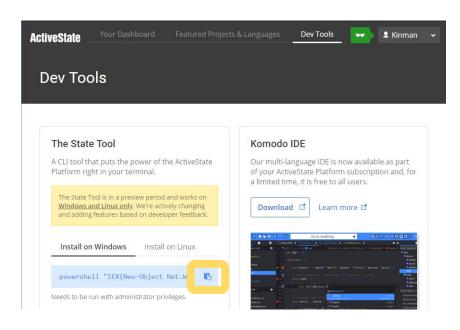
Installing the State Tool

- Currently the public release of the state tool only supports Linux & Windows. macOS support will follow in the not so distant future.
- To install the State tool simply run the following one liner from your command prompt:

```
sh <(curl -q https://platform.activestate.com/dl/cli/install.sh)</pre>
```

powershell "IEX(New-Object Net.WebClient).downloadString('https://platform.activestate.com/dl/cli/install.ps1')"





- Go back to the platform
- 2) Click the "copy" button
- 3) Go back to the Command Prompt
- 4) CTRL-V/Right click to paste



Authenticating

- The state tool prompt you to enter your username and password automatically if you're not already authenticated.
- However, if you ever need to manually authenticate, run the following command to authenticate your CLI:

state auth

 You will be prompted for your username and password, and if all goes well it should show a friendly "You have authenticated" message.



Activating your Project

 Now, we simply activate our project with the following command:

state activate owner/projectName

 Owner can be either username or organization name. For instance, if you created your project inside an organization, then use the organization name instead of your username.



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- That's it! One line has:
 - Created a virtual environment for your project
 - Installed the Python runtime and all your defined project dependencies
 - As we'll see, it can also run subsequent commands, configuration and setup.
 - The ActiveState platform will keep all your dependencies updated and current if you've set them up that way.



Managing Secrets and Project Config

 The state tool doesn't just do runtime environment management, but also lets you set up your development environment, automate workflows and share secrets with your team.



Project Configuration

- Inside your repo, you configure your project using the activestate.yaml file.
- Inside this file you can define:
 - Your project URL that tells the platform what runtime to use
 - Constants -- values that you wish to use in scripts
 - Scripts -- scripts written in a language of your choice that help automate your workflow



Static Values (Constants)

 Let's start with the simplest: Defining static values. Open up the activestate.yaml file that was created under your project directory. Let's define a simple constant:

constants:

- name: LOCATION

value: World



Static Values

- You now have a constant defined that you can use throughout your config.
- Let's try actually using it though, add another constant:

- name: HELLO

value: Hello \$constants.LOCATION



Secrets

- You probably have a bunch of shared credentials, API Keys, etc. how are you storing these?
 - Wiki?
 - External tool like vault, etc.?
 - o Slack/Email?
 - o 1Password/LastPass?
 - GitHub!? *gasp*



Managing Secrets & Project Config

- Secrets have the concept of scopes -- which allow you to automatically share them amongst all members of the scope.
- For example, if you set a secret to have project level scope, everyone within that project will have access to that secret.
- Compare that to a user level secret, where only you have access to the value of that secret.
 - Other users will still have access to the secret name -- but will set their own value for that user-level secret



Defining Secrets

- For now, we define secrets using the tool and not in the activestate.yaml.
- In the future you will be able to define secrets in the activestate.yaml file as well.

state secrets set project.secretname value



Defining Secrets

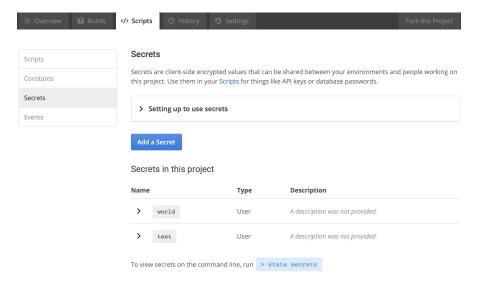
To create a secret value that only you have access to:

state secrets set user.LOCATION value

• Reminder: This will still define the secret for everyone on the project, but only you will have access to the value you've set. Anyone else that uses this secret will be prompted for their own value.



Defining Secrets





Retrieving Secrets

state secrets get user.LOCATION

..or if you want to use it in your activestate.yaml

```
constants:
```

- name: HELLO

value: Hello \$secrets.user.LOCATION



Automating Workflows: Scripts

 The real power of the state tool starts to become apparent when you leverage it to automate configuration and workflows.

```
scripts:
```

- name: simpleHello

value: echo This is a simple Hello World script.



Scripts: Using Constants & Secrets

 Scripts can also use constants, so we can embed one of our earlier constants:

value: echo \$constants.HELLO

This will work for any type of field, including secrets.



Scripts: Nesting Scripts

 It gets more interesting though, because in the activestate.yaml EVERYTHING can be used as a variable, so you could create another script that references our first script:

```
- name: log-hello
  value: $scripts.hello > /tmp/hello.txt
```



Scripts: Arguments

 You can also forward any arguments from command line invocation to your scripts to make them even more flexible.
 So in this case, if we execute `state run arg-hello World` with the below script defined, our output will be: "Hello World"

scripts:

- name: arg-hello

value: echo Hello \$1



Automating Config: Events

 Events act mostly the same as scripts do, except that they aren't manually invoked and instead run when their event triggers. For example we could have an ACTIVATE event that looks like this:

events:

- name: ACTIVATE

value: systemctl start my-service

This would start a service whenever we enter an "activated state". It's worth
noting that the ACTIVATE event has a special use-case: it is invoked as part of
your bashrc (or zshrc, or fishrc, or ..) meaning it can export environment
variables, register bash aliases, etc.



Real World: Project Setup

- Let's take a look at setting up a real world -- existing project for use with the state tool.
- We'll use the state tool to:
 - Install the dependencies and runtime environment required to run our project, and create a virtual environment for our existing project.



Real World: Project Setup

```
git clone https://github.com/ActiveState/tensorflask
cd tensorflask
state activate
```



Q & A

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Thank you to our panelist

Pete Garcin, Senior Product Manager, ActiveState (@rawktron)



What's Next

 Try the State Tool & ActiveState Platform https://platform.activestate.com

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Where to find us

Tel: **1.866.631.4581**

Website: www.activestate.com

Twitter: @activestate

Facebook: /activestatesoftware

