



SOLUTION BRIEF

From Chef EOL to a Stronger Automation Future

Migrate from Chef Infra Server to Puppet Enterprise Advanced with less risk, more control, and a clear path forward.

Chef Infra Server EOL is More Than a Tooling Deadline

Progress has announced that open source Chef Infra Server will no longer receive code, feature, or security updates after October 2026, with repositories moving to a read-only state.

Every path forward requires change. Staying put increases exposure. This moment gives teams an opportunity to choose a migration path that does more than meet a vendor deadline. It can improve automation maturity, strengthen compliance readiness, and give infrastructure teams a more scalable operating model.

Questions Worth Asking Your Team

- Where does Chef Infra Server appear in our EOL software disclosures, vendor-risk register, and cyber insurance questionnaire answers today?
- How is our Chef code organized and delivered?
- Where are compliance, drift, and audit requirements creating pressure?
- Is accepting the default migration path in your organization's best interest?
- What future state are we working toward?

What You Gain With Puppet Enterprise Advanced

- **Compliance on tap:** Built in continuous drift remediation and always-on audit readiness
- **AI-assisted operations:** Includes **ISO Certified 42001** Infra Assistant and code assist
- **Perforce Agentic Gateway:** Save token costs and build custom dashboards for your environment using natural language.
- **Enterprise Maturity:** More than two decades running large-scale, regulated environments

What Chef 360 Asks You to Carry

- **A re-platforming project:** new architecture, licensing and workflows; not an upgrade
- **A 1.x platform bet:** GA in 2024; migration tooling and track record still forming
- **New skills anyway:** new platform concepts plus Ruby cookbooks to learn
- **A captive renewal:** you negotiate after you're locked in, not before

Puppet Turns a Forced Migration into a Platform Upgrade

Puppet Enterprise Advanced helps organizations continuously enforce desired state, detect and remediate drift, generate audit-ready evidence, and manage infrastructure consistently across hybrid environments.

Your Migration Lands on a Mature Platform

Perforce Puppet carries two decades of system hardening: declarative, self-correcting configuration with compliance evidence built in. Chef 360 is a new platform. A migration to it is a bet on early releases, made under deadline.

Coexistence, Not A Cliff

Our migration approach runs Puppet alongside your existing Chef automation: security baseline first, application configuration on your schedule, nothing retired until its replacement is proven.

A Practical Migration Approach: Assess, Plan, Pilot, Prove

A successful Chef-to-Puppet migration starts with discovery. Puppet experts will work with your team to document how Chef is used today, where risk or toil exists, and what the desired future state should look like. The output is a written migration plan that connects technical work to business outcomes.

- 1. Assess current state:** Inventory Chef versions, nodes, operating systems, topology, cookbooks, pipelines, unmanaged systems, compliance requirements, and operational pain points.
- 2. Define desired state:** Align target architecture, governance requirements, KPIs, team roles, skills needs, rollout preferences, and future automation goals.
- 3. Plan the transition:** Identify pilot scope, wave sequencing, rollback expectations, cutover milestones, and sign-off requirements.
- 4. Translate and modernize:** Map Chef concepts to Puppet equivalents, replacing legacy patterns with a stronger operating model where it makes sense.
- 5. Prove before retiring:** Run Puppet alongside Chef, validate each migration wave, and only retire existing automation once the replacement is proven.



Chef to Puppet Translation at a Glance

Chef Concept	Puppet Concept	What It Means
Cookbook	Module	Reusable configuration content moves into Puppet modules, including supported modules from Puppet Forge.
Recipe	Class / manifest	Declarative manifests replace procedural Ruby recipes
Attributes and data bags	Hiera and class parameters	Layered data lookup replaces Chef precedence rules, with options for encrypted secrets management.
Role or run-list	Roles, profiles, and node classification	Node intent is managed through a more structured classification model.
Chef Infra Server	Puppet primary server	Centralized management adds reporting, RBAC, orchestration, and visibility through Puppet Enterprise.
Chef Automate	PE console, PuppetDB, and data connectors	Dashboards, events, reporting, and integrations support day-2 operations and audit needs.
Chef Infra Client	Puppet agent	Node-side agent that pulls and applies desired-state configuration
Chef Supermarket	Puppet Forge	Public registry of community/vendor content (modules vs. cookbooks).

Start with a Complimentary Chef EOL Migration Assessment

Meet with Puppet experts to assess your current Chef estate, identify EOL exposure, and map a practical migration path before the November 2026 deadline. The Puppet team can help document your current state, define your desired state, and outline the steps required to migrate with confidence.

Book Your Assessment ▶

puppet.com/chef-infra-server-eol-migration

About Perforce Puppet

Perforce Puppet empowers people to innovate through infrastructure automation. For more than a dozen years, Puppet has led the way in IT infrastructure automation to simplify complexity for the masses in order to strengthen customers' security posture, compliance standards, and business resiliency beyond the data center to the cloud. More than 40,000 organizations — including more than 80 percent of the Global 5000 — have benefited from Puppet's open source and commercial solutions.