xoom

Configuration, enlightened.

Questions

‣ **On the left: the kinds of questions that can only be reliably answered by Xoom**

‣ **On the right: real-life examples of problems arising from not being able to answer those questions**

Questions

- **What changes exactly have we made since last build?**

- **We forgot to include a change of a group definition with a large build, and it took two people three days to figure out what was wrong?!**

Questions

▸ **Are the configurations of these two servers the same?**

▸ **We thought we were working with the same configuration, but a week of reconstruction later we found out that some custom events were never set on our test environment!**

Questions

▸ **How exactly is optimisation configured on this system?**

▸ **There was no progress all this time because I was making changes to "NEW BGO", but the agent was still running "BGO" even though it itself had been renamed to the prefix NEW!**

Questions

▸ **Which of these 47 decompositions are actually in use? And how?**

▸ **We changed the workflow agent decomposition from district to region, and the server in production ground to a halt. Turns out that one of the BGO agents also mistakenly used that decomposition.**

Problem

System configuration is a disjointed collection of settings and parameters.
Means of access and modification is very restricted, typically limited to an administrative UI.
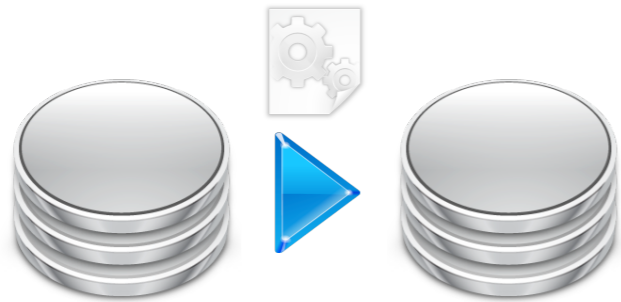There is no reliable information on the relationships between items.

Xoom Solution

Whole configuration is represented as a unified entity that can be explored, compared, changed and applied, with built-in relational and other interpretive information.

Use Cases
Configuration Management

Configuration transportation

Configuration comparison

Saving configuration for
future reference

Separation of concerns

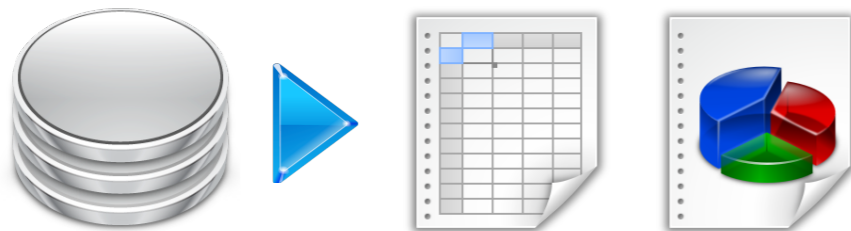# Use Cases
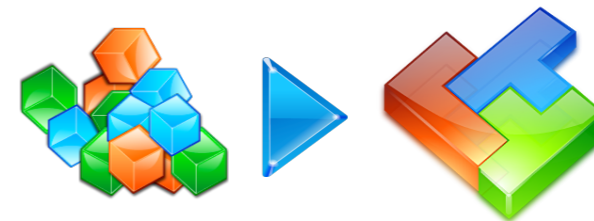## Configuration Analysis

Dependency analysis

Configuration validation
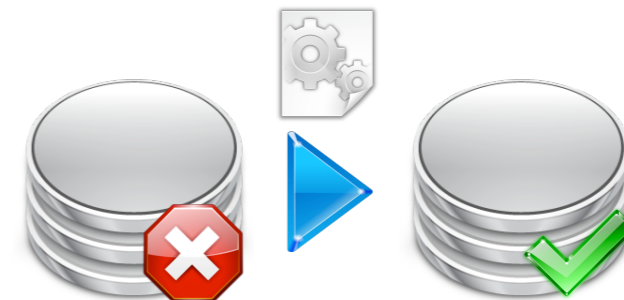
Configuration reporting

Configuration clean-up

Use Cases
Production Support

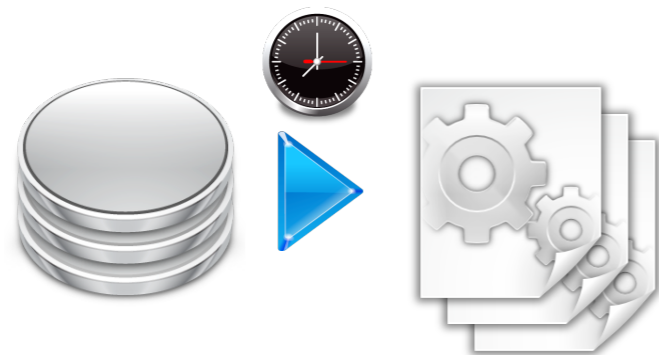Configuration library

Last known good configuration

Configuration versioning

Upgrade automation

Xoom is far more than just a transport tool

Xoom enables:

Transport

▸ to one or to many

▸ partial or complete

▸ to or from file or live system

Synchronisation

▸ compare

▸ verify

▸ integrate

Analysis

▸ summarise

▸ visualise

▸ drill down

Validation

▸ against baseline

▸ compliance with recommended use patterns

▸ compliance with custom rules

Documentation

▸ always up-to-date

▸ multiple levels of detail

▸ different formats

Versioning

▸ when did change occur?

▸ what changed?

▸ what is the history of this item?

Upgrade

▸ deprecated to new

▸ custom to product

▸ minor or major changes

Automation

▸ fully scriptable

▸ configuration manipulation or generation

▸ extended automated live transitions

Xoom is declarative

Configuration describes a desired state, not a process

You set the goal

Just supply the desired configuration – no need to worry about building a list of actions
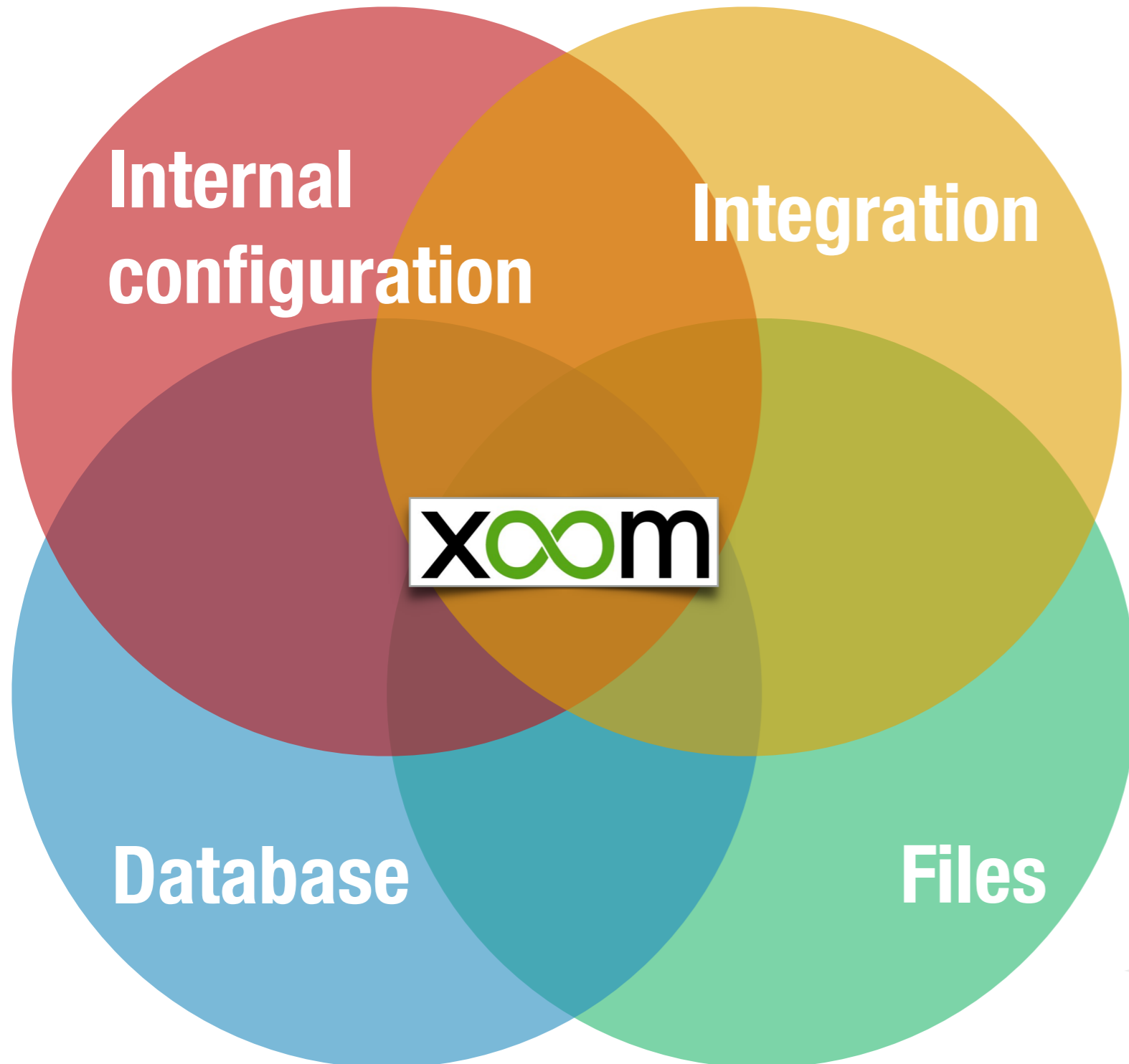
Xoom implements the process

Xoom automatically determines the necessary actions and implements them in the order required to achieve the desired result

Xoom is built to adapt

Supporting customisations or new product features is easy by design and is almost always achieved without any coding

Xoom is extensible

Supports multiple facets of configuration

Internal configuration

Integration

XOOM

Database

Files

Advantages

▸ Designed from scratch to support multiple products

▸ Vendor supplies the APIs to access the configuration, Xoom does the rest

▸ **The same Xoom tools and features are used across all facets of configuration and with all products**

Contact

Zany Ants Ltd
zanyants.com/contact
info@zanyants.com
+44 1647 640604