

Achieve, Build, and Deploy Automation for Cloud-Based Software Products

The Fundamentals and Benefits of CI/CD

Continuous Integration

- The process of "Making" is to merge all developers' working to a shared mainline several times a day.
- Everything related to the code fits here, and it has to achieve the main goal of CI: a high quality, deployable artifact!
- Some CI-related phases:
 - Compile
 - Unit Test
 - Static Analysis
 - Dependency vulnerability testing
 - Store artifact

Continuous Integration

- An approach in the software engineering field in which the value is delivered frequently through automated deployments.
- Everything related to deploying the artifact fits here. It's the process of "Moving" the artifact from the back stage to front stage.
- Some common CD-related phases might include:
 - Creating infrastructure
 - Provisioning servers
 - Copying files
 - Promoting to production
 - Smoke Testing
 - Rollbacks

Benefits of CI/CD at the Business Level

From "Cost" point of view

1. Catch Compile Errors After Merge

- a. Translation: Less developer time on issues from new developer code
- b. Business Value: Reduce Cost

2. Automate Infrastructure Cleanup

- **a.** Translation: Less infrastructure costs from unused resources
- b. Business Value: Reduce Cost

3. Catch Unit Test Failures

- a. Translation: Less bugs in production and less time in testing
- b. Business Value: Avoid Cost

4. Detect Security Vulnerabilities

- a. Translation: Prevent embarrassing or costly security holes
- b. Business Value: Avoid Cost

5. Automate Infrastructure Creation

- **a.** Translation: Less human error, Faster deployments
- b. Business Value: Avoid Cost

Benefits of CI/CD at the Business Level

From "Revenue" point of view

1. Faster and More Frequent Production Deployments

- a. Translation: New value-generating features released more quickly
- b. Business Value: Increase Revenue

2. Deploy to Production Without Manual Checks

- a. Translation: Less time to market
- b. Business Value: Increase Revenue

3. Automated Smoke Tests

- a. Translation: Reduced downtime from a deploy-related crash or major bug
- b. Business Value: Protect Revenue

4. Automated Rollback Triggered by Job Failure

- a. Translation: Quick undo to return production to working state
- b. Business Value: Protect Revenue