**Configuration & Release Management Documentation**

**Objective:**  
Ensure consistent, traceable, and repeatable software builds and deployments across development, testing, staging, and production environments.

**Detailed Components:**

* **Version Control Strategy:**
  + Use of Git with branching models (GitFlow or trunk-based development).
  + Tagging and release branches for stable builds.
* **Environment-Specific Configuration Management:**
  + Externalize config parameters (API endpoints, DB credentials, feature toggles) using tools like **dotenv**, **Kubernetes ConfigMaps**, or **Vault**.
  + Secure storage of secrets and keys, with role-based access.
* **Release Process Documentation:**
  + Step-by-step guides for deployment pipelines, including rollback and hotfix procedures.
  + Change logs and release notes per version, highlighting new features, fixes, and known issues.
* **Automation & Tooling:**
  + CI/CD pipeline integration for automatic versioning and deployment (GitHub Actions, Jenkins, GitLab CI).
  + Release approvals workflows with mandatory sign-offs (e.g., QA, Security, Product Owner).
* **Monitoring Post-Release:**
  + Health check routines and automated alerts for post-deployment stability.