



Omnibus GitLab Integration with VMware TKGI and Harbor

How-to guide for Integration and Configuration of CI/CD with examples

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1. Introduction

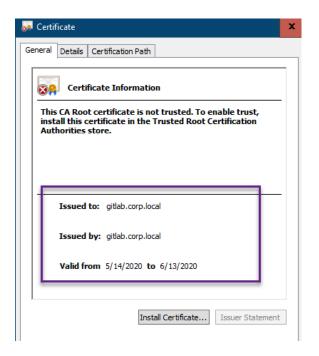
In this document, we provide an overview of integration of OmniBus GitLab (Enterprise Edition) software change management (SCM) platform with VMware Tanzu Kubernetes Grid Integrated (TKGI, formerly known as VMware Enterprise PKS) Kubernetes clusters and Harbor container image registry platform for automated software build tasks. GitLab is a popular DevOps platform since it is compatible with Git file versioning, project directory structure and client software.

We highlight configuration steps to enable integration between GitLab EE and Kubernetes clusters provisioned with TKGI platform and Harbor container image registry to enable CI/CD process automation using GitLab tools.

2. Pre-requisites

- The following software should be installed and accessible from
 - VMware TKGI (formerly 'Enterprise PKS', v 1.6.1 or 1.7)
 - o Kubernetes cluster provisioned via TKGI environment that is accessible via kubectl CLI
 - OmniBus GitLab Enterprise Edition (v 11.2 or later, v 12.10.5-ee used in a Lab for this paper) installed and configured, accessible via URL like https://gitlab.corp.local via administrator level account
 - A GitLab project that contains software artifacts that can be built into container images. We are using the following example from GitHub: https://github.com/riazvm/dockersample cloned into a local GitLab project
 - "CLI VM" typically a Linux VM that is used for Command Line access to Kubernetes clusters and runs other tools (Docker, Helm etc.) for configuration of integrations and intermediate validation of build process stages.
- There should be no networking issues (firewalls, blocked ports, DNS resolution etc.) between GitLab VM, TKGI K8s clusters and Harbor VM
- Main GitLab URL (such as gitlab.corp.local) should have a valid CA certificate (typically generated by GitLab installer script such as shown below:



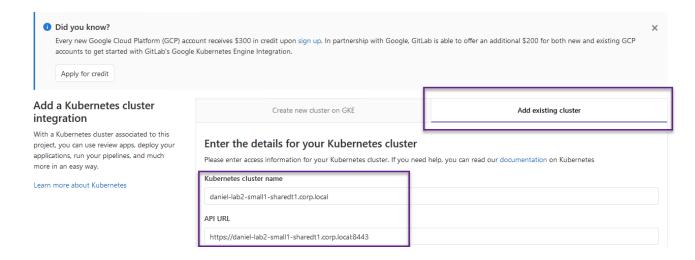


3. Add Existing TKGI K8s Cluster to GitLab project

We need to add K8s cluster to our GitLab project as a target for CI/CD deployments of containerized applications and for deploying Runner components that execute pipeline tasks/scripts. See GitLab documentation for more information on Runners

 Start with "Add Existing Cluster" Tab in the "Operations – Kubernetes" menu for a project:

Specify name and FDQN (create DNS record if doesn't exist yet) based URL of API Server/Master node(s)





 Follow "More Information" links for each field to be filled in, as specified in documentation https://gitlab.acelab.local/help/user/project/clusters/add_remove_clusters.md#add-existing-cluster with the following fields:

```
Obtain CA certificate from the K8s cluster using command like
kubectl get secret <secret name> -o jsonpath =
"{['data']['ca\.crt']}" | base64 -decode

E.G. kubectl get secret <default-token-p6br2> -o jsonpath=
"{['data']['ca\.crt']}" | base64 -d
```

Note: If the command returns the entire certificate chain, copy the *root ca* certificate value at the bottom of the chain:

Copy the above certificate string value for use in the following steps

Obtain Authentication Token for GitLab authentication against K8s

GitLab authenticates against K8s using service tokens, which are scoped to a namespace. The token used should belong to a service account with 'cluster-admin' privileges. Follow GitLab documentation to create a Service Account and Cluster Role Binding with "cluster-admin" privileges using sample gitlab-admin-service-account.yaml K8s deployment descriptor provided as an example:

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: ServiceAccount
metadata:
 name: gitlab-admin
 namespace: kube-system
apiVersion: rbac.authorization.k8s.io/v1beta1
kind: ClusterRoleBinding
metadata:
  name: gitlab-admin
roleRef:
  apiGroup: rbac.authorization.k8s.io
  kind: ClusterRole
  name: cluster-admin
subjects:
- kind: ServiceAccount
  name: gitlab-admin
  namespace: kube-system
```



Create Service account and Cluster Role Binding in the target cluster:

kubectl apply -f gitlab-admin-service-account.yaml
serviceaccount/gitlab-admin created
clusterrolebinding.rbac.authorization.k8s.io/gitlab-admin created

• Retrieve token for the gitlab-admin Service Account:

kubectl -n kube-system describe secret \$(kubectl -n kubesystem get secret | grep gitlab-admin | awk '{print \$1}')

Name: gitlab-admin-token-rf6fr

Namespace: kube-system

Labels: <none>

Annotations: kubernetes.io/service-account.name: gitlab-admin

kubernetes.io/service-account.uid: dd65123d-1a2c-47e7-8a5e-97adf871c27d

Type: kubernetes.io/service-account-token

Data

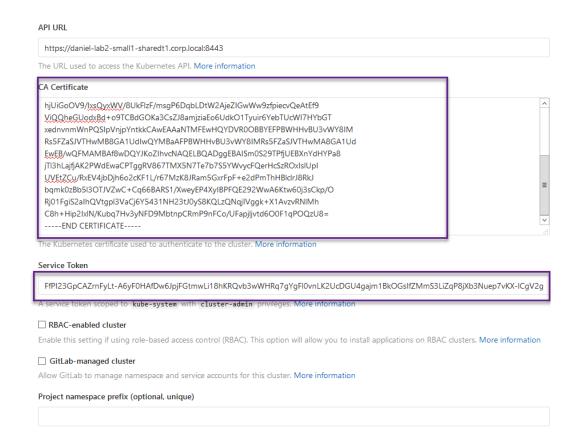
====

ca.crt: 1094 bytes namespace: 11 bytes

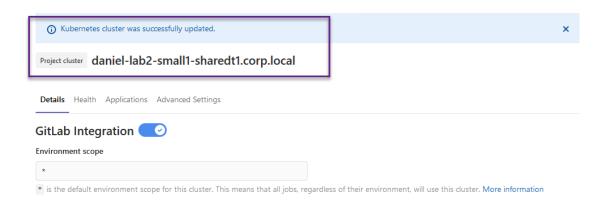
token: < authentication-token>

Paste value of *authentication-token* into the 'Service-Token' filed in the "Add Existing Cluster" GitLab screen:



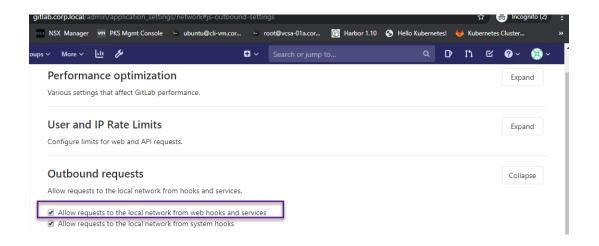


Click "Add Cluster" button – should get a confirmation of successful update on GitLab UI:



NOTE: in case if a warning about blocked requests to local networks is displayed (when GitLab VM and K8s cluster API addresses are on the same network), we may need to explicitly allow requests to local networks from Web Hooks and Services from GitLab Admin UI, following KB Article: https://gitlab.com/gitlab-org/gitlab-foss/-/issues/57948





4. Install and configure GitLab Runner using Helm chart, associate it with project

In GitLab CI/CD, Runners run the code defined in the .gitlab-ci.yml pipeline definition file. They can be dedicated virtual machines or dedicated Kubernetes Pods that pick up build jobs through the coordinator API of GitLab CI/CD. A Runner can be specific to a certain project or serve any project in GitLab CI/CD, the latter is called a Shared Runner.

Below are the steps to prepare for installation of GitLab Runners as in-cluster K8s resource via Helm chart, performed on CLI VM.(generally, follows the documentation https://docs.gitlab.com/runner/install/kubernetes.html)

• Install Helm client/server following documentation, validate that it can reach general repositories containing **gitlab-runner** charts

E.G. helm search hub gitlab-runner

URL	CHART VERSION	APP VERSIC	ON DESCRI	PTION
https://hub.helm.sh/charts/c	hoerodon/gitlab-runne	r 0.2.4	0.2.4	gitlab-runner for
Choerodon				
https://hub.helm.sh/charts/p	nnl-miscscripts/git	0.1.3	0.1.2-1	A Helm chart for
Kubernetes				
https://hub.helm.sh/charts/c	amptocamp/gitlab-ru	. 0.12.6	12.6.0	GitLab Runner
https://hub.helm.sh/charts/q	itlab/aitlab-runner	0.16.0	12.10.1	GitLab Runner

• Download Harbor Registry certificate from its UI

Login to Harbor UI, navigate to the Project where plan to host built container images click on "Registry certificate" to download the certificate file:





 Create namespace in the K8s cluster where GitLab Runner Pod will be running (e.g. 'gitlabrunner' or any other valid name)

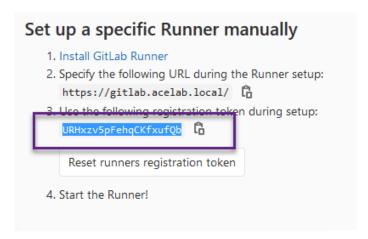
kubectl create ns gitlabrunner

NOTE: Here the Runner namespace is called **gitlabrunner** but it can be other valid namespace name

Set that namespace as current context:

kubectl config set-context --current --namespace=gitlabrunner

Navigate in GitLab UI to "Settings → CI/CD → Runners":



and copy values for GitLab URL and Runner Registration token from the screen above.

Use GitLab URL and registration token values obtained in the previous step in the values.yaml
Helm chart configuration file (full example available for Runner Helm chart installation in the
GitHub repository: https://gitlab.com/gitlab-org/charts/gitlab-runner//blob/master/values.yaml)

```
## GitLab Runner Image
##
## By default it's using gitlab/gitlab-runner:alpine-v{VERSION}
## where {VERSION} is taken from Chart.yaml from appVersion field
##
```



```
## ref: https://hub.docker.com/r/gitlab/gitlab-runner/tags/
##
##image: gitlab/gitlab-runner:alpine-v11.6.0
gitlabUrl: https://gitlab.acelab.local
runnerRegistrationToken: 'URHxzv5pFehqCKfxufQb'
```

NOTE: please see GitLab documentation

https://docs.gitlab.com/runner/install/kubernetes.html for recommended values of additional fields in values.yaml deployment configuration file for GitLab Runner Helm chart.

Another important field is RBAC support for a Runner service account. To have the chart create
new Service account during installation, set rbac.create to true

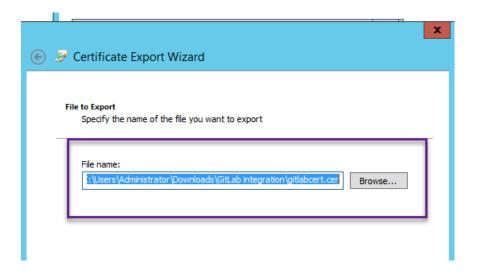
```
## For RBAC support:
rbac:
    create: true
    ## Define specific rbac permissions.
    # resources: ["pods", "pods/exec", "secrets"]
    # verbs: ["get", "list", "watch", "create", "patch", "delete"]
...
(Otherwise, set to rbac create to false and specify existing Service Account)
```

 An important setting is Max number of concurrent jobs to run which is controlled by concurrent filed value. Set it based on projected size of build jobs and related resource utilization:

```
## Configure the maximum number of concurrent jobs
## ref: https://docs.gitlab.com/runner/configuration/advanced-configuration.html#the-
global-section
##
concurrent: 10
```

• To allow containers activated on Runner to make API calls against GitLab Secure API, we need to export SSL certificate from GitLab server in a CER (BASE 64) format into a file:





Notes:

- ✓ The certificate file name used should be in the format <gitlab.hostname.domain.crt>, for example gitlab.corp.local.crt.
- ✓ Any intermediate certificates need to be concatenated to your server certificate in the same file.
- ✓ The hostname used should be the one the certificate is registered for.
- Generate K8s secret from GitLab CA certificate file (saved as gitlab.corp.local.crt in previous step) that complies with above conditions in the K8s namespace where Runner will be deployed using command like:

```
$ kubectl create secret generic gitlabca --from-
file=gitlab.corp.local.crt -n gitlabrunner
secret/gitlabca created
```

Validate that the secret got created:

```
$ kubectl get secrets

NAME TYPE DATA AGE

default-token-ckt9m k11ubernetes.io/service-account-token 3 30m

gitlabca Opaque 1 9s
```

 Use that K8 Secret name in the certsSecretName section of the values.yaml file as shown below:

Set the certsSecretName in order to pass custom certificates for GitLab Runner to use ## Provide resource name for a Kubernetes Secret Object in the same namespace,



this is used to populate the /home/gitlab-runner/.gitlab-runner/certs/ directory ## ref: https://docs.gitlab.com/runner/configuration/tls-self-signed.html#supported-options-for-self-signed-certificates

secret name

certsSecretName: gitlabca

 Configure environment variables that will be present when Runner registration command runs in the following section of values.yaml file:

```
## This provides further control over the registration process and the config.toml file
## ref: `gitlab-runner register --help`
## ref: https://docs.gitlab.com/runner/configuration/advanced-configuration.html
##
envVars:
- name: RUNNER_ENV
    value: "DOCKER_TLS_CERTDIR="
- name: CI_SERVER_TLS_CA_FILE
    value: /home/gitlab-runner/.gitlab-runner/certs/gitlab.acelab.local.crt
```

NOTE: certificate file name in the value for **CI_SERVER_TLS_CA_FILE** variable should be same as file name used to generate K8s secret above (**gitlabca**) used in the **certsSecretName** section

- If CI/CD task will require using "executor" images running containers in 'privileged' mode (such as when using popular DIND "docker in docker", per GitLab documentation), perform the following optional configuration steps:
 - a. Update "privileged" parameter flag in the values.yaml file:

```
## Run all containers with the privileged flag enabled
## This will allow the docker:dind image to run if you need to run Docker
## commands. Please read the docivi s before turning this on:
## ref: https://docs.gitlab.com/runner/executors/kubernetes.html#using-docker-
dind
##
privileged: true
```

b. Copy previously downloaded Harbor certificate file to /etc/gitlab/trusted-certs and /etc/gitlab/ssl folders of GitLab VM file system:

```
ls /etc/gitlab/ssl
ca_harbor.crt
gitlab.acelab.local.crt
....
ls /etc/gitlab/trusted-certs
```



ca_harbor.crt

gitlab.acelab.local.crt

c. Target TKGI K8s cluster should be deployed with Pod Security Policies (PSP) set to "privileged" mode, per documentation

NOTE: in our CI/CD example below we will be using an executor container image based on Google Project Kaniko which does not require running in privileged mode, please see GitLab documentation for details. Therefore, the configuration steps in this section are not required for running this example.

Add a Helm repository containing the chart for Runner deployment:

```
helm repo add stable https://kubernetes-
charts.storage.googleapis.com
```

Verify that repository has been added and is available:

```
helm repo list
NAME URL
gitlab https://charts.gitlab.io
stable https://kubernetes-charts.storage.googleapis.com
```

• Perform GitLab Runner installation using Helm chart, from the directory where **values.yaml** file is located:

```
helm install gitlab-runner -f ./values.yaml gitlab/gitlab-runner -n gitlabrunner
```

NOTES:

- ✓ IMPORTANT: if running Helm command from another directory that doesn't contain values.yaml file, provide full path to that file to customize
- ✓ 'gitlab-runner' is the name of Runner chart deployment, chosen arbitrary
- ✓ gitlab/gitlab-runner is the name of Helm chart from the repository

An output of 'helm install' command should look like:

NAME: gitlab-runner

LAST DEPLOYED: Sun May 3 05:46:50 2020

NAMESPACE: gitlabrunner

STATUS: deployed

REVISION: 1

TEST SUITE: None

NOTES:

Your GitLab Runner should now be registered against the GitLab instance

reachable at: https://gitlab.acelab.local



• (Optional) validate that Runner deployment/pod are running in the designated K8s namespace:

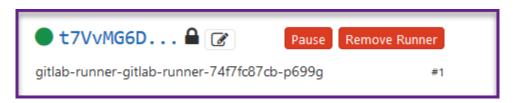
```
kubectl get deploy, po -n gitlabrunner

NAME READY UP-TO-DATE AVAILABLE AGE
deployment.apps/gitlab-runner-gitlab-runner 1/1 1 1 33s

NAME READY STATUS RESTARTS AGE
pod/gitlab-runner-gitlab-runner-74f7fc87cb-p699g 1/1 Running 0 33s
```

• Verify that newly installed Runner is configured for GitLab project(s):

Navigate to **Settings** → **CI/CD** → **Runners** of the Project and check whether Runner shows as active (green color):



Notes:

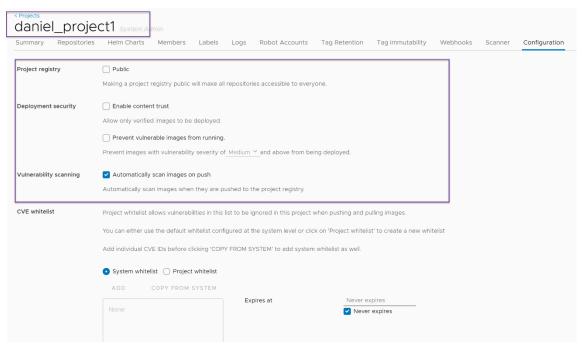
- ✓ Usually, Runner configured on a project level will show up in Settings → CI/CD automatically, when deployed to integrated cluster. In other cases they may be additional steps needed to make Runner available for a GitLab project, per documentation
- ✓ Same instance of Runner can be optionally shared among multiple projects, that can be configured in GitLab "CI/CD Settings → Shared Runners", per documentation

5. Configure and Execute CI/CD Pipeline for Building, Tagging and Publishing Application Image into Harbor Registry

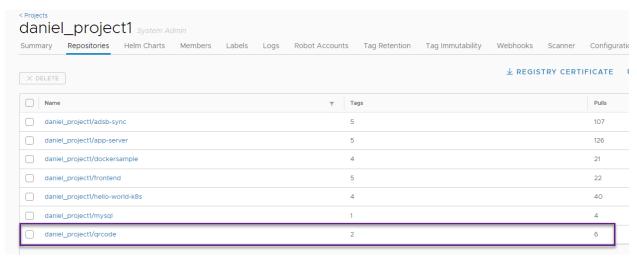
We will start by building "Continuous Integration" part of our CI/CD pipeline. It compiles a simple SpringBoot based microservice from its Java source code using Maven, continues to build a container image using provided Dockerfile and pushes built/tagged image into designated project in the Harbor image repository.

Properties of target Harbor project (top level construct for images hosting) are shown below. It
is not 'Public' and therefore requires authorized user login with at least "Developer" access
level, per Harbor documentation. It has image vulnerability scanning on 'push': any time an
image is added to a registry via 'docker push...' command, it will be scanned for vulnerabilities
automatically.





• There are other image repositories configured for that project, shown below:



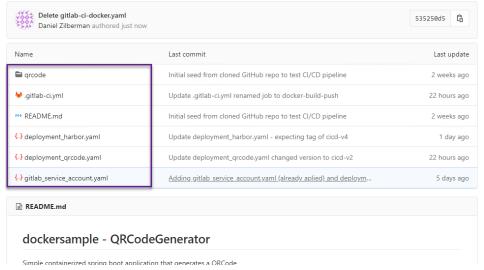
Our GitLab pipeline will be building and pushing images into 'daniel_project1/qrcode' repository that may contain previously uploaded images:



There is an existing version of an image with 'cicd-v1' tag

• File structure of the example GitLab project called **dockersample** is shown below:

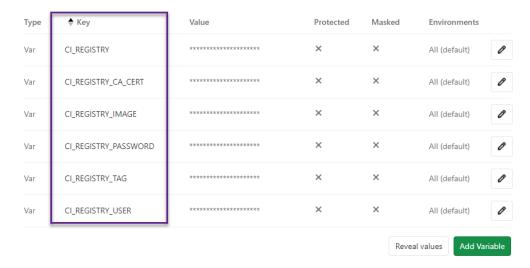




- Add default CI/CD pipeline script file (.gitlab-ci.yaml) at the root level of the Project using "CI/CD Configuration" option
 - NOTE: .gitlab-ci.yaml CI/CD script syntax should comply with structure and stages defined in accordance with documentation: https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/ci/yaml/README.html
- Edit contents of that script file from GitLab IDE (or outside of it and use Git client to commit changes to project repository):

NOTES:

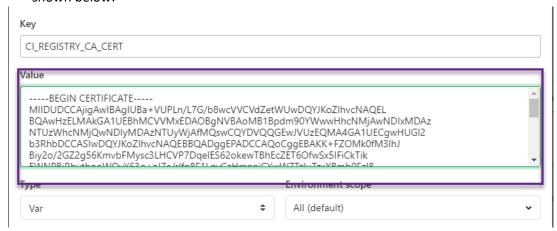
- ✓ .gitlab-ci.yaml is a default CI/CD pipeline file name for any GitLab project, other pipelines can be invoked from it
- ✓ Environment variables values referenced in pipeline scripts (CI_REGISTRY, CI_REGISTRY_USER etc.) should be defined via "Settings → CI/CD → Variables" section of the project:



Scope of those variables should be normally set as 'Environment scope', additional options to protect their values (such as for passwords etc.) are available via GitLab settings.

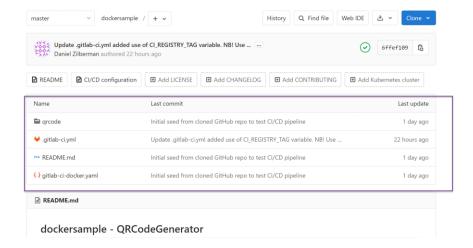


✓ For variables that contain values of SSL certificate, make sure it keeps its original format, as shown below:



(reason being that pipeline script will basically automate commands like: "docker login \${CI_REGISTRY} -u \${CI_REGISTRY_USER} -p \${CI_REGISTRY_PASSWORD}" to run as API call from CI/CD script)

- To bypass a need for executor containers to have privileged access to Docker daemon to run
 "docker build" commands, we can use unprivileged access via Google Kaniko execution
 environment: https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/ci/ (OK for running builds, not for running container
 images) See details in: https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/ci/docker/using_kaniko.html
- Edit default CI/CD pipeline script (.gitlab-ci.yaml) at the root of GitLab project directory:



• Example of a working version of above script that builds and pushes Docker container image from GitLab project sub-folders is shown below:



NOTES:

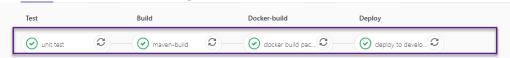
✓ Correctly formatted section of above .gitlab-ci.yml file can be found below:

```
#added before-script to change working directory
before script:
  - cd $CI PROJECT DIR/qrcode
stages:
  - test
  - build
  - docker-build
  - deploy
#Test stage
unit test:
  stage: test
  script:
    - echo "Unit Test scripts should go here.."
#build stage
maven-build:
  stage: build
  image: maven:latest
  script:
    - mvn package
#docker-build stage
docker build push:
  stage: docker-build
    name: gcr.io/kaniko-project/executor:debug
    entrypoint: [""]
  script:
```



```
- echo
"{\"auths\":{\"$CI REGISTRY\":{\"username\":\"$CI REGISTRY USER\",\"pas
sword\":\"$CI REGISTRY PASSWORD\"}}}" > /kaniko/.docker/config.json
    #- echo $CI REGISTRY CA CERT
    - echo "-----
____"
   - echo "${CI REGISTRY CA CERT}" > /kaniko/ssl/certs/jis-
certificates.crt
   - echo "Copied Harbor Registry CERT into /kaniko/ssl/certs/jis-
certificates.crt:"
   - echo "----
   - cat /kaniko/ssl/certs/jis-certificates.crt
   - echo "-----
-----"
   - echo "Project Build Dir:"
    - echo $CI PROJECT DIR
   - echo "Target Harbor reposiory image:"
   - echo $CI REGISTRY IMAGE
   - /kaniko/executor --context $CI PROJECT DIR/qrcode --dockerfile
$CI PROJECT DIR/grcode/Dockerfile --destination
${CI REGISTRY IMAGE}:${CI REGISTRY TAG DEV}
    - echo "CI/CD job completed, APP image should be available at:"
   - echo ${CI REGISTRY IMAGE}:${CI REGISTRY TAG DEV}
 environment:
   name: development
 #build docker app only when a pipeline on master branch is run
 only:
 - master
NOTES:
```

- ✓ This CI/CD script contains the following stages:
 - o **test** to perform app unit testing (not implemented fully)
 - build to perform Maven build of SpringBoot service from Java source code
 - docker-build to perform Docker build/tag/push operations to publish images to container registry
 - deploy to perform deployment of containerized application from container registry to target K8s cluster (covered in detail in Section 6)
- ✓ It is using **maven:latest** container image for **build** stage jobs execution .
- ✓ Then gcr.io/kaniko-project/executor:debug container image used for docker-build stage jobs execution to build an image defined in Dockerfile and pushes it into registry defined by CI REGISTRY IMAGE environment variable with a tag defined in the CI REGISTRY TAG DEV
- ✓ For now, we only want to deploy the application when pipeline on **master** branch is run hence the 'only -master' condition at the end of stage script
- Pipeline execution progress and results (success/failure) for each stage can be monitored in real time as shown for build stage below:



and reviewed in detail during or after its completion via GitLab CI/CD UI, as shown below for **build** stage:



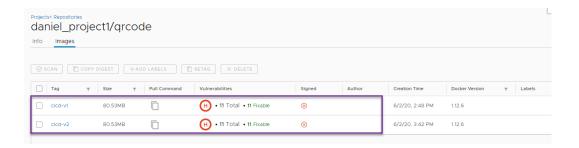
```
Downloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-commons/3.3.1/asm-commons-3.3.1.jar
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/org/apache/maven/wagon/wagon-provider-api/1.0-beta-6/wagon-provider-api-1.0-beta-6.jar (53 kB at 9.2 kB/s)
Downloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-tree/3.3.1/asm-tree-3.3.1.jar
    nloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm/3.3.1/asm-3.3.1.jar (44 kB at 7.4 kB/s)
Downloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/org/jdom/jdom/1.1/jdom-1.1.jar
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-commons/3.3.1/asm-commons-3.3.1.jar (38 kB at 6.4 kB/s)
Downloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/org/apache/maven/shared/maven-dep
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-tree/3.3.1/asm-tree-3.3.1.jar (22 kB at 3.6 kB/s)
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/org/apache/maven/shared/maven-dependency-tree/2.1/maven-dependency-tree-2.1.jar (60 kB at 9.8 kB/s)
    nloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/commons-io/commons-io/1.3.2/commons-io-1.3.2.ja
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/org/vafer/jdependency/0.7/jdependency-0.7.jar (12 k8 at 1.9 kB/s)
Downloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-analysis/3.2/asm-analysis-3.2.jar
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/org/jdom/jdom/1.1/jdom-1.1.jar (153 kB at 25 kB/s)
    nloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/org/apache/maven/maven-compat/3.0/maven-compat-3.0.jar (285 kB at 46 kB/s)
Downloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/com/google/guava/guava/11.0.2/guava-11.0.2.jar
Downloading from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-util/3.2/asm-util-3.2.jar
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/commons-io/1.3.2/commons-io-1.3.2.jar (88 kB at 14 kB/s)
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-analysis/3.2/asm-analysis-3.2.jar (18 kB at 2.8 kB/s)
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/com/google/collections/google-collections/1.0/google-collections-1.0.jar (640 kB at 100 kB/s)
Downloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/asm/asm-util/3.2/asm-util/3.2.jar (37 kB at 5.6 kB/s)
    nloaded from central: https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/com/google/guava/guava/11.0.2/guava-11.0.2.jar (1.6 MB at 226 kB/s)
[INFO] Total time: 01:49 min
[INFO] Finished at: 2020-06-02T21:47:08Z
[INFO] -----
  nning after_script
```

And for docker-build stage

```
For verbose messaging see aws.Config.CredentialsChainVerboseErrors
    [0041] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
INFO[0044] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
INFO[0047] Built cross stage deps: map[]
    [0047] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
INFO[0047] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
INFO[0050] Executing 0 build triggers
INFO[0050] Unpacking rootfs as cmd COPY ./target/qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar /usr/app/ requires it.
INFO[0077] COPY ./target/qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar /usr/app/
INFO[0079] Resolving 1 paths
INFO[0079] Taking snapshot of files...
INFO[0084] WORKDIR /usr/app
INFO[0084] Changed working directory to /usr/app
INFO[0084] RUN sh -c 'touch qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar
     [0084] Taking snapshot of full filesystem...
INFO[0084] Resolving 1672 paths
    [0088] args: [-c sh -c 'touch qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar']
INFO[0088] Running: [/bin/sh -c sh -c 'touch qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar']
INFO[0088] Taking snapshot of full filesystem...
INFO[0088] Resolving 1672 paths
  FO[0090] ENTRYPOINT ["java" , "-jar" , "qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar"]
CI/CD job completed. APP image should be available at:
harbor.corp.local/daniel_project1/dockersample:cicd-v3
```

• If Pipeline execution is successful, in the designated Harbor project/repository there should be a new container image(s) from GitLab project, tagged according to passed value of CI REGISTRY TAG DEV variable and scanned for vulnerabilities, per project settings:





Notes:

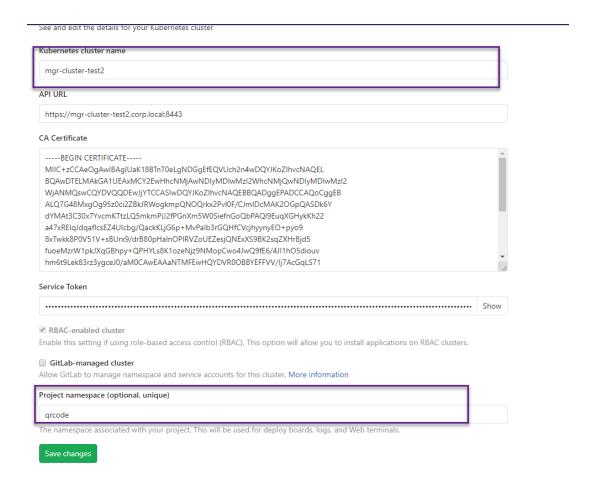
- This part of pipeline essentially implements its "CI" use case by automating source code and docker container build and upload to a centralized image repository for further use in CD processes
- Other Examples of end-to-end Docker container build and deployment automation via GitLab CI/CD pipelines can be found in various blogs such as: https://sanderknape.com/2019/02/automated-deployments-kubernetes-gitlab/
- Operations teams that just need to run stabilized builds may use "Auto DevOps"
 GitLab mode or run additional pipelines defined via .gitlab-ci.yaml as in example above.
- If developers need to create their own customized pipelines, please see GitLab documentation: https://gitlab.acelab.local/help/ci/pipelines/settings#custom-ciconfiguration-path

6. Configure and Execute CI/CD Pipeline for Deployment of Application from Registry to K8s Cluster

In this section we will continue building our end-to-end CI/CD pipeline stage that implements automated deployment of container images from Harbor registry (selected by tags) into TKGI K8s cluster integrated with our project, thus completing "Continuous Deployment" part of CI/CD.

Similar to how it was done in Section 3 (for deployment of GitLab Runner into the daniel-lab2-small1-sharedt1 K8s cluster), we will integrate a K8s cluster mgr-cluster-test2 for deployment of an application from our GitLab project. Below are properties of an integrated K8s cluster for our project, dockersample:

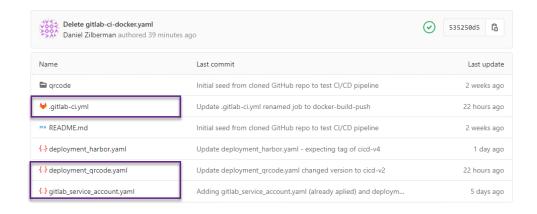




NOTE: Optional Project namespace property will map into K8s namespace that would be set as a target namespace for applications deployment. In our example, that namespace is "qrcode" and it will need to exist in the K8s cluster when application will be deployed by CI/CD pipeline

- We will add 2 Kubernetes related files to our GitLab project repository:
 - Deployment descriptor for GitLab Service Account used to create service account for integration with K8s cluster above (gitlab-service-account.yaml)
 - Deployment descriptor for deployment of application containers into K8s cluster (deployment_qrcode.yaml)



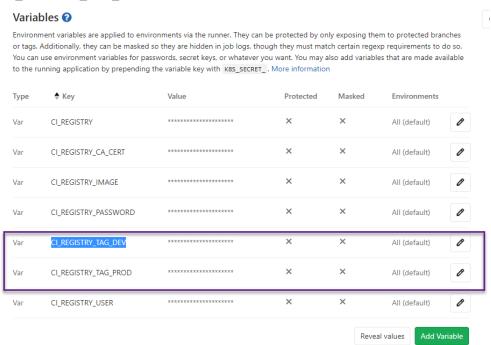


 Below is content of deployment_qrcode.yaml file – a pretty standard K8s Deployment descriptor that specifies image name, labels and number of replicas to be created in ReplicaSet as well as K8s secret with Harbor login credentials that would need to exist in the namespace where application will be deployed:

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: qrcode-java
  #namespace: hello-world
  labels:
    app: grcode
spec:
  replicas: 2
  selector:
    matchLabels:
      app: qrcode
  strategy:
    type: RollingUpdate
    rollingUpdate:
      maxSurge: 1
      maxUnavailable: 33%
  template:
    metadata:
      labels:
        app: qrcode
    spec:
      imagePullSecrets:
        - name: regcred
      containers:
        - name: grcode
          #NOTE: cicd-v3 tag is for deploymet branch, will
have to use another one for production
          image:
harbor.corp.local/daniel project1/qrcode:cicd-v3
          ports:
             - containerPort: 8080
```



NOTE: in this version, an image tagged as harbor.corp.local/daniel_project1/qrcode:cicd-v3 is expected to be present in the Harbor repository at the time of deployment to K8s (automated in the previous stages of CI/CD pipeline). That tag value is contained in the CA_REGISTRY_TAG_DEV variable below



• Now we need to implement deploy stage of our CI/CD pipeline script (same .gitlab-ci.yaml file in our example) that will take care of establishing connection to target K8s cluster and performing all necessary steps to deploy our application using deployment descriptor above. For now, we only want to deploy the application only when pipeline on master branch is run hence the 'only ...' condition

```
#deploy stage
deploy to development:
    stage: deploy
    image: "registry.gitlab.com/gitlab-org/cluster-
integration/auto-deploy-image:v0.15.0"
    script:
        - echo "Runner in Environment:"
        - echo $CI_ENVIRONMENT_SLUG
        - echo "WILL USE BUILT IN K8s VARS PER ENVIRONENT:"
        - echo "KUBE_URL:"
        - echo $KUBE_URL
        - echo $KUBE_NAMESPACE:"
        - echo $KUBE_NAMESPACE
```



```
- echo "Path to kubeconfig:"
    - echo $KUBECONFIG
    - echo "============"
    - echo "Trying to 'get nodes' using default
kubeconfig setting..."
    # will use syntax like kubectl config --
kubeconfig=config-demo set-cluster
    - kubectl --kubeconfig="${KUBECONFIG}" get nodes
    - echo "============"
    - echo "CHECK K8s current context set to:"
    - kubectl config current-context
    - echo "Getting Nodes info w/o using context:"
    - kubectl get nodes
    #- echo "-----
    # TODO: add error handling in case if NS exists or
just delete proactively
    - kubectl delete ns $KUBE NAMESPACE
    - sleep 60
    # now create it again
    - kubectl create ns $KUBE NAMESPACE
    - echo "Creating regcred Docker login secret
'regcred'.."
    - kubectl create secret docker-registry regcred --
docker-server=$CI REGISTRY --docker-
username=$CI REGISTRY USER --docker-
password=$CI REGISTRY PASSWORD --docker-
email=admin harbor@acelcab.local
    - kubectl get secrets
    - echo "Will deploy QR Code container app to target
cluster/namespace:"
    - kubectl apply -f
$CI PROJECT DIR/deployment grcode.yaml
    - echo "QR Code container App deployed to K8s
cluster, checking Pod status:"
    - kubectl get deploy, po -n $KUBE NAMESPACE
    - kubectl expose deployment grcode-java --
type=LoadBalancer --name=grcode-lb --port=8090 --target-
port=8080 -n $KUBE NAMESPACE
    - echo "QR Code App should be exposed via
LoadBalancer IP on port 8090:"
    - kubectl get svc -n $KUBE NAMESPACE
  environment:
    name: development
  #deploy app to K8s only when a pipeline on master
branch is run
  only:
```



- master

NOTES:

- We are using a different container image to run jobs for deploy stage,
 "registry.gitlab.com/gitlab-org/cluster-integration/auto-deploy-image:v0.15.0" that has kubectl CLI utility pre-installed
- \$KUBE_URL, \$KUBE_TOKEN, \$KUBE_NAMESPACE and \$KUBECONFIG are K8s environment variables that become available to CI/CD scripts once an environment is defined, as in the last 2 lines above (see details in documentation: https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/user/project/clusters/#deploying-to-a-kubernetes-cluster)
- \$KUBECONFIG variable contains path to K8s configuration file placed on the 'builder' image that can be used by 'kubectl' CLI utility - pretty much the only parameter needed for access to target cluster
- Namespace contained in the \$KUBE_NAMESPACE needs to exist in the target K8s cluster, so it is first deleted by kubectl delete ns \$KUBE_NAMESPACE to make sure there is no error and then getting created by kubectl create ns \$KUBE NAMESPACE command
- A secret containing Harbor registry credentials for deployment of an image needs to exist in that namespace and gets created by kubectl create secret docker-registry regard ... command.
- Actual application deployment is done by running kubectl apply -f \$CI_PROJECT_DIR/deployment_qrcode.yaml command that is using deployment descriptor above
- 'sleep' operators added to allow previous command to complete and avoid error of creating namespace before deletion is committed.
- As mentioned above, current version of pipeline deploys the application into development environment only when pipeline on master branch is run
- Multiple '- echo ' operators are placed into the script for debugging purposes and can be removed
- When our project CI/CD pipeline is executed end-to-end, it first runs a unit test stage (not
 implemented, has a placeholder), then rebuilds a Docker image from the source code and
 instructions contained in the Dockerfile, tags it with value \$CI_REGISTRY_TAG_DEV and
 pushes it into corresponding repository in Harbor.
- An output of **docker build push** job section is shown below:



```
E0602 21:48:10.181472 17 aws_credentials.go:77] while getting AWS credentials NoCredentialProviders: no valid providers in chain. Deprecated.
     For verbose messaging see aws.Config.CredentialsChainVerboseErrors
    0[0041] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
0[0042] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
   FO[0043] Built cross stage deps: map[]
    0[0043] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
   FO[0043] Retrieving image manifest java:8-jdk-alpine
     [0044] Executing 0 build triggers
INFO[0044] Unpacking rootfs as cmd COPY ./target/grcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar /usr/app/ requires it.
  NFO[0052] COPY ./target/qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar /usr/app/
    [0052] Resolving 1 paths
INFO[0052] Taking snapshot of files...
 ONFO[0053] WORKDIR /usr/app
INFO[0053] cmd: workdir
INFO[0053] Changed working directory to /usr/app
INFO[0053] RUN sh -c 'touch qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar'
INFO[0053] Taking snapshot of full filesystem...
INFO[0056] cmd: /bin/sh
INFO[0056] args: [-c sh -c 'touch qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar']
INFO[0056] Running: [/bin/sh -c sh -c 'touch qrcode-0.0.1-SNAPSHOT.jar']
INFO[0056] Taking snapshot of full filesystem...
INFO[0056] Resolving 1672 paths
CI/CD job completed, APP image should be available at:
harbor.corp.local/daniel_project1/qrcode:cicd-v1
```

Script in the **deploy** job section performs deployment of tagged container image from Harbor registry according to deployment descriptor into designated namespace in the integrated K8s cluster:

```
60 | Stablect | States on SADEL SADELSANES |
70 | namespace ground | States on SADEL SADELSANES |
71 | States on SADELSANES |
72 | States on SADELSANES |
73 | namespace ground | States |
74 | States | States |
75 | Containing regored Docker login secret 'regored'...
76 | States | States |
77 | States | States |
78 | States | States |
79 | States |
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70 | States |
71 | States |
70 | States |
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74 | States |
75
```

Checking directly in the mgr-cluster-test2 integrated K8s cluster, we can see 2 replicas of qrcode-java pod running, as expected:

```
kubectl get deploy,po,svc -n qrcode
NAME READY UP-TO-DATE AVAILABLE AGE
```



<pre>deployment.apps/qr 128m</pre>	code-java 2/2	2		2				
NAME		READY	STATUS	RESTARTS				
AGE								
pod/qrcode-java-7f	77794b99-dd2hf	1/1	Running	0				
128m								
pod/qrcode-java-7f	1/1	Running	ς 0					
128m								
NAME TYPE	CLUSTER-IP	EXTERI	NAL-IP	PORT(S)				
AGE								
service/qrcode-lb LoadBalance		10.100	10.100.200.71 10.40.14					
8090:31877/TCP 128m								

And finally, we can initiate a POST request with a form data and get a QRcode binary file back:

```
curl -d '{"merchantID":"123", "merchantName":"riaz"}' -H
"Content-Type: application/json" -X POST
http://10.40.14.88:8090/generateQRCode --output QRCode.out
  % Total
           % Received % Xferd Average Speed
                                                       Time
                                               Time
Time Current
                                Dload Upload
                                               Total
                                                       Spent
Left
     Speed
100
                            45
                                2321
     312
          100
                267 100
                                        391 --:--:-
 --:--:--
          2713
```

NOTES:

- In addition to development environment, other environments (e.g. staging, production etc.) can be defined in the CI/CD script sections to direct deployments and contain different instructions/parameters (such as Docker image tags). That's the purpose of having CI REGISTRY TAG PROD variable. Please see documentation for using environments in CI/CD pipelines: https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/ci/pipelines/index.html
- Actual unit testing script can be defined in the test stage.
- As in our example, GitLab Runner containers that run scripts defined in pipelines and deployed Applications may run in different K8s clusters (in fact, that may be preferred). Those clusters just need to have networking/DNS access to each other as daniel-lab2-small1-sharedt1 and mgr-cluster-test2 do.



7. Conclusion

We hope this document was useful. As you try these configuration steps, please provide any feedback or questions in the comments section for this document on code.vmware.com. Also, please let us know if you have any suggestions or if you would like to see guidance on other topics.

