

XL Release Tool Description & Process:

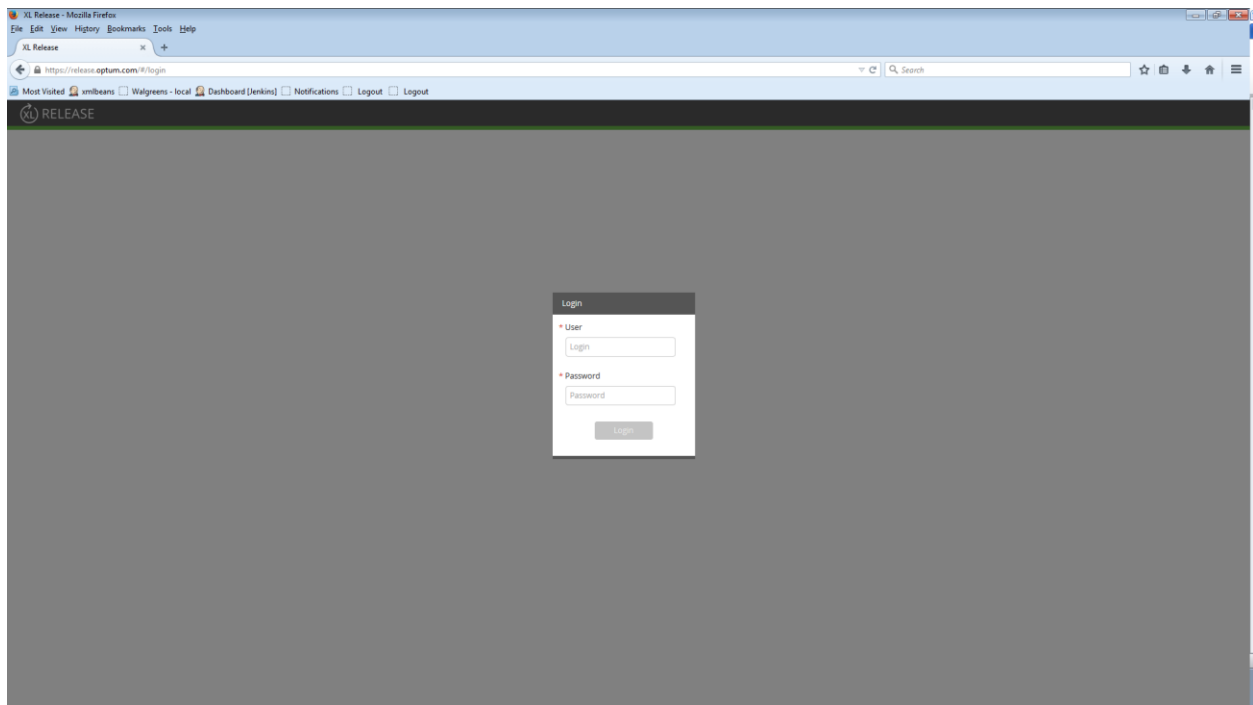
Tool Description:

The URL for XL Release: <https://release.optum.com> (prod)

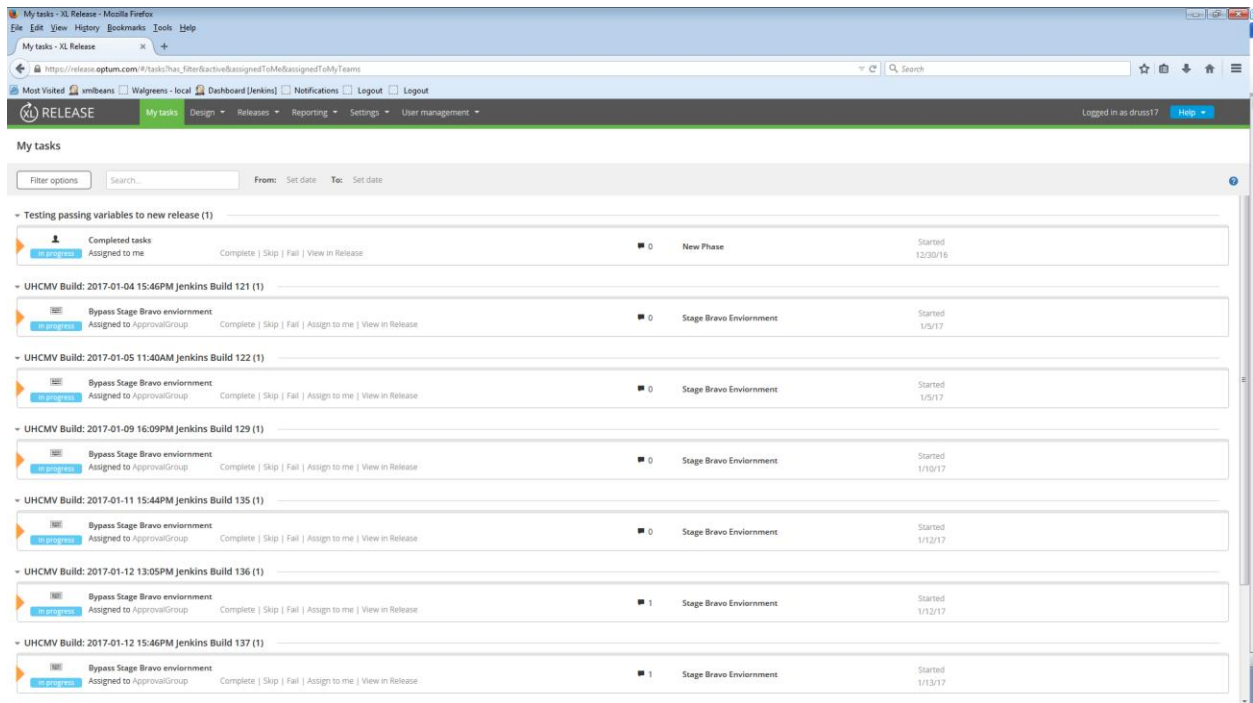
XL Release is used as a release management tool. We will start using this more like a pipeline deployment tool and in time evolve to a more complex usage of this tool when the 6.1 release is available which will support more capabilities.

XL Release Process:

First we need to log in to <https://release.optum.com> with our MS credentials

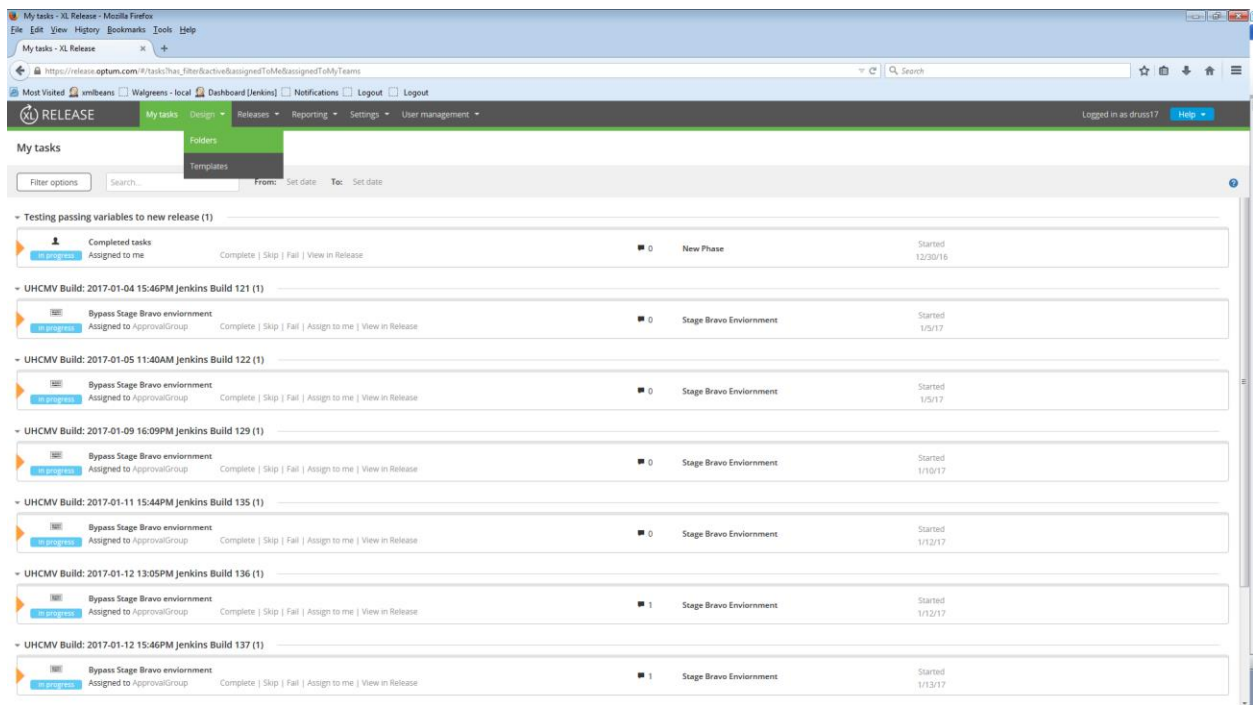


This brings you to the My tasks portion of the screen (this is our brand new release 6.0 installed on 1/15):

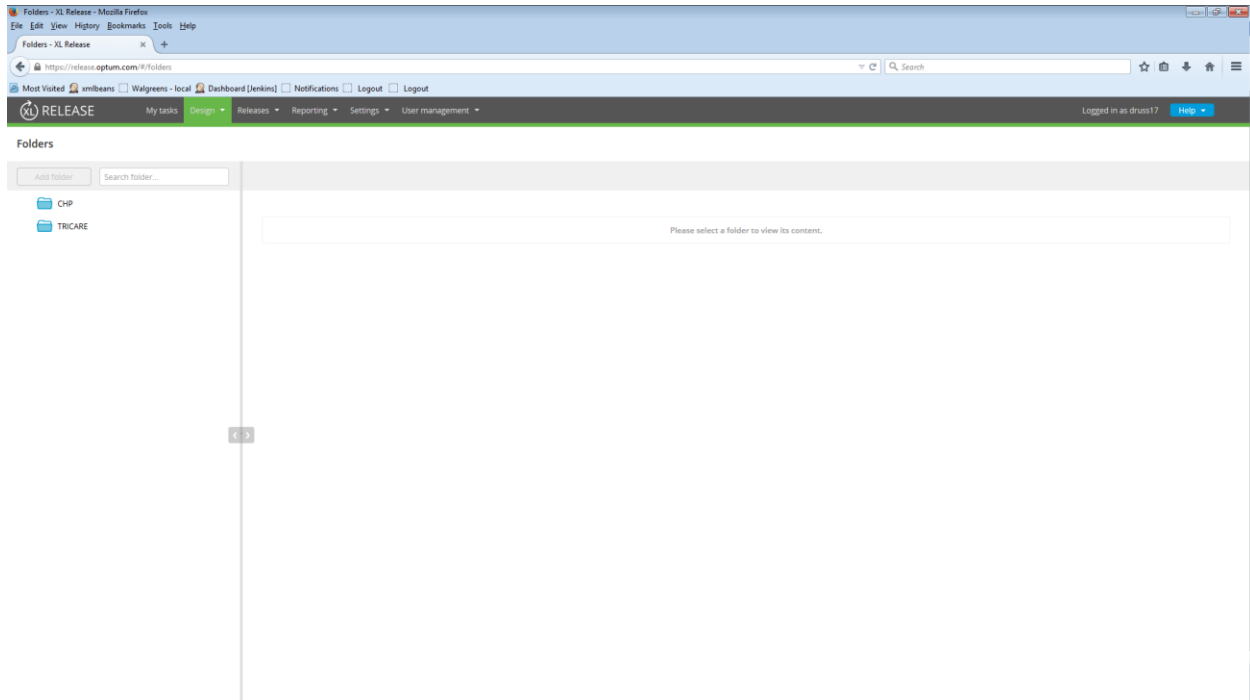


This shows me what pending tasks I have within the active pipelines available to me. This can span multiple products.

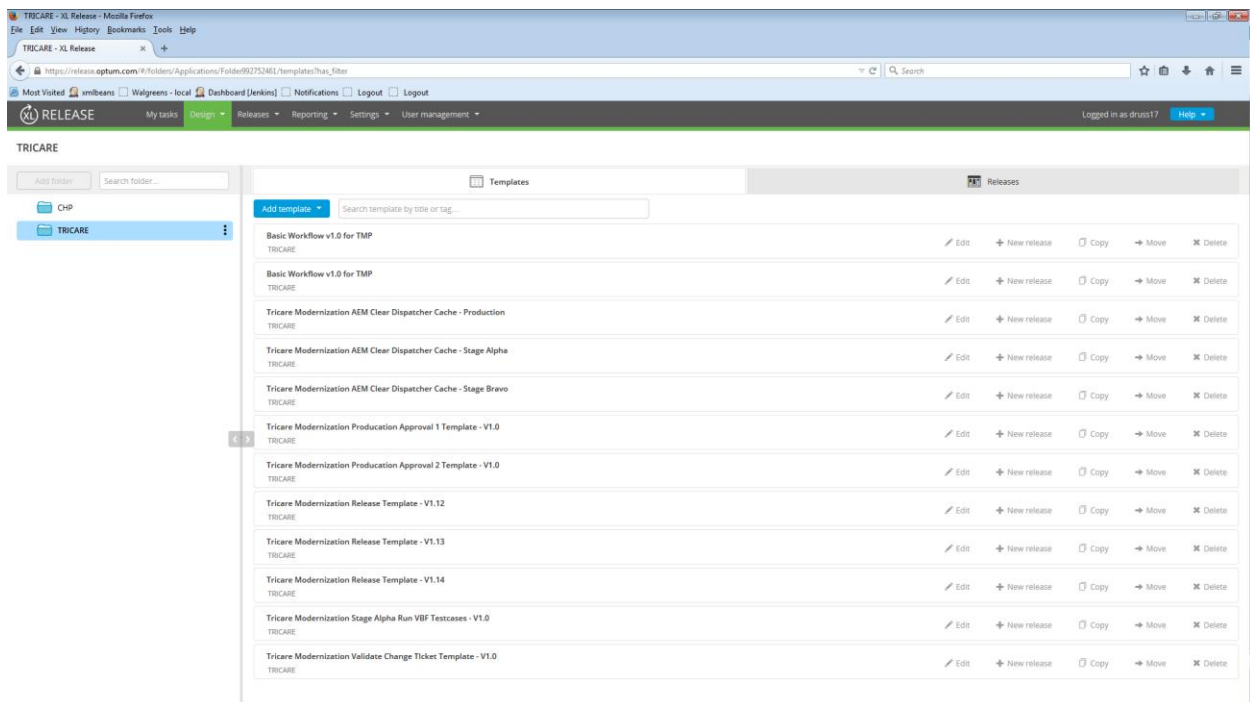
Let's take a look at design folders (Design -> Folders)



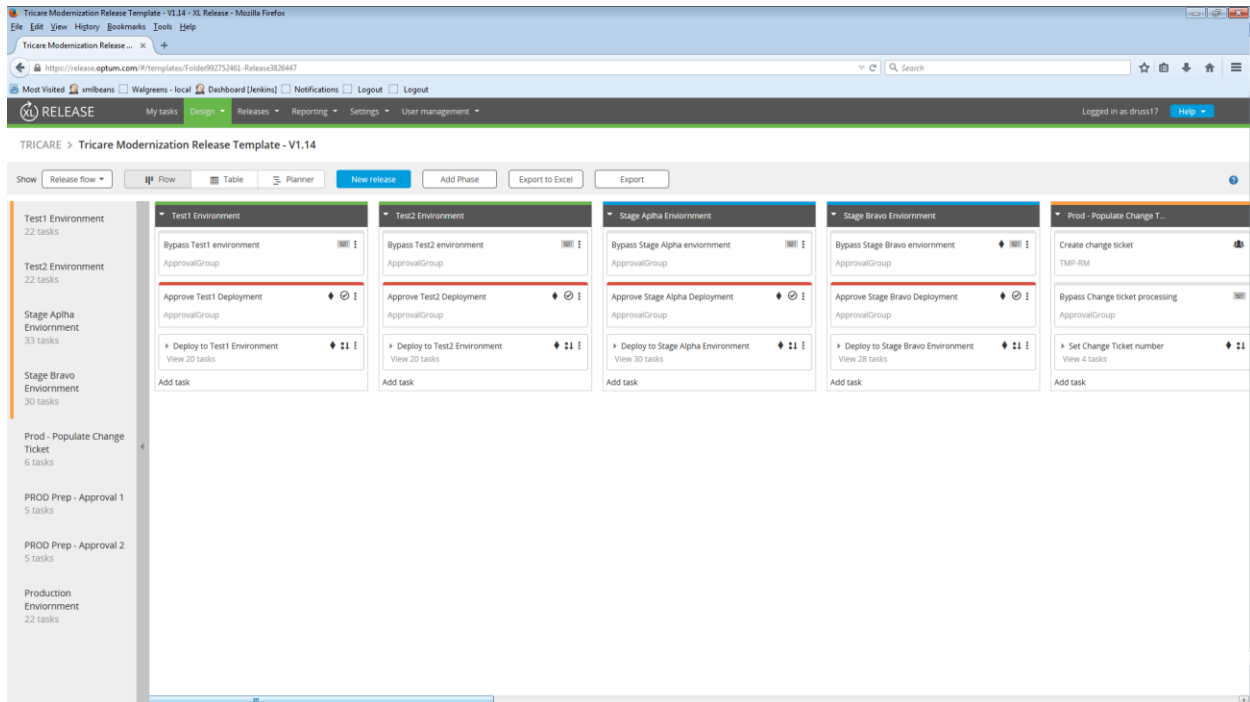
This shows me the folders which I have access to for our design templates. A template is a flow of a release, or in our case a deployment of a product (set of applications through SDLC – System Development Life Cycle)



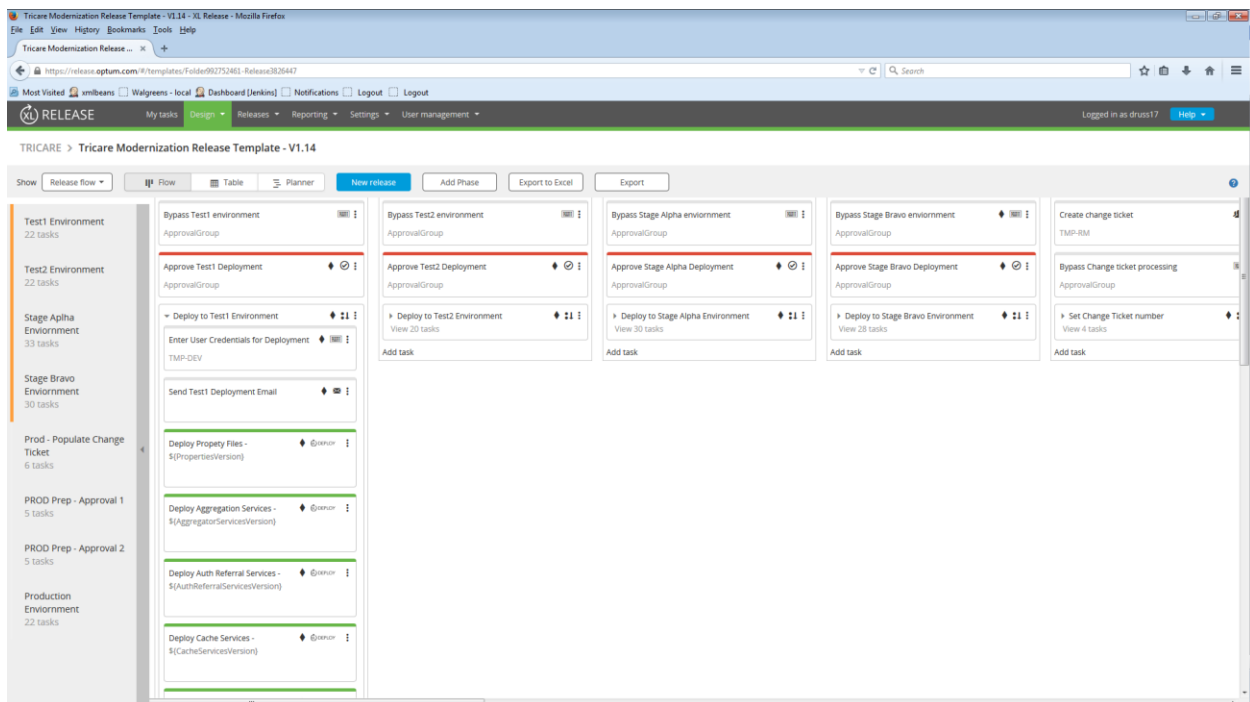
We open TRICARE



These are all the templates to support deployment of the Tricare Modernization Application. Let's look at the main template Tricare Modernization Release Template – V1.14 (most current revision)



You will notice the bottom task of each has many more tasks. Let's expand the Test1 Environment -> Deploy To Test1 Environment section:



This shows the details of the deployment and all the applications being deployed. Please note that XL Release is using XL Deploy to do most of the deployment work. We will get into the details of this later.

From a template, you can create a new release and start a release. For our projects this will be done with Jenkins as we will need to pass in which versions of the applications we wish to deploy for a given release.

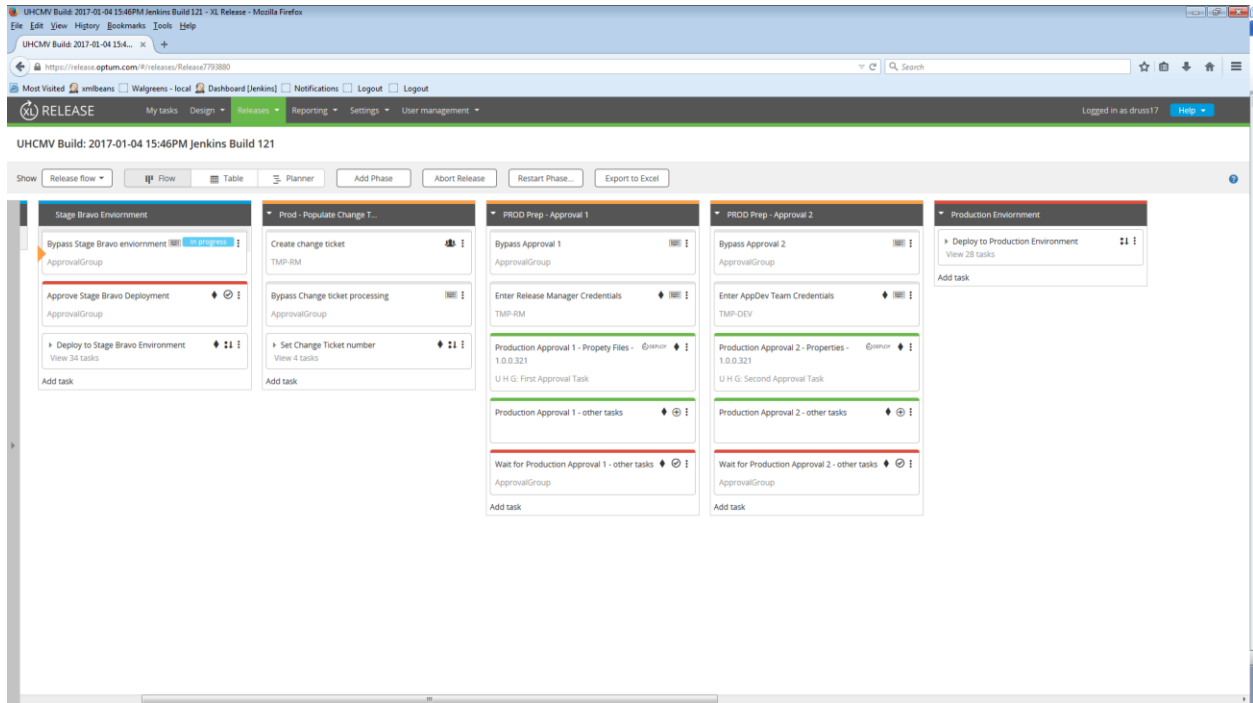
Remember, this tool can manager an entire release and can help TDM (Technical Delivery Manager) with their tasks of preparing a release but for now we are just using it for deployment through the environments.

Now let's look at a release in progress (Jenkins Build 121 – by clicking on view in release)

The screenshot shows the XL Release web interface. The top navigation bar includes 'My tasks', 'Design', 'Releases', 'Reporting', 'Settings', and 'User management'. The main content area is titled 'My tasks' and displays a list of releases. The first release is 'Testing passing variables to new release (1)' with a status of 'Completed tasks' and 'Assigned to me'. The second release is 'UHCMV Build: 2017-01-04 15:46PM Jenkins Build 121 (1)' with a status of 'Bypass Stage Bravo environment' and 'Assigned to ApprovalGroup'. The 'View in Release' link for this release is circled in red. The third release is 'UHCMV Build: 2017-01-05 11:40AM Jenkins Build 122 (1)' with a status of 'Bypass Stage Bravo environment' and 'Assigned to ApprovalGroup'. The fourth release is 'UHCMV Build: 2017-01-09 16:09PM Jenkins Build 129 (1)' with a status of 'Bypass Stage Bravo environment' and 'Assigned to ApprovalGroup'. The fifth release is 'UHCMV Build: 2017-01-11 15:44PM Jenkins Build 135 (1)' with a status of 'Bypass Stage Bravo environment' and 'Assigned to ApprovalGroup'. The sixth release is 'UHCMV Build: 2017-01-12 13:05PM Jenkins Build 136 (1)' with a status of 'Bypass Stage Bravo environment' and 'Assigned to ApprovalGroup'. The seventh release is 'UHCMV Build: 2017-01-12 15:46PM Jenkins Build 137 (1)' with a status of 'Bypass Stage Bravo environment' and 'Assigned to ApprovalGroup'.

Release Name	Status	Assigned To	Complete	Skip	Fail	Assign to me	View in Release	Stages	Started
Testing passing variables to new release (1)	Completed tasks	Assigned to me						New Phase	Started 12/30/16
UHCMV Build: 2017-01-04 15:46PM Jenkins Build 121 (1)	Bypass Stage Bravo environment	Assigned to ApprovalGroup					View in Release	Stage Bravo Environment	Started 1/5/17
UHCMV Build: 2017-01-05 11:40AM Jenkins Build 122 (1)	Bypass Stage Bravo environment	Assigned to ApprovalGroup						Stage Bravo Environment	Started 1/5/17
UHCMV Build: 2017-01-09 16:09PM Jenkins Build 129 (1)	Bypass Stage Bravo environment	Assigned to ApprovalGroup						Stage Bravo Environment	Started 1/10/17
UHCMV Build: 2017-01-11 15:44PM Jenkins Build 135 (1)	Bypass Stage Bravo environment	Assigned to ApprovalGroup						Stage Bravo Environment	Started 1/12/17
UHCMV Build: 2017-01-12 13:05PM Jenkins Build 136 (1)	Bypass Stage Bravo environment	Assigned to ApprovalGroup						Stage Bravo Environment	Started 1/12/17
UHCMV Build: 2017-01-12 15:46PM Jenkins Build 137 (1)	Bypass Stage Bravo environment	Assigned to ApprovalGroup						Stage Bravo Environment	Started 1/13/17

This shows us the release in progress



You will not the orange arrow near top left side of screen. This orange arrow shows you the current task being executed. You will also note we are scrolled over in the main window to the current environment task (our Environments are known as Phases in XL Release).

As you execute a task you will see things move forward. There are some tasks requiring input which will see a keyboard icon within the task and others that are gates, either manual or automatic that have red lines. We use gates for approvals and for completion of other workflows launched to complete a set of tasks. We will discuss this in more detail when we look at the contents of a template.