



# Security in CI/CD pipelines with F5

Shain Singh, Principal Security Architect @ F5, [ss@f5.com](mailto:ss@f5.com)

Leon Seng, Modern Apps Practice Lead @ F5, [leon@f5.com](mailto:leon@f5.com)

# Our Speakers



**Shain Singh**

Principal Security Architect

 <https://github.com/shsingh>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/shsingh/>



**Leon Seng**

ANZ Modern Apps Lead

 <https://github.com/leonseng>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/leonseng/>

**DevSecOps has not been successful in most enterprise organisations**

# This sentiment is seen throughout industry



<https://sched.co/1BSRd>

**70%** Of developers admit to skipping security due to delivery timeframes

**81%** Of devs admit to pushing code with known vulnerabilities

**96%** Of cloud breaches are self-inflicted

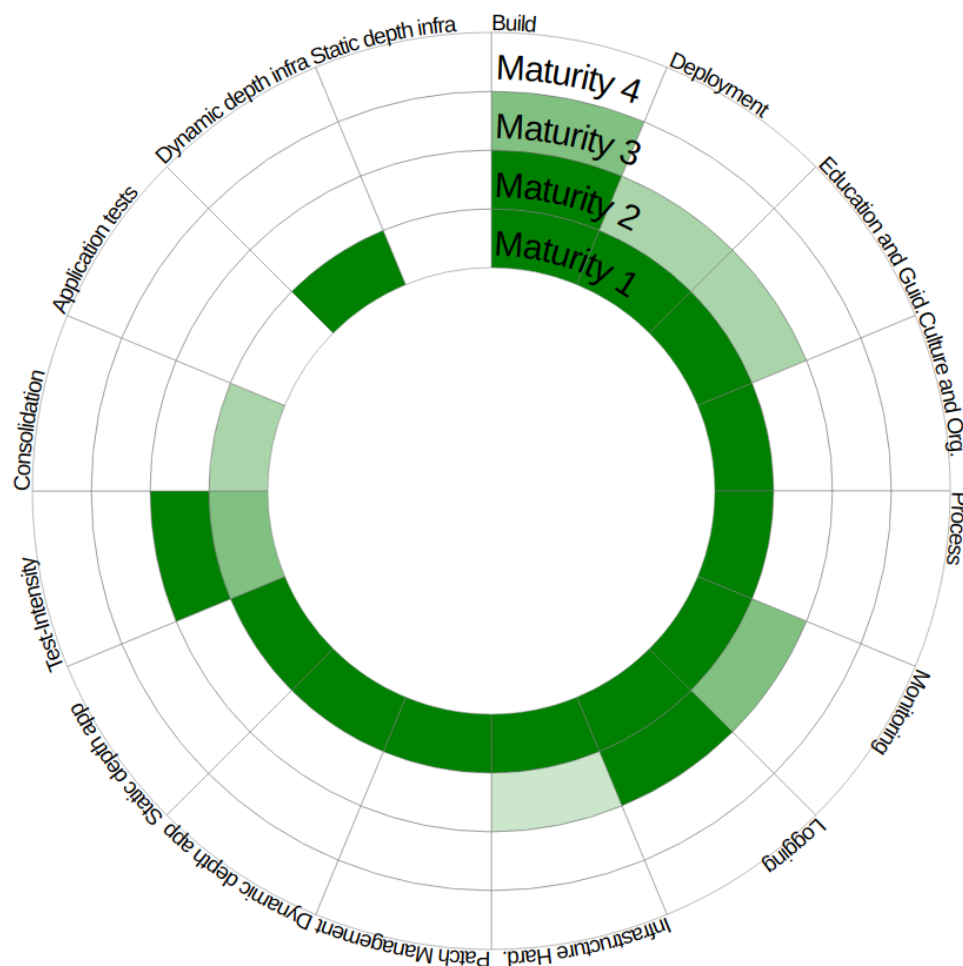
Source: Osterman Research



# Why have we not made much progress?

EMPHASIS HAS BEEN ON EFFICACY FOR INDIVIDUAL APPLICATIONS OVER FULL COVERAGE OF ALL DEPLOYMENTS

Identification of the degree of the implementation



## DevSecOps Maturity Model (DSOMM) Level 1

*Basic understanding of security practices*

Recommendations:

- Never fail a build pipeline – security scans will have false positives
- Investigate static and dynamic tools for the DevOps pipeline
- Build expertise with tools and analyse results
- Collaborate with development teams to resolve issues

## DevSecOps Maturity Model (DSOMM) Level 2

*Adoption of basic security practices*

Recommendations:

- Investigate tweaking tools from their default settings for tuning
- Storing results from tools in a consolidated environment
- Starting a security champion program

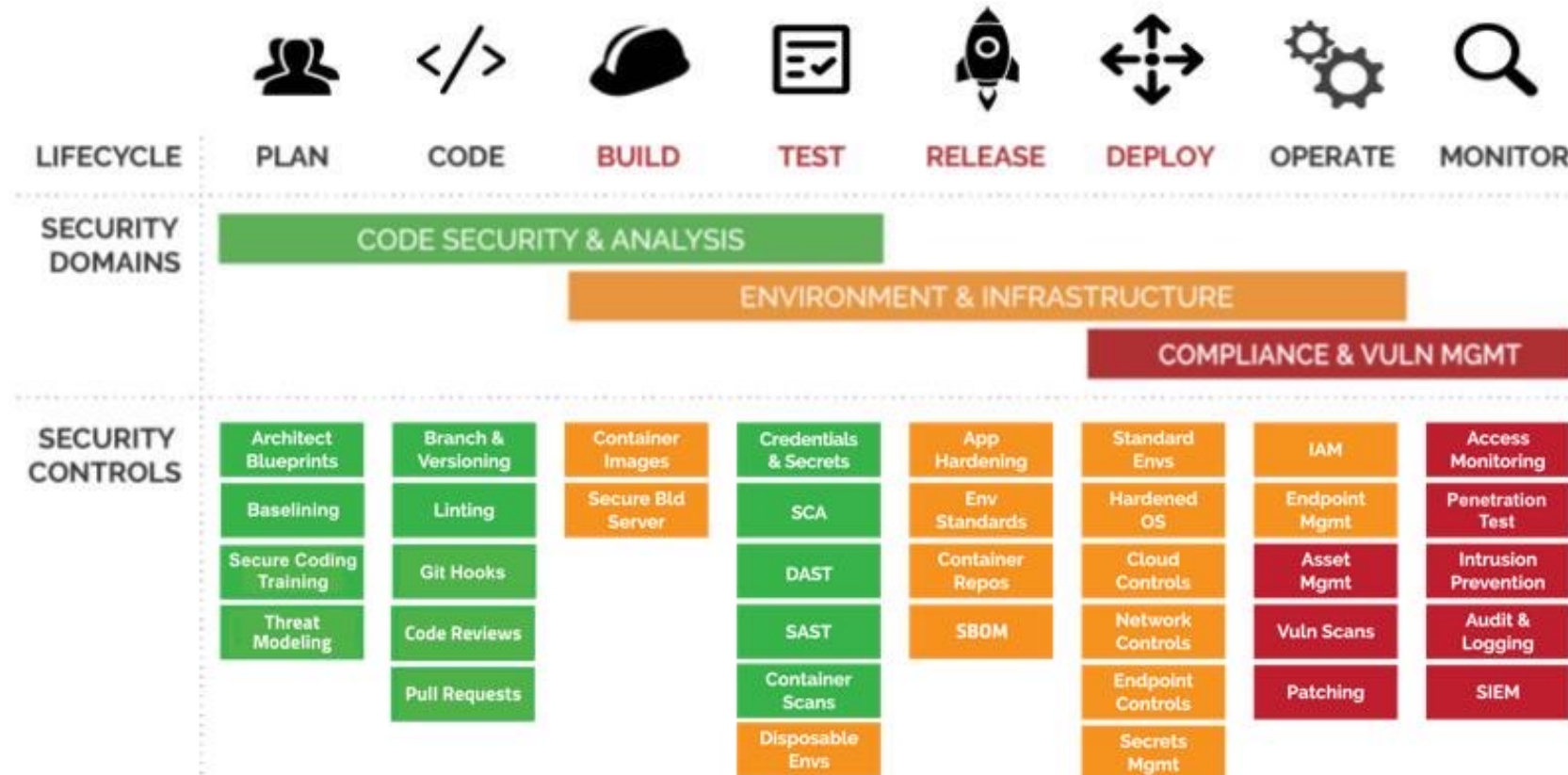
## DevSecOps Maturity Model (DSOMM) Level 3

*High adoption of security practices*

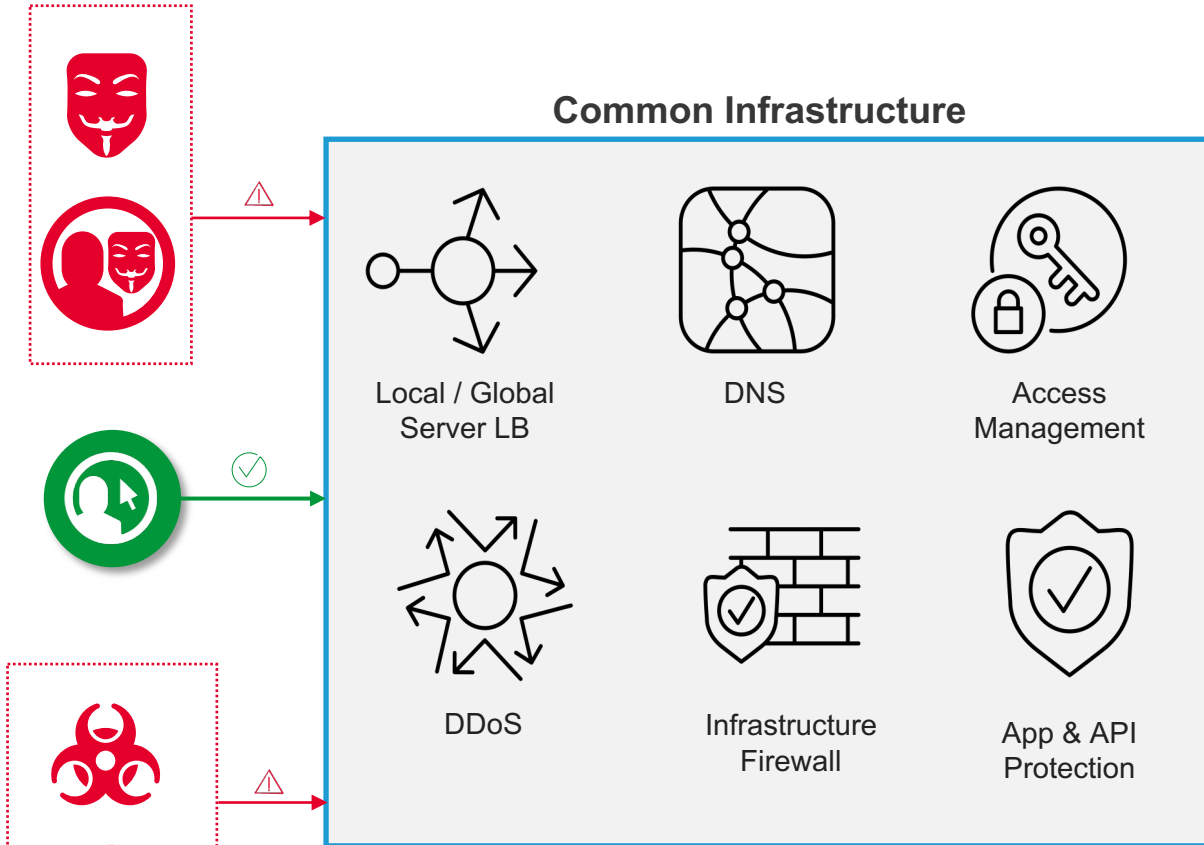
## DevSecOps Maturity Model (DSOMM) Level 4

*Advanced deployment of security practices at scale*

# Separating tasks into domains of ownership



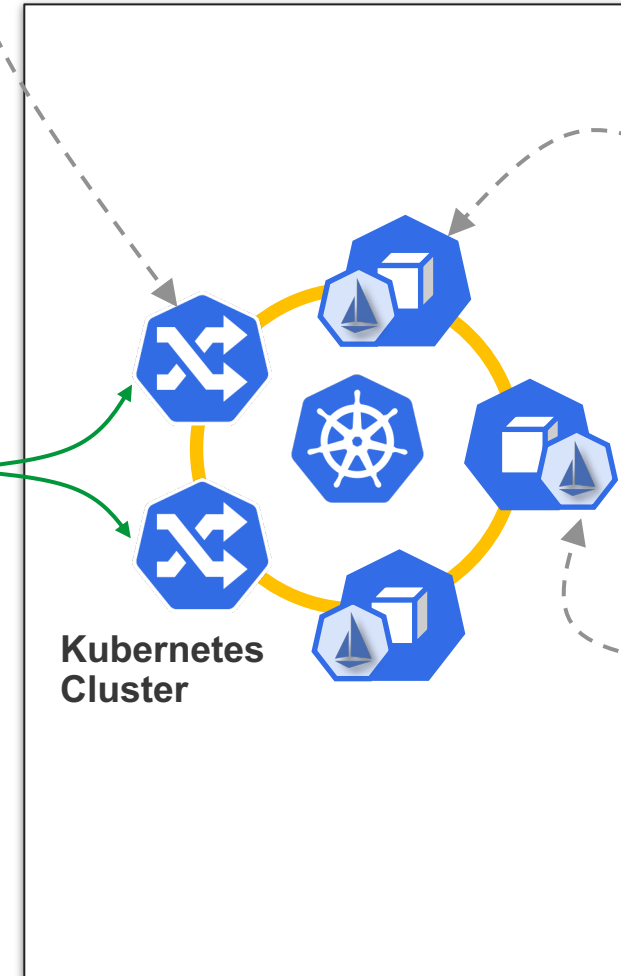
**I thought F5 made load balancers – what do they have to do with DevSecOps?**



# App Services in a Modern Architecture

## Ingress (with API Gateway)

- Layer 7 routing for traffic entry point coming into Kubernetes
- Built for HTTP traffic. TCP/UDP for non-HTTP traffic
- May include API Gateway implementation



## Pods

- Runs app in a container / CNF

## Service Mesh

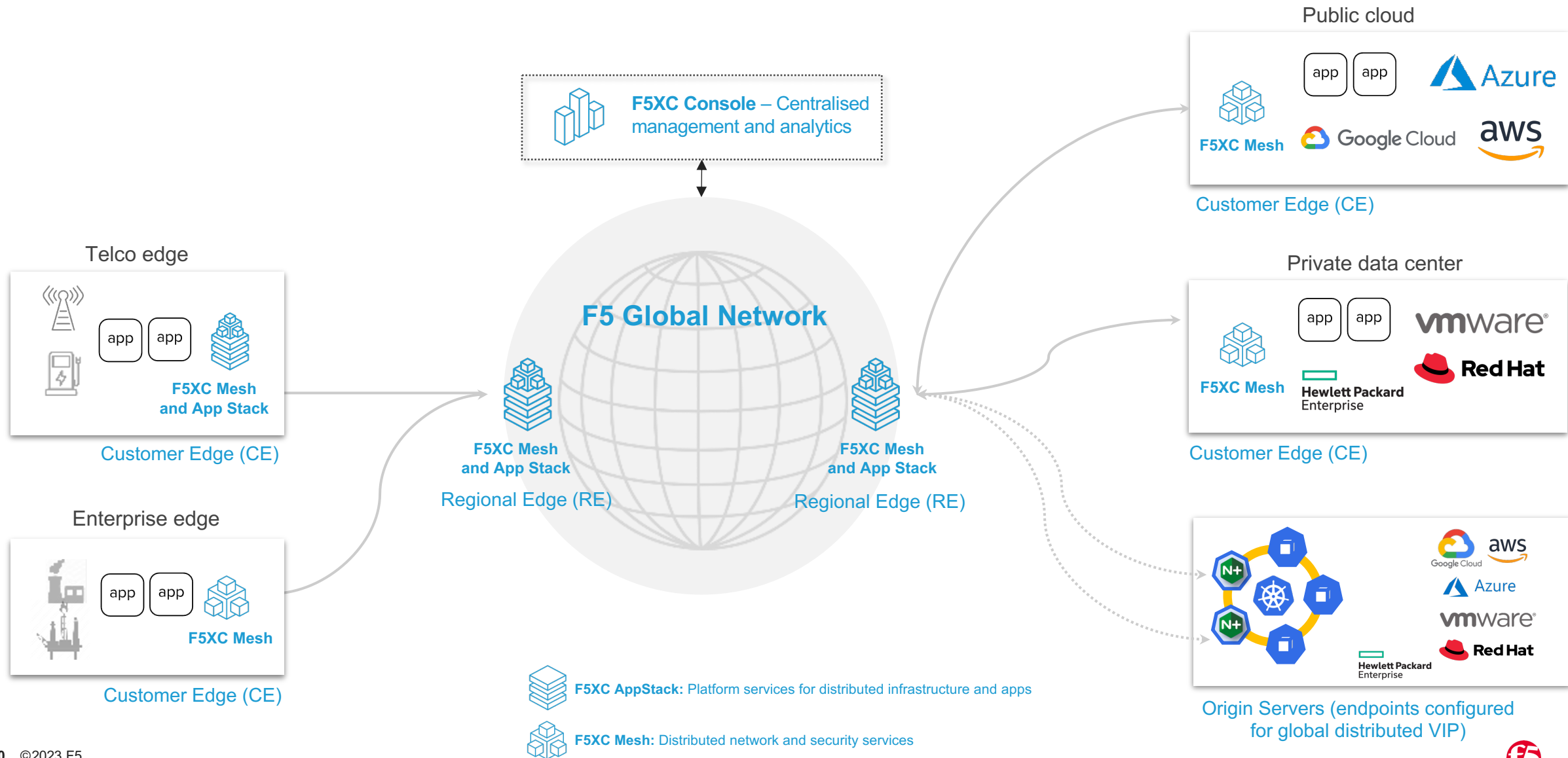
- Open Source Service Mesh implementation (Istio)
- Injects Sidecar to every pod
- Enforces routing, security with mTLS, etc.
- Provides traceability of pod communication

## Cloud Microservices PaaS

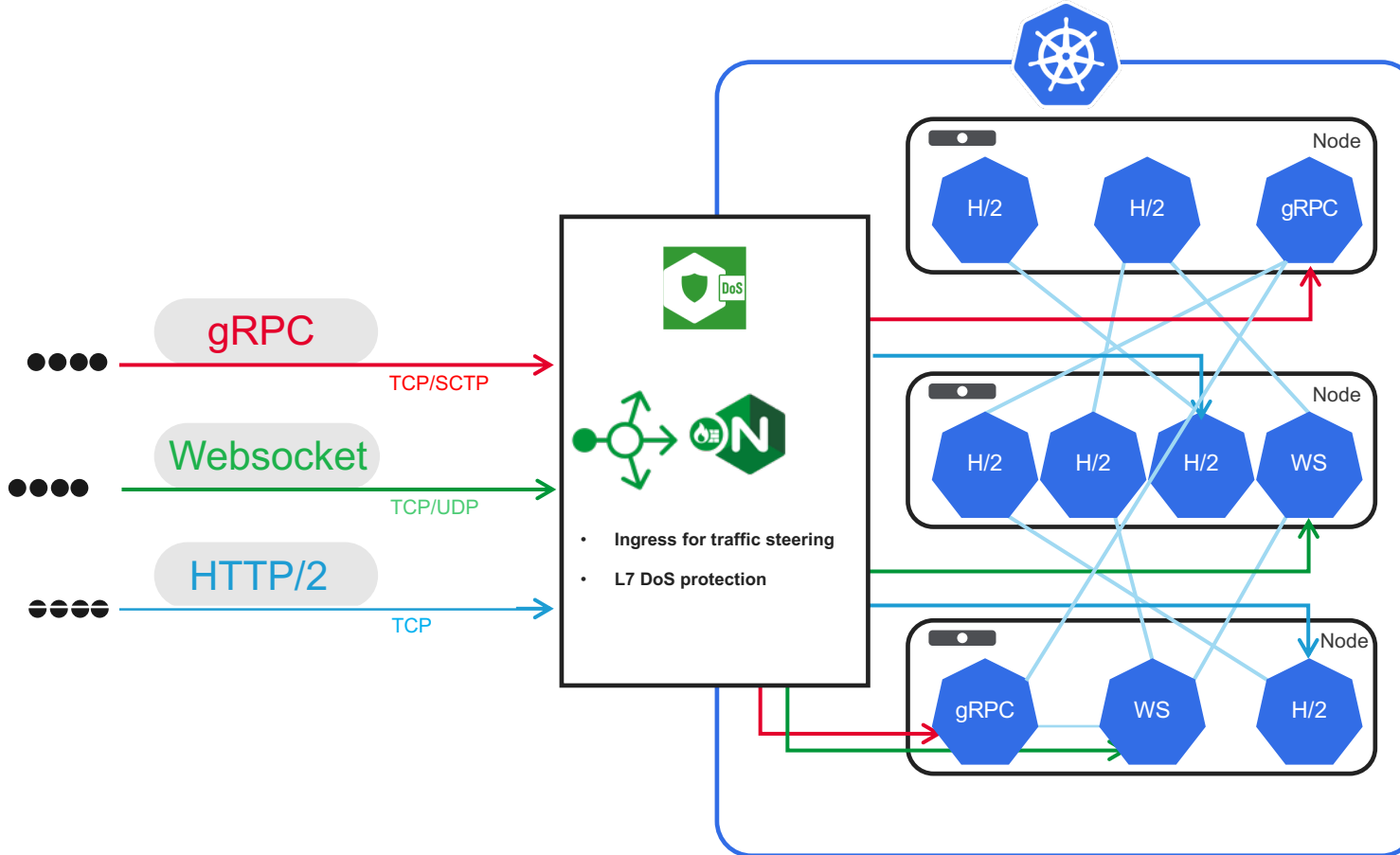
- On-prem private cloud (e.g: VMware)
- Public cloud (e.g: AWS, Azure, GCP)



# App Services in macro-services (global) environment



# App Services in micro-service environment



## Capabilities:

- DoS protection for:
  - HTTP
  - gRPC
  - Websocket
- Web application and API security
- OpenAPI Spec (Swagger) enforcement
- Attack Signature/Schema Validation inside:
  - HTTP
  - XML
  - JSON
  - gRPC
  - Websockets
  - GraphQL
- TCP SYN flood protection via eBPF
- Comprehensive Ingress and AuthN/AuthZ capabilities

## Deployment:

- NGINX Ingress Controller

**Should we put a WAF in front of all applications?**

# Security controls that are now mainstream

## “Should I create ACLs for non-internet facing apps”

- Docker/Kubernetes service definitions
- Public cloud network ACLs (e.g. AWS security groups)

## “Should I remove cleartext data at rest and in transit for internal apps”

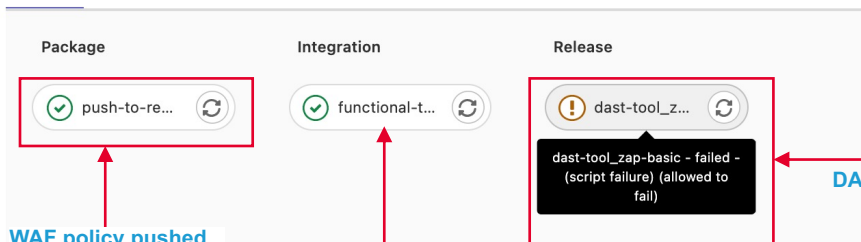
- Secrets management (e.g Hashicorp Vault)
- mTLS via service mesh
- LetsEncrypt Certbot for TLS certificates

## *Can we not implement web application protection if we make deployment simple?*

- NGINX App Protect WAF and DoS configuration via Kubernetes manifests, deployed via Continuous Delivery tooling
- Functional testing of application post WAF deployment removes potential for false positives

# Example – Post deployment WAF effectiveness

Pipeline Needs Jobs 3 Failed Jobs 1 Tests 0



Functional application testing

```
awaf_policy-hapi-fhir.json 766 Bytes
{
  "policy": {
    "name": "policy-hapi-fhir",
    "description": "HAPI Policy for FHIR",
    "template": {
      "name": "POLICY_TEMPLATE_API_SECURITY"
    },
    "enforcementMode": "blocking",
    "server-technologies": [
      {
        "serverTechnologyName": "MySQL"
      },
      {
        "serverTechnologyName": "Unix/Linux"
      }
    ],
    "signature-settings": {
      "signatureStaging": false
    },
    "policy-builder": {
      "learnOnlyFromNonBotTraffic": false
    },
    "open-api-files": [
      {
        "link": "https://gitlab.com/shainsingh/hapi-fhir/-/raw/master/hapi-fhir_swagger.json"
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

```
sec-release.gitlab-ci.yml 1 KB
services:
  - docker:dind

sec-dast_baseline:
  stage: sec-release
  image:
    name: owasp/zap2docker-weekly
  before_script:
    - mkdir /zap/wrk
  script:
    - zap-baseline.py -t https://hapi.f5labs.dev/fhir -I -J dast_baseline_scan-results.json
  after_script:
    - mv /zap/wrk/dast_baseline_scan-results.json /builds/shainsingh/hapi-fhir/
  rules:
    - if: $scan_periodic != "nightly"
      when: always
  artifacts:
    paths: [dast_baseline_scan-results.json]
    when: always
    expire_in: one week
    allow_failure: true

sec-dast_full:
  stage: sec-release
  image:
    name: owasp/zap2docker-weekly
  before_script:
    - mkdir /zap/wrk
  script:
    - zap-full-scan.py -t https://hapi.f5labs.dev/fhir -I -J dast_full_scan-results.json
  after_script:
    - mv /zap/wrk/dast_full_scan-results.json /builds/shainsingh/hapi-fhir/
  rules:
    - if: $scan_periodic == "nightly"
      when: always
  artifacts:
    paths: [dast_full_scan-results.json]
    when: always
    expire_in: one week
    allow_failure: true
```



# Example – Post deployment compliance

running

#308839490

latest

master -> b004c8a0

remove previous sec ci sta...

In progress

passed

#308837380

latest

master -> b004c8a0

remove previous sec ci sta...

00:06:53  
14 minutes ago

sec-package.gitlab-ci.yml 760 Bytes

Edit

Web IDE

```
1 services:
2   - docker:dind
3
4 sec-os_hardening:
5   stage: sec-package
6   image: ansible/galaxy
7   before_script:
8     - mkdir -p ~/.ssh
9     - echo "$DEPLOYMENT_SERVER_SSH_PRIVKEY" | tr -d '\r' > ~/.ssh/id_rsa
10    - chmod 600 ~/.ssh/id_rsa
11    - eval "$(ssh-agent -s)"
12    - ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa
13    - echo -e "Host *\n\tStrictHostKeyChecking no\n\n" > ~/.ssh/config
14  script:
15    - echo "[prod]" >> inventory.ini
16    - echo "$DEPLOYMENT_SERVER" >> inventory.ini
17    - export ANSIBLE_STDOUT_CALLBACK=json
18    - ansible-galaxy install dev-sec.os-hardening
19    - ansible-playbook -i inventory.ini ansible-hardening.yml > sec-os_hardening-results.json
20  artifacts:
21    paths: [sec-os_hardening-results.json]
22    when: always
23    expire_in: one week
24    allow_failure: true
```

Pipeline Needs Jobs 4 Failed Jobs 2 Tests 0

Sec-pre\_build

Sec-package

Sec-release

Sec-compliance

sec-source...

sec-os\_hard...

sec-dast\_ba...

sec-complia...

sec-compliance.gitlab-ci.yml 694 Bytes

Edit

Web IDE

Lock

Replace

Delete

📄

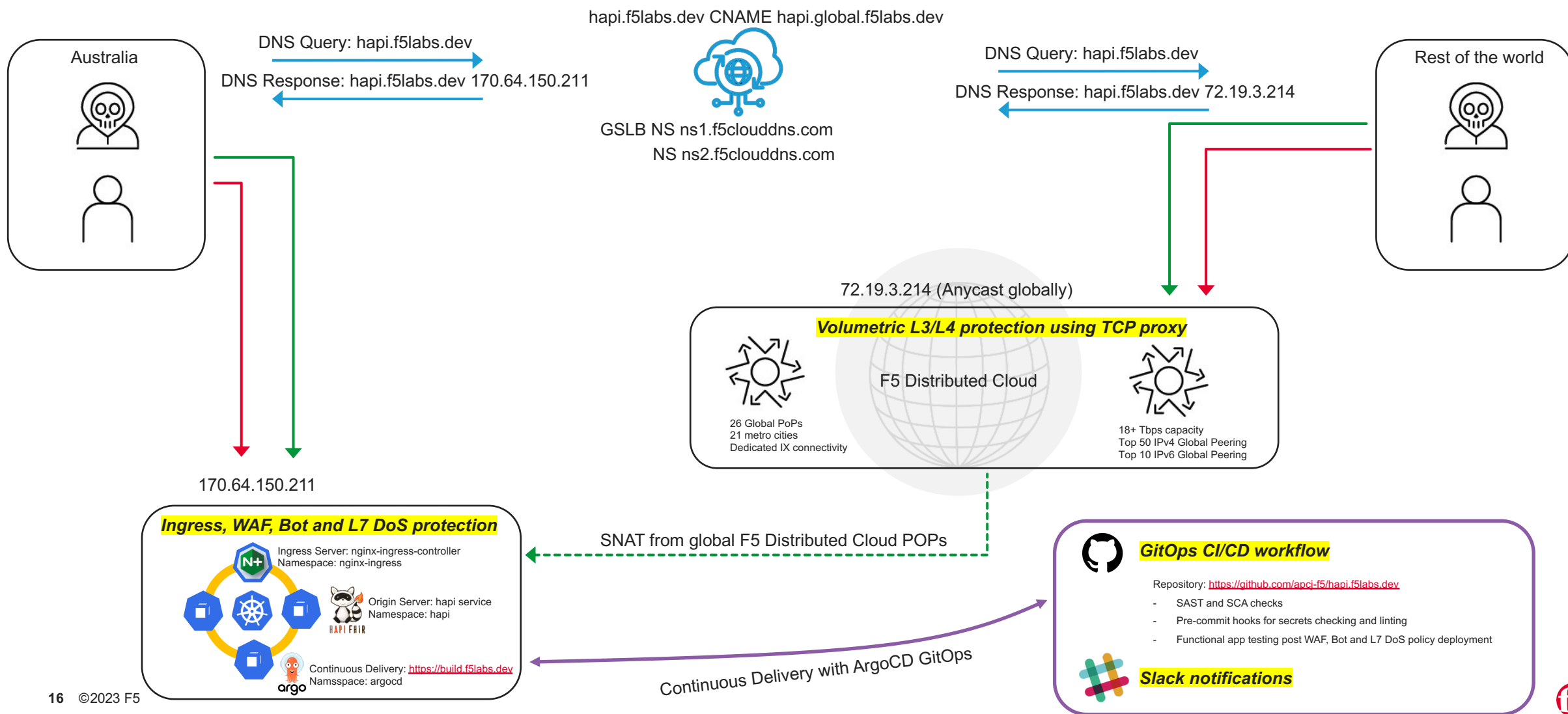
🗑️

📄

```
1 services:
2   - docker:dind
3
4 sec-compliance:
5   stage: sec-compliance
6   image:
7     name: chef/inspec
8  only:
9    - "master"
10  environment: production
11  before_script:
12    - mkdir -p ~/.ssh
13    - echo "$DEPLOYMENT_SERVER_SSH_PRIVKEY" | tr -d '\r' > ~/.ssh/id_rsa
14    - chmod 600 ~/.ssh/id_rsa
15    - eval "$(ssh-agent -s)"
16    - ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa
17    - echo -e "Host *\n\tStrictHostKeyChecking no\n\n" > ~/.ssh/config
18  script:
19    - inspec exec https://github.com/dev-sec/linux-baseline -t ssh://root@$DEPLOYMENT_SERVER -i /id_rsa --chef-license accept --reporter json:/opt/sec-
20  artifacts:
21    paths: [sec-compliance-results.json]
22    when: always
23    allow_failure: true
```



# Reference Implementation – hapi.f5labs.dev





**A force for a better digital world**