

# Driving business success with DevSecOps

How a DevSecOps platform saves money, boosts competitiveness, increases security



#### At a glance:

# What executives need to know about DevSecOps

- 1. Stands for development, security and operations
- 2. A methodology that integrates security procedures and testing from the very beginning of the software development lifecycle
- 3. Fosters collaboration between all teams to securely and efficiently speed software production



"Executives worry about the ways insecure software impacts their business. DevSecOps helps them avoid security challenges and meet Efficiency compliance needs. It helps them steer clear of issues that

> -Abubakar Siddiq Ango, Developer **Evangelism Program Manager,** GitLab

could ruin a company."



83% of DevSecOps users rate their organization's security efforts as "good" or "excellent"

77% of security professionals who are using DevSecOps have incorporated security earlier in the software development process ("shifted left") or plan to in the next three years

#### Top benefits DevSecOps users say it has brought to their organization:



#### A DevSecOps platform can help your bottom line by:



Reducing the number of costly security investigations



**Empowering teams** to fix vulnerabilities earlier in the software development lifecycle



Reducing money spent on toolchain licenses and management



Allowing teams to identify issues that could hurt the brand and break customer trust



Reducing legal liability connected to security breaches

# **Evolution of DevSecOps ties in security, efficiency, and savings**

The evolution of DevOps into DevSecOps isn't about a simple name change. It's actually about a crucial advance in the mindset around DevOps.

Organizations increasingly have been turning to DevOps to make the development and deployment of business-critical software more efficient and reliable. But speeding software development without keeping security top of mind isn't as efficient as it could be and it doesn't produce the most secure software. DevSecOps takes the next step in DevOps, making the importance of security in the software development lifecycle explicit. It's becoming a standard mindset as software development teams realize the value of incorporating security earlier, and throughout, the entire development process.

"There's never a good time for a security breach," says Michael Friedrich, senior developer evangelist at GitLab. "Developers and executives need to understand that a small problem can easily become a bigger one. You need to invest in secure deployments and security observability to help prevent it."



# Cloud computing and security – top investments for DevSecOps users

Source: GitLab's 2023 Global DevSecOps Survey

That focus on security saves companies money and time, while also better securing the business, its customers, and its brand. It also enables software teams to push software out faster, helping companies meet customer needs before their competitors can. Ultimately, it's about ensuring that shipping software quickly isn't done at the expense of security.



"It's important to make everyone see value in security and you do that with DevSecOps. It includes everyone on the team, easing pressure on developers so they can focus on creating secure and quality code."

Michael Friedrich, Senior
Developer Evangelist, GitLab



Check out this video > to learn about the evolution of DevOps to DevSecOps, and how it can benefit your enterprise.

#### What is a DevSecOps platform?

"If I was in a company's buying seat, I would be looking at DevSecOps," says **Ayoub Fandi**, senior field security engineer at GitLab. "Executives want to worry less about compliance issues and security breaches that could have a big impact on their revenue, their ability to grow the company, and customers' confidence in doing business with them. With DevSecOps, they can worry less about all of that."

Because DevSecOps spans the entire software development lifecycle, many organizations end up piecing various tools together — one tool, for instance, to manage containers, one to automate deployment, another for code review — to create a clumsy, time-consuming DIY toolchain that can waste time and money, not just for the initial setup but also over time.

A single, end-to-end **DevSecOps platform brings these disparate tools together** to help eliminate duplicate tasks, reduce costs, and drive critical advantages for both software development teams and the overall business. A full platform gives an organization all the features, security tools, and automation they need in one application so they're not buying, stitching together, and maintaining a complicated jumble of tools.

Using a DevSecOps platform, software teams are able to spend a lot less time wondering or worrying if their software is secure. They've been checking it all along.

This guide will help you understand how DevSecOps and a DevSecOps platform can strengthen not only software development teams, but the entire organization. We'll look at increasing security and collaboration, going cloud agnostic, and giving executives visibility and useful metrics. We'll also take a look at a real-world example of how one company is using a DevSecOps platform to increase collaboration, security, and automation. **Let's dive in.** 

## Quick look at top DevSecOps business benefits

There's no question a DevSecOps platform enables software development teams to accelerate software production, while making them more efficient and their code more secure. And when they're not spending time and effort on chasing down problems and performing hands-on tasks, they have more time to create innovative software. But the benefits of DevSecOps go beyond tech teams, boosting the overall organization.

Here are a few ways DevSecOps, and a full, end-to-end DevSecOps platform, help your business.



decrease in time consumed by manual tasks thanks to DevSecOps automation

Source: GitLab's 2023 Global DevSecOps Survey

#### Ensuring the enterprise is able to produce secure software:

- Protects the entire business
- Safeguards customers and their data
- Creates critical customer trust
- Prevents damaging headlines about breaches
- Shields the company brand
- Attracts high-level partners and suppliers

#### Rapid and secure delivery with DevSecOps:

- Makes teams more efficient
- Saves time and reduces costs
- Speeds up time to market
- Outdoes competitors
- Frees up teams to focus on high-value work

#### A DevSecOps platform:

- Supports a multi-cloud strategy, offering business resiliency and stability
- Gives executives visibility and metrics to gain insights
- Fosters collaboration across the company
- Makes compliance easier
- Includes automation to make teams efficient
- Secures the entire software supply chain
- Makes developers more productive

"Speed matters ... Now it takes about eight minutes to run a pipeline. That eight minutes is massive. That alone would have been meaningful enough for us to consider the switch, the promise of this high-speed continuous integration pipeline."

- Mitch Trale, Head of Infrastructure, HackerOne

#### A closer look at what DevSecOps offers up



### Advancing software and business security

A DevSecOps platform supplements development and deployment velocity with security. That means software is rolled out to the company, partners, and customers as fast and as securely as possible. Old-school thinking had companies simply focused on pushing software out the door, worrying about security later. It was inefficient and insecure. DevSecOps shifts security left, moving security testing, monitoring, and quality and performance evaluation to the beginning of the development process, when it's easier to find and fix any security problems.



### Making developers more productive

A DevSecOps platform gives teams everything they need to build, write, test, and deploy software in one platform. "They're not wasting time integrating and updating different tools, switching back and forth between tools, having to remember various passwords, and going back to fix bugs that weren't found initially," says Abubakar Siddiq Ango, developer evangelism program manager at GitLab. "This eases demand on their time and lets them focus on building software, driving their productivity."



#### Gaining visibility into how it all works

A cornerstone of DevSecOps is empowering teamwork, and one of the ways the platform does that is by creating visibility into the workflow from planning to production. Whether someone is a developer, a backend engineer, a customer relations associate, or a CIO, they all can gain insight into how code is being designed and developed, how it runs on the system, how it integrates with other pieces of code, and how customers interact with it.



## Fostering collaboration across the company

With that visibility, everyone in software development and across the company can collaborate. By breaking down silos and increasing visibility across the entire software lifecycle, teammates can better share responsibility, communicate in one place, and work together to move software projects forward. This creates more, and more diverse, project input, potentially leading to the creation of better, more secure, and more well-rounded products. It enables everyone to contribute. DevSecOps brings everyone into the security tent to share responsibility.



"A DevSecOps platform helps the CIOs, CTOs and CISOs work together with the engineers so they understand what's happening with their software. It increases security, creates visibility and collaboration in a non-confrontational kind of way."

Ayoub Fandi, Senior Field
Security Engineer, GitLab



"DevSecOps is how security is integrated with the different parts of development and operations. For each stage, you get security baked in."

Ayoub Fandi, Senior Field
Security Engineer, GitLab



of security pros are using a DevSecOps platform or are considering adopting one in the next year

Source: GitLab's 2023 Global DevSecOps Survey



## Measuring efficiency and visibility

Executives need visibility into the software running their companies and connecting them with their partners and customers. They need to understand how code is being created and how it's working for the company. A DevSecOps platform's pipeline visibility, along with reports and metric dashboards, give managers the big picture to identify bottlenecks and tie engineering measurements to business outcomes. This attention to value streams gives users a way to objectively measure and track the metrics most important to them and their business. "To understand how each piece of software is giving value to the company, managers and executives have to understand the metrics behind each tool," says Fandi.



#### Cutting hands-on work with automation

Part of the appeal of using a DevSecOps platform is the built-in automation that can accelerate software development and deployment, decrease time-consuming, hands-on work, reduce errors due to manual processes, and help push out updates at the speed of business. For instance, new code can be automatically tested, pushed into production, and then monitored once it's launched. And if a problem is detected, automated features can raise alerts and even prompt a rollback to an earlier, clean version. Automation ensures that increasing production velocity doesn't come at the cost of security or workers' expensive time.



## Securing the software supply chain

Today, software has thousands of dependencies, where components, such as code libraries or packages, are reused in new pieces of software. Components rely on each other to run properly, so development teams need to make sure each piece is secure. "If one out of thousands of dependencies is insecure, it could lead to holes that attackers could use as entry points. One vulnerable piece of the supply chain hurts the whole company, and that will plague its reputation," says Fandi. "Shifting security left with DevSecOps means making sure everything being integrated into the software from that supply chain has been tested and can be trusted."



## Business resilience with a multi-cloud strategy

Many companies are finding resilience in being cloud agnostic, or using a multi-cloud approach. For instance, if applications or operations are running on one cloud and that provider has trouble or goes down, those operations can be switched to another cloud provider. It's a matter of not putting all your eggs in one basket. With a DevSecOps platform, it's easy and uncomplicated to integrate with different cloud providers. "And maybe a company wants to run some apps in Kubernetes, or they are using a lot of Windows Servers so they want to tap into the expertise of Microsoft Azure," says Ango. "That requires companies to be cloud agnostic because it makes them flexible."

# What DevSecOps benefits look like in the real world

To get some insights into how one organization has used a DevSecOps platform to increase collaboration, efficiency, security, and automation, check out how **FullSave**, a telecommunications infrastructure operator based in Labège, France, is driving improvements.

FullSave, a private company that provides connectivity services and cloud infrastructure, needed a way to take on challenges that were causing development and deployment slowdowns. Executives also wanted to replace the company's toolchain with a DevSecOps platform to reduce complexity and boost productivity. Going all in with GitLab's single, end-to-end platform, the telecom has increased efficiency and fostered communication and collaboration across teams, enabling them to share responsibilities and reduce individual efforts. It also has increased everyone's overview of a project and the progress it's making along its lifecycle.

Because of their increased efficiency, team members now have additional time to create more, and better software products with increased security.



Source: GitLab's 2023 Global DevSecOps Survey

"GitLab is an all-in-one solution that offers clarity and helps to improve the whole team's efficiency."

Laurent Lavallade, ChiefTechnology Officer, FullSave



Source: GitLab's 2023 Global DevSecOps Survey

"It's simple. All teams operate around this one tool. Instantly, that made communication easier. We wouldn't be where we are today if we didn't have GitLab in our stack."

Logan Weber, Software
Automation Engineer, Airbus
Defence and Space Intelligence

"The cost of running security scans in GitLab is significantly lower than it was previously. And so we're much more inclined to run more thorough scans, faster."

 Mitch Trale, Head of Infrastructure at HackerOne

#### Take DevSecOps for a spin

In today's highly competitive landscape, organizations are under more pressure than ever to deliver software more securely, efficiently, and quickly. They need a more mature, allencompassing platform to **improve their time to market**, **outmaneuver competitors**, **and boost their bottom line**. GitLab answers that need with its end-to-end DevSecOps platform.

DevSecOps also is all about awareness: awareness that security has to be part of the entire development and deployment process, and awareness, or visibility, into what is happening throughout the lifecycle so everything from slowdowns to vulnerabilities can be spotted and fixed immediately.

"Think about what can hurt the business the most," says Friedrich. "A security leak. Someone breaking into the infrastructure. The GitLab DevSecOps Platform provides automated security and infrastructure scanning, and an actionable vulnerability dashboard that will help protect from all of that. For any executive, and for those as high up as the C-Suite, there's real value in that."



Have your team try out this free trial of the GitLab DevSecOps Platform.

# GitLab