CI/CD Implementation with Codepipeline

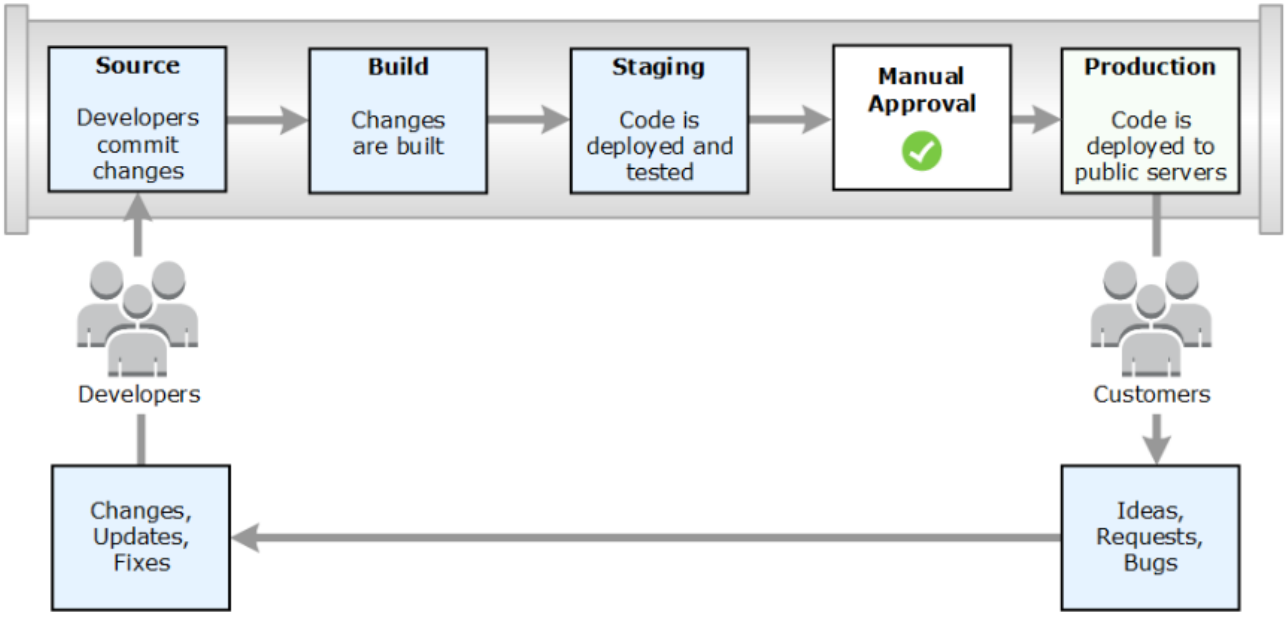
CodePipeline is a *continuous delivery* service that automates the building, testing, and deployment of our software into production.

Continuous delivery is a software development methodology where the release process is automated. Every software change is automatically built, tested, and deployed to production. Before the final push to production, a person, an automated test, or a business rule decides when the final push should occur. Although every successful software change can be immediately released to production with continuous delivery, not all changes need to be released right away.

Continuous integration is a software development practice where members of a team use a version control system and frequently integrate their work to the same location, such as a main branch. Each change is built and verified to detect integration errors as quickly as possible. Continuous integration is focused on automatically building and testing code, as compared to *continuous delivery*, which automates the entire software release process up to production.

We can use the CodePipeline console, the AWS Command Line Interface (AWS CLI), the AWS SDKs, or any combination of these to create and manage your pipelines.

The following diagram shows an example release process using CodePipeline.



In the above example, when developers commit changes to a source repository, CodePipeline automatically detects the changes. Those changes are built, and if any tests are configured, those tests are run. After the tests are complete, the built code is deployed to staging servers for testing. From the staging server, CodePipeline runs more tests, such as integration or load tests. Upon the successful completion of those tests, and after a manual approval action that was added to the pipeline is approved, CodePipeline deploys the tested and approved code to production instances.

CodePipeline can deploy applications to EC2 instances by using CodeDeploy, AWS Elastic Beanstalk, or AWS OpsWorks Stacks. CodePipeline can also deploy container-based applications to services by using Amazon ECS. Developers can also use the integration points provided with CodePipeline to plug in other tools or services, including build services, test providers, or other deployment targets or systems.

A pipeline can be as simple or as complex as your release process requires.