KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2025

The Handoff Pipeline

Using Pull Requests to Manage Integration Points

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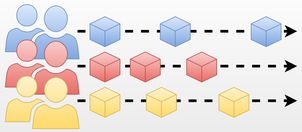
Integration Friction

Multiple product teams collaborate and integrate to provide solutions to customers,

Each with separate code bases, release schedules, and team cultures.

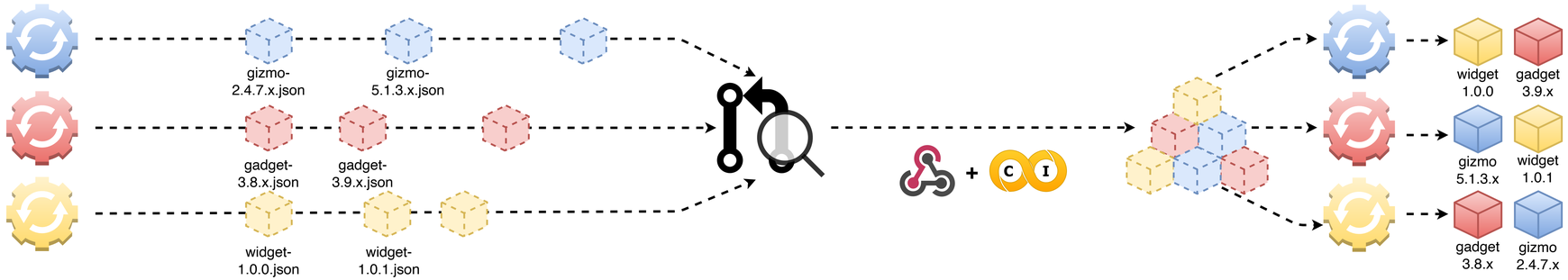


This is often handled with manual coordination which increases communication complexity as integration needs increases.

Increases siloing, decreases transparency, which generates integration friction

Integration Repository

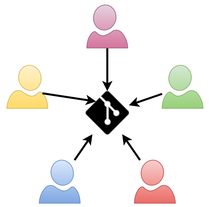
A well-designed integration repository enables individual product lifecycle autonomy, adds cross-team transparency, provides a centralized source of truth, and streamlines the delivery process.



1. Automate pushing to integration repo
2. Define metadata common to all stakeholders (e.g., artifact locations, checksums, etc) and filename conventions
3. A single main branch decouples product lifecycles from each other
4. Formalize handoffs and record stakeholder approval with pull request code reviews
5. Use webhook to trigger external CI tests on updates pushed to repo
6. Product teams choose which components and versions from integration repo inventory to use

Process Outcomes

- Shared source of truth
- Faster integrations of new products
- Independent and collaborative release cycles
- Team autonomy with increased cross-product visibility
- Well-defined division of responsibilities, ownership and hand-off
- Centralized and standardized communication among product teams



Technical Outcomes

- **Codeowners**: Allowed relevant stakeholders to be notified of updates
- **PR reviews**: Documented and encouraged conversations around updates
- **Git tags**: Provided point in time snapshots of product states
- **Git history**: Expanded our ability to trace regressions across product teams
- **Webhooks**: Enabled teams to automate product drops through their own CI/CD