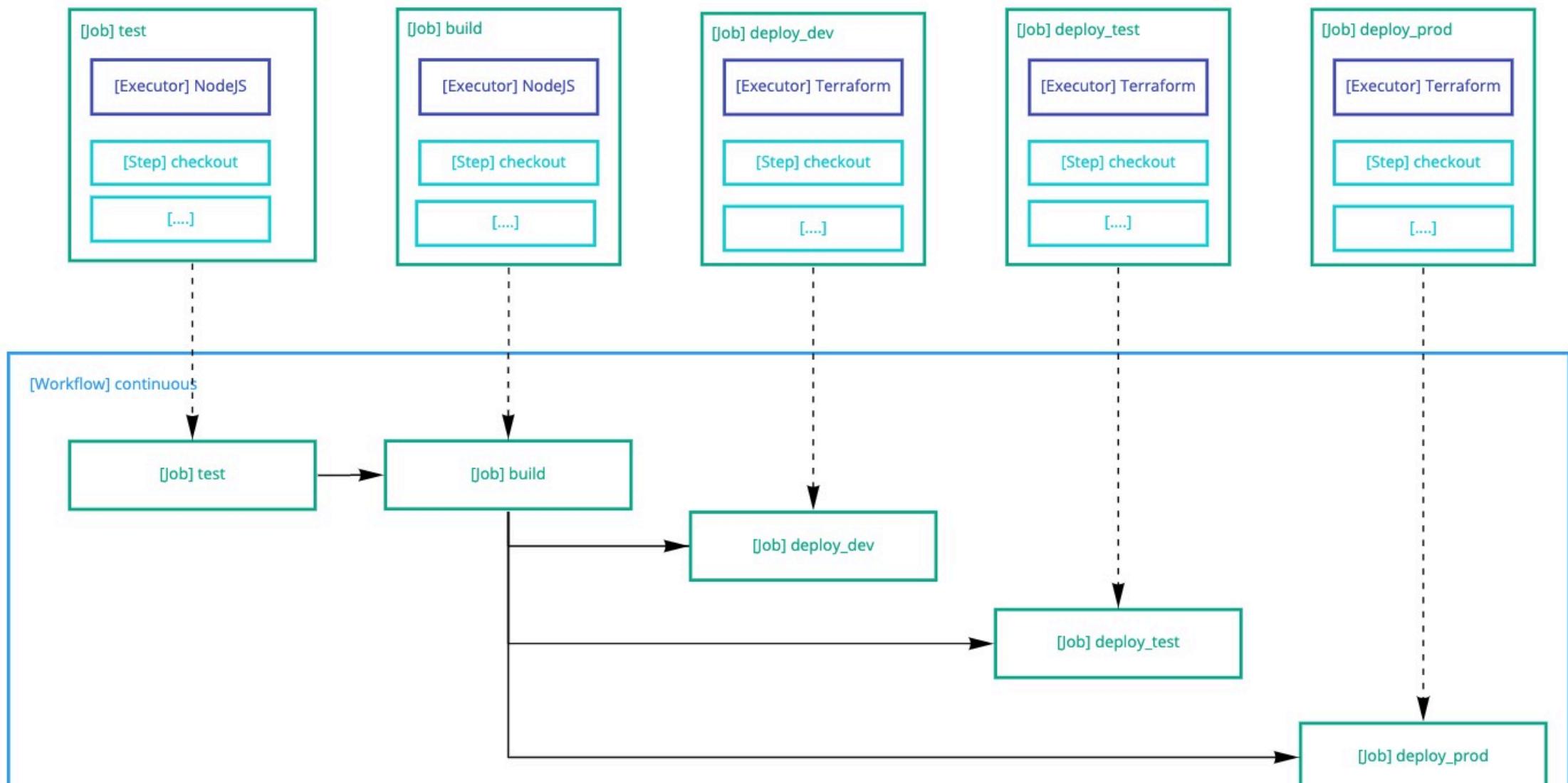


CircleCI Orbs

What are orbs? Why do we use them at TrustedShops? How do I create new ones?

Circleci Basics 101

Basic Pipeline | Overview



Basic Pipeline | Code 1/2

```
version: 2.1

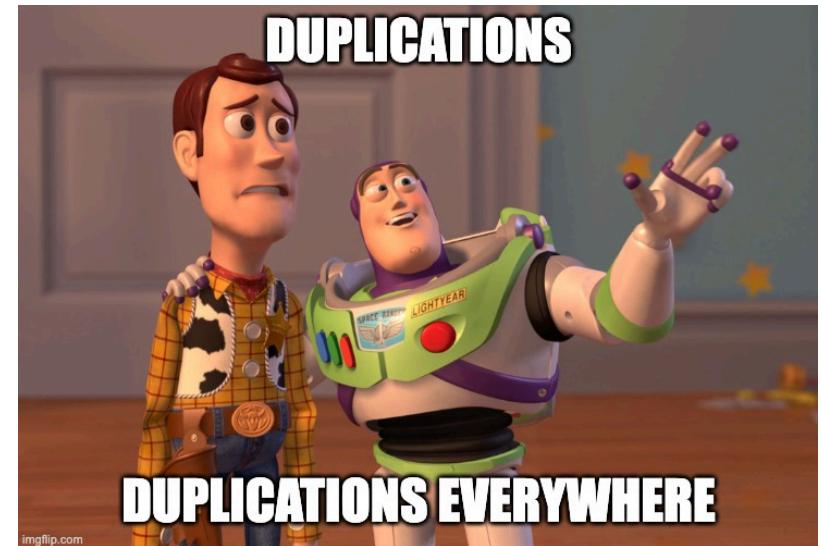
jobs:
  build:
    executor:
      docker:
        - image: cimg/node:lts
    steps:
      - checkout
      - restore_cache:
          key: node-modules-{{ checksum package-lock.json }}
      - run:
          name: Install dependencies
          command: npm install
      - save_cache:
          key: node-modules-{{ checksum package-lock.json }}
      - run:
          name: Build
          command: npm run build
      - persist_to_workspace:
          root: .
          paths:
            - dist/
  test:
    executor:
      docker:
        - image: cimg/node:lts
    steps:
      - checkout
      - restore_cache:
          key: node-modules-{{ checksum package-lock.json }}
      - run:
          name: Install dependencies
          command: npm install
      - save_cache:
          key: node-modules-{{ checksum package-lock.json }}
      - run:
          name: Run unit tests
          command: npm run test
# ...
```

Basic Pipeline | Code 2/2

```
# ...
jobs:
  deploy_dev:
    executor:
      docker:
        - image: terraform:1.0
    steps:
      - checkout
      - run:
          name: Initialize terraform
          command: |
            cd terraform
            terraform init
      - run:
          name: Apply
          command: |
            cd terraform
            terraform apply -var-file=vars/dev.tfvars -auto-approve=yes
  deploy_test:
    executor:
      docker:
        - image: terraform:1.0
    steps:
      - checkout
      - run:
          name: Initialize terraform
          command: |
            cd terraform
            terraform init
      - run:
          name: Apply
          command: |
            cd terraform
            # same story again, just different var-file
            terraform apply -var-file=vars/test.tfvars -auto-approve=yes
  deploy_prod:
    executor:
      docker:
        - image: terraform:1.0
    steps:
      - checkout
      - run:
          name: Initialize terraform
          command: |
            cd terraform
            terraform init
      - run:
          name: Apply
          command: |
            cd terraform
            # same story again, just different var-file
            terraform apply -var-file=vars/prod.tfvars -auto-approve=yes
```

Whats wrong?

- duplicated executors and also versions!
- duplicated checkout, install dependencies
- duplicated deployment jobs
- hard to read and update



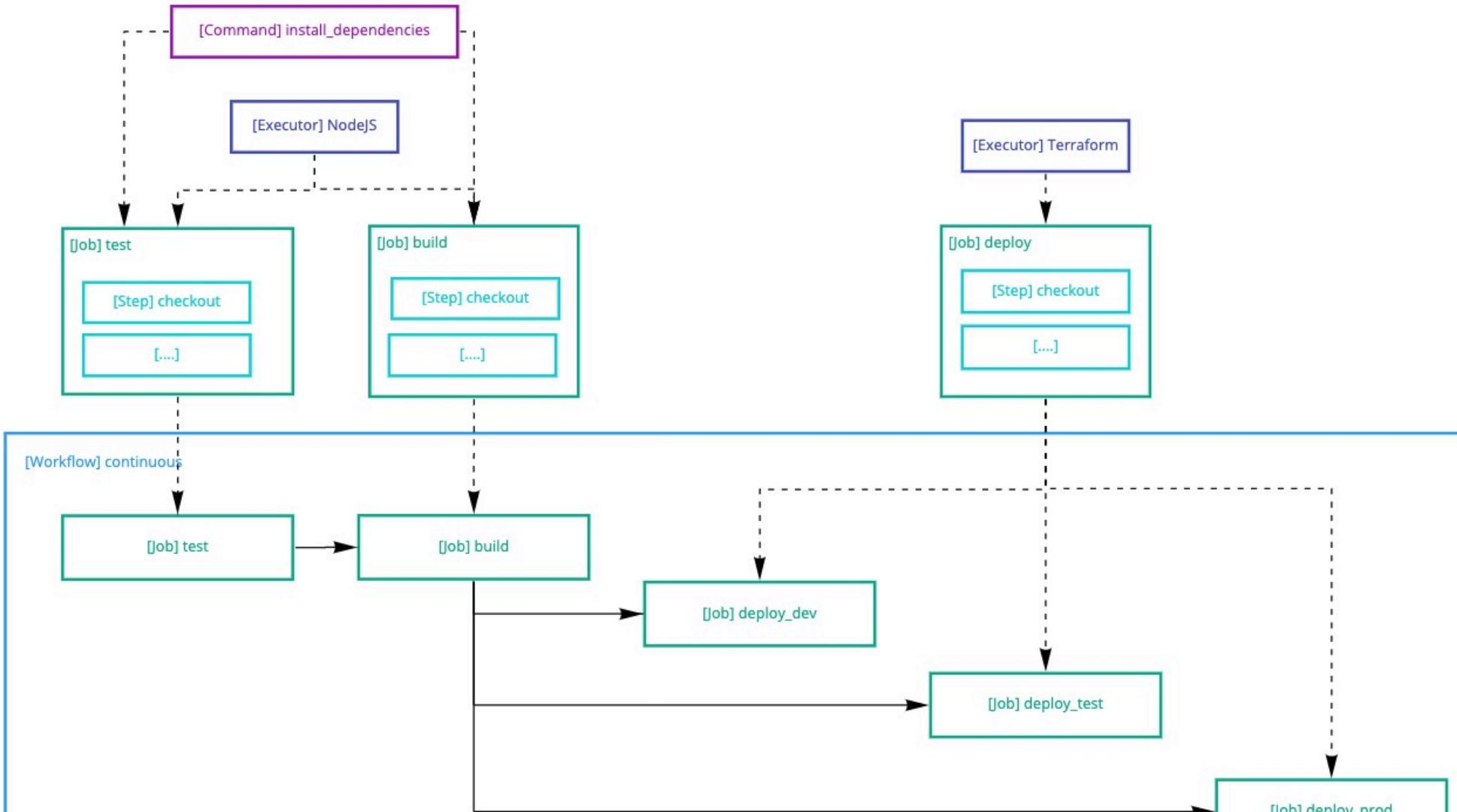
What can be done about it?

- YAML anchors?
- more shell scripts?
- task runner?

No, its even easier!

- executors
 - define once, use as often as you want
- commands
 - reusable steps
 - parameterizable
- jobs
 - can also have parameters!

Reusable pipeline | Overview



Reusable pipeline | Code 1/2

```
version: 2.1

executor:
  node:
    docker:
      - image: node:lts
  terraform:
    docker:
      - image: terraform:1.0

commands:
  install_dependencies:
    steps:
      - restore_cache:
          key: node-modules-{{ checksum package-lock.json }}
      - run:
          name: Install dependencies
          command: npm install
      - save_cache:
          key: node-modules-{{ checksum package-lock.json }}
```

Reusable pipeline | Code 2/2

```
jobs:
  build:
    executor: node
    steps:
      - checkout
      - install_dependencies
      - run:
          name: Build
          command: npm run build
      - persist_to_workspace:
          root: .
          paths:
            - dist/
  test:
    executor: node
    steps:
      - checkout
      - install_dependencies
      - run:
          name: Run unit tests
          command: npm run test
  deploy:
    executor: terraform
    parameters:
      env:
        type: string
        description: Environment to deploy
    steps:
      - checkout
      - run:
          name: Initialize terraform
          command: |
            cd terraform
            terraform init
      - run:
          name: Apply
          command: |
            cd terraform
            terraform apply --var-file vars/<>parameters.env>.tfvars -auto-approve=yes
# ...
```

Reusable pipeline | Call parameterized workflow in job

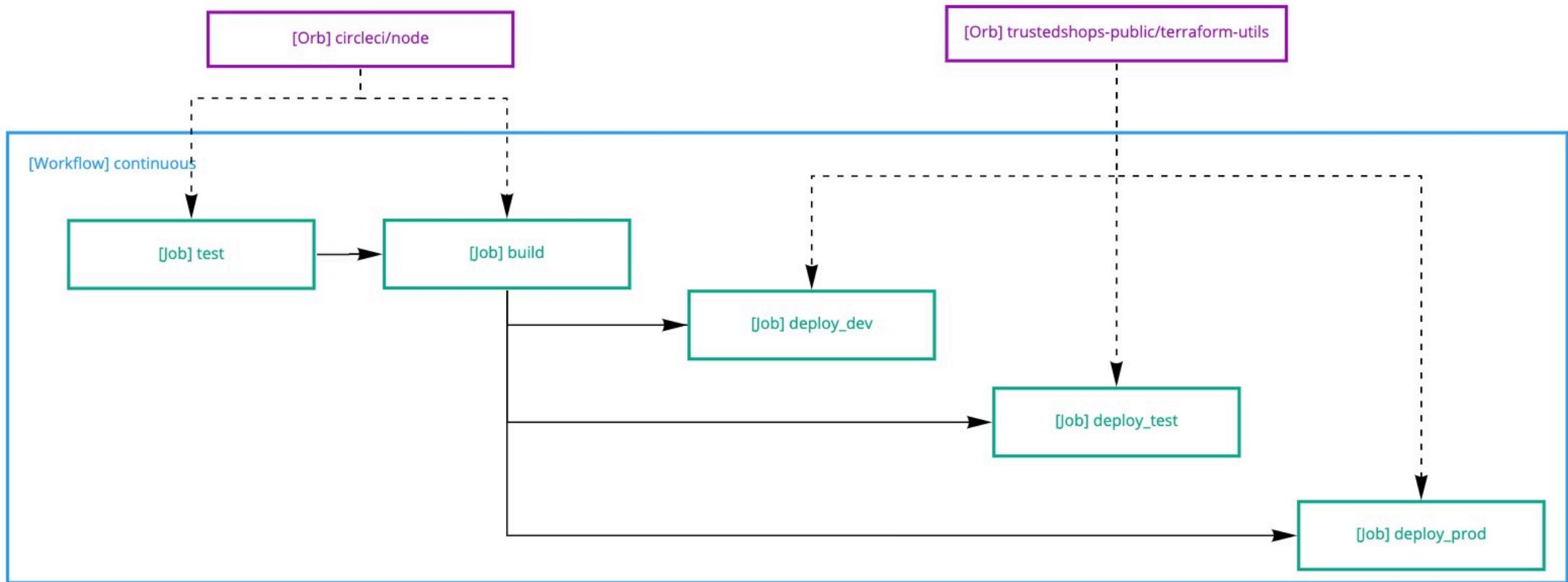
```
workflows:  
  continuous:  
    jobs:  
      # ...  
      - deploy:  
          name: deploy-test  
          env: test  
      # ...
```

Wouldn't it be great to have drop-in solutions for this?

There comes CircleCI Orbs!

- semantic versioned
- versions are immutable, so there are no surprises
- can contain building blocks for your pipelines:
 - executors
 - commands
 - jobs

"Orbified" pipeline | Overview



"Orbified" pipeline | Code

```
version: 2.1

anchors:
  terraform-defaults: &terraform_defaults
    terraform-version: 1.0.11
    path: terraform

orbs:
  terraform-utils: trustedshops-public/terraform-utils@1.5.0
  node: circleci/node@4.7.0

workflows:
  continuous:
    jobs:
      - node/test:
          name: test
      - node/run:
          name: build
          npm-run: build
          requires:
            - test
      - terraform-utils/terraform-apply:
          name: deploy_dev
          <<: *terraform_defaults
          var-file: vars/dev.tfvars
          requires:
            - build
            # filters, contexts ..
      - terraform-utils/terraform-apply:
          name: deploy_test
          <<: *terraform_defaults
          var-file: vars/test.tfvars
          requires:
            - build
            # filters, contexts ..
      - terraform-utils/terraform-apply:
          name: deploy_prod
          <<: *terraform_defaults
          var-file: vars/prod.tfvars
          requires:
            - build
            # filters, contexts ..
```

Where to find them

- via google (circleci orb search term)
- <https://circleci.com/developer/orbs>
- in the trustedshops-public org, search for repos starting with circleci-orb-

Creating orbs at TrustedShops has never been easier!

- create a repository in the `trustedshops-public` org with the help from someone in the OpenSource Guild
- `cookiecutter gh:trustedshops-public/cookiecutter-circleci-orb`
- enter the name of the orb
- develop your orb, batteries included with a preconfigured CircleCI pipeline
 - automatic releases on semantic commits
 - snapshots on feature branches to test your orbs before publishing them
- After approval with someone from `@trustedshops-public/circleci-orbs` the orb will be published

Orb source structure

You can write orbs a single YAML, but that's no fun.

So orbs are split into multiple files and bundled at deploy time:

```
| - src
  | - commands
  |   | - command-name.yml
  | - examples
  |   | - example-name.yml
  | - jobs
  |   | - job-name.yml
  | - executors
  |   | - executor-name.yml
  | - scripts
  |   | - script-to-source.sh
```

Each of the directories is optional.

Orbs - The ugly

- once published there is no way back - the orb can only be deleted in special cases by support
- only admin can create and update orbs (TPS DevOps team built a workaround for that)

Best Practices

Best Practices | Using orbs

- prefer orbs over inline solutions
- only use official, certified or our own orbs
- upgrade orbs from time to time

Best Practices | Creating orbs

- use official orbs functionality as base when possible (e. g. aws cli)
- create commands for building blocks
- a job should also be executable using commands from the orb
- pass parameters through with the same defaults
- provide at least one example per job and one to use composite commands
- do one thing and do it good
- make the orb flexible with parameters but provide sensitive defaults
- keep it generic and free from "TrustedShops specials"

Further resources

CircleCI

- circleci.com/orbs
- circleci.com/docs/2.0/orb-intro

Publishing Orbs at TS

- trustedshops/tps-operations-guidelines/CI_CD/CircleCI/ORBS.md

End

