

**2026
DEFENSE HEALTH INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM**

AUGUST 11-13, 2026
HYATT REGENCY NEW ORLEANS
NEW ORLEANS, LA

From Checklists to Check-Ins: Building an RMF-Ready CI/CD Pipeline

Moderator: Maria Cante

Presenters: Cody Schmidt, Nataliya Maas, Brandon Hayes



Speaker Introduction



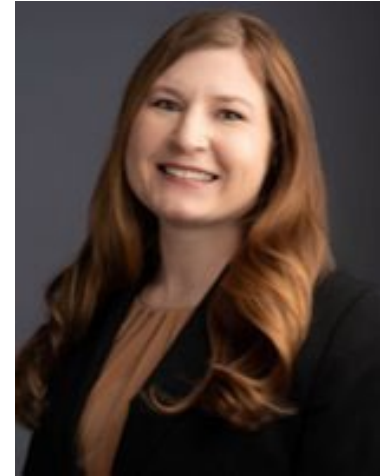
**Maria Cante,
ERM Chief**

RMED
DHA



**Cody Schmidt,
Cloud SCA**

RMED
DHA



**Nataliya Maas, Cloud
SCAR & OT SCA**

RMED
DHA



**Brandon Hayes,
Cloud SCAR**

RMED
DHA

Agenda

- 1** The Challenge
- 2** Learning Objectives
- 3** Challenges
- 4** Solutions
- 5** Outcomes

The Challenge: Traditional RMF Meets Modern Software Delivery

Traditional RMF	Modern DevSecOps
Periodic Assessments	Continuous Integration
Static Authorization	Continuous Deployment
Manual Evidence Collection	Automated Evidence Generation
Point-in-Time Compliance	Continuous Risk Visibility

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

What You Will Gain From This Session



IDENTIFY

Common CI/CD shortfalls



Missing
Visibility



Inconsistent
Security



Manual
Processes



Delayed
Evidence



LEVERAGE

DHA GitLab and DSOCC tools



Build



Scan



Secure

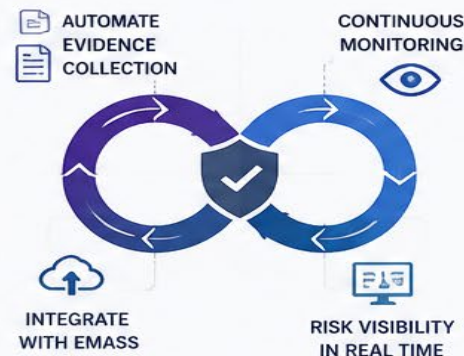


Deploy



DEMONSTRATE

RMF-enabled automation



ACCELERATE

Authorization readiness



READY

- ✓ Complete Evidence
- ✓ Reduced Risk
- ✓ Faster Decisions



Building Secure, Compliant, and Efficient Pipelines for Mission Success

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Challenges

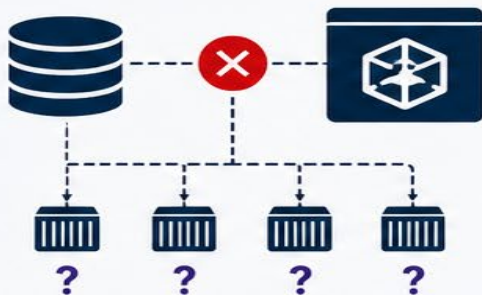


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COMMON PIPELINE SHORTFALLS

Gaps in the CI/CD Pipeline Create Risk and Slow Authorization

1 MISSING HARBOR INTEGRATION



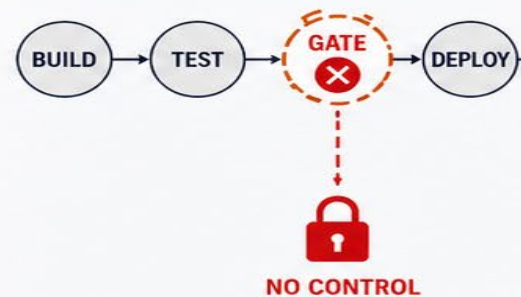
➔ Untracked container images

2 MISSING SECURITY SCANS



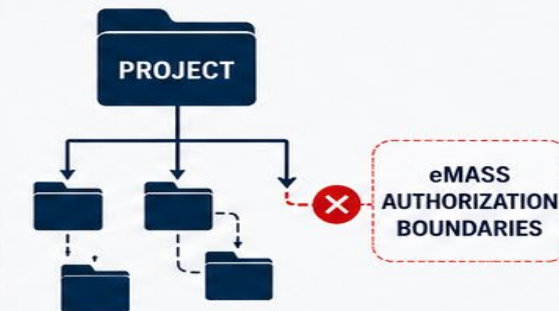
➔ Unknown vulnerabilities

3 MISSING COMPLIANCE GATES



➔ Unauthorized deployments

4 POOR REPOSITORY STRUCTURE



➔ Misalignment with eMASS authorization boundaries

OPERATIONAL IMPACT



INCOMPLETE INVENTORY

Not all assets are accounted for



REDUCED VISIBILITY

Limited insight into assets and risk posture



INCREASED RESIDUAL RISK

Unknown threats and unmanaged exposures



DELAYED AUTHORIZATION DECISIONS

Slower approvals and time to mission



ADDRESSING THESE SHORTFALLS STRENGTHENS SECURITY, IMPROVES VISIBILITY, AND ACCELERATES RMF AUTHORIZATION.

1

PIPELINE SHORTFALL



MISSING HARBOR INTEGRATION

Untracked container images



OPERATIONAL IMPACT



Incomplete inventory



Reduced visibility



Increased residual risk



Delayed authorization decisions

2

PIPELINE SHORTFALL

MISSING SECURITY SCANS

Unknown vulnerabilities



OPERATIONAL IMPACT



Incomplete inventory



Reduced visibility



Increased residual risk



Delayed authorization decisions

ACRONYMS DEFINED

**SAST**

Static Application Security Testing
Analyzes source code, binaries, or byte code to identify security vulnerabilities early in development.

**SCA**

Software Composition Analysis
Identifies open source and third-party components and checks for known vulnerabilities and license risks.

**DAST**

Dynamic Application Security Testing
Tests a running application from the outside to identify vulnerabilities in the deployed environment.



Performing all three security scans (SAST, SCA, and DAST) provides comprehensive visibility into vulnerabilities throughout the software development lifecycle.

3

PIPELINE SHORTFALL

MISSING COMPLIANCE GATES

Unauthorized deployments



OPERATIONAL IMPACT



Incomplete
inventory



Reduced
visibility



Increased
residual risk



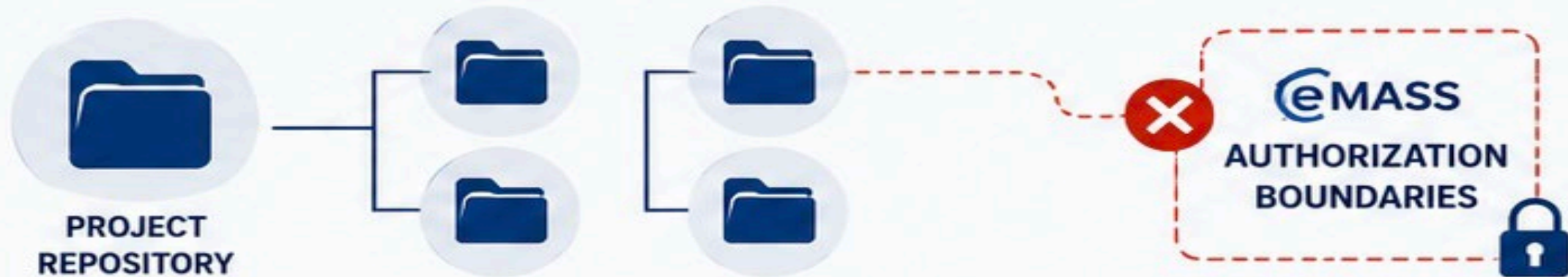
Delayed
authorization
decisions

4

PIPELINE SHORTFALL

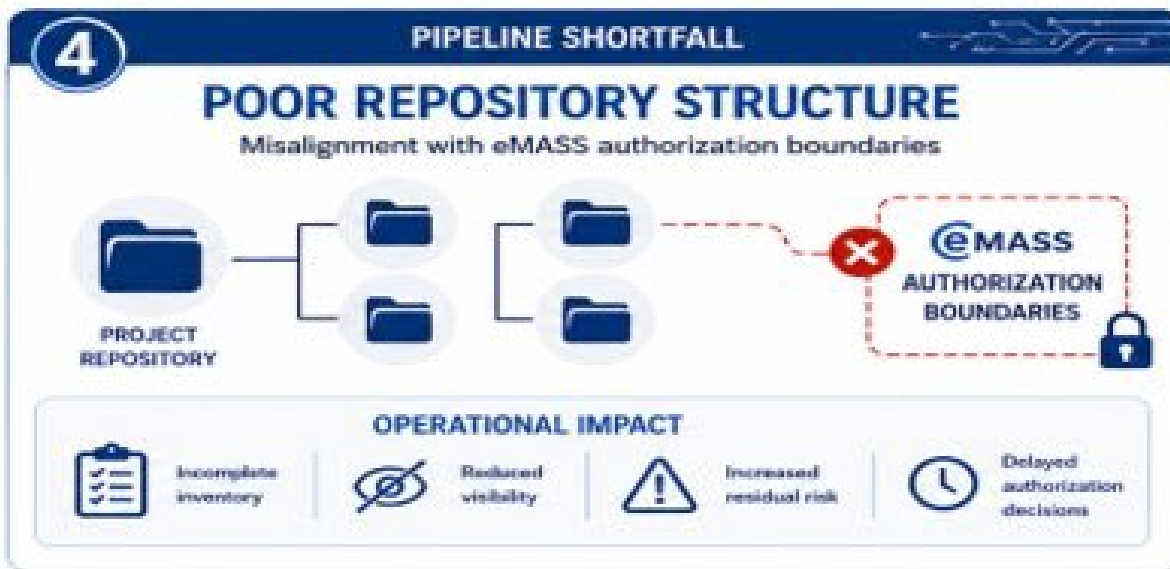
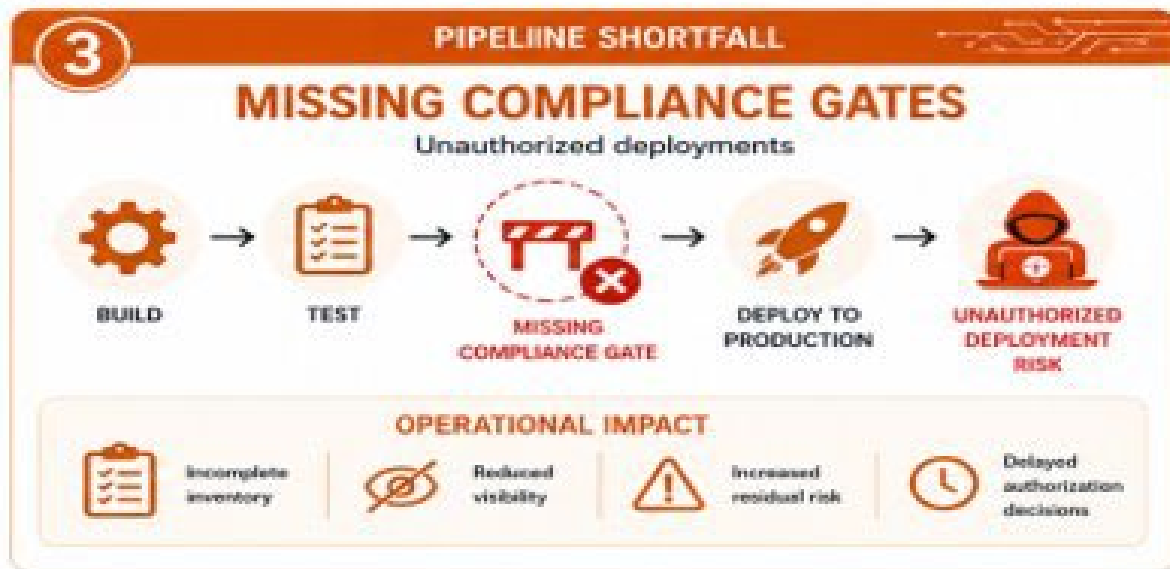
POOR REPOSITORY STRUCTURE

Misalignment with eMASS authorization boundaries



OPERATIONAL IMPACT

Incomplete
inventoryReduced
visibilityIncreased
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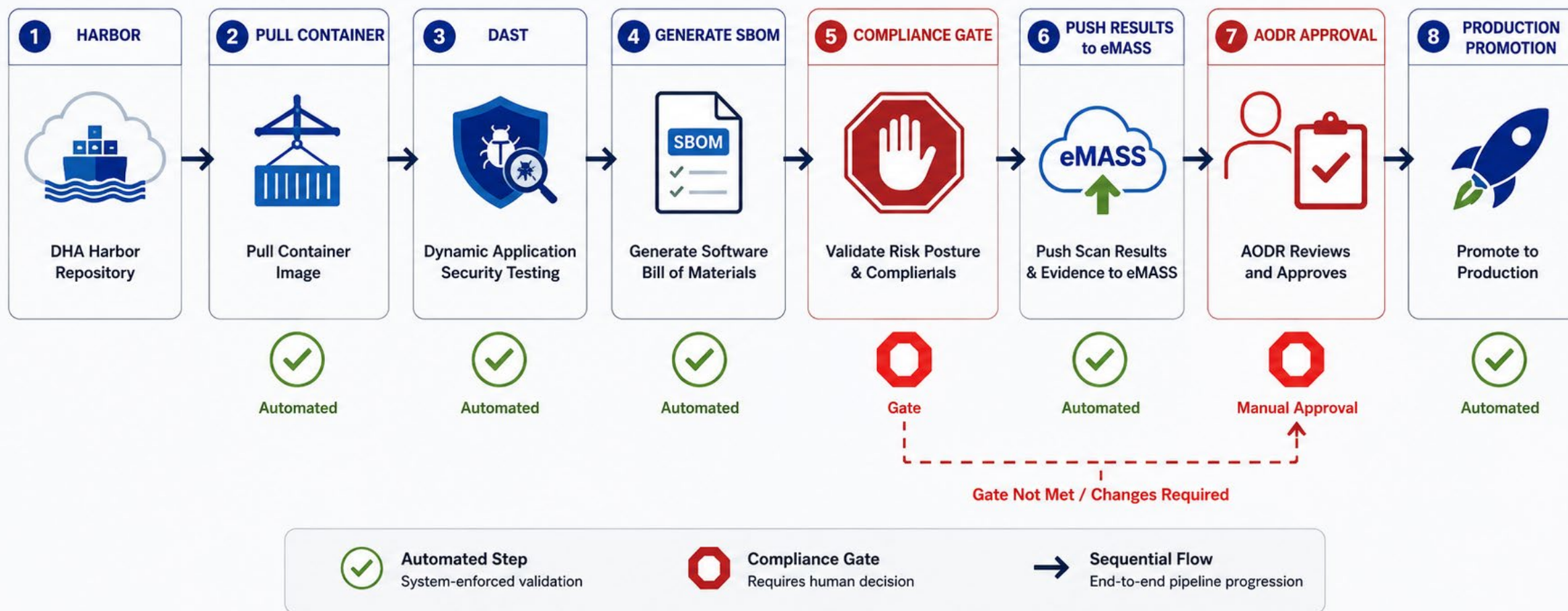
Solutions



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Pre-Production Pipeline

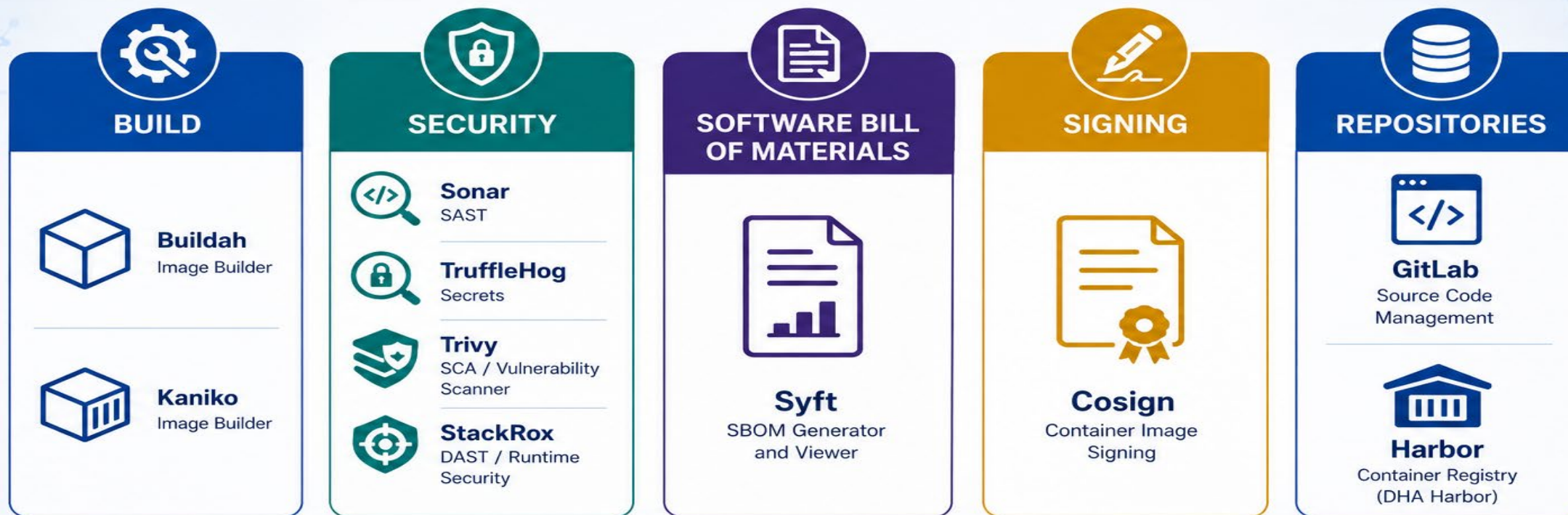
Automated security validation and compliance before production promotion





DHA DevSecOps Toolchain

Secure. Automate. Integrate. Authorize.



INTEGRATED SECURITY

Security at every stage of the software lifecycle



CI / CD PIPELINE

Continuous Integration
Continuous Delivery

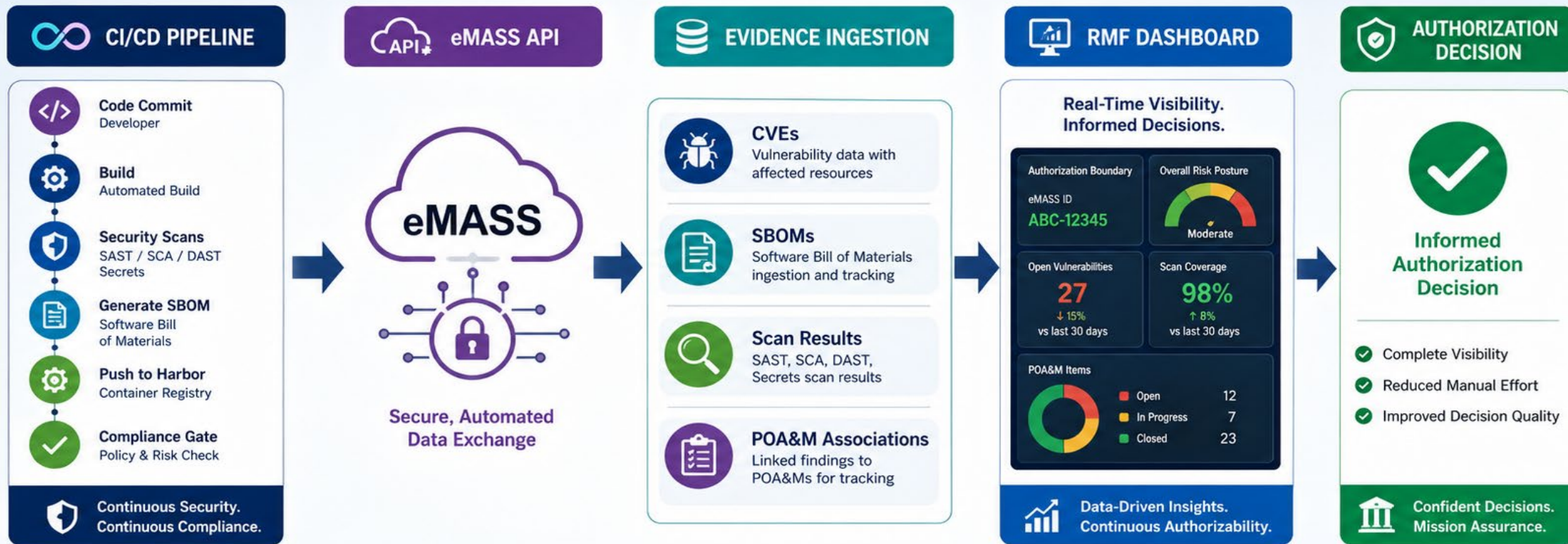


RMF ALIGNMENT

Automated evidence for authorization readiness

AUTOMATING RMF EVIDENCE COLLECTION

Seamless integration from CI/CD pipeline to authorization decision



KEY BENEFITS OF AUTOMATING RMF EVIDENCE COLLECTION



REDUCES MANUAL EFFORT
Automated ingestion eliminates manual data entry and tracking.



IMPROVES ACCURACY
Real-time, consistent data improves risk accuracy and completeness.



ENHANCES VISIBILITY
Live dashboard provides continuous insight into risk posture.



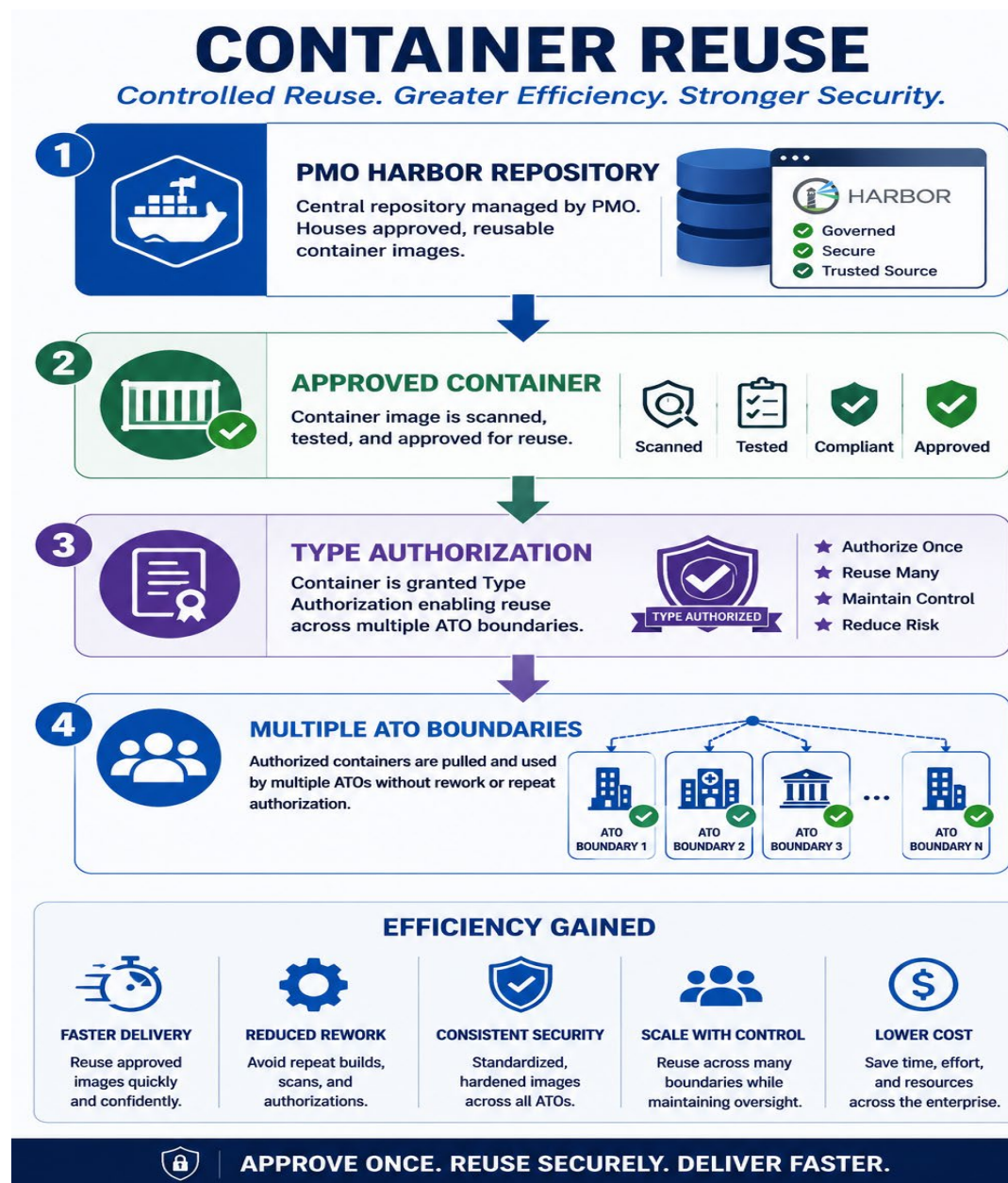
ACCELERATES AUTHORIZATION
Better data, faster decisions, shorter authorization timelines.



SUPPORTS CONTINUOUS AUTHORIZABILITY
Sustains authorization with ongoing evidence and risk visibility.

- **Centralize approved container images** within the PMO Harbor Repository to establish a trusted, enterprise-managed source for reusable artifacts.
- **Validate once, reuse many.** Approved containers that meet security and compliance requirements become candidates for Type Authorization.
- **Reduce duplicate authorization efforts** by enabling multiple ATO boundaries to leverage the same approved container image.
- **Maintain governance and traceability** by ensuring container updates continue through the RMF change management and reauthorization process.
- **Improve mission delivery** by accelerating deployments while maintaining consistent security controls across the enterprise.

Enterprise Benefit: *Standardized, authorized container images reduce risk, minimize redundant work, and accelerate secure software delivery across DHA.*



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Outcomes



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THE OUTCOME

Automation Drives Efficiency. Visibility Drives Confidence. Continuous Readiness Drives Mission Success.

BEFORE Manual. Periodic. Reactive.		AFTER Automated. Continuous. Proactive.
 Manual evidence Collected and compiled by hand.	→	 Automated evidence Captured and ingested automatically from the pipeline.
 Static inventories Point-in-time snapshot of assets and components.	→	 Continuous inventory Real-time inventory updated with every change in the pipeline.
 Spreadsheet tracking Manual updates, versioning errors, and limited visibility.	→	 Live dashboards Real-time visibility into risk posture, trends, and compliance status.
 Manual CVE review Time-consuming review and data entry.	→	 Automated vulnerability ingestion CVE data ingested via eMASS API for timely, accurate tracking.
 Slow authorization support Manual compilation delays authorization decisions.	→	 Continuous authorization readiness Always-ready evidence supports faster, informed authorization decisions.



REDUCE RISK

Timely, accurate data improves risk visibility and decision making.



SAVE TIME

Automation eliminates manual effort and accelerates processes.



IMPROVE ACCURACY

Consistent, automated data reduces errors and inconsistencies.



ENABLE SCALE

Standardized automation supports growth across systems and teams.



DRIVE MISSION IMPACT

Faster delivery of secure capabilities to support the warfighter.



CLOSING MESSAGE

Integrating RMF directly into the CI/CD pipeline transforms compliance from a periodic activity into a continuous operational capability.





MISSION CHECK

RMF READINESS CHALLENGE

Test your understanding of three key concepts for building an RMF-Ready CI/CD Pipeline.

1 SECURITY



Which automated scan identifies vulnerabilities within software components of a container?

- ☐ A. SAST
- ☐ B. DAST
- ☐ C. ACAS
- ☐ D. SCA



Software Composition Analysis identifies vulnerabilities in third-party libraries and dependencies.

2 REPOSITORY



What is the designated repository for DHA approved and authorized container images?

- ☐ A. Iron Bank
- ☐ B. DHA Harbor
- ☐ C. DHA GitLab
- ☐ D. All of the Above



DHA Harbor serves as the authoritative repository for approved container images.

3 DEPLOYMENT



TRUE OR FALSE

Developers may push commits directly from the development environment into production.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False



Production deployments require compliance gates and appropriate AO/AODR approvals before release.



AUTOMATION ACCELERATES DELIVERY. | GOVERNANCE ENSURES MISSION SUCCESS.



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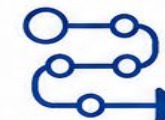
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QUESTIONS?

LET'S DISCUSS.

Thank you for your time and engagement.
We look forward to the conversation.



YOUR QUESTIONS.
OUR OPPORTUNITY TO
DRIVE SECURE SOLUTIONS
TOGETHER.



SECURE

Build security
in from the start.



AUTOMATE

Automate processes
and evidence
collection.



INTEGRATE

Integrate RMF
into the CI/CD
pipeline.



COLLABORATE

Collaborate across
teams and
boundaries.



DELIVER

Deliver secure
capabilities
faster.

TOGETHER, WE ACHIEVE CONTINUOUS AUTHORIZATION READINESS.

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

We'd love to hear from you.



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**WE WELCOME YOUR
QUESTIONS AND LOOK
FORWARD TO THE
DISCUSSION!**

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Thank You!



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