Orchestrating AppSec in DevOps Pipelines with ZeroNorth

Development teams are embracing DevOps practices to support extremely rapid release cycle requirements. Traditionally, application security testing is extraneous to DevOps; it breaks the flow and agility of DevOps, creating friction between security and engineering teams. But without AppSec testing and remediation, organizations are likely releasing insecure software into production and putting themselves at considerable risk.

But integrating and orchestrating AppSec tools within DevOps pipelines is complex and extremely time-consuming work. First, comprehensive AppSec testing requires different tools for the different stages of the SDLC—with many of the tools requiring specialist knowledge to configure and run them. Second, most organizations have multiple AppSec teams and many DevOps pipelines. And third, all of these AppSec tools must be integrated and automated within these DevOps pipelines, with the right tool running at the right stage in the process.

With AppSec staff in short supply (on average there is one security staff for every 50 developers[1]), this work is often left to the engineering team. But developers are not security experts — they are not familiar with AppSec tools and how to integrate them within their pipelines, or how to run, manage or maintain them.

Enabling AppSec at the Speed of DevOps

The ZeroNorth® application security automation and orchestration platform reduces the complexity and manual work needed to connect, configure, orchestrate and maintain the different AppSec tools within DevOps pipelines. With ZeroNorth, the development team can deliver secure applications without slowing down their DevOps processes or changing workflows.

The ZeroNorth platform supports and manages the leading AppSec tools (SaaS-based or on-prem) used throughout the SLDC, and includes a slew of built-in, ready-to-run open-source security scanning tools. The ZeroNorth platform seamlessly connects CI/CD DevOps pipelines with the AppSec tools of choice, and then configures them to scan the required entity (such as source code repositories, build artifacts, URLs, IP addresses and containers). So, there's no need for developers to learn how to invoke or maintain each and every AppSec tool. AppSec scans can be initiated directly through CI/CD tools, on demand, as an integral part of the DevOps process.
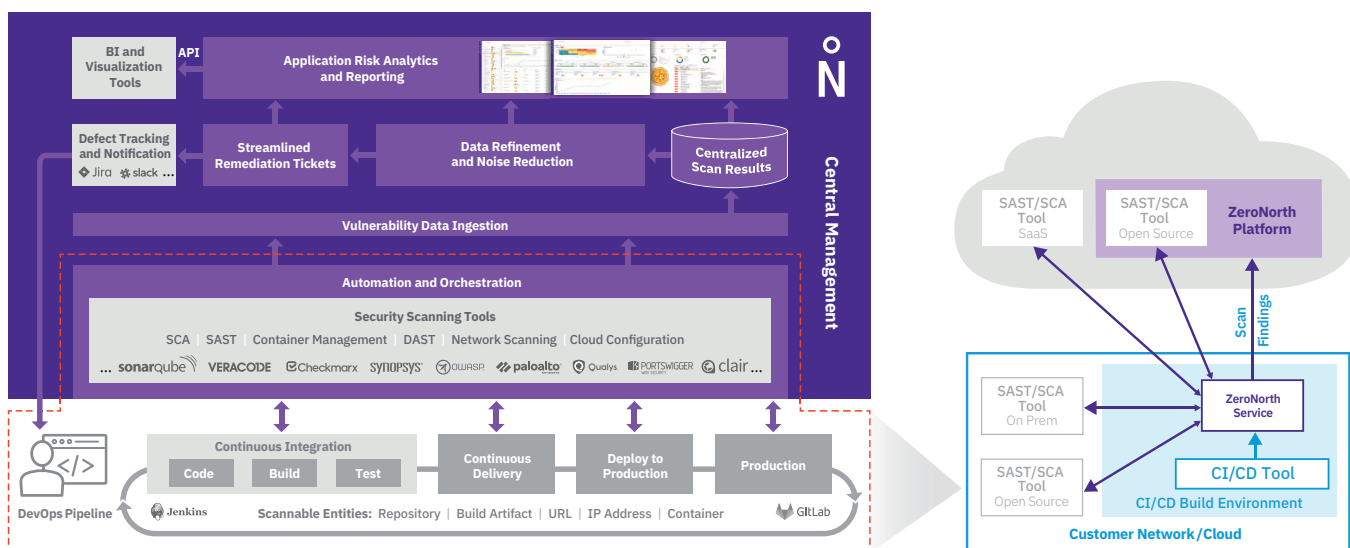
The ZeroNorth platform reduces the complexity and manual work needed to connect, configure, orchestrate and maintain the different AppSec tools within the different DevOps pipelines.

[1] Source: BSIMM

Additionally, ZeroNorth enables policy-driven scanning. It can schedule scans to run within the development toolchain or independently within a specific time period. ZeroNorth supports both synchronous (wait for results) and asynchronous (fire and forget) scanning modes. Scan results are then automatically sent to a central repository in ZeroNorth where they are collated, normalized and deduped, to make them useable and operational for developers, and prioritized for remediation.

Check out this whiteboard video to see how ZeroNorth can enable AppSec at the speed of DevOps

Key Benefits

- Drastically reduces the complexity of connecting and maintaining AppSec tools within DevOps pipelines

- Makes AppSec transparent and friction free for developers

- Enables developers to scan more code, more frequently, earlier in the SDLC, without having to learn how to invoke or maintain AppSec tools

- Gives developers the flexibility to choose their AppSec tools

- Eliminates the security friction points that hurt pipeline velocity, and empowers security and development teams to work together collaboratively

- Reduces reliance on specialized security expertise and reduces time/costs

- Easily ramp up an AppSec program or fill in scanning gaps quickly

ZERONORTH™

ZeroNorth brings security, DevOps and the business together to improve application security performance and reduce organizational risk. The company's application security automation and orchestration platform unites enterprises to rapidly identify, prioritize and remove the vulnerabilities standing in the way of software excellence. In an age where the security of applications needs to be everyone's responsibility, ZeroNorth is where organizations come together for the good of software. For more information, follow ZeroNorth on Twitter (@ ZeroNorthSec), or LinkedIn—or contact us directly.