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How Do You Maximize the Modernization Impact Across the Portfolio as a Whole When Facing Diversity in the IT Baselines?

Themba Henke

DevSecOps Strategist & Solutions Architect
Cloudbees

Wes Pullen

Field Chief Technology Officer
Cloudbees

Abstract:

Across DoD, modernization often means a full-on CI/CD experience and a move to containers. Guidance like the DoD DevSecOps reference design makes zero accommodation for non-container-based systems. Unfortunately, this purist DevSecOps thinking leaves a considerable portion of legacy systems with no middle ground.

Nowhere is this more relevant than the drive for continuous delivery to the edge. Not all of the edge is ready for a containers-only approach. The move to containers has left a lot of legacy systems with no talked-about way to participate in the automation revolution. As a result, technology leaders are left with a growing technology management divide. PEOs have a Kubernetes native portfolio and a legacy portfolio. Too often, though, this “legacy” portfolio is all of the truly unique test systems, complex combat systems, or lab infrastructure that are the irreplaceable foundation of defense readiness.

The impact of this is as portions of the portfolio make the move to containers, they run up against the constraints of the vital older systems and processes. PEOs have to choose: deploy state-of-the-art in isolation or wait. DoD can’t afford to modernize these one-of-a-kind systems but also can’t afford to leave them behind either. The better way is to lightly address the older systems and processes while more heavily investing in the state-of-the-art.

This talk will address the challenges associated with snowflake legacy systems. It will provide examples of leveraging COTS software technology combined with an agile development methodology to address the challenges inherent in the existing process of releasing new capabilities and managing complex baseline configurations.

Join Themba Henke and Wes Pullen as they discuss how organizations can bridge the gap between the modern and... not so modern baselines. They will discuss modern CI/CD, and they will talk about the meaningful ways to apply automation to systems that organizations can’t afford to modernize just yet.