Lavasoft Builds Faster and Deploys More Confidently Using Drone and Harness

About:
- Mathieu Fecteau Leclerc, Software Development Manager
- Lavasoft, a subsidiary of Avanquest Software, is a world leading developer of personal and professional software, encompassing a large number of categories including Creativity and Learning software, Utilities, and Multimedia.

Continuous Integration: Finding a Container Native Solution

CI Challenges:
- Applications written in a variety of languages: python, .net core, php, js, html
- 80% of applications are on premise
- Builds were completed using complex Jenkins scripts
- Upgrading Jenkins took hours
- Few engineering resources available to manage a complex CI solution
- Struggled to implement DevOps principles into current process

Life with Drone:
- 15 minutes to onboard the first application to Drone
- Ditched groovy script plugins for Drone’s docker image integrations
- Plug-Ins take 5 min to set up, even if the integrations aren't native
- Upgrading Drone takes 2 minutes and can be done at anytime during the day
- A new hire can use Drone in their first day on the job

“The other CI options aren't smooth and have a difficult set up process”

Decreased time to upgrade by 97% from 1 hour to 2 minutes

“Drone’s beauty is in the simplicity”

Continuous Delivery: Spending too much time babysitting deployments

CD Challenges:
- Manual intervention required to diagnose faulty deployments
- Product team did not have visibility into deployment metrics or schedules
- Starting to migrate applications to Kubernetes
- Deployments used Docker pulls and roll-backs required manual re-deployment of local files
- Manual Verification process took 8 hour a week
- The deployment process had virtually no security

Life with Harness:
- Continuous insights provides detailed deployment information that can be distributed to product owner’s and developers
- Continuous Verification gives us more confidence while deploying because it removes human error
- Migrating to Kubernetes takes 1 hour per application
- Onboarded 40 apps in the first week
- Harness CD connected to Drone in 15 minutes on the first day

“More often than not we were troubleshooting why a deployment went wrong”

94% reduction in verification time from 8 hours a week to 30 min

“Harness helps me get more value out of the expensive tools I already use”