

SOLUTION BRIEF

CA RELEASE AUTOMATION CONTINUOUS DELIVERY EDITION AND CA AGILE CENTRAL

CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition and CA Agile Central

Align development work and releases with your business priorities more effectively with CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition. Through a unique integration with CA Agile Central, a real-time business-centric view and reporting of application content in the release pipeline is available to measure progress against initiatives. The bidirectional integration enables better collaboration and execution of releases in the continuous delivery pipeline, as well as data-driven improvements in processes and teams.

Executive Summary

Challenge

As development, testing, and operations become more synchronized through agile principles and DevOps culture, efficiently managing release content and providing visibility throughout the continuous delivery pipeline is critical. These teams rely on multiple tools for their individual tasks, however, the disparate manual processes to pull it all together are too disjointed, error prone and inefficient to support today's streamlined software factories. In addition, senior management and business stakeholders demand a business-level view of application content, one that elevates it from a pure deployment perspective. Yet, without end-to-end toolchain visibility, teams struggle to demonstrate that development work and releases are aligned with business priorities because they cannot provide a real-time business-centric view/reporting of app content in the release pipeline.

Opportunity

CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition, through its bidirectional integration with CA Agile Central, offers powerful functionality to link and track application content to releases and a data-driven foundation for collaborating with dev teams to improve the throughput, quality and efficiency of app releases. In addition, the solution enables key stakeholders, such as product management and business teams, to easily track and measure progress in delivering against commitments and strategic initiatives.

CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition acts as a single control point for end-to-end planning, scheduling, execution, enforcement and optimization of multiple, concurrent application releases through the continuous delivery pipeline. It orchestrates an organization's existing toolchain—from planning/application lifecycle management (ALM) to production. The solution comes with a prepackaged plug-in for CA Agile Central, a powerful ALM platform used to log, plan, prioritize, manage and track development work.

With this integration, release managers can directly import user stories, features and fixes for multiple applications from CA Agile Central and map them to a release. Release, development and business teams can use a shared dashboard to track the status and progress of content as it moves through the release cycle. Teams can follow the progress of versions of a single application across environments as well as dig into the user stories, features and fixes that make up an application, and their release status. CA Agile Central feeds test case results to releases so that only successful code is promoted across phases, and receives automatic real-time updates on failed content as well as features that make it to production.

Benefits

- Provide real-time data on specific content in the release pipeline and its progress to production.
- Shorten time to pinpoint and fix code issues to improve the speed and quality of releases.
- Minimize miscommunication and foster collaboration between development, test, operations and business teams for faster, higher-quality application delivery.
- Increase productivity of existing release teams in managing multi-app content across a large volume of complex releases.
- Deliver business-centric reporting to demonstrate progress against strategic initiatives.
- Shorten feedback loops and aid experimentation to improve customer experience.
- Reduce risk by ensuring only quality code is promoted to subsequent phases.

Section 1:

Efficiently Map Multi-Application Content to Releases

DevOps teams who jointly plan and execute complex, multi-team, multi-app releases can easily answer the question “What specific content is in this release” from a single shared dashboard. Release teams are no longer the sole source of truth, nor do they have to pull this together manually. With the integration, content, i.e., user stories, defects, tasks and features associated with multiple applications can be imported from CA Agile Central and mapped to a single release in CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition. Release teams can easily map content to a large volume of releases. In turn, any IT or business stakeholder can scrutinize, in real time, the specifics of the user stories, defects, tasks and features of the individual applications bundled into a release.

Multi-application content within a release in CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition

The screenshot displays the CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition dashboard. The top navigation bar includes tabs for DASHBOARD, RELEASES (selected), TRACKS, CALENDAR, REPORTS, and ADMINISTRATION. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is divided into three columns: Release Readiness, Development, and Testing.

Release Readiness: This column shows a 'Release Management' section with a 'MANUAL' button. It includes a 'Validate Final Build' section with a 'DONE' status and a 'Test Cases Defined' section with a 'Test Cases Ready' status. A 'Test Data Defined' section shows 'Test Data Ready' status. A 'Create a task...' button is at the bottom.

Development: This column shows a 'Deployment Operation' section with an 'AUTOMATIC' button. It includes a 'Deploy Web Platform to Dev' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Deploy ATM Platform to Dev' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Deploy Mobile Platform to Dev' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Deploy Virtual Service' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Load Test Data' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Run Automated Sanity Testing Scripts' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, and a 'Check Sanity Test Case Status' section with a 'Sanity Tests Completed' status.

Testing: This column shows a 'Deployment Operation' section with a 'MANUAL' button. It includes a 'Deploy Web Platform to TST-1' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Deploy ATM Platform to TST' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Deploy Web Platform to TST-2' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Deploy Mobile Platform to TST-1' section with a 'Post-Deployment Succeeded' status, a 'Deploy Mobile Platform to TST-2' section with a 'STOPPED' status, a 'Deploy Virtual Service' section with a 'Deployment Running' status, a 'Load Test Data' section with a 'Deployment Running' status, and a 'Run Automated Functional Testing Scripts' section with a 'Deployment Running' status.

On the left side of the dashboard, there is a sidebar with a list of applications and their versions: Online Banking Platform(3) 1.5.31, Platform Services(0) 1.3.5, ATM Banking Platform(0) 1.9.17, and Mobile Banking Platform(5) 1.8.25. Below this, there is a section for 'Content for user stories scheduled for this release (Agile Central)' with two items: US236 ApplePay Support and US237 2-Step Auth Support. Below that, there is a section for 'Content for defects scheduled for this release (Agile Central)' with three items: DE36 Not passing auth token, DE33 Fix login auth failure using FB, and DE34 Fix login auth failure using TWTR.


Easily associate and import content from CA Agile Central to your release

UPDATE CONTENT SOURCE


Name the content source


user stories scheduled for this release (Agile Central)


Content Source Types

Select Content Source type	Select Endpoint
Add Content	 Agile Central

Project Name

Mobile Platform 

Release Name 

Iteration Name 

Type

User Story

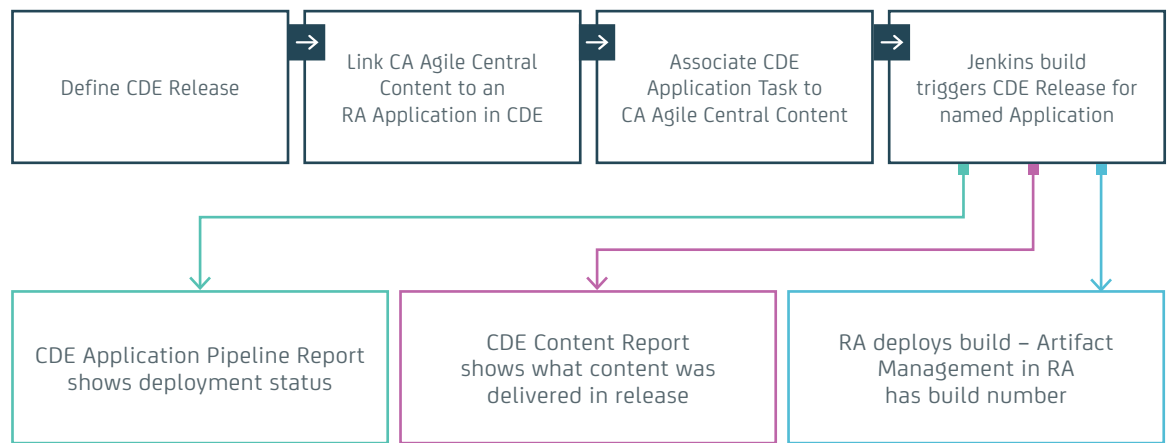
CancelUpdate

Section 2:

End-to-End Traceability of Content Through Release Pipeline

With CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition's end-to-end integration and orchestration of an organization's preferred continuous delivery toolchain, including ALM solutions like CA Agile Central, DevOps teams have a shared, detailed and reliable understanding of the flow of key content through the release cycle. With greater visibility into when critical functionality to improve the customer experience and meet business requirements will be in market, companies can be more nimble competitors. And since release teams can more easily troubleshoot issues with the right stakeholder, it drives continuous improvement.

Deconstructing the flow of content through a release cycle that enables end-to-end traceability



In this flow, “CDE” refers to CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition. “RA” references CA Release Automation.

From the shared dashboard in CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition, users can track content imported from CA Agile Central in two ways. The Content Report looks at a release and the multiple applications associated with it. Users can dig into each application to understand what combination of user stories, defects, tasks or features are being delivered, and where they are in the pipeline. The Application Pipeline Report starts with a holistic view of all versions of a single app, then details the releases that they were associated with and their status in the continuous delivery pipeline.

In addition, dev and release teams can associate content with relevant tasks within phases in CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition. This makes it possible to track the status and progress of user stories and defects within a release, phase and environment down to the level of the specific deployment tasks being executed by the automation engine of CA Release Automation.

Detailed view of Content Report showing what content was delivered in a release

CONTENT REPORT (1)

+ Add content Discard report Search

US237 - Mobile Banking Platform
2-Step Auth Support

Date	Oct 21, 2016	Oct 24, 2016	Oct 24, 2016	Oct 26, 2016	Nov 2, 2016
Environment	Dev	TST-2	TST-1	Stage	Production
Release	Banking - Project Apex - CD Rele...	Banking - Project Apex - CD Rele...	Banking - Project Apex - CD Rele...	Banking - Project Apex - CD Rele...	Banking - Project Apex - CD Rele...
Phase	Development	Testing	Testing	Staging (UAT)	Production
External Status	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
Status	Deployed	Deployed	Deployed	Scheduled	Scheduled

Detailed view of Application Pipeline Report showing if application version has been deployed

APPLICATION PIPELINE REPORT

Add Applications Add selected

Mobile Banking Platform (Release Automation)

Date	Jul 14, 2016	Jul 14, 2016	Oct 21, 2016	Oct 24, 2016	Oct 24, 2016
Environment	Stage	Production	Dev	TST-1	TST-2
Phase	Staging (UAT)	Production	Development	Testing	Testing
Release	Banking - Project Apex - ...	Banking - Project Apex - ...	Banking - Project Apex - ...	Banking - Project Apex - ...	Banking - Project Apex - ...
Version	1.8.24	1.8.24	1.8.25	1.8.25	1.8.25
Status	Deployed	Deployed	Deployed	Deployed	Deployed

Content mapped to a deployment task within CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition

EDIT TASK

Task Name
Deploy Mobile Platform to Dev

Description
0/250

Owners
Deployment Operations X

Add Owners

Started At: Oct 31, 2016 3:15:05 PM Duration: a minute

Task Type
Run Deployment

Endpoint
Release Automation

Application
Mobile Banking Platform

Project
Mobile Platform

Deployment Plan
Mobile Deployment Build 1.8, MobilePlatformBuildNum

Build
1.8, MobilePlatformBuildNum

Environment
Dev

CONTENT

- ☐ Platform Services (1.3.5)
- ☒ Mobile Banking Platform (1.8.25)
- ☐ Online Banking Platform (1.5.31)
- ☐ ATM Banking Platform (1.9.17)

Cancel Save

Section 3:

Synchronize Real-Time Reporting on Status of Content to Development Teams

Eliminate time-consuming manual updates in your ALM system and aid the dev team in using CA Agile Central as the single source of truth by leveraging the integration to automatically synchronize real-time content status updates between the two tools.

To do so, release teams simply include an Update Agile Central task within a phase in CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition. For example, in the development phase, they can add a task that changes the status of a task in CA Agile Central from defined to working on it; or later on in the production phase to show as completed. A release will typically include more than one Update Agile Central task across its phases. As each task is completed, it triggers a real-time update of the CA Agile Central records and is synched on the release page in CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition.

Simple setup to trigger CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition to update the status of task in CA Agile Central

EDIT TASK

Task Name
Update Authentication

Description
Update Authentication Definition Screen 39/250

Owners
Release (reimgr@forwardinc.com) X
Add Owners

Started At: **Duration:**

Task Type **Endpoint**
Rally Update Agile Central

Project Name
Mobile Banking

Type

Task

Rally Item Id
TA29

New Item Status
Completed

CONTENT

- ☐ Online Banking Platform (1.5.31)
- ☐ Platform Services (1.3.5)
- ☒ Mobile Banking Platform (1.8.25)

If you don't see your application here check the following:

- You didn't map a corresponding environment to the phase

Cancel Save

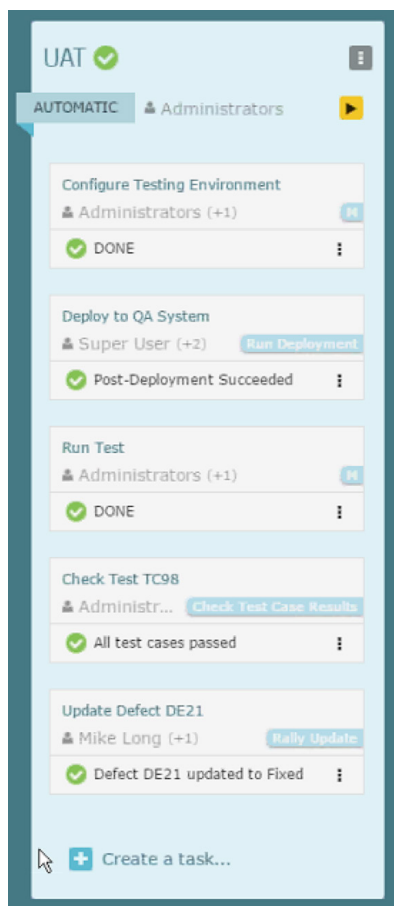
Section 4:

Improve Quality of Code Being Promoted All the Way to Production

Development, operations, and release teams can ensure even higher-quality code reaches the market faster, by leveraging the integration to automate the promotion of code fulfilling testing criteria across the release cycle.

CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition can check the test case results for a user story or defect in CA Agile Central. If it meets established criteria, then the successful build can be promoted to the next phase, automatically or manually. This check can be repeated in each environment all the way to production, and code that fails at any point is not promoted. Release and development teams now have a shared view of the specific content that failed and where it failed so they can quickly collaborate on a new build that succeeds all the way through the pipeline.

Test case results task triggers CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition to retrieve results from CA Agile Central



Easily specify the test case type that you wish to verify for a user story or defect in CA Agile Central

EDIT TASK

Task Name
Update Defect DE21

Description
Update Defect Status 20/250

Owners
Release (reimgr@forwardinc.com) X
Add Owners

Started At: **Duration:**

Task Type **Endpoint**
Rally Update Agile Central

Project Name
Mobile Banking

Type
Defect

Rally Item Id
DE21

New Item Status
Fixed

CONTENT

- ☐ Online Banking Platform (1.5.31)
- ☐ Platform Services (1.3.5)
- ☒ Mobile Banking Platform (1.8.25)

If you don't see your application here check the following:

- You didn't map a corresponding environment to the phase

Cancel Save

Section 5:

Extend Business Visibility Into Agile Delivery of Critical Functionality

With the integration of CA Release Automation Continuous Delivery Edition with CA Agile Central, DevOps teams can easily answer the question: “What proportion of critical functionality was actually included in this release?” as well as “When will it be delivered?” This powers the business with the information needed to measure the impact of new features and functionality on customer satisfaction, application usability and revenue. And in turn, CA Agile Central continues to be the repository to capture customer and market feedback to allow for quick iterations in response to the marketplace. In this way, the integration helps companies build a highly efficient pipeline that can embrace experimentation and deliver competitive advantage.

About CA Continuous Delivery Solutions

CA Release Automation

CA Release Automation is a proven, end-to-end application release management solution for executing a successful DevOps continuous delivery strategy. With this powerful platform, you can automate and standardize application releases from development to production—accelerating and stabilizing deployments. Our advanced capabilities can help you plan, manage and optimize the continuous delivery pipeline to improve release throughput, quality and efficiency. This enterprise-ready solution easily integrates with your continuous delivery toolchain and agilely scales as the volume, velocity and complexity of applications grow.

CA Agile Central

With CA Agile Central, you can build the best software and systems at enterprise scale. Prioritize, plan, track and improve development work so you can build and deliver software with speed, quality and efficiency. Use our enterprise-class SaaS platform to see progress, roadblocks and dependencies across multiple teams, projects and programs. Collaborate for better business results—and do it all in a single system of record.



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