Guide

What Changes (and Doesn't) When You Connect (your CI tool) to CloudBees Unify

The tool sprawl problem you've lived with

Most organizations end up with tool sprawl gradually, as teams pick whatever helps them ship under pressure. You have brilliant teams that succeed with their preferred tools: GitHub Actions, Jenkins®, GitLab, Bitbucket, CloudBees CI. They are productive, but their autonomy has become your complexity.

Developers and coding agents are pushing more changes through those tools than ever. According to our State of Code Abundance report, 57% of leaders reported that the biggest bottleneck in software delivery now sits after code is written, in reviewing, testing, and deploying, the work that decides what's safe to ship.

That’s in part because each tool keeps its own dashboards, permissions, and audit trail, so nobody can see everything that's heading to production in one place. Multiple CIs, SCMs, and dashboards mean:

- **Leaders can't see.**
  You cannot answer, "What is our security coverage right now?" without five separate meetings.
- **Audits are stress tests.**
  Every audit turns into a scavenger hunt for evidence. That hunt gets harder now that auditors also want to know whether a person or an agent made each change.
- **Engineers get pulled.**
  Your top talent spends precious time building internal dashboards and chasing evidence instead of innovating.

Many organizations try to fix sprawl by consolidating, but ripping out tools that work while teams keep shipping is rarely realistic, and it often backfires. Our 2025 DevOps Migration Index report found that 68% of IT leaders said tool consolidation reduced productivity, and 74% ended up with more tool sprawl after migrating.

So what should teams do instead? According to the Migration Index, keeping what works pays off: 92% of organizations achieve greater delivery efficiency by connecting their existing tools rather than replacing them. The key is to connect your teams’ repos and workflows in one place and unify runs, tests, artifacts, and security without rewriting a single workflow.



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CloudBees Unify connects to the CI/CD tools your teams already run and adds a single view and set of policies across all of them: one source of truth for every change, whoever or whatever wrote it. It makes each change, human or AI, visible, auditable, and accountable before it reaches production.

What doesn't change when you connect to Unify

Your teams keep working exactly the way they do today, with the same tools, workflows, and logs.

Your developer flow stays the same.

Teams keep using GitHub Actions, CloudBees CI, Jenkins, GitLab, Bitbucket, and more, exactly as they do now. They push code, and the workflows run, while Unify adds visibility and governance on top.

Deep logs stay in your CI/CD tools.

Unify links straight back to the native job logs and explorers in your CI/CD tools, so gigabytes of raw data stay where they already are.

Your historical metrics stay where they are.

Unify starts collecting unified data the moment you connect, so there's no historical data to migrate before you see results. Past metrics remain available in the tools that recorded them, and cross-tool trends in Unify build from your first day forward.

The status quo vs. CloudBees Unify

Unify sits atop the CI/CD tools you already run and delivers outcomes you couldn't get from any one of them alone.

	CI/CD tools today (open-source Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Bitbucket, GitLab, and more)	With CloudBees Unify
The leader's view	Fragmented, relying on spreadsheets and Slack threads	One consolidated view across tools (for example, GitHub Actions and Jenkins), with organization-wide DORA, flow, test, and security metrics
Governance	Ad hoc approvals, branch protection, and fragmented audit trails	Central policies (approvals, risk gates, evidence) and durable audit trails across tools

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Audit Prep	A scavenger hunt measured in days and weeks of effort	Evidence attached to runs, so prep is measured in hours
Artifact traceability	Disconnected, with manual linking via pipeline logs	Full artifact lineage from commit to deployment, ready for governed release

What changes: The 90-day path to governance and confidence

Connecting CloudBees Unify entails a rapid, phased rollout with clear business outcomes at every stage. Within the first 90 days, teams move from a stalling, fragmented environment to predictable, governed delivery across every tool.

Day 1: The first step

Focus and action:	Quick Start on your flagship component (install the GitHub App or connect one Jenkins controller).
Critical signals (the data):	Time to visibility under 30 minutes for one component.
Leadership impact (the outcome):	Immediate clarity. Single-pane triage replaces tab-hopping, and the dashboard becomes the single source for run status and early risk signals. Conversations shift from "Who has the tab open?" to "Here's what failed and why."

Week 1: A shared language

Focus and action:	Repeat Quick Start and add lightweight emitters on your 5–10 most critical repos.
Critical signals (the data):	Unified runs, tests, and security results across top services. Unify highlights your noisiest tests and top failing suites so teams can target the worst flakiness first.

Day 30: From status to steering

Leadership impact (the outcome):	Unified triage. Daily standups run on shared, objective data instead of spreadsheets. Hybrid environments are treated as a single environment, so you can see where your CI is failing and why.
Focus and action:	Roll out security results (SARIF) and artifact registration across critical workflows organization-wide.
Critical signals (the data):	> Over 90% of critical components publishing security results. > Over 80% of critical workflows registering artifacts. > Audit evidence attached to over 80% of critical runs.

Day 90: The flywheel effect

Leadership impact (the outcome):	Lower-risk compliance. Audit prep drops from days to hours because evidence is attached to the runs. Leaders stop asking for status updates and start following live, aggregated DORA and flow metrics.
Focus and action:	Route releases through Unify with policy-aware, governed release orchestration.
Critical signals (the data):	> Faster MTTR for CI failures. > Policy-aware, repeatable releases routed through Unify.
Leadership impact (the outcome):	Predictable scale. Your platform team moves from firefighting to running playbooks. Context-switching drops, velocity rises, and governance and audits become routine.

Sprawl won't disappear overnight, but you can start bringing it under control today.

Connect one repo, and within 30 minutes, you'll see your hybrid CI runs, tests, and security findings in one place. Instead of checking five tools to find out what failed, your team can triage using a single shared view of builds, tests, artifacts, and risk.

As you scale to your top services, that shared view becomes the default. Standups run on the same data, audit prep shrinks from days to hours, and leaders can check live metrics instead of asking for status updates.

CloudBees Unify lets you govern what matters across the tools you already run, with every change visible before it reaches production.

Ready to govern the tools your teams already use? Book a demo.

Get started with your DevOps transformation today. Book a demo today at cloudbees.com/contact-us

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