



cd|CON

May 18–20, 2026 | Minneapolis, Minnesota

GitOps Gone Wild: Hardening Delivery Pipelines for the AI era

Julien Semaan, Kubex
Corey Mcgalliard, Akamai Cloud



May 18–20, 2026 | Minneapolis, Minnesota

AI Agents B0rking things

Mashable

Follow

An AI agent allegedly deleted a startup's production database, causing a huge outage

Alex Perry

Updated Mon, April 27, 2026 at 2:58 PM EDT

Entertainment > Streaming

AWS suffered 'at least two outages' caused by AI tools, and now I'm convinced we're living inside a 'Silicon Valley' episode

Opinion By Jason England published February 20, 2026

Amazon just speed-ran a season of 'Silicon Valley'

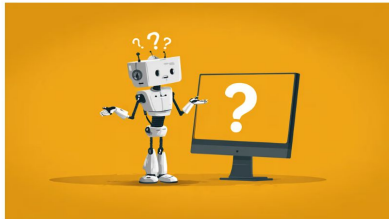


BO / Getty Images

Intent-based chaos testing is designed for when AI behaves confidently – and wrongly

Sayani Patel

9:00 am, PT, May 9, 2026



Clipart made with Midjourney

🔗 📄 📧 📱

Resilience in the age of AI is like an ... Onion



Avoid AI putting a decimal point in the wrong place





PLATFORM OVERVIEW

From application definition to continuously reconciled platform in your Kubernetes cluster



SCORE

Define the pieces of your applications



CROSSPLANE

Define the infrastructure



KRO

Puts apps and infra together



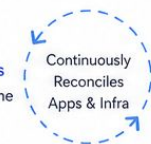
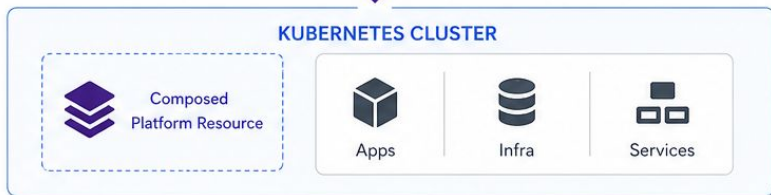
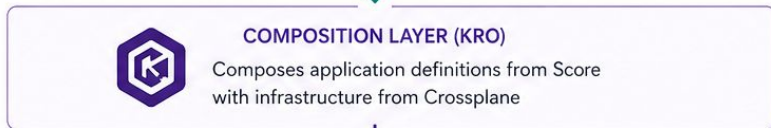
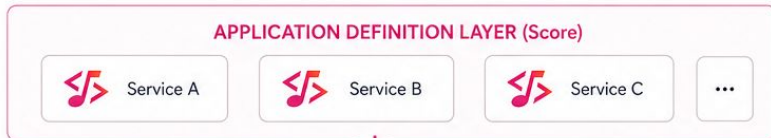
ARGOCD

Deploys and reconciles state from git



KUBERNETES

Continuously reconciles apps and infrastructure control plane



Kubernetes is the foundation control plane that continuously reconciles the desired state of both applications and infrastructure, ensuring self-healing, scalability, and reliability.

Application Development and Integration Layer

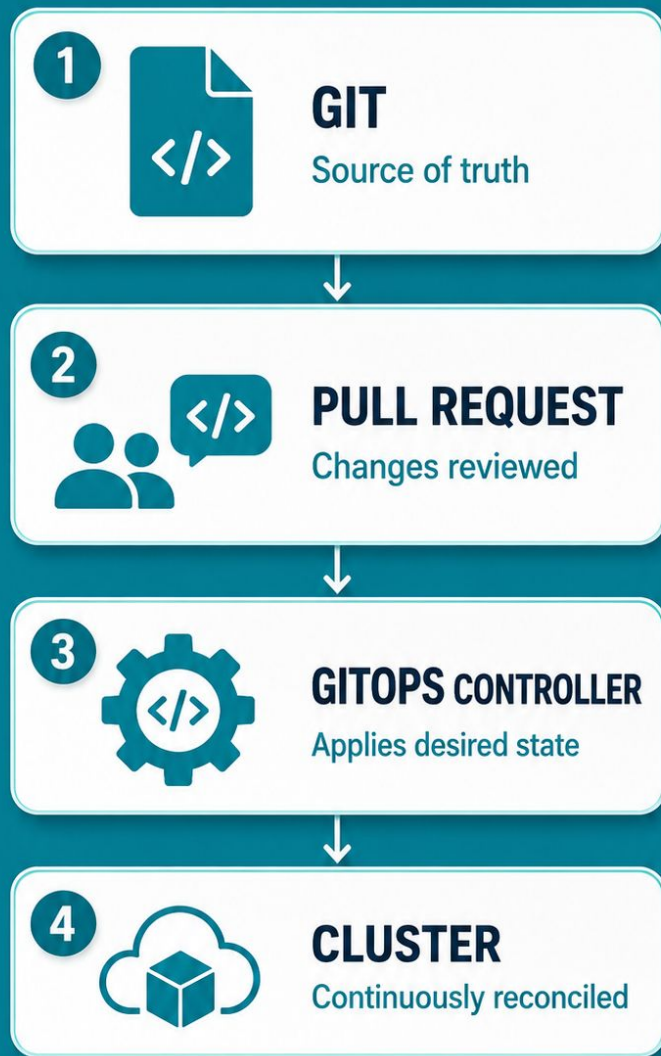


Gitops, what's that?

- Manage applications and infrastructure manifests (YAML) in git
- Gets applied automatically on the system when merging pull-requests
- Inherits ways of working with code for managing operations

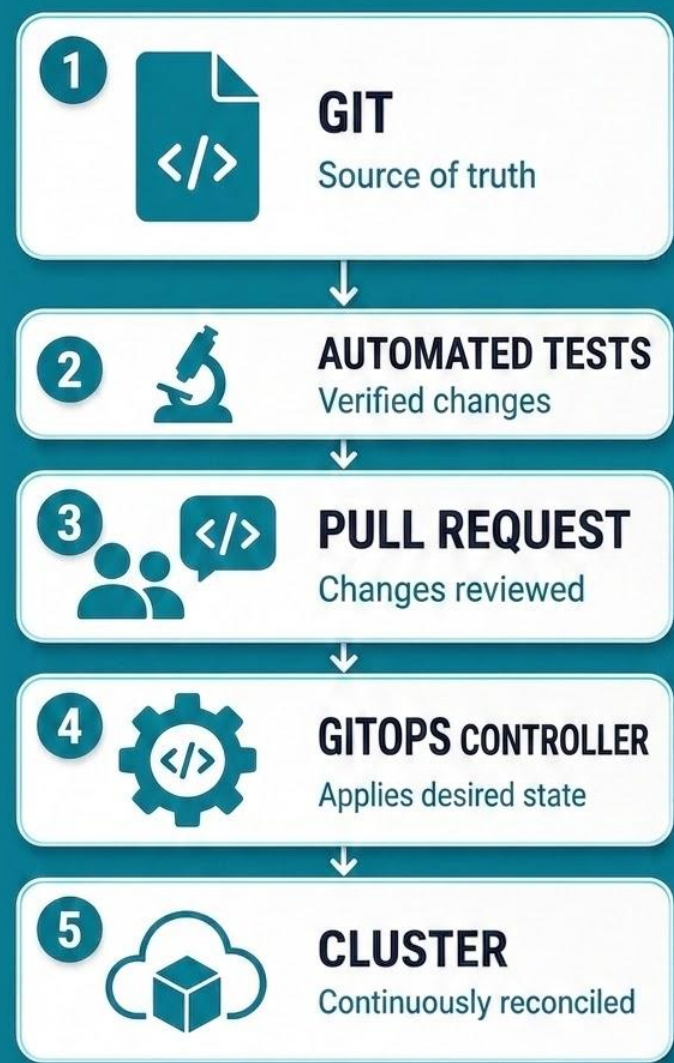
But it's not all good....

- Easy to spread mistakes at scale
- Failures are more often "the wrong thing happened everywhere" instead of "nothing happened"
- Control loops make it difficult to make out-of-band adjustments



Test Driven Software Process

- **Test-Driven Development (TDD):** provides a structured framework that acts as a quality control layer for AI-driven development
- **End to End Tests:** Provides the ability to validate changes meet the requirements of the organization and validate the scope of the change.
- **Canary and Non-Production Environments:** Provides production like resources to validate changes before prompting them into production.

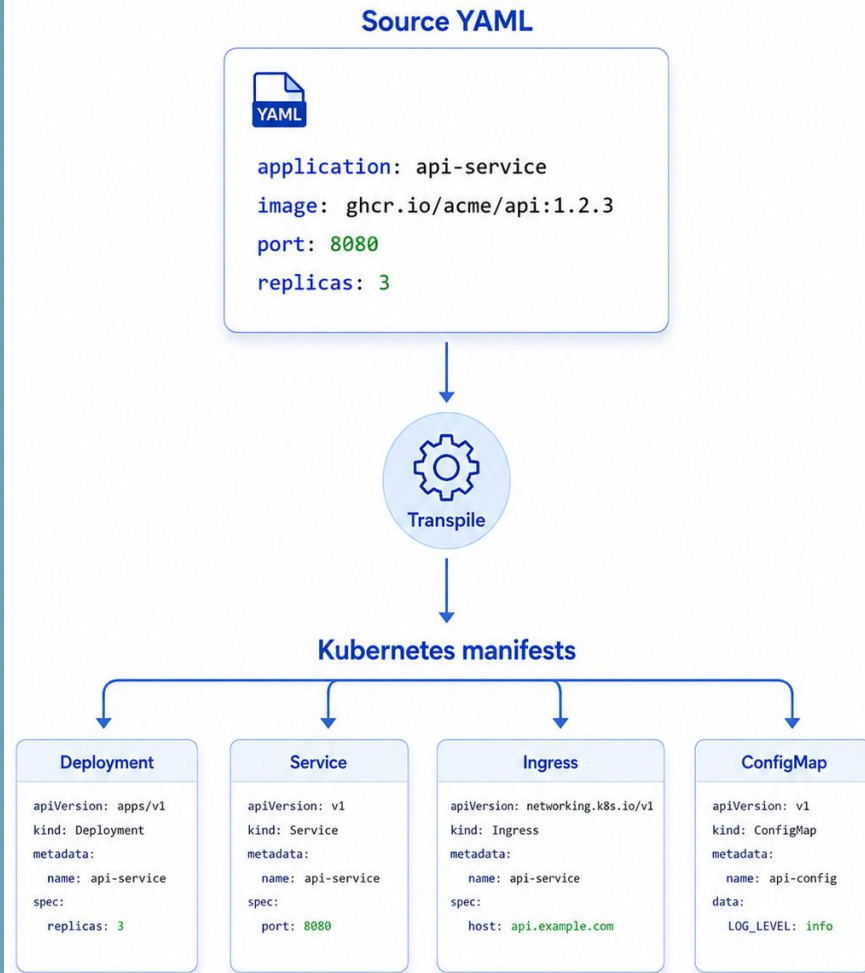


Deployment Layer



How yaml-to-yaml can help?

- Simplifies surface area to review for both humans and AI agents.
- Delegate complexity to the transpiler
 - It is its own product (in-house or 3rd party)
 - Quality controlled
 - Deterministic
- Reviews can focus on the intent of the change instead of all the underlying overly detailed YAML
- Prevents AI agents (and humans) from "improvising" too much in the manifests.
 - When it's not part of the simplified spec, consider it as a new feature for the transpiler



Platform & Infrastructure yaml-to-yaml using KRO

- Infrastructure configuration is flexible by design and that's our problem
 - Node type
 - Region
 - Node count
 - Kubernetes version
 - Network configuration
 - Firewall rules
 - Load balancer settings
 - Storage class
 - Disk size and type
 - Availability zone strategy
 - Backup configuration
 - **And the list goes on and on and on**
- Define the internal standards to use and expose a simple interface with just the right knobs to configure for your specific needs

<https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/kro>

```
1  apiVersion: api.platform.example.com/v1
2  kind: PlatformCluster
3  metadata:
4    name: demo-cluster
5    namespace: default
6    labels:
7      environment: dev
8      team: platform-team
9      purpose: development
10 spec:
11   protected: true
12   clusterSpec:
13     clusterName: demo-cluster
14     region: us-east
15     kubernetesVersion: "1.35"
16     nodePool:
17       count: 3
18       type: g6-standard-4
19     labels:
20       environment: dev
21       team: platform-team
22   components:
23     gatewayFabric:
24       enabled: true
25     userApps:
26       enabled:
27         - demo-app
```

App yaml-to-yaml using Score

- Lightens up the declaration of apps and their dependencies
- Services are glued together via the transpiler and rendering layer.
- Complexity lives in Score, it knows how to stitch components together, users only expresses a simple intent

<https://score.dev/>

```
1  apiVersion: score.dev/v1b1
2  metadata:
3    name: hello-world
4    annotations:
5      tags: "nodejs,http,website,javascript,postgres"
6  containers:
7    hello-world:
8      image: scorespec/sample-score-app:latest
9      variables:
10       PORT: "3000"
11       MESSAGE: "Hello, World!"
12       DB_DATABASE: ${resources.db.name}
13       DB_USER: ${resources.db.username}
14       DB_PASSWORD: ${resources.db.password}
15       DB_HOST: ${resources.db.host}
16       DB_PORT: ${resources.db.port}
17  resources:
18    db:
19      type: postgres
20    dns:
21      type: dns
22    route:
23      type: route
24      params:
25        host: demo.oss.baby
26        path: /
27        port: 8080
28  service:
29    ports:
30      www:
31        port: 8080
32        targetPort: 3000
```

Kubernetes

- **RBAC:** Role Based Access Control allows us to enforce that users, and agents have appropriately scoped access to resources.
- **Rollout Strategies:** these ensure updates to the applications running in the cluster honor policies around updating their configuration and software
- **Pod Disruption Budgets:** Enforce that software is running and pass health checks before adjusting scheduling and de-scheduling of resources.
- **Resource Finalizers:** Enable us to ensure that appropriate steps are taken before deleting resources in our cluster
- **(Kyverno) Policies:** Guarantees that changes meet the requirements of the system before passed to internal system controllers.



Infrastructure Layer



Cloud Provider Resource Protection



GOOGLE CLOUD
deletionProtection



AWS
Deletion Protection



AZURE
CanNotDelete



AKAMAI CLOUD
Resource Protection

OSS-ers Assemble



Platform level protection

- **PlatformCluster** spec contains a `protected` flag
- When enabled:
 - Prevents Infrastructure Resource Deletion
 - Prevents modifying the region
 - Configures Cloud Provider Deletion Protection
 - Pauses Crossplane on critical resources
 - Prevents Removing an application
 - Custom Finalizers on all KRO resources
 - Enforces Kyverno Policies to stop mutations/deletions of critical objects

```
1  apiVersion: api.platform.example.com/v1
2  kind: PlatformCluster
3  metadata:
4    name: demo-cluster
5    namespace: default
6    labels:
7      environment: dev
8      team: platform-team
9      purpose: development
10
11  protected: true
12
13  clusterSpec:
14    clusterName: demo-cluster
15    region: us-east
16    kubernetesVersion: "1.35"
17    nodePool:
18      count: 3
19      type: g6-standard-4
20    labels:
21      environment: dev
22      team: platform-team
23  components:
24    gatewayFabric:
25      enabled: true
26    userApps:
27      enabled:
28        - demo-app
```

Join Us for Our Next Talk!

 Next Day 




From Apps To Infrastructure: A Cloud Native First Approach

- Julien Semaan, Kubex & Corey McGalliard, Akamai

 **Thursday May 21, 2026**
11:55am – 12:35pm CDT

 **200F (Level Two)**

 Hope to see you there!

