
Automation Of Security Groups Using Terraform

AGENDA

I. Morningstar's Cloud Environment

II. Transit Gateway & Outposts

III. Why We Need To Automate Security Groups

IV. Technical Automation Solution

About Me

About Me

- ▶ Nick Bausch
- ▶ Sr Systems Engineer for Cloud Services Team
- ▶ Joined Morningstar in 2015

About Me - Career

- I. Website Hosting
- II. Financial Services
- III. Algorithmic Trading Companies
- IV. Department of Energy Lab
- V. Large Online Retailer
- VI. Morningstar Inc

About Me - Focus

- I. Unix/Linux Admin
- II. Configuration Manage With Chef & Puppet
- III. Process Automation

Morningstar's Cloud Environment

Morningstar's Cloud Environment

- ▶ In The Process From On Premises To AWS
- ▶ Started Journey in 2017
- ▶ 3 of 8 Datacenters Migrated

Morningstar's Cloud Environment

- ▶ Very Aggressive Migration Timeline
- ▶ We Are Using AWS Outposts
- ▶ We Will Be Implementing Transit Gateway (TGW)

Morningstar's Cloud Environment

1,600
Developers
&
Technologists

160
Development
Teams

300+
Unique
Applications

Morningstar's Cloud Environment

70 Teams In AWS

140 AWS Accounts

2 Regions Per Account

280 VPCs

3 AZs Per VPC

840 Subnets

What Is Morningstar's Account Strategy?

- ▶ Team Accounts – Team Of Developers Working In AWS Account
 - ▶ Prod – Higher Level Environments (Prod/UAT)
 - ▶ Non-Prod – Lower Level Environments (DEV/QA/STG)
- ▶ Individual Accounts – Sandbox Accounts For Learning & Testing

Team Account Blast Radius

- ▶ Accounts Can't Talk To Other Accounts
- ▶ Prod Is Only Allowed To Talk To Prod Accounts
- ▶ Non-Prod Is Only Allowed To Talk To Non-Prod Accounts

Morningstar's Cloud Environment

- ▶ Standardized Security Groups In All Accounts
- ▶ Teams Can Create Security Groups Without Oversight
- ▶ Standardized Public/Private default NACLs In All Accounts

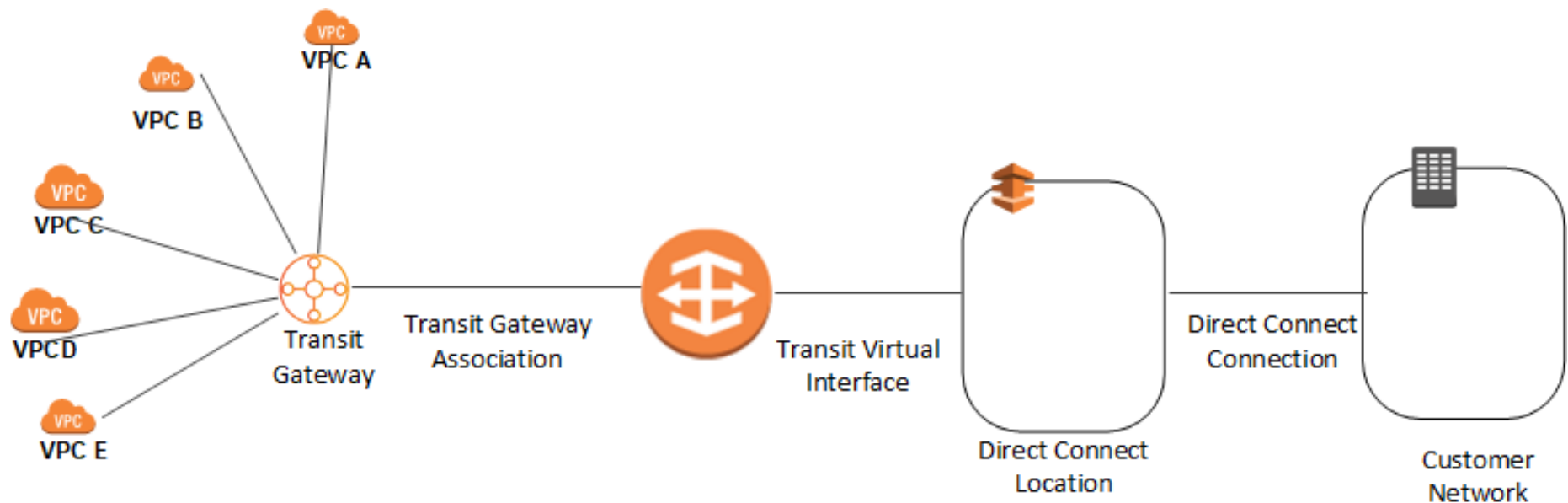
We Use Terraform To Manage Everything

- ▶ Stateful Configuration
- ▶ Scales Well To Manage Our Team Accounts
- ▶ Infrastructure As Code

What Is Transit Gateway?

What Is Transit Gateway?

- ▶ Hub To Connect Team Accounts In Same Region
- ▶ Acts As Router To Pass Traffic Between Accounts



Why Is Transit Gateway Great?

- ▶ 22 Direct Connect Lines
- ▶ From ~~1100~~ -> To 22 Virtual Interfaces (VIFs) To Manage

What Security Concerns Does TGW Present?

- ▶ Any VPC Connected To TGW Can Communicate
- ▶ No Longer Have Blast Radius At Account Level

What Security Concerns Does TGW Present?

- ▶ Security Groups Are Maintained By Development Teams
- ▶ TGW Acts As A Big Router With No Security Considerations
- ▶ Security Groups Are More Critical Now

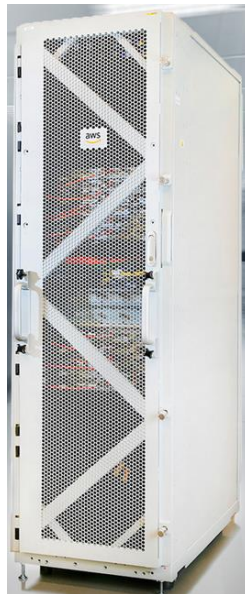
What Security Concerns Does TGW Present?

- ▶ Management Of Security Groups Becomes Very Important
- ▶ Security Groups Need Oversight

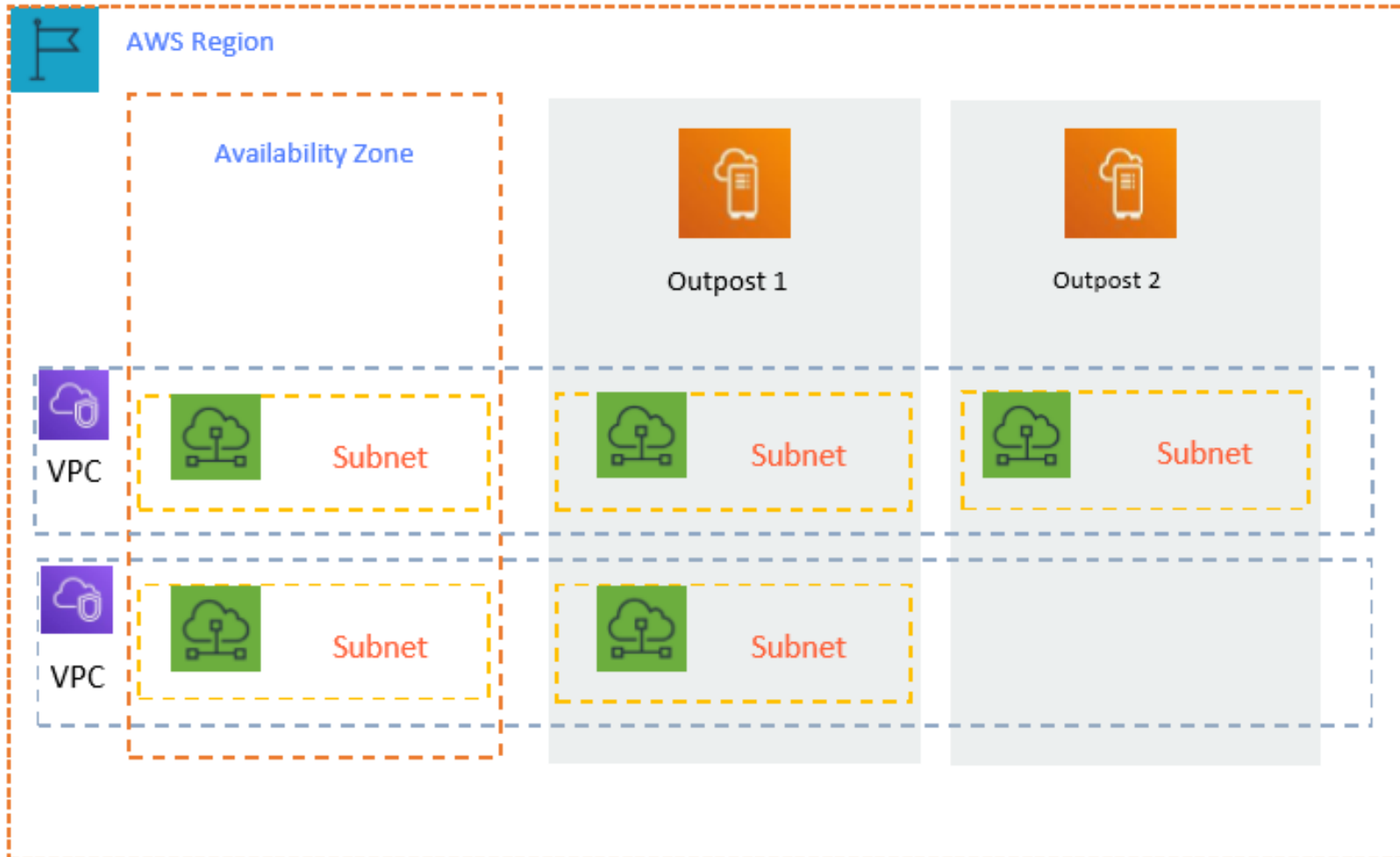
What Is Outposts?

What Is Outposts?

- ▶ Amazon AWS In A Rack
- ▶ Placed In Morningstar's Datacenter
- ▶ Presented To Team Account As Shared Subnets



What Is Outposts?



Before Outposts On Premises

- ▶ Security Access Controls Using Physical Firewalls
- ▶ Networking Teams Needed To Support Firewall Requests
- ▶ Security Teams Needed To Review Firewall Requests

What Security Concerns Does Outposts Present?

- ▶ Teams Can Manage Access Using Security Groups
- ▶ No Oversight From Security Teams
- ▶ Removes Blast Radius For Teams Using Outposts

After Outposts On Premises

- ▶ Security Groups Become Very Important
- ▶ Security Groups Need Oversight

Why We Need To Automate Security Groups

What Is TGW & Outposts Security Solution?

- ▶ Remove Developer Ability to Create Security Groups
- ▶ Oversight When Developers Create Security Groups
- ▶ Automate Everything Possible

Technical Automation Solution

Goals Of Automation Solution

- ▶ Reduce Operational Burden For Security & Networking
- ▶ Static Code Analysis For Security Best Practices
- ▶ Document Service Dependencies For Team Applications

Software Used For Solution

- ▶ Bitbucket
- ▶ tfLint
- ▶ tfSec
- ▶ Terraform
- ▶ Jenkins

Software Used For Solution

- ▶ Bitbucket (GIT) – Source Code Repository

Software Used For Solution

- ▶ tfLint – Terraform Code Best Practices
- ▶ tfSec – Terraform & AWS Security Best Practices

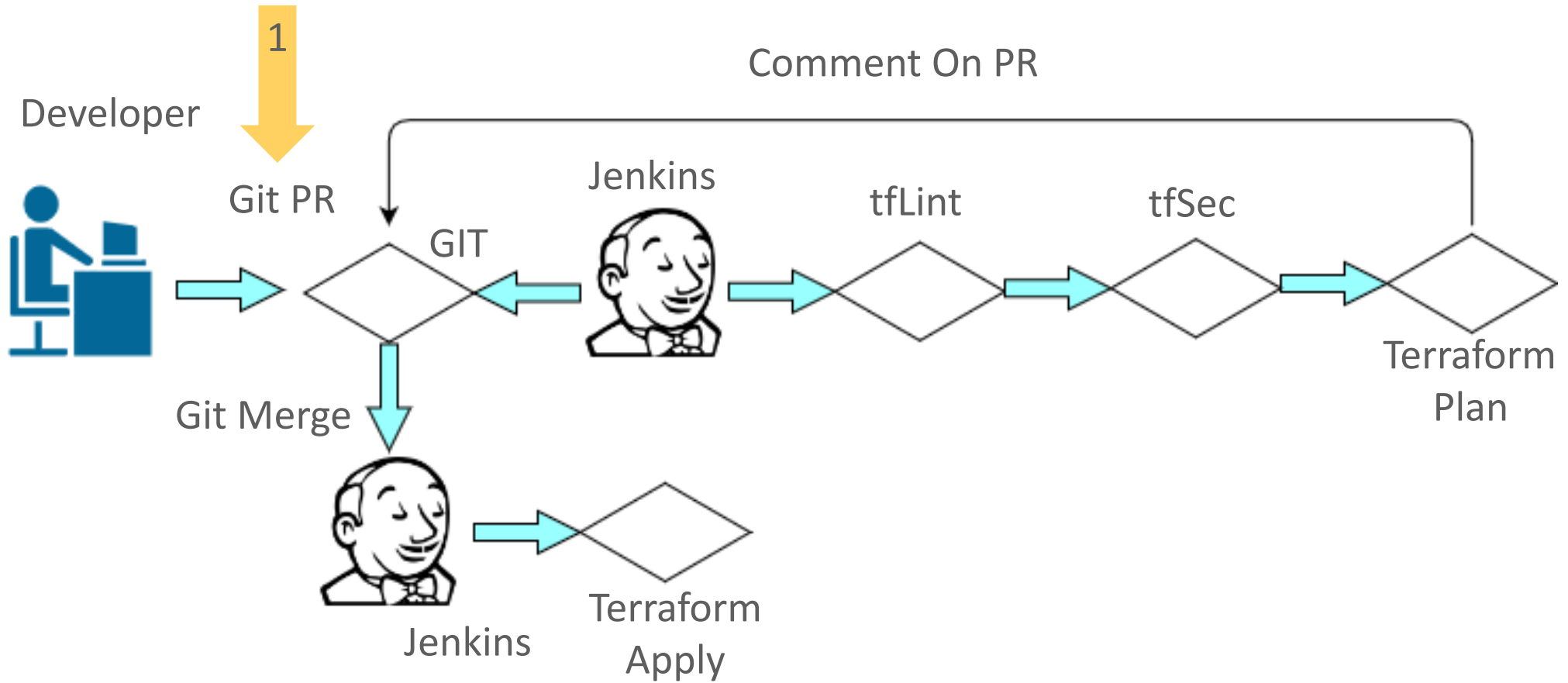
Software Used For Solution

- ▶ Terraform – Infrastructure As Code

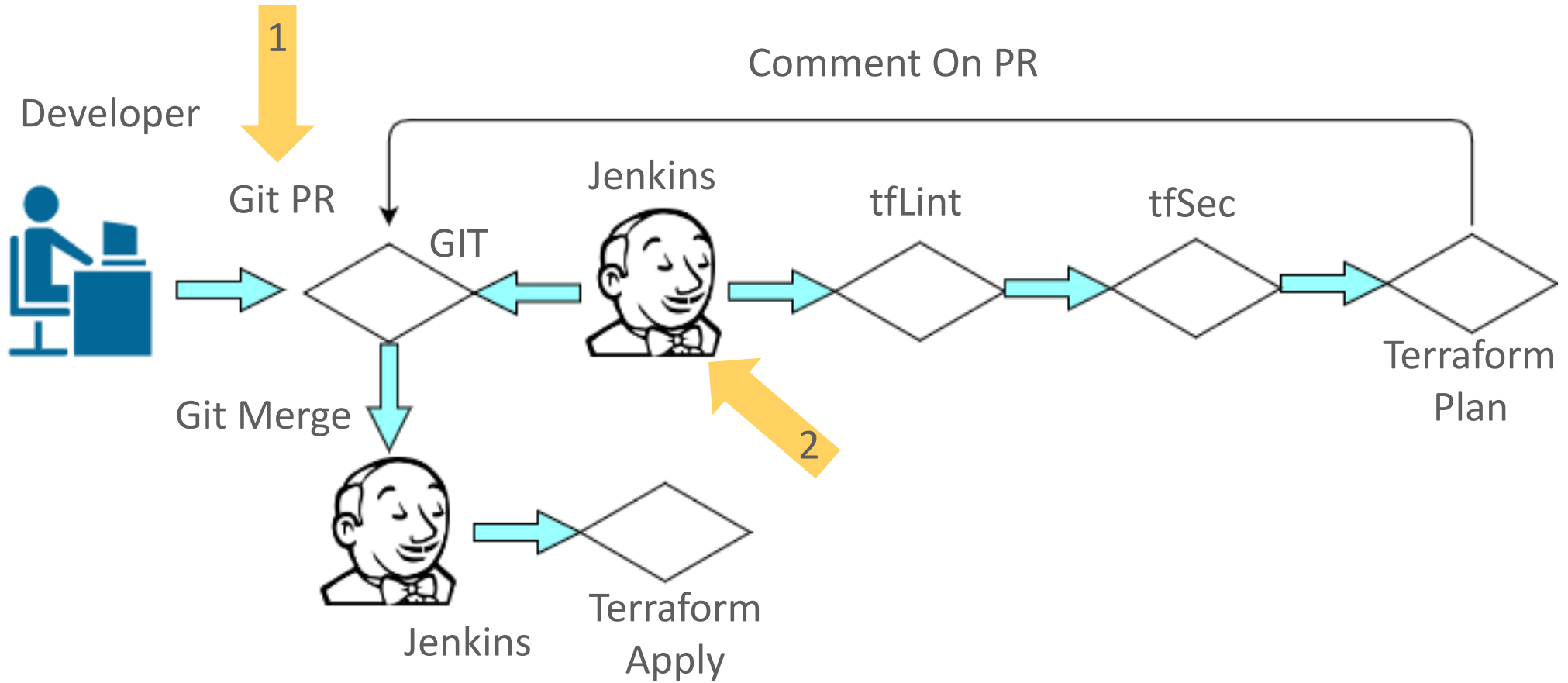
Software Used For Solution

- ▶ Jenkins – Tool To Automate All The Different Pieces

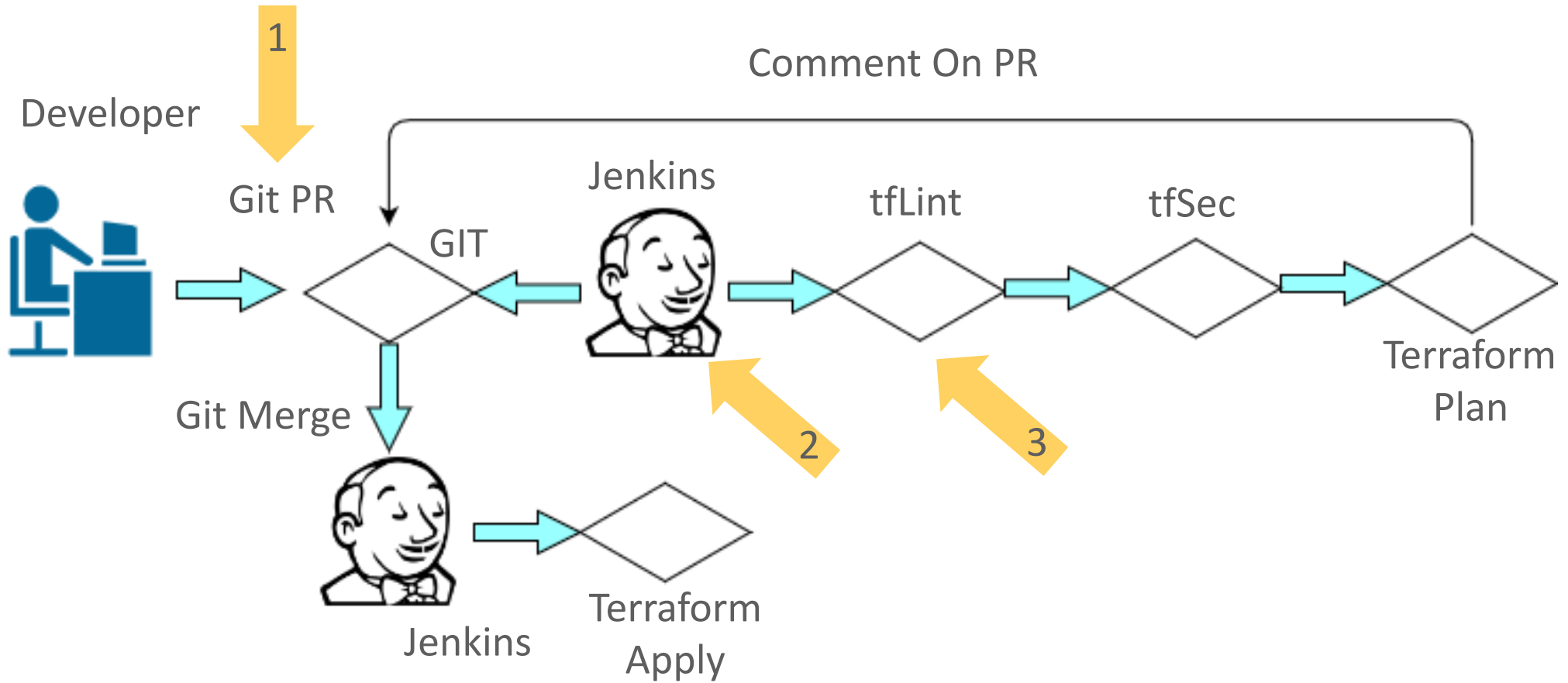
Solution Workflow



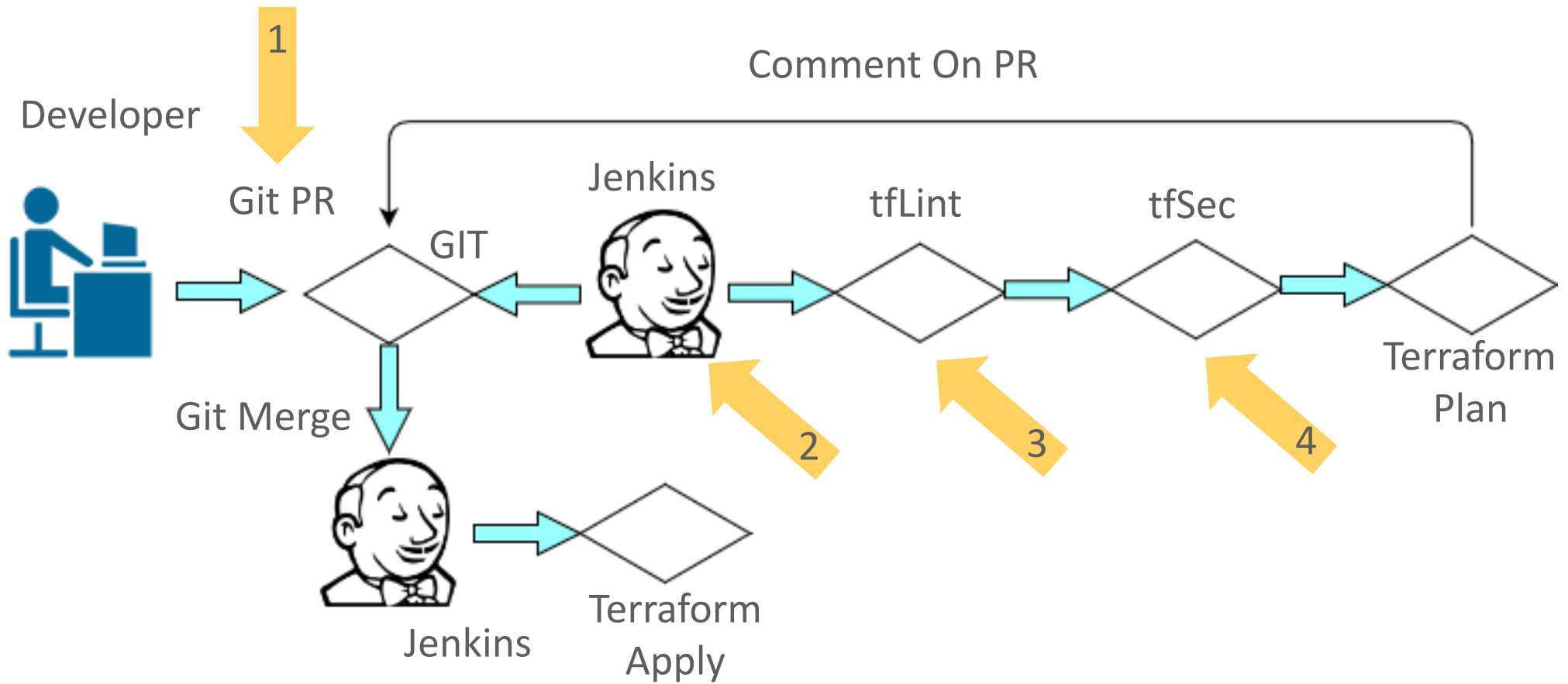
Solution Workflow



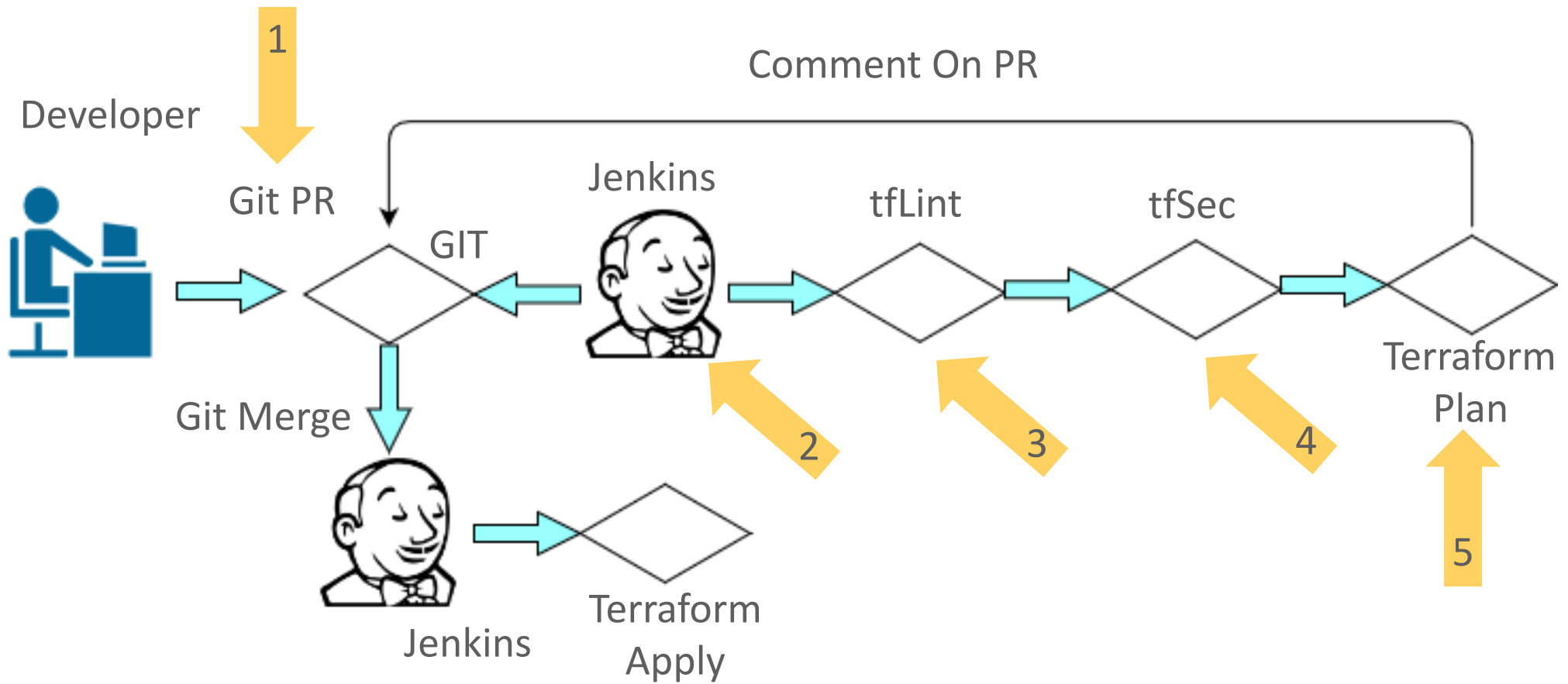
Solution Workflow



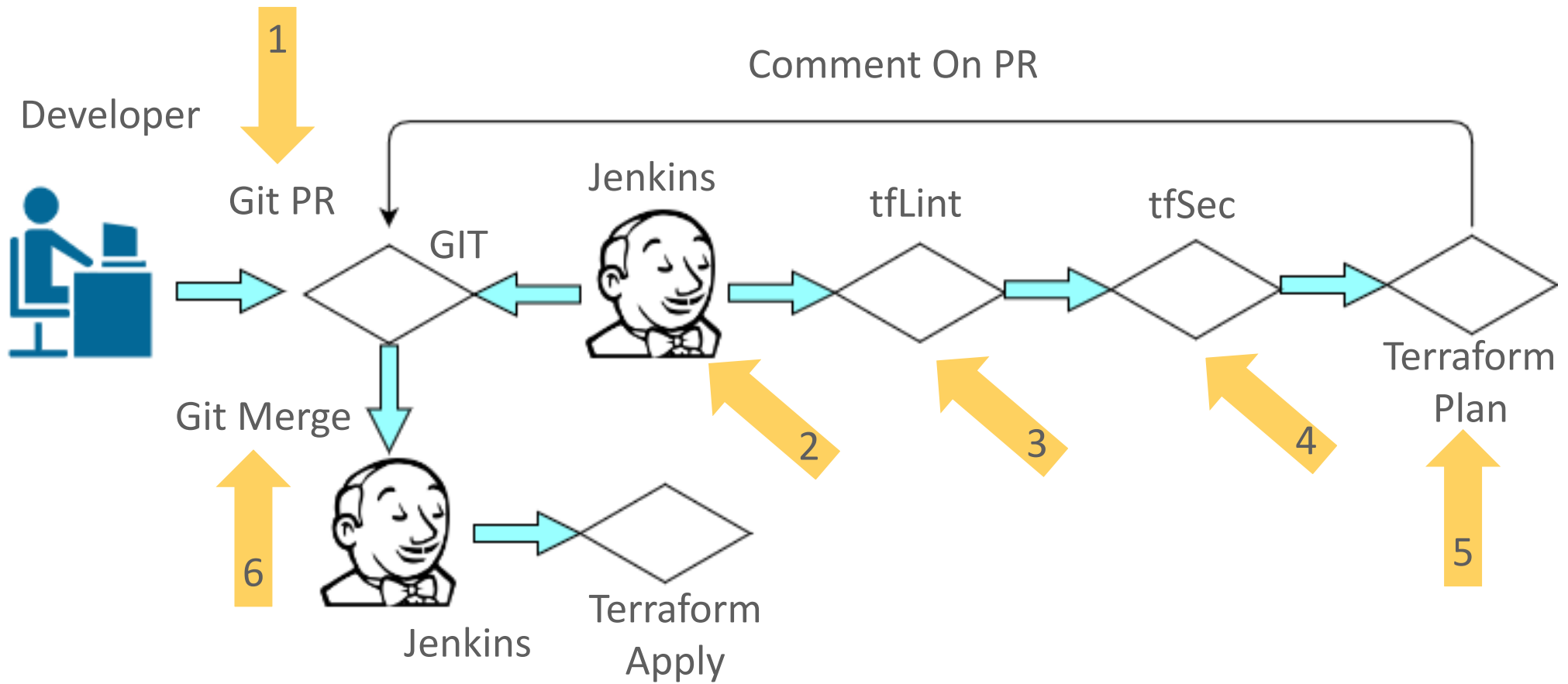
Solution Workflow



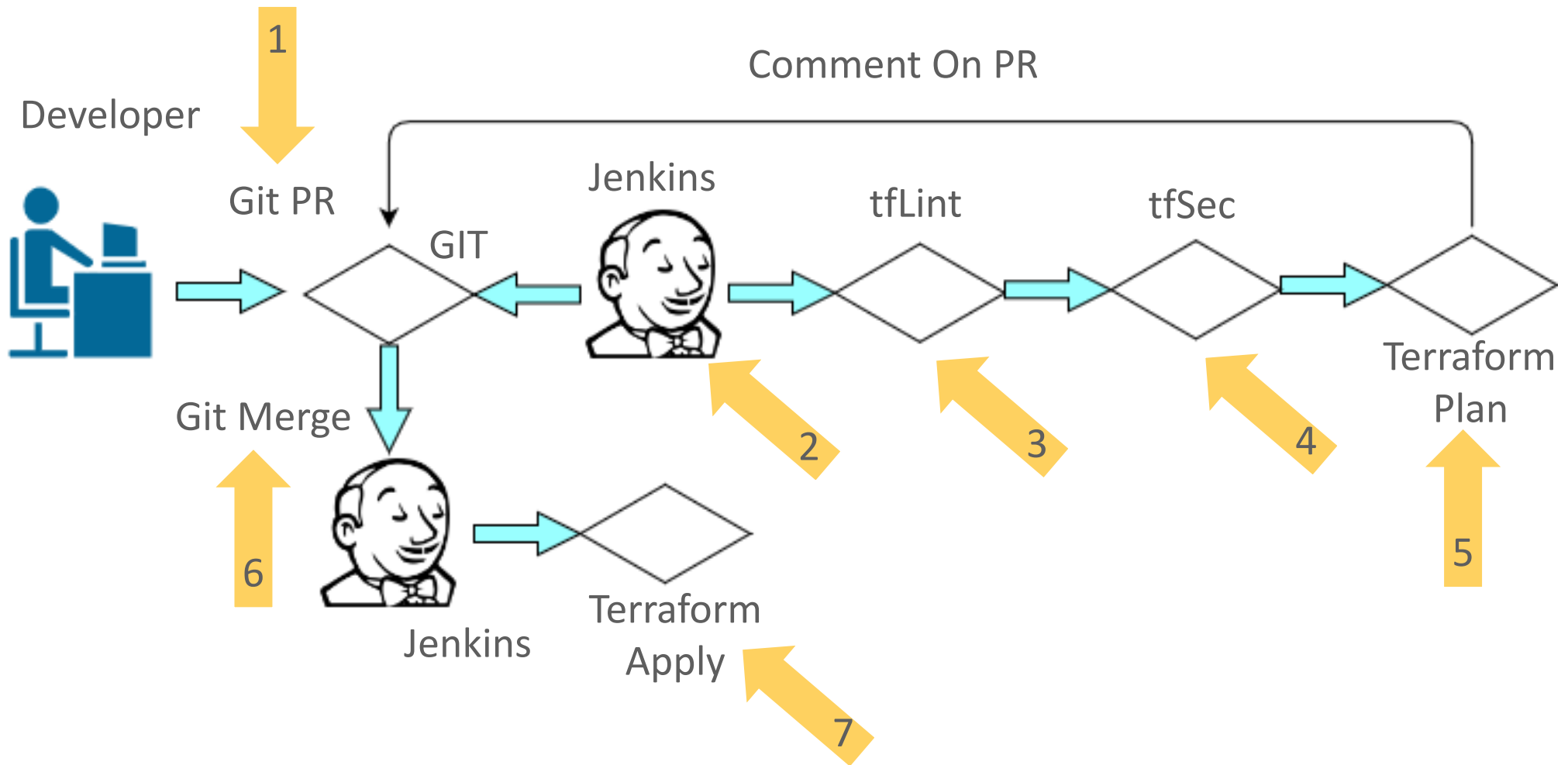
Solution Workflow



Solution Workflow



Solution Workflow



Developer Writes Code

```
resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail" {  
  name      = "sgtest-test-fail"  
  name      = "sgtest-test-fail"  
  description = "Allow TLS inbound traffic"  
  vpc_id    = var.current_vpc  
  
  tags = {  
    Name = "sgtest-test-fail",  
  }  
  
  ingress {  
    # TLS (change to whatever ports you need)  
    from_port = 443  
    to_port   = 443  
    protocol  = "tcp"  
    cidr_blocks = [ "10.10.0.1/24" ]  
  }  
  
  egress {  
    from_port = 0  
    to_port   = 0  
    protocol  = "-1"  
    cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"]  
  }  
}
```

The diagram shows three yellow arrows pointing to specific lines in the code block. Arrow 1 points to the first 'name' assignment. Arrow 2 points to the 'cidr_blocks' list in the 'egress' block. Arrow 3 points to the 'cidr_blocks' list in the 'ingress' block.

Developer Submits Pull Request

Diff Commits

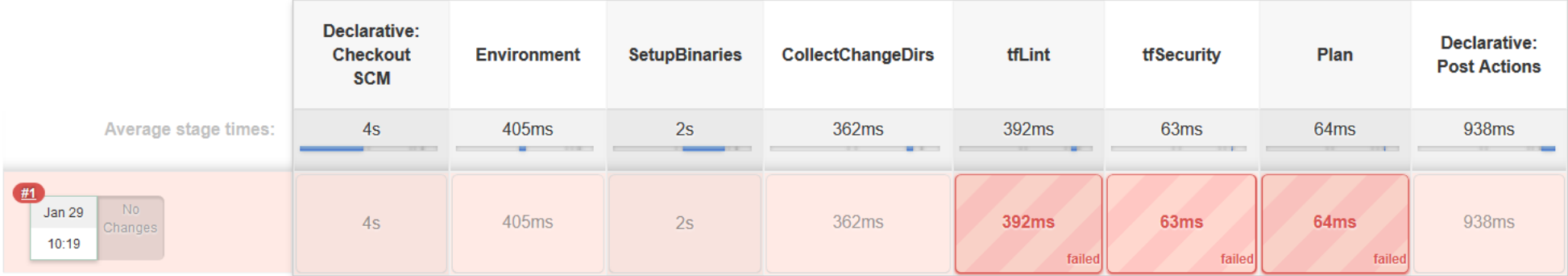
Find text in diff and context lines << acct-cloudsvc-non-prod / us-east-1_vpc-0df9e969cf3bc991d / sg_test_fail.tf **ADDED**

- acct-cloudsvc-non-prod/us-east-1_vpc-0df9e969cf3bc9
 - sg_test_fail.tf

```
1 + resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail" {
2 +   name      = "sgtest-test-fail"
3 +   name      = "sgtest-test-fail"
4 +   description = "Allow TLS inbound traffic"
5 +   vpc_id    = var.current_vpc
6 +
7 +   tags = {
8 +     Name = "sgtest-test-fail",
9 +   }
10 +
11 +
12 +   ingress {
13 +     # TLS (change to whatever ports you need)
14 +     from_port = 443
15 +     to_port   = 443
16 +     protocol  = "tcp"
17 +     cidr_blocks = [ "10.10.0.1/24" ]
18 +   }
19 +
20 +   egress {
21 +     from_port = 0
22 +     to_port   = 0
23 +     protocol  = "-1"
24 +     cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"]
25 +   }
26 + }
```

Pull Request Kicks Off Jenkins Job

Stage View



tfLint Failed!

Demo Test

Overview

Diff

Commits

Details

2   1 build failed 



Nick Bausch created a pull request 2 mins ago

No description for this pull request. [Add one](#)

 [Learn more](#)

Activity



What do you want to say?



api-infr-bitbucket

(1/2) Lint: Failed:

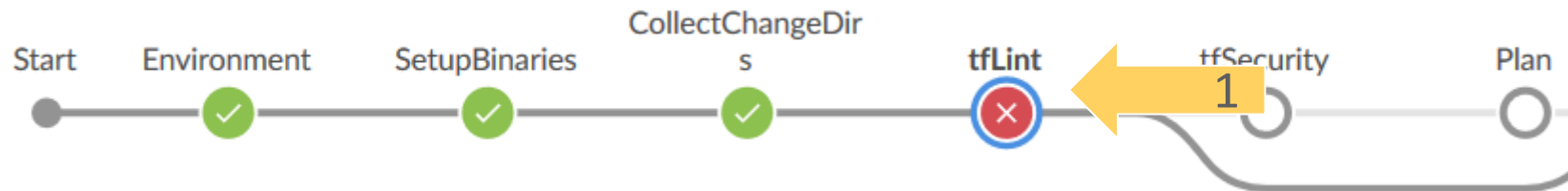
1 

[Reply](#) · [Delete](#) · [Create task](#) · [Create JIRA issue](#) · [Like](#) · 1 min ago



Nick Bausch **OPENED** the pull request 2 mins ago

Why Did tfLint Fail?



```
9
10 Error: Attribute redefined
11
12   on sg_test_fail.tf line 3, in resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail":
13     3:   name           = "sgtest-test-fail"
14
15   The argument "name" was already set at sg_test_fail.tf line 1, in resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail". Each argument may be set only once.
16
17 Error: Duplicate resource "aws_security_group" configuration
18
19   on sg_test_fail.tf line 1, in resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail":
20     1: resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail" {
21
```

tfSec Failed!

Activity



What do you want to say?



api-infr-bitbucket

(1/2) tfLint: Ok - (2/2) tfSecurity: Failed:



Reply · Delete · Create task · Create JIRA issue · Like · A moment ago

Why Did tfSec Fail?

Problem 1

[AWS009] Resource 'aws_security_group.test_fail2' defines a fully open egress security group.

/data/jenkins_slave/epjenkins81/workspace/terraform-sg-automate-lint_PR-13/acct-cloudsvc-non-prod/us-east-1_vpc-0df9e969cf3bc991d/sg_test_fail.tf:23

```
20 |     from_port      = 0
21 |     to_port        = 0
22 |     protocol       = "-1"
23 |     cidr_blocks    = ["0.0.0.0/0"]
24 |   }
25 | }
26 |
```



Terraform Plan Failed!

Activity



What do you want to say?



api-infr-bitbucket

(1/2) tfLint: Ok - (2/2) tfSecurity: Ok - (3/3) Plan: Failed: 

Reply · Delete · Create task · Create JIRA issue · Like · A moment ago

Why Did Terraform Plan Fail?



```
Error: "ingress.0.cidr_blocks.0" must contain a valid network CIDR, got "10.10.0.1/24"  
  
on sg_test_fail.tf line 1, in resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail2":  
  1: resource "aws_security_group" "test_fail2" {
```

Everything Passed

Activity



What do you want to say?



api-infr-bitbucket

(1/2) tfLint: Ok - (2/2) tfSecurity: Ok - (3/3) Plan: Ok -

Reply · Delete · Create task · Create JIRA issue · Like · A moment ago

Now What?

- ▶ Networking Teams Can Review & Comment
- ▶ Security Groups Can Review & Comment
- ▶ New Custom Automations & Tests For Source Code

What Is The Final Step?

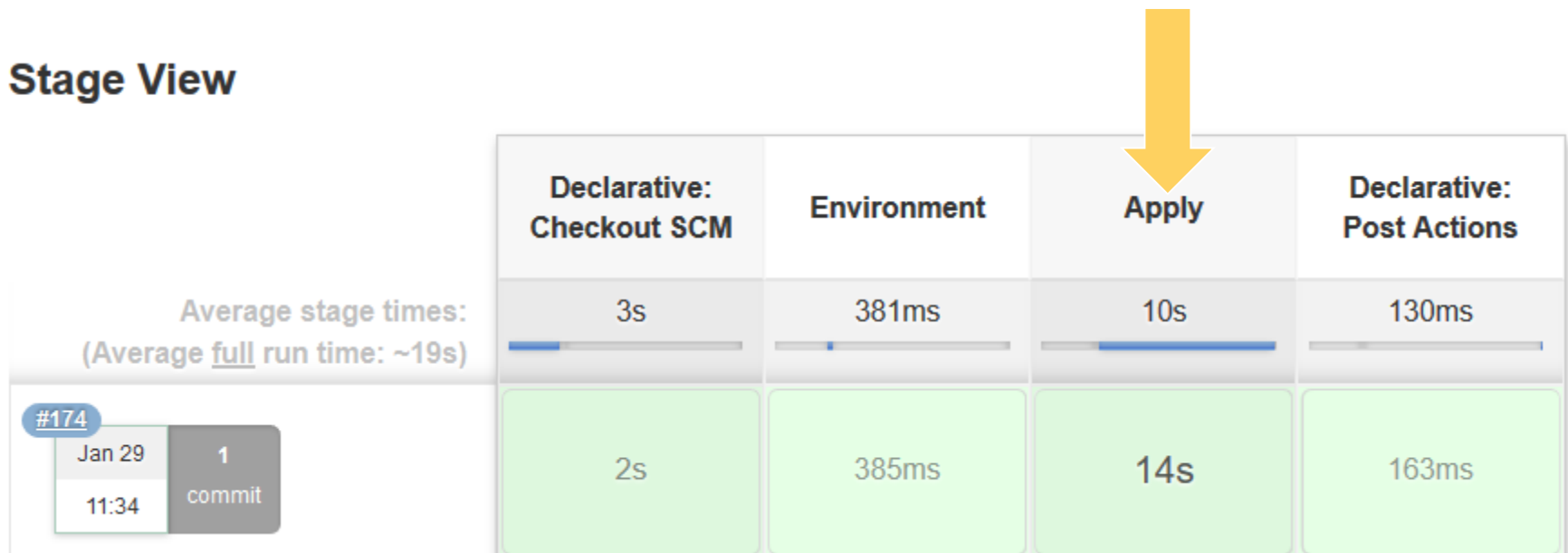


Merge

 1 build 

Jenkins Runs Terraform Apply

Stage View



Solution Workflow

- ▶ Pull Request In Bitbucket
- ▶ tfLint & tfSec & Terraform Plan
- ▶ Code Review
- ▶ Commit
- ▶ Terraform Apply

My Contributions

- ▶ Foster Everything As Code Mindset
- ▶ Multi-Account Strategy
- ▶ Provide Security Conscious AWS Environments
- ▶ Helping Build A Culture Of Continuous Learning