



# Semaphore vs GitHub Actions

- ✓ Run 2x faster builds
- ✓ See your entire path to production in a single CD view
- ✓ Always have CI/CD experts at hand to support you

**klarx**

“Since moving from GitHub Actions to Semaphore our CI pipeline has been more stable and 2x faster. This allowed us to detect failures and flaky tests faster. Our engineering team is now more focused on core business and delivering features to our customers.”

Amin Ben Slime, Senior Software Engineer at Klarx

[Read case study](#)





# Compare Semaphore vs Github Actions

	Semaphore	Github Actions
<b>Product type</b>	★★★★★	★★★★★
SaaS	✔ Yes. SaaS with autoscaling resources	✘ No. Hard limits on parallel jobs depending on plan
Hybrid: run agents on customer-managed infrastructure	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
Fully on-premises	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
<b>Setup &amp; Maintenance</b>	★★★★★	★★★★★
Graphical pipeline configuration	✔ Yes. Workflow Builder: point-and-click interface to create and edit pipelines	✘ No
GitHub support	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
Bitbucket support	✔ Yes	✘ No
Gitlab support	✘ No. Pending	✘ No
No maintenance required for platform software	✔ Yes. Official VMs and Docker images are refreshed weekly, include popular OSS tools out-of-the-box	✘ No. Jobs must run a Docker container for each language or tool that a project needs
Command-line interface	✔ Yes. CLI can manage projects and do everything the UI can	✘ No. CLI limited to viewing workflow results
Declarative configuration of services	✔ Yes. Supported via CLI	✘ No
<b>Machine &amp; Operating System support</b>	★★★★★	★★★★★
Multiple machine types in cloud model	✔ Yes. Wide choice of CPU, memory, and disk space configurations	✘ No. End user maintains the machines
Linux	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
macOS	✔ Yes	✔ Yes. max 5 parallel jobs on standard plans
ARM	✔ Yes. Supported in self-hosted model	✔ Yes. Supported in self-hosted model
Windows	✔ Yes. Supported in self-hosted model	✔ Yes. Supported in cloud and self-hosted models
<b>Continuous Integration</b>		★★★★★
Test results reporting and insights	✔ Yes. See which tests passed/failed, find slowest tests to speed up development process.	✘ No
Debugging feedback loop	✔ Yes. Fast debugging via SSH access to both running and finished jobs.	✘ No. No direct SSH access to job environment, only log inspection.
<b>Continuous Delivery</b>	★★★★★	★★★★★
Manage multiple deployment environments	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
Multi-stage releases	✔ Yes. Combine automatic steps with manual approval to ensure maximum reliability when delivering to users.	✘ No
Automatic and manual promotions	✔ Yes. Chain pipelines together for any CD workflow (blue/green, canary, etc).	✘ No
Deployment dashboards	✔ Yes. See which versions of all your applications have been deployed to which environment.	✘ No
Parameterized promotions	✔ Yes. Define custom forms to parameterize CD pipelines.	✘ No
Deployment queues	✔ Yes. Control which pipelines must run sequentially to prevent conflict and which may run in parallel.	✘ No



	Semaphore	Github Actions
<b>Performance</b>	★★★★★	★★★★★
Top-of-market performance	✔ Yes. 25%-100% faster than GitHub Actions workflows, depending on project	✘ No
Autoscaling parallelism	✔ Yes. serverless model	✔ Yes. with hard limits depending on plan
Allocate more CPUs and RAM to complex jobs	✔ Yes. change one line of configuration	✘ No
Scalable dependency cache	✔ Yes, 9.6GB upgradeable on request, expires after 30 days	✔ Yes. 10GB hard limit, expires after 7 days
Built-in artifacts store	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
Built-in Docker registry	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
<b>Support</b>	★★★★★	★★★★★
Email-based account and technical support	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
Video call support	✔ Yes	✘ No
Support SLAs	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
Custom solution engineering	✔ Yes	✘ No
Dedicated customer success manager	✔ Yes	✘ No
Private Slack channel	✔ Yes	✘ No

## Build great products at higher velocity



### Don't waste developers' time with slow builds

Cut your build times in half using Semaphore's top-of-market machines and advanced pipeline features. Considering how often developers push code in a month, the ROI of switching to Semaphore is 41:1 ([see whitepaper](#)).



### Adopt end-to-end Continuous Delivery

On Semaphore, CD is not limited to a series of after-build steps. Features like parameterized promotions and deployment queues give you the power and flexibility to make deploys to any environment completely painless.



### Level up developer productivity & happiness

On Semaphore, a graphical workflow builder puts high-performance CI/CD into the hands of every developer. Test insights empower the team to keep the project sustainable, while fast SSH debugging enables fast error recovery in daily work.



### Have a partner – an extension of your team

For us, CI/CD is not an afterthought. You can always count on Semaphore as a trusted partner who will go the extra mile in supporting you in your mission to deliver great software, fast.





# Contact us for a demo and migration plan

[Book a call](#)

