

# Frequently Asked Questions on the Acquisition of StormForger by Carbon Relay and the newly formed StormForge brand

## Q: Who is Carbon Relay?

Carbon Relay brings together world-class data scientists and software engineers to enable businesses to drive breakthrough IT and operations efficiency. Carbon Relay's focus is on building AI and machine learning -powered software products that are designed to help people, not replace them. The company's solutions uniquely occupy a middle ground between machine and human intelligence where they leverage the strengths of both for maximum effectiveness. The Carbon Relay platform drives major application performance gains and cost reductions in complex environments.

In February 2020, Carbon Relay announced funding from Insight Partners to accelerate the growth of its product offering. Carbon Relay was founded in 2015 and is based in Boston and Washington, DC.

## Q: Who is StormForger?

StormForger, founded 2014 by Sebastian Cohnen and Lars Wolff, is a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) offering for load and performance testing. The company's platform empowers teams to own all aspects of the performance testing process. Integrated with CI/CD processes, it makes continuous testing and the implementation of quality gates simple and easy. The scalable, cloud-based SaaS guarantees the right setup for any organization—from a single developer to multi-team environments. By creating autonomy and independence in performance testing, every engineer can ensure non-blocking, high-quality delivery of business value. StormForger fosters a deeper understanding of system behavior, increases confidence for business-critical scenarios (e.g. launch, peak-traffic, right sizing) and creates a sustainable performance culture.

To learn more about how StormForger works, visit [www.stormforger.com](http://www.stormforger.com).

## Q: Why was StormForger acquired?

Carbon Relay aims to combine the strength of community with technology to prevent application issues before they occur. A critical part of success for proactive, experimentation- based optimization is a reliable ability to run trials that drive the machine learning model. This is where StormForger's SaaS product and experience comes into play. With the acquisition of StormForger's technology and performance expertise, Carbon Relay is able to introduce a core layer of proactive application optimization into a platform with enhanced performance and load testing capabilities.

## **Q: Are there any changes to StormForger's executive management and team?**

No. StormForger's management and team remain unchanged by the acquisition. Everyone at StormForger is as dedicated to our customers as we have always been.

## **Q: What is the shared vision?**

Carbon Relay and StormForger deeply share a vision of making it easier for developers to navigate the complexities of today's systems. Early on in our discussions, we realized that we are working on similar and related challenges, and that our technologies and approaches complement and enhance each other. StormForger has been focused on delivering the required tools to conduct load and performance tests. Automatically drawing the right conclusions and deriving recommendations for optimization was always something we had in mind. Carbon Relay has been focused on creating these recommendations for optimization. So it's a perfect fit.

We are thrilled to join a team with the technology and expertise in place to drive this vision forward.

## **Q: How will this acquisition benefit customers of both companies?**

Customers of StormForger build and run load and performance tests at any scale. They are enabled to work collaboratively and cross-functionally to assess and verify requirements while learning about the behavior of the applications they are building.

By joining forces with Carbon Relay, StormForger is enabling its customers to take the next step with ease. Rather than running a series of performance tests using StormForger with custom scripts, or even manually to find optimal configurations, they can use Carbon Relay's Red Sky Ops to automate the entire process and reach a point of true proactive application optimization.

## **Q: What happens to me as a customer of StormForger?**

Besides benefitting from the extended products and solutions offered, StormForger's customers will not experience any changes; their existing contracts and relationships will remain unchanged and will continue. We are deeply committed to all of our customers who have been with us on our journey thus far, and are looking forward to deepening our relationships going forward.

## **Q: Will StormForger's service and offerings be continued?**

Yes. There are no plans to retire or materially change the services offered by StormForger today.

## Q: Will StormForger stay technology independent?

Most of our customers run or are considering running workloads on Kubernetes or in the cloud. However, StormForger as a load and performance testing platform will still be available to test workloads on any platform no matter if they are on-premise installations, virtualizations, managed cloud service, managed or self-hosted Kubernetes.

## Q: What is happening with my data (GDPR)?

We at StormForger care deeply about your data and privacy. The acquisition does not change this at all. Our terms, conditions, and privacy statements still apply, and your data will remain protected under all applicable regulations.

## Q: Why was Carbon Relay and StormForger rebranded to StormForge?

While the 'Carbon Relay' brand was building recognition, particularly among Kubernetes-focused audiences, our mission and vision have evolved since our early days. We now have a larger range of applicability and disruptive technology to take on the challenges of Cloud-Native, which we wanted to connote with our name. We believe 'StormForge' represents that.

## Q: What solutions are offered in the StormForge platform?

The platform uses machine learning to study, replicate, and stress-test application environments, and then proactively learn and deploy optimal configurations, schedules, and resource allocations—all with minimal engineering effort. StormForge can be integrated into an organization's CI/CD workflow to build automated, continuous testing, and optimization into the release process.

The StormForge platform now offers a comprehensive suite of features aimed at identifying and deploying efficient containerized applications.

## Q: Where do I go for more information?

StormForger customers, please visit [stormforger.com/support/](https://stormforger.com/support/) for all contact information.

Press interest may be sent to [press@stormforger.com](mailto:press@stormforger.com), see [stormforger.com/press/](https://stormforger.com/press/).

For more information on the combined platform offering, please visit [stormforge.io](https://stormforge.io).

**We are very thankful and proud to be with you since so long!**

**Together with our colleagues and friends of Carbon Relay we create a new era of performance testing and automatic optimization for you and with you.**