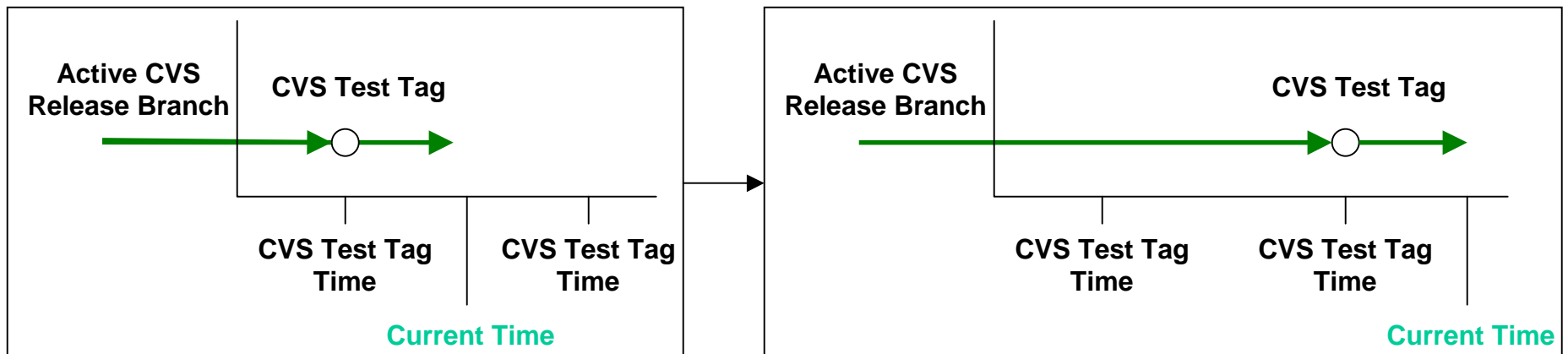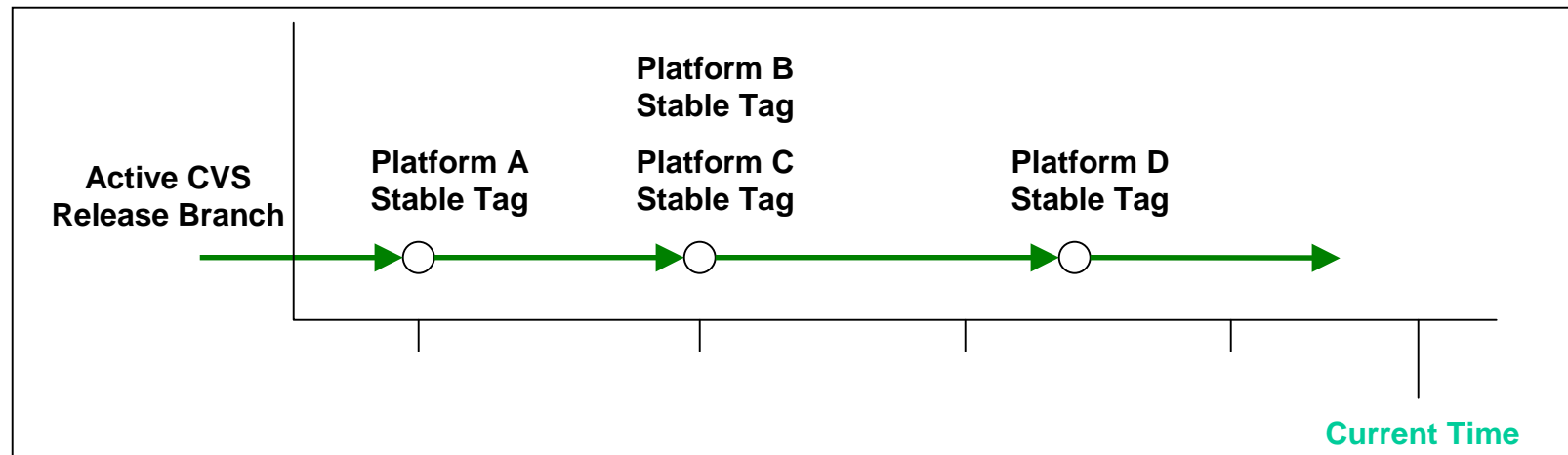# Test-Stable Tag Process

1. For each **active release branch** there will be a pre-defined **CVS Test Tag** maintained by TOG. An **active release branch** is any OpenPegasus CVS branch that is open to modification by CVS writers. Use of a CVS tag provides a simple mechanism to retrieve a frozen snapshot of an active source base.

2. The purpose of the **CVS Test Tag** is to mark a **source consistent point** in an active development branch that can be used for testing. An active release branch is in a **source inconsistent state** when a CVS writer is in the process of submitting an enhancement or bug fix that has temporarily destabilized the source base. Source inconsistent states are a natural part of the development process. E.g., a submittal that requires changes to multiple files could place a branch in a source inconsistent state. Source inconsistent states can occur frequently and are difficult to predict, however as a general rule, they are expected to be short-lived.

3. In order to increase the likelihood that a CVS Test Tag marks a source consistent point, there is a well-known time, **CVS Test Tag Time**, for establishing or moving a CVS Test Tag. This allows CVS writers to plan commits to avoid creating source inconsistent when the CVS Test Tag is created.

Test-Stable Tag Process

4. Use of the **CVS Test Tag** is not required. Rather, it is maintained to reduce the risk that test partners (e.g., Platform Advocates), working on an active release branch, will download the source while it is in an inconsistent state.

5. If a defect is encountered during test, the defect fix would need to be made to the head of the branch. The CVS Test Tag would not include this fix until it was moved.

6. In addition to the CVS Test Tag maintained by TOG, Platform Advocates, when participating in an active release branch, maintain a platform-specific **CVS Stable Tag**. This Stable Tag is used, by the Platform Advocate, to mark the most recent snapshot of the branch that has passed a known level of testing. Minimally this tag will be used to indicate that this snapshot compiles and successfully runs a set of tests that exercises the core functionality supported on that platform.

Test-Stable Tag Process

7. A Platform Stable Tag may or may not be based on a Test Tag. The Test Tag is provided for convenience. It is even possible for a Platform Stable Tag to precede the CVS Test Tag. A **Platform Specific Test Tag** may be created by a Platform Advocate at any time.

Platform B
Stable Tag

Active CVS
Release Branch

Platform A
Stable Tag

Platform C
Stable Tag

Platform D
Stable Tag

CVS Test Tag
Time

CVS Test Tag
Time

CVS Test Tag
Time

CVS Test Tag
Time

Current Time