



Exploring the Evolution: Lessons from Building Our Internal Developer Platform

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Your Story Teller!

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RELEX Solutions

Supply chain and retail planning platform

Helps retailers unify their planning, from demand and merchandise to supply chain and operations.



<https://www.relexsolutions.com>

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01

Origins

The Beginning of the Journey

Where did it all started: 2019



Scope

Project, not a
Platform



Focus

Team-centric, not
company-wide



Resource Allocation

Outsourcing to
consultants, not an
internal team



02

The Initial Stages

The early days

The Initial Stages: 2019-2020



Shift of Scope

From Project, to Platform



Shift of Focus

From Team-centric, to company-wide



Early Adapters

A few developer teams start using it



Change of Strategies

Planning adjustments on the go



Unstable Team Dynamics

Varied Consultants (developers) Across Phases

03

Chaos

Managing a Major Incident

Chaos Happens: 2020



Mistake

Scope & Focus changed:
Strategies & Team Dynamics were not adjusted beforehand



Chaos

Unhappy users:
One developer team leaves!



Lesson Learned

Change of perspective is required.

04

Growth

Exploring Opportunities for Expansion

Time For Growth: 2021-2023



Shift of Perspectives

Platform is the Product,
and
Developer teams
are the Customers!



Resource Allocation

Dedicated Internal
team



Unifying Efforts

Project Manager is
required



05

Lessons Learned

Insights and Reflections

Lessons Learned



Feedback

Gather feedback
from users



Documentation

Knowledge sharing,
Best practices,
Release blogs



Standardization

Helps users to
understand the
procedure



Training

Developer training:
Release demos

Lessons Learned



Prevent Incidents

Resource locks,
Soft-delete policies,
Backup options



Security

Least privileged service
Principles,
Access packages for users,
Security patching



Cost Optimization

Resource tags,
Cluster Start/Stop
automation



Semantic Versioning

Shared understanding,
Environment independency,
User autonomy

Lessons Learned



Testing

Continues deployment testing not enough,
Test releases against each other,
Rollback plan



Separated repositories

Segregation of accessibility and
deployer service principles



06

Conclusion

Key Takeaways

Takeaways



Perspectives is important

Treat your Platform as a Product



Constant Feedback

Developers are Customers



Internal Team

Dedicated team is required for building an IDP

“Failure is not the opposite of success, it’s part of success.”

—Arianna Huffington

Thanks

Do you have any questions?

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