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***History of DevOps***

In the earlier days of the industry, the traditional model of software development was much more fractured than it is today. The teams who created and modeled code were effectively kept apart from those who deploy and manage the final product. This system lead to resentment on both sides of the wall and many unsatisfied customers. But around 2007 and 2008, developer and deployment professionals who were frustrated with this system began to consider more effective ways for the two sides to work together. And the result was our modern system of DevOps.

One of the earliest ideas that was integrated into DevOps were lean techniques. Lean techniques had been codified in the auto industry as early as the 80s, and had begun to be transferred to other industries in the late 90s. The two main tenets of lean are that the time between starting production on a product and the delivery of the product is the best of predictor of quality, and that the best way to reduce that time is by focusing on smaller batches of work.

After that, the next big innovation in DevOps was the founding of Agile principles (or “lightweight methods” as they were called at the time). One of the guiding principles of Agile was to deliver working software frequently, either on a scale of weeks to months, and constantly trying to shorten that timeframe. This also came alongside an increased emphasis on smaller, highly-independent developer teams that could iterate on a project with smaller batches of work instead of focusing a large team on a single large product release. Notably, further innovation in the DevOps sphere would also be done by the same group of people who first thought of Agile methodology.

Finally, one of the final ideas that created the foundation for modern DevOps was the idea of ‘continuous delivery.’ This is a relatively simple idea that created the idea of a deployment pipeline – a system of automated processes that moves new code additions into production. This builds upon the ideals of quick, continuous, small-scale iteration that Agile established while also streamlining it. It also helps to ensure that code is always in a ready, deployable state, which is the ultimate goal of continuous delivery.

All of these strategies have led to the modern state of DevOps. In this current state, DevOps is built from the top to the bottom to accommodate quick, effective turnaround on products. And the results are clear; this system lead to a wave of increased productivity in software development, as previously separated teams became more able to communicate and coordinate with each other.

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