

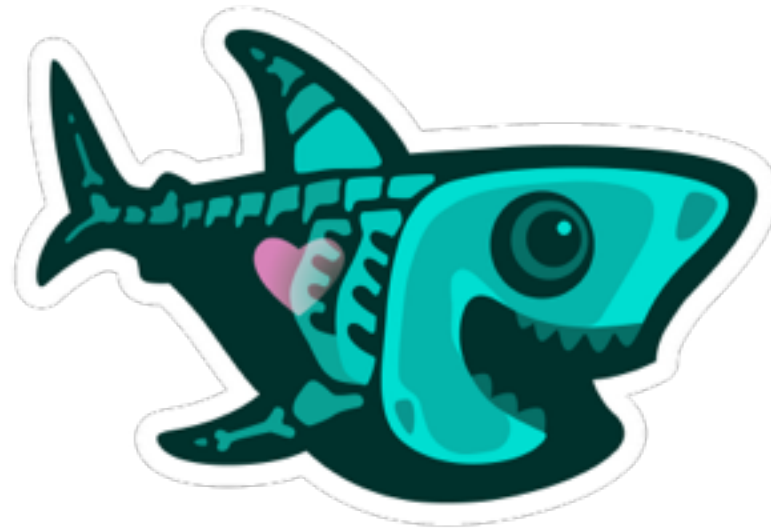
# How Engineering Management is like



Jenna Zeigen - @zeigenvector - October 20, 2016 - BrooklynJS

Hello front row. Allow me to introduce you to some virtual cats!

I'm an Engineering  
Manager at DigitalOcean



Mr. Meowgi

**spooky cyber**   @zeigenvector · Sep 8  
Neko Atsume as a metaphor for engineering management...

 13 44

**boingo wireless**   @carolinesinders · Sep 8  
@zeigenvector would watch that talk!

 3

**spooky cyber**   @zeigenvector · Sep 8  
@carolinesinders oh man I didn't even think of that, but that is an awesome idea for a @brooklyn\_js length talk 😊

 5

**boingo wireless**    
@carolinesinders



Following

@zeigenvector @brooklyn\_js omg do it

LIKES  
2



2:03 PM - 8 Sep 2016

 2







You can attract and  
entertain top and rare cats  
with shiny toys





But you can only keep the cats  
around if you keep them  
nourished.





You decide what toys  
to put out when.



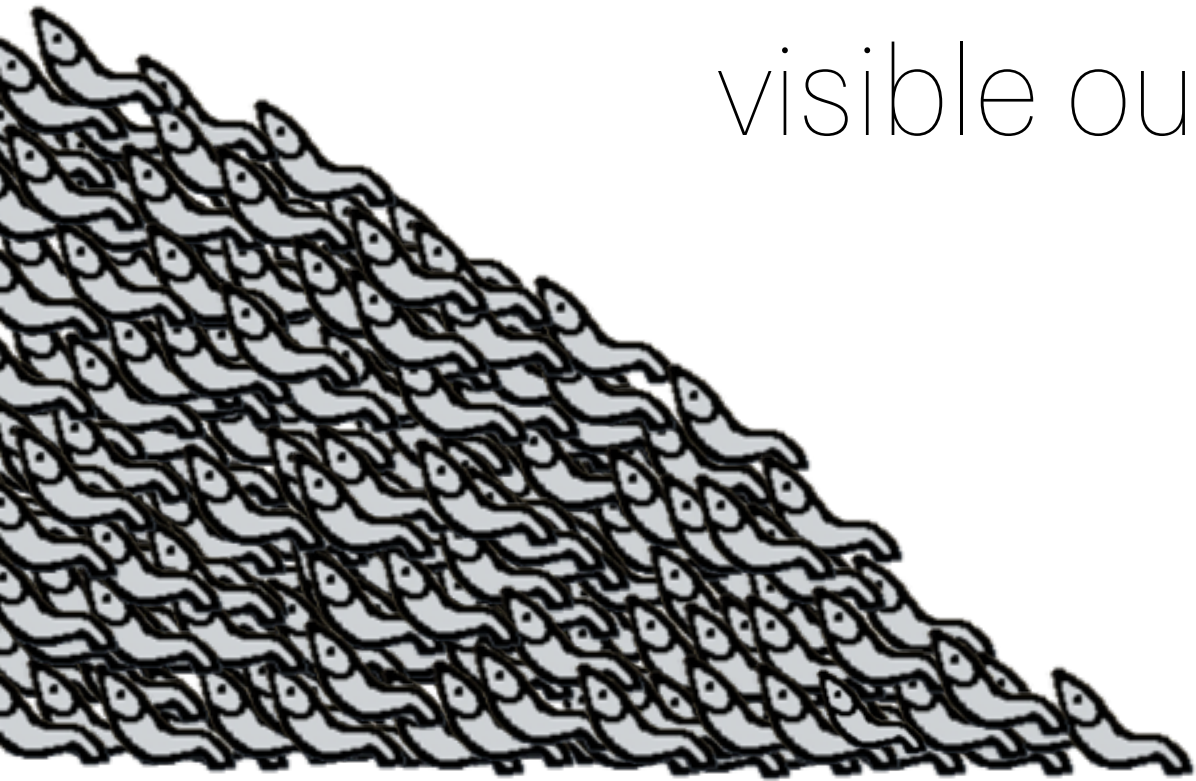


Different cats have different strengths and weaknesses and personalities





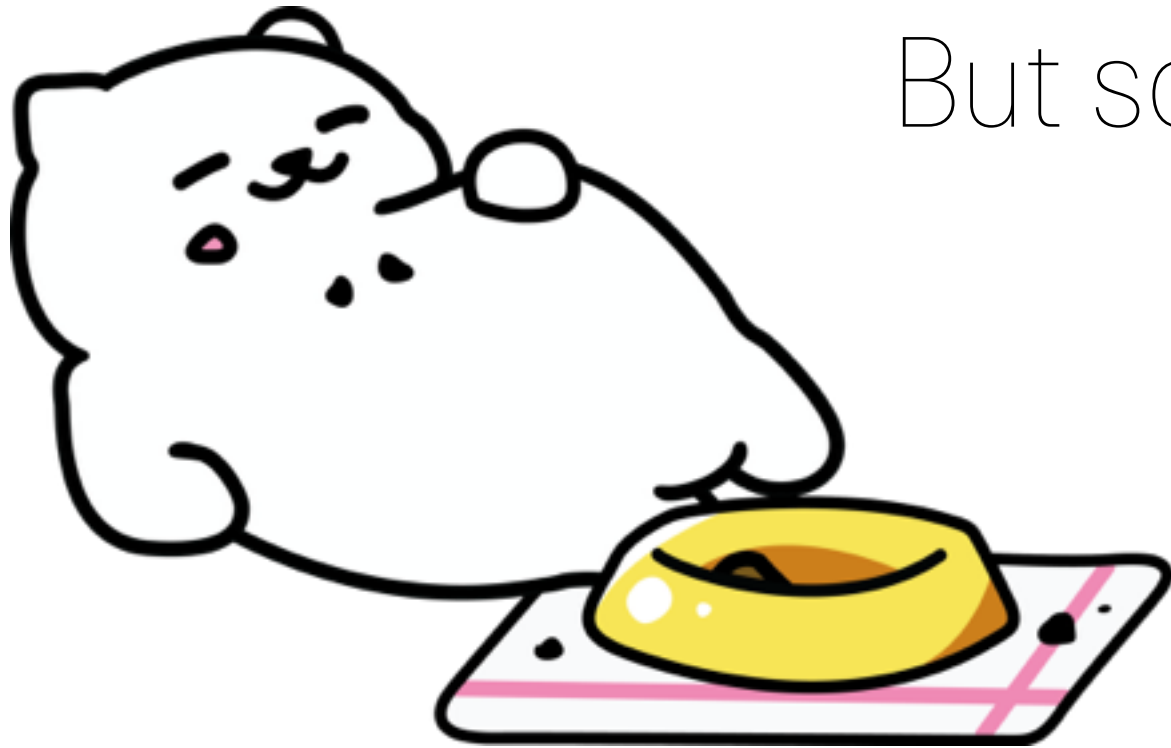
A metric for success is the  
visible output of the team



The cats generally give back  
proportionally to what you  
invest in them



But sometimes there's a Tubbs...



Tubbs





But here's the twist...

The engineering  
manager is also cat,  
she just likes playing  
with different toys...



Spooky





The engineering manager is also cat, she just likes playing with different toys...



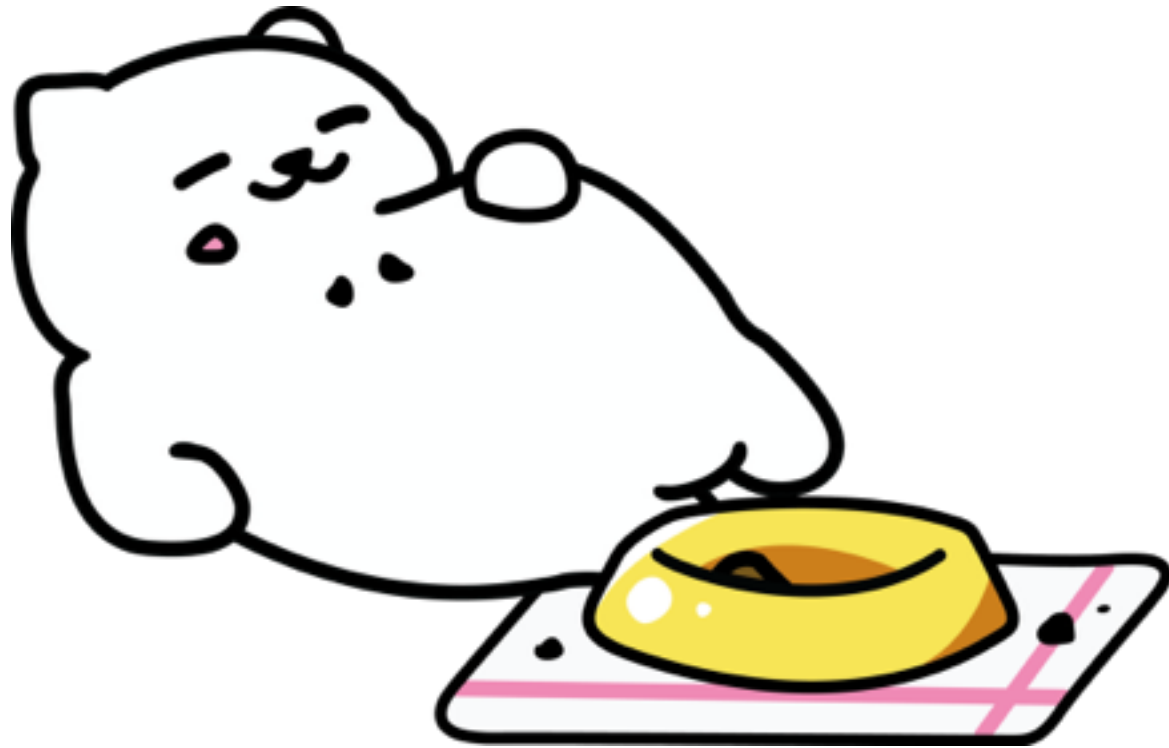
Bob the Cat

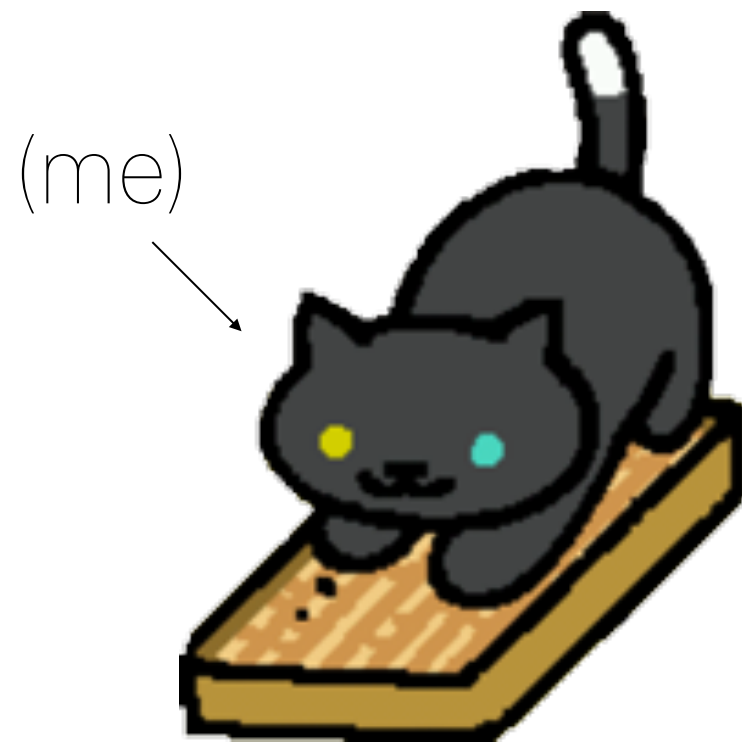


The engineering manager is also cat, she just likes playing with different toys...



The engineering manager is also cat, she just likes playing with different toys...

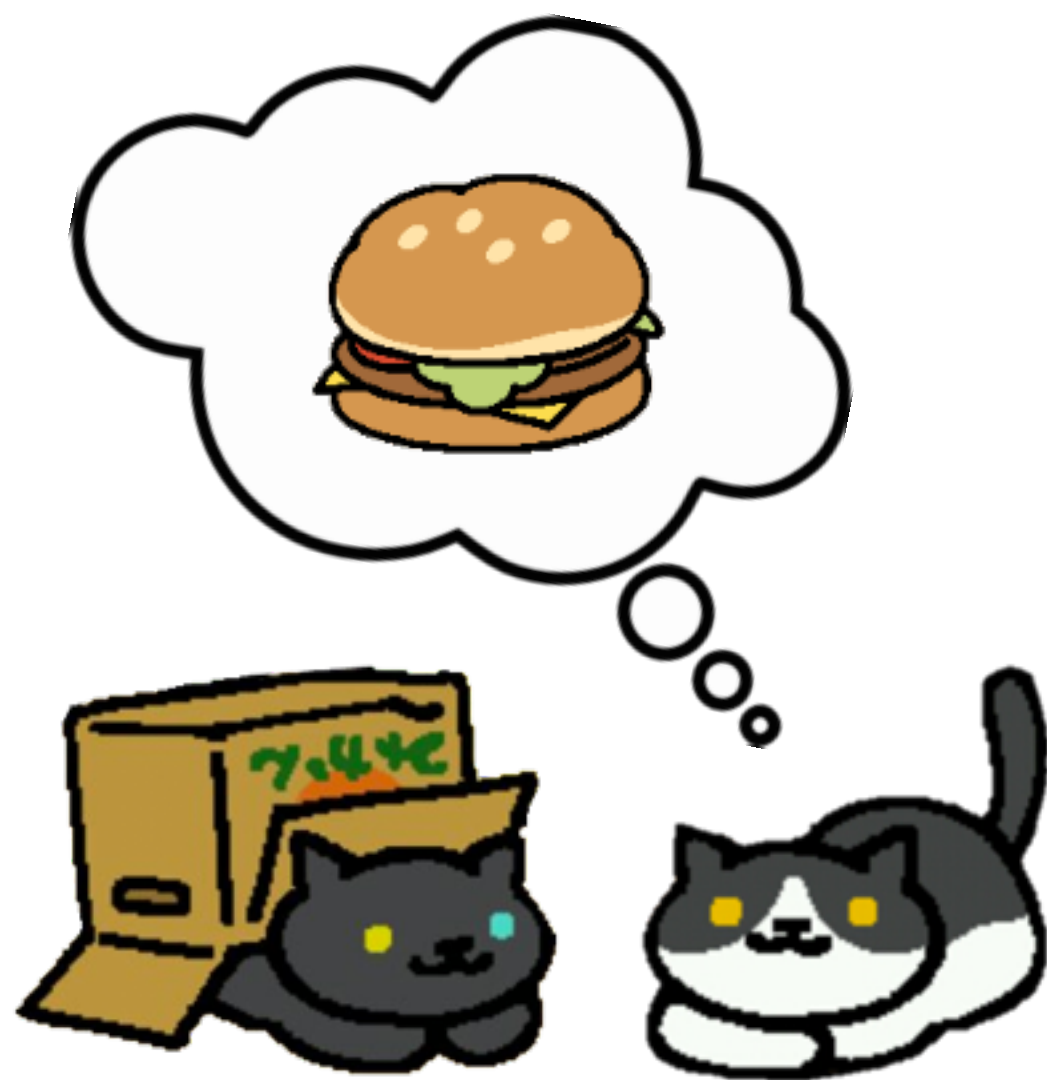




The engineering manager is also cat, she just likes playing with different toys...



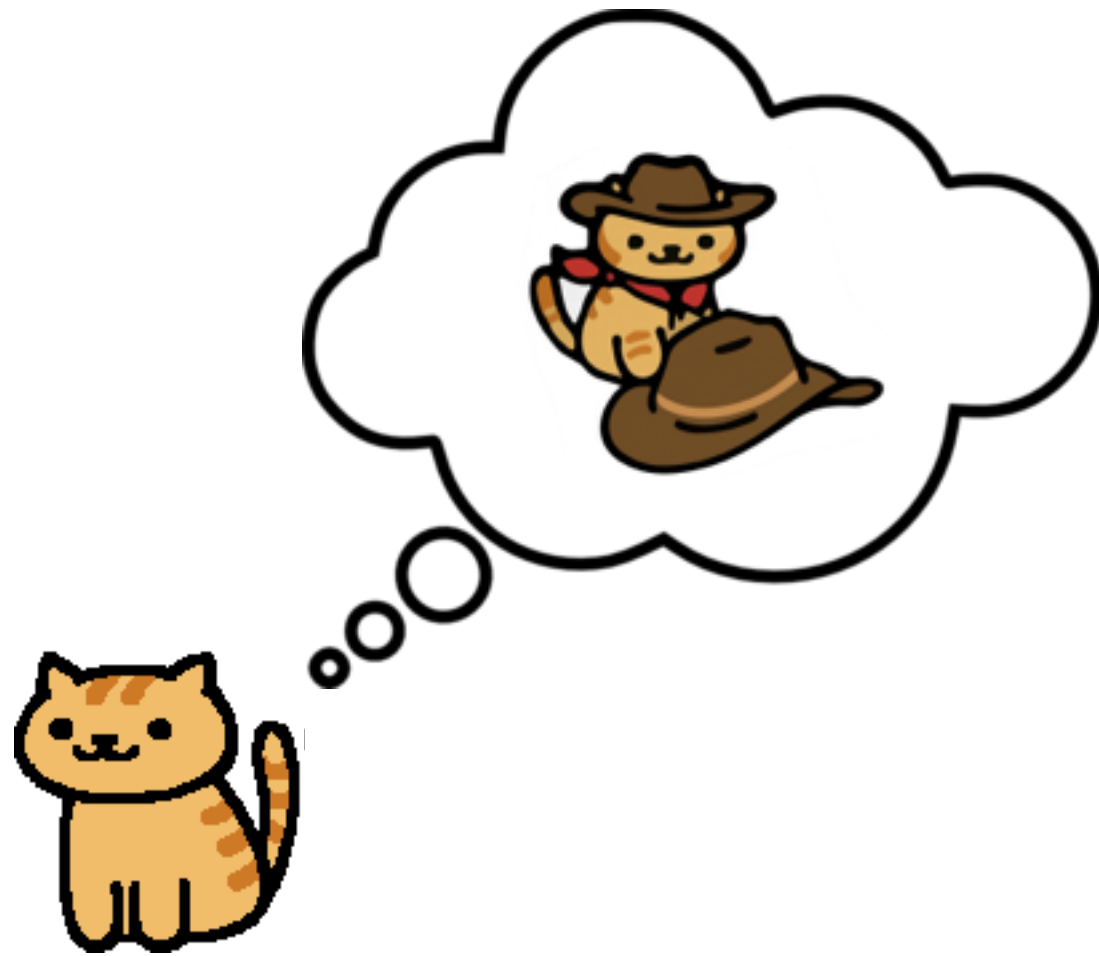
Pepper



She talks to other cats  
to learn all the stuff  
about her fellow cats.







She helps the cats  
become better at  
things they want to be  
better at



Sounds like Pokemon!



Peaches



Team work is the work.





The engineering  
manager protects her  
cat team

Willie







# Resources

- [www.elidedbranches.com/2015/10/notes-on-startup-engineering-management.html](http://www.elidedbranches.com/2015/10/notes-on-startup-engineering-management.html)
- [larahogan.me/blog/manager-levels/](http://larahogan.me/blog/manager-levels/)
- [www.oreilly.com/ideas/ask-the-cto-protecting-my-team-in-times-of-stress](http://www.oreilly.com/ideas/ask-the-cto-protecting-my-team-in-times-of-stress)
- [larahogan.me/blog/first-one-on-one-questions/](http://larahogan.me/blog/first-one-on-one-questions/)
- [codeascraft.com/2012/05/22/blameless-postmortems/](http://codeascraft.com/2012/05/22/blameless-postmortems/)



# Thanks!

Jenna Zeigen - @zeigenvector

