DevOps: An Idea of Change for the Future – Part 1

By Loren Lisk on February 25, 2015

DevOps is an idea, a culture and catalyst for change and not a set of tools or a magical product to purchase. Some might say it is an operational approach to handling business. By uniting development techniques with operational tactics and practices, you can create an environment within your business that will continually improve and create adaptability. This, in turn, allows faster innovation, accelerated improvements, and improved quality and better flow and efficiency, freeing you to focus on your core competencies and business goals.

The things most important in DevOps are the same as in other ideas, such as the Agile Manifesto. By following similar principles we can uncover better ways of running systems, through doing it and helping others do it. Through this work, we have come to value the following:

Individuals and interactions over processes over tools
Working systems over comprehensive documentation
Customer and developer collaboration over contract negotiation
Responding to change over following a plan

While there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

In DevOps, there are certain things that come to light that are needed first before all others, a ladder if you will.

The first stage is always definition of the system as a whole, at the highest level you need to define when the value starts or is created, and then define where it ends up (hint: customer).

To quote an amazing book on the information, The Phoenix Project

The Three Ways describe values that define process and procedures as well as interactions. From learning **The Three Ways** we can adjust our interactions and our philosophies to help the entire organization win.

Over the course of the next three blogs, I'll explain more about the Three Ways and how they help businesses.