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Assignment 2.1 – Case Study: Operation in Version at Linkedln (2011)

In 2003 LinkedIn began as a simple Java application with only a web server. It now calls itself the world’s largest professional network. It is indeed was a powerhouse network, one in which Microsoft acquired in 2016 spending around $26.2 billion. Application containers were a huge role in growing the site.

In 2011 LinkedIn’s app became too complex to manage, often being called monolithic. They ran primarily on Java application that served pages through servlets and managed connections to backend Oracle databases. This application was called Leo. Leo frequently went down and was difficult to troubleshoot and recover. Releasing new code was not an easy task either. It was time to update, in which case the engineering team coordinated and released every two weeks making updates and new features hard to manage. Something different had to be done soon.

It was time to take major action, LinkedIn’s computing architecture needed to be revamped. For two months they worked on the project they called InVersion. They created a new suite of software and tools that would help develop the code. Instead of waiting for new features, engineers built a new services that had a series of automated systems. These systems would examine code for bugs and issues that might interact with existing features.

Creating a system of work that was safer, there were less late night sessions. This also game them time to develop new features. This all gave them the opportunity to build the scalable new products that they have today. In 2010 they had over 150 separate services, today they are looking at over 750.

References:

Butler, Brandon. September 14, 2016. Networkworld. Case Study: How LinkedIn uses container to run its professional network. Retrieved on July 16, 2020 from <https://www.networkworld.com/article/3119832/case-study-how-linkedin-uses-containers-to-run-its-professional-network.html>