**What are doing?**

Moving from three months to two weekly cycles. Once operational changes are in development it is possible to have them developed, tested and deployed to production within in two weeks. This does not apply to emergency changes.

**Why are we doing this?**

We want to provide value more often, with greater consistency and alignment to our business. For development, this will introduce predictability in our processes. For Corporate IT, we are making it possible to have self-directed work teams that are well integrated.

**How is it possible?**

The development team has been piloting this type of process over several months. It was used successfully on the for IFM Reallocation and FleetActiv Backlog.

**The Backlog example**

We had new developers who had to learn the system and start producing result in a relatively short pace of time. We started with 80 work items in the backlog and predicted that it would take 5 months to attend to them completely. I rated the changes based on complexity and assigned the simplest changes to the new developers. I also set the timelines for the to complete the changes which initially was 5 days of development. With the support of the senior developers the guys could make the 5 days target with relative easy. From there I started scaling up the changes. What we learnt was that given the size of the team, 5-day time line, system dependencies, the optimal number of changes per developer is two. If we loaded more changes it would create bottleneck down the line. The result was that the backlog was eradicated a month before the predicated completion date.

We have continued to use this model and I want to make it official.

**Engagement**

I then engaged with the stakeholder from different team to walk them through the process and what the expectations would be for all. BA, IT operations, SA, Development and Testing were amongst the teams that were involved. It was well received and the teams are on board.

One of the key stakeholder infrastructure, was not involved. However, they could accommodate out two weekly cycles. Further engagement with infrastructure is necessary to ensure alignment.

Also, I did not engage with project management, because the sequencing of activities in a project form part of the project managers responsibilities. Essentially this process, for now, will not apply to projects.

**The Process**

* Discuss changes with team and plan 2-week cycle
* Communicate cycle with team
* Each team is responsible for own communication with relevant stakeholder
  + i.e. dev to testing done, operations to end-users