

Chapter 5

Deliver Value

Key concepts surrounding value delivery...

- **Feature Injection**
- **Minimum Viable Product**
- **Minimum Marketable Feature**

Feature Injection

- Inject features that represent the work the team does (outputs) to create that value (outcome)
- Key is knowing the value the initiative intends to deliver
 - delivering the features that provide value
 - communicating information about the features through examples
 - Lean Metaphor
 - “Stand by the out door of a Toyota Factory that is idle, empty and with all workers waiting...

Request a car!

You would see the parts pulled to the out door, starting at the in door.

If you watch ... you would see the Kanban cards flowing backwards against the flow of value”

Identifying value

Feature Injection

Begins by creating an understanding about the value to be delivered

The value is expressed in the form of a model

The team can repeatedly test progress toward delivering value as the work proceeds

Business Value?

A project delivers business value when it increases or protects revenue or reduces cost

Business Value...?

Two Definitions

1. A project delivers value when it increases or protects revenue or reduces cost in alignment with organizational strategy

2. **IRACIS**

Increase **R**evenue

Avoid **C**osts

Improve **S**ervice

“... value should not be focused on profit or shareholders, but on delighting customers.”

General way to of describing **Business Value**

“... the business value of an IT project can be gauged by whether it helps an organization meet one or more goals...

... measured based on the project's impact on one or more objectives

The Business Value Model

... describes the impact of the project on your selected objectives so you can reevaluate expectations based on new information throughout the course of the project

... if it appears that the project will not accomplish what is needed, corrections can be made rather than continuing and finding out it's not going to “deliver”

Budget Spreadsheet

A Business Value Model

Used to assess the impact of decisions on revenue objectives

Example: The project is expected to generate an additional \$15 million in profit

Based on the following assumptions

1. We achieve 20% of the sales of existing project XYZ (\$100 million a year)
2. The total cost of designing and producing the product is \$5 million
3. Our product is the first to market
4. We are able to release the product two months before Christmas

Business Value Model...Not just a number!

- Describe the *target* of the objective
- Explains the assumptions underlying the *target*
- Provides a test for what happens to the objectives if the underlying assumptions change

Another perspective

Business value is determined by the “users”

- Identify the relevant stakeholders
- Identify their needs and goals
- Agree on how to measure/test the achievement of the user needs and goals
- Select the (few) most important measurements and tests (the “value drivers”)
- Define the relationship between the Value Drivers
- Use the Value drivers to focus and prioritize the work, from start to finish

Profit *but also* Customer Satisfaction

Inject Features

Prioritize the Features ... “identify value first”

Then, iteratively identify features that are needed to deliver value

Features *and their* User Stories

Measuring value should be at the Feature level

By working from value to features... you don't assign value to individual stories or need to assign value to any change

When a feature is “injected”... identify the output that represents the feature

... work backward to understand what you need to do to deliver that output

Stakeholders

What outputs do they expect...

Note... outputs should be attached to stakeholder needs

Understanding stakeholders (users) is necessary in order to know what outputs are actually needed

This allows for the identification of the outputs that deliver the expected value!

Once the needed outputs are identified, you can work backwards to identify what processes are needed to provide the outputs...

... and inputs the process needs to create the outputs

Table 5.1 Payroll Stakeholders and Their Expectations

| Stakeholder | Expectations |
|----------------------------|--|
| Employees | <p>If the payroll system did not exist, they might not get paid. This probably not the case, but it certainly may be a more complicated process to get payroll completed. From the employees' perspective, the payroll system adds value because it generates checks. When employees get paid, they continue to work, so the value is in protecting revenue by keeping employees satisfied that money is still coming in the door. (Yes, I know this is kind of a stretch, but it's the one that seems to fit best.)</p> |
| Payroll department | <p>Assuming that the organization would still pay its employees even without a payroll system, the lack of a system would make the process inefficient and more prone to error; so creating a payroll system reduces costs. And to some extent, it protects revenue by reducing the risks of incorrect paychecks.</p> |
| Employee relations manager | <p>Even if you could pay employees without a payroll system, the lack of organized data makes it much more complicated to perform analysis on payroll information, which indirectly leads to increased risk for the organization, similar to the items described previously.</p> |

Spot the Examples

Use models to describe the outputs & processes and the inputs used to create them

You want / need a shared understanding by all those involved in *delivering* features

Create examples to get a better understanding

- They provide concrete situational guidance for developers

- They give the team a way to test the models... to make sure all situations are accounted for

- The author... for the submission system and all the features, examples were used to describe the features

- Features were described in terms of examples

- The examples were used as the basis for preparing automated acceptance test

Feature: Edit conference dates (page 62)

As a conference chair, I want to change session submission deadlines.

Background:

Given I am logged in as “Connie”...

The session submissions should be open

And session edits should be open

And accepted session edits should be open

Scenario: Update Open Date

When I change the session submission start date to 1 day from now

Then session submissions should be closed

Scenario: Update Close Date

When I change the session submission and date to 1 day before now

Then session submissions should be closed

Scenario: Update Edit Date

When I change the session submission edit date to 1 day before now

Then session edits should be closed

Feature: Edit conference dates

As a conference chair, I want to change session submission deadlines.

Scenario: Update Edit Date

When I change the session submission edit date to 1 day before now

Then session edits should be closed

Scenario: Update Accepted Session Edits Start Date

When I change the accepted submission edit start date to 1 day from now

Then accepted session edits should be closed

Scenario: Update Accepted Session Edits End Date

When I change the accepted submission edit end date to 1 day before now

Then accepted session edits should be closed

Starting with the value you want to deliver..

- ... using that value to decide what features to build next
- ... and describing that feature through the use of real-life examples
- ... proves to be a simple, effective way to build the right thing
- ... and not build things that are not right (or needed)!

Minimum Viable Product

Contrary to traditional development, which usually involves a long, thoughtful incubation period and strives for product perfection, the goal of the **MVP** is to begin the process of learning, not end it.

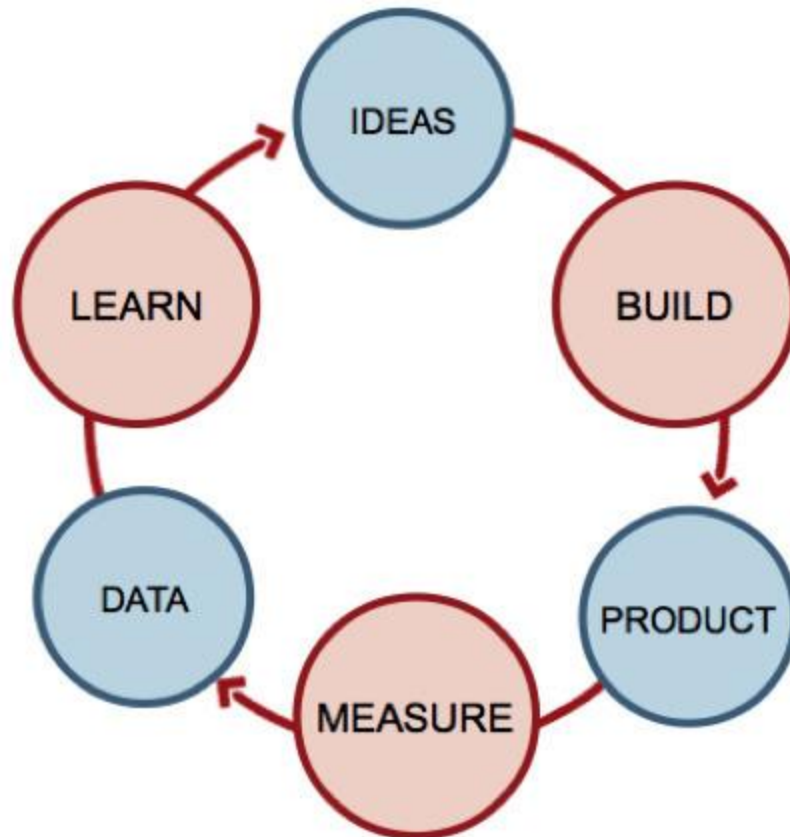
A **MVP** helps entrepreneurs start the process of learning as quickly as possible.

It is not necessarily the smallest product imaginable, although...

... it is simply the fastest way to get through the ***Build-Measure-Learn*** feedback loop with the minimum amount of effort.

Build-Measure-Learn

Lean startup cycle



Eric Ries

Minimum Marketable Features

Features

The main planning unit for releases...

User stories

The main planning unit for iterations...

Minimum Marketable Features

Unlike a prototype or concept test, an **MVP** is designed not just to test a fundamental business hypothesis

Minimum – the smallest possible group of features that deliver significant value to the user

Marketable – provides significant value to the customer

Feature – something that is observable to the user

The **MMF** is a small, self-contained feature that can be developed quickly that delivers significant value to the user (stakeholder)

MVP and MMF

MVP

- ... is the version of the product that lets the team complete the Build-Measure-Learn loop as quickly as possible... with least amount of effort
- ... it delivers value to stakeholders (users)
- ... was created for use in the context of starting a new business

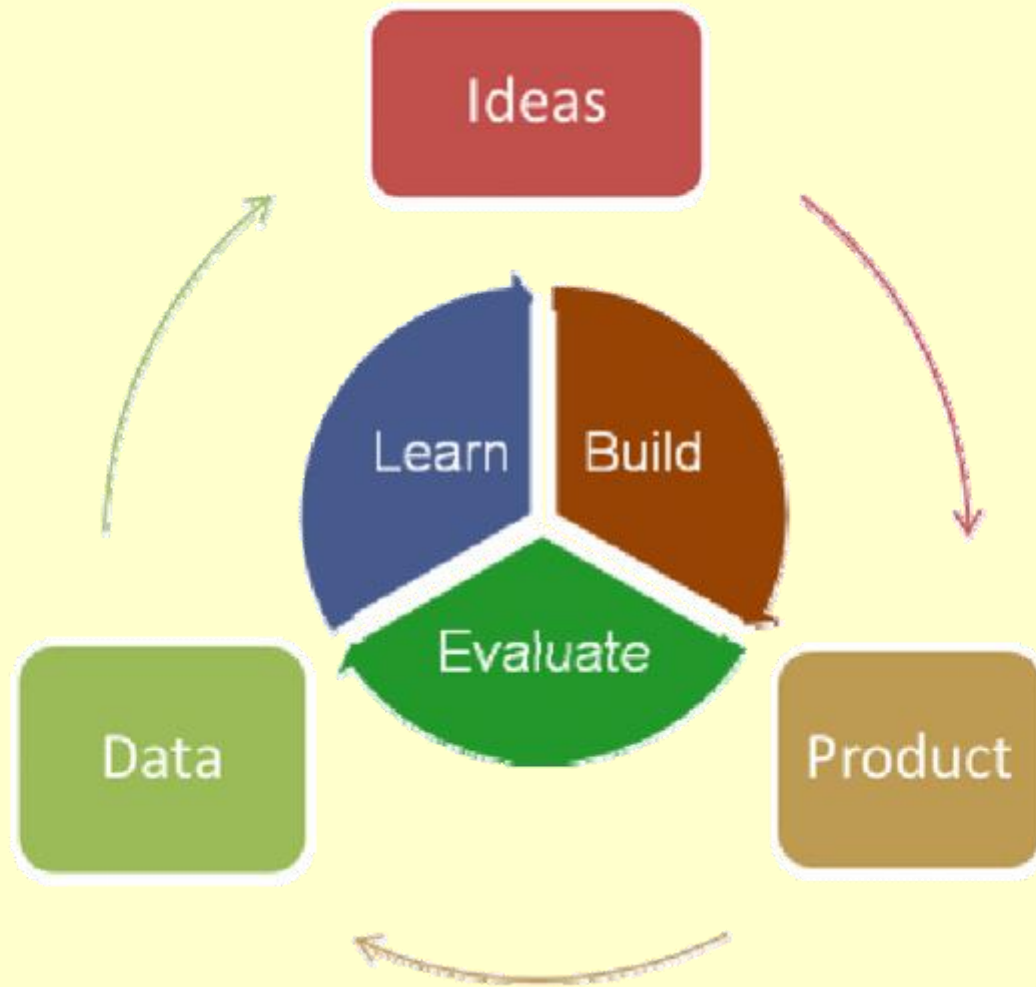
MMF

- ... is a small, self-contained feature that can be developed quickly and provides significant value to the user

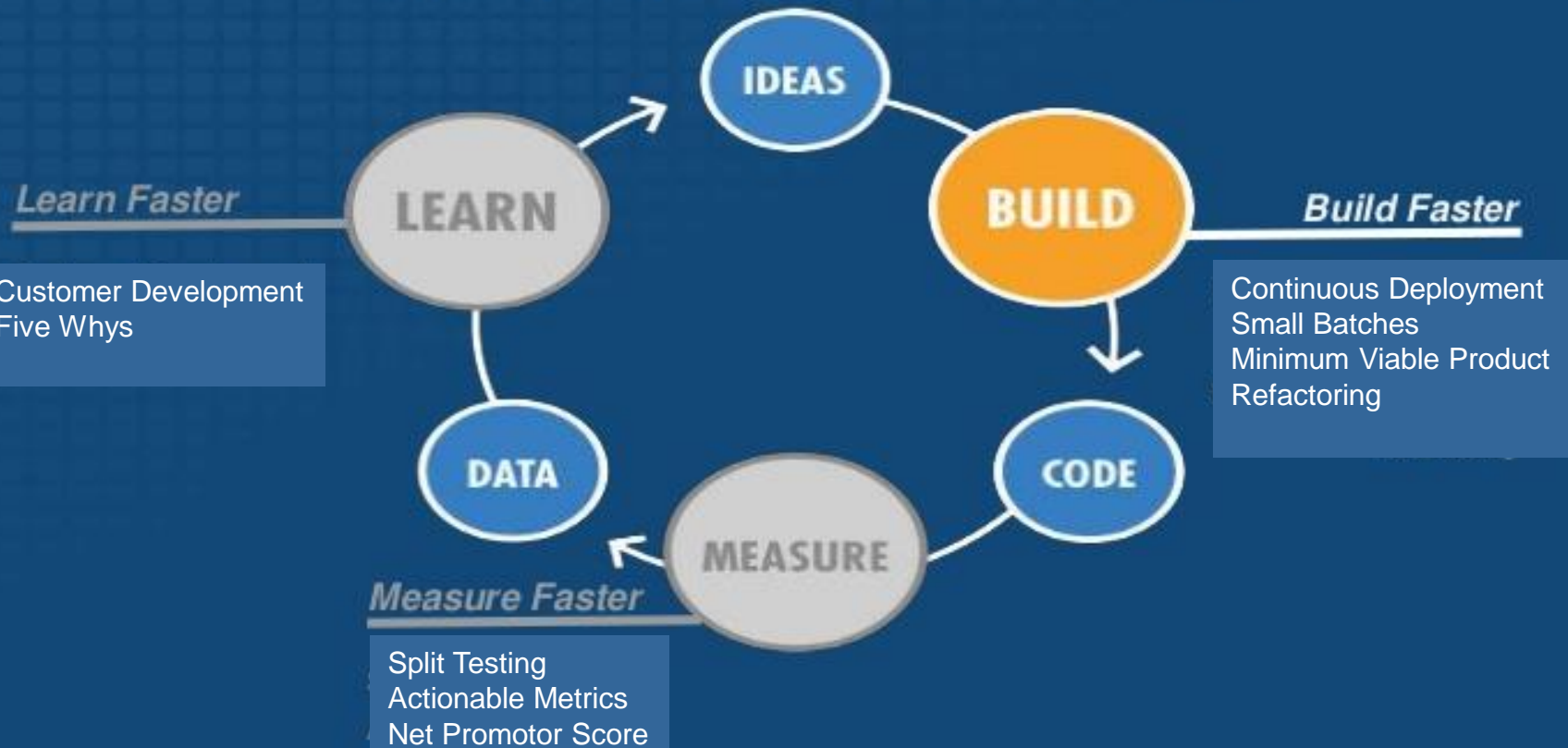
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-ozPfRHFt8>



Eric Reis: **Build-Measure-Learn**



Minimum Viable Product



If You Remember Nothing Else

- Effective analysis starts with the outcome and works its way backward through output, process and input.
- Minimum Viable Products (**MVPs**) are intended to get information.
- Minimum Viable Features (**MVFs**) are intended to capture value.