# Transforming to DevOps, CJ/CD: Continuous Journey Continuous Disaster?



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# Database DevOps – the challenge





# Tonie Huizer

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I like to read, experiment, talk and write about software and the software development process.

The fun I experience in my job is the combination of people and technology.

Focus areas in my working life:

- Software development
- (Database) DevOps
- Whisky

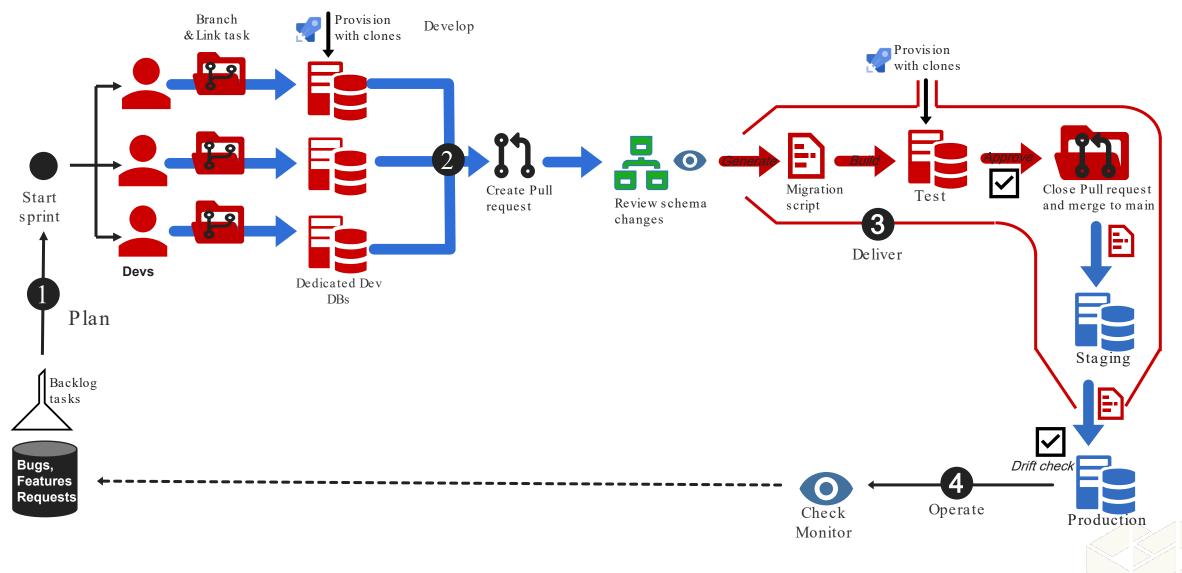


#### What to expect of todays session

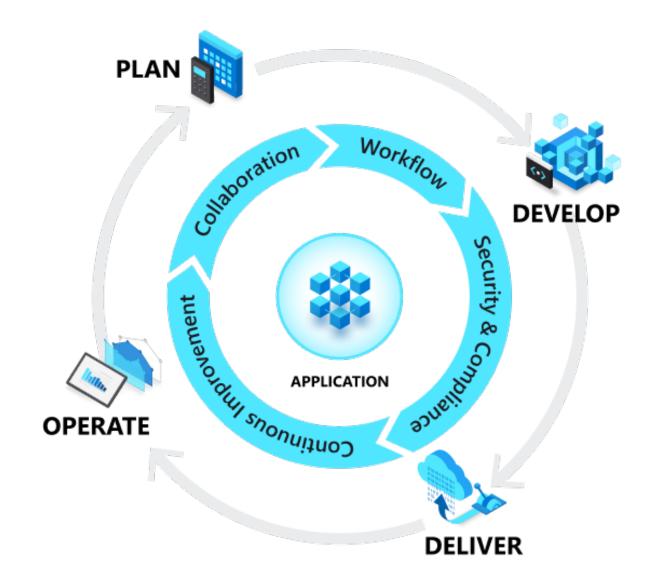
- Transforming to DevOps, CJ/CD?
- The 4 DevOps phases walk through
- Room for discussion & questions



## Database DevOps – the end goal



#### **DevOps**





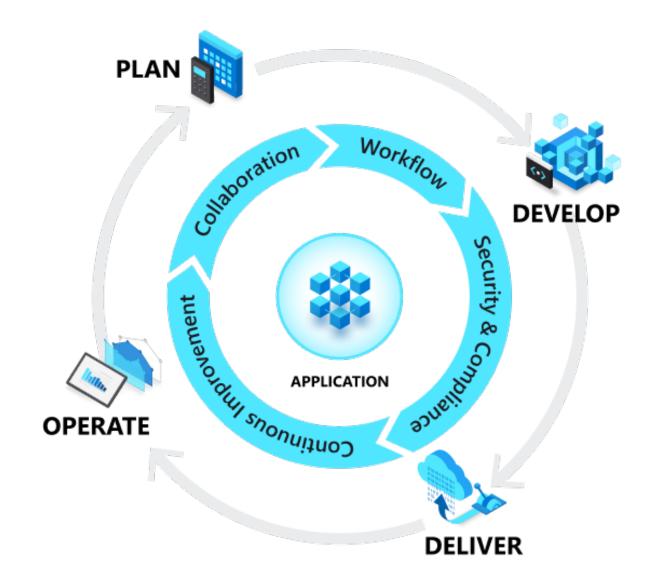
"DevOps is the union of people, process, and products to enable continuous delivery of value to our end users."

Donovan Brown, Microsoft





#### **DevOps**





#### Plan DevOps practices

- Create backlogs
- Use Kanban boards
- Visualize progress with dashboards
- Manage Agile software development with Scrum



## Attempts to plan with boards & sprints





#### Working in sprints didn't work

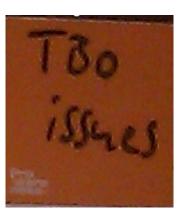
#### Why?



- Team was too big
- No fixed iteration path



- Little involvement of the stakeholders
- Unrefined backlog items
- No links or integration







Demo



#### This time it worked

For 142 sprints in a row (and counting)

- ✓ Team split up per end-customer
- ✓ Focus and involvement of the stakeholder
- ✓ Training in scrum methodology
- Better integration of tools
- Mandatory linking development to work

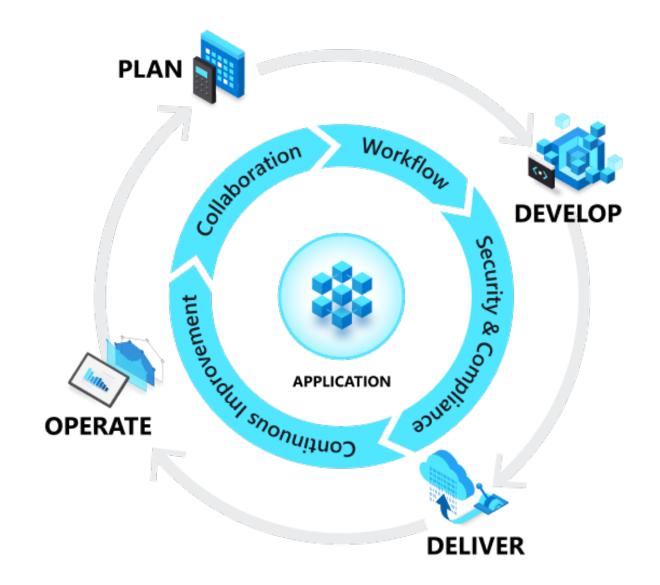


#### Plan DevOps practices

- ✓ Create backlogs
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- ✓ Manage Agile software development with Scrum



#### **DevOps**



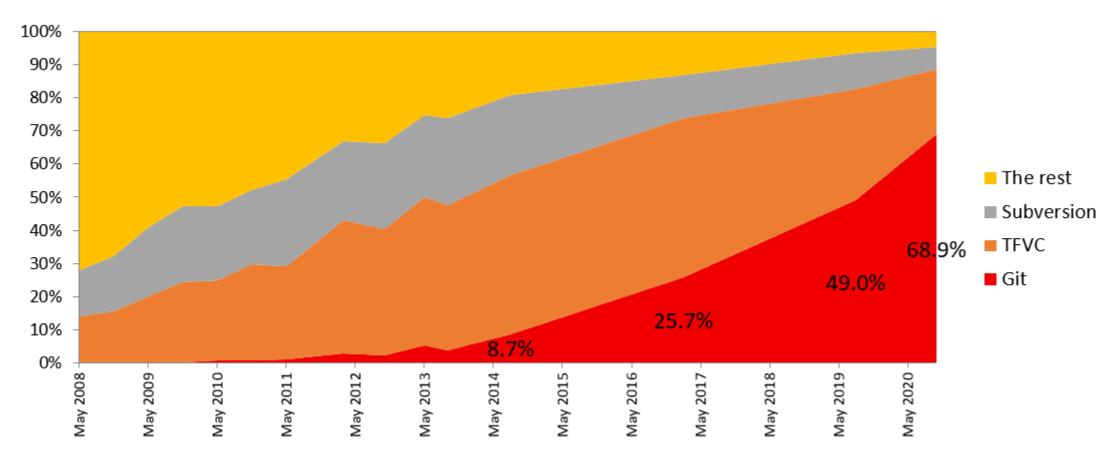


#### **Develop DevOps practices**

- Choose a VCS to collaborate and work in parallel
- Automate repetitive tasks
- Turn code into immutable artifacts



# SVN and TFVC didn't do the job

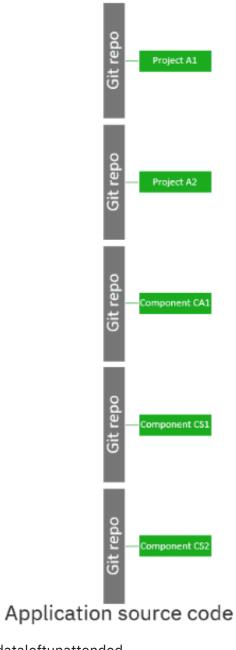




#### Switching to git

- Migrate a VCS
- Adopt a branching strategy
- Create a branch naming convention







Database source code

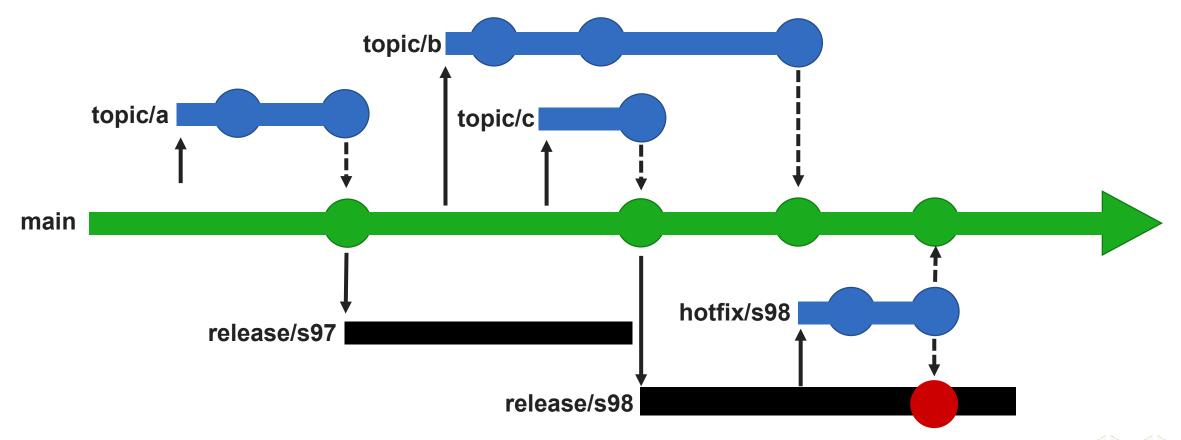


#### **Branching strategy**

- Release flow
  - Short living topics
  - Main branch always in release state
  - Hotfix the release, cherry pick main



#### Release flow in action



#### Create a branch naming convention

Topic / hotfix

<branch category>/<hot fixed release - >bug<TicketId>-PascalCasingDescription

hotfix/s100-mms12220-FireFighting topic/mms12345-MyDescription

Release branch

<branch category>/<unique identification>

release/s100



#### Git compared to SVN / TFVC

- ✓ One repo per solution
- Parallel work with branching
- ✓ Less time managing version control
- ✓ Always visible what is released

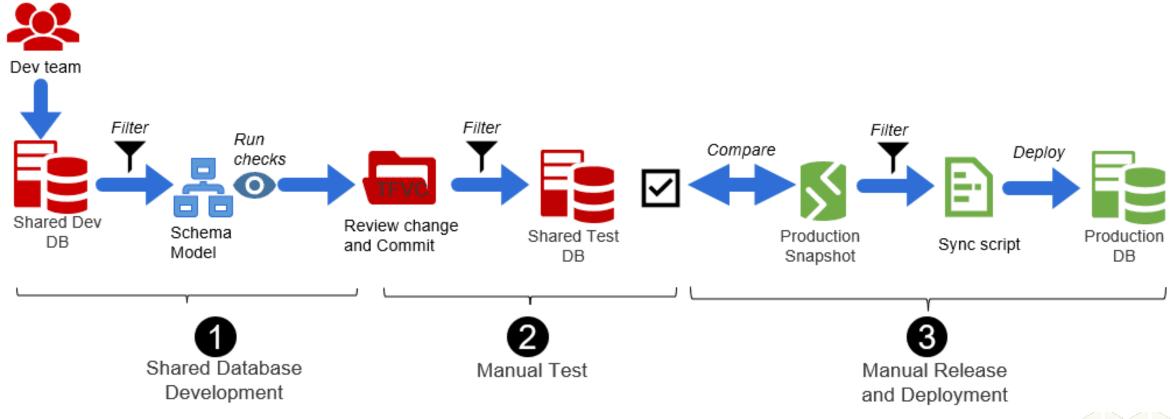


#### **Develop DevOps practices**

- Choose a VCS to collaborate and work in parallel
- Automate repetitive tasks
- Turn code into immutable build artifacts



#### Manual, repetitive tasks





#### **Automate repetitive tasks**

- Standardize the process
- Use pipelines, but first...
  - Start local to automate
  - Use verbose logging



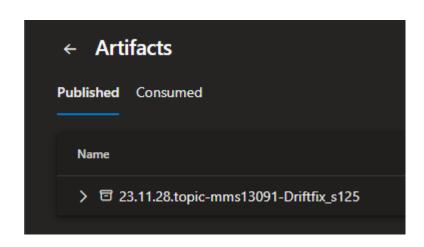


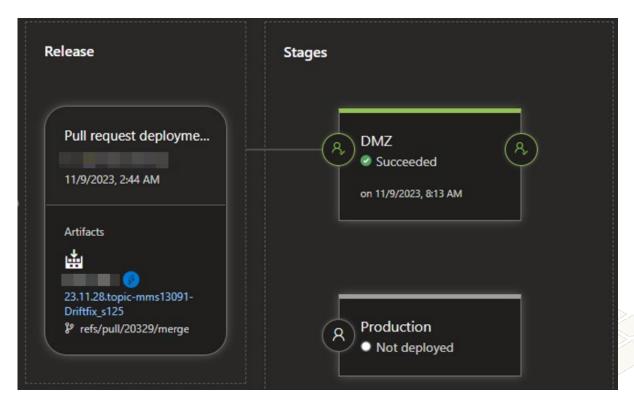
Demo



#### **Build artifact & automate repetitive tasks**

- ✓ Pipeline to generate immutable artifact
- ✓ Apply same artifact to all environments





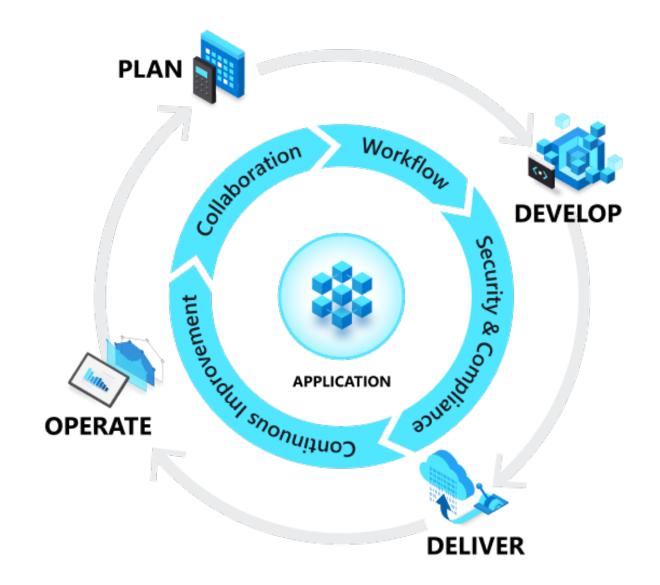


#### **Develop DevOps practices**

- Choose a VCS to collaborate and work in parallel
- ✓ Turn code into immutable build artifacts
- ✓ Automate repetitive tasks



#### **DevOps**





#### **Deliver DevOps practices**

- Automate delivery processes
- Use release pipelines with approvals
- Release artifacts to different environments



#### Previous deliver workflow

- Copy build from share
- Manual deploy database changes
- Manual alter config
- Informal approval
- Shared environment & database



#### Deliver workflow improvements

- Test in parallel, just like development
- Make use of disposable environments
- Implement Pull Request Release workflow



#### Introduction of database clones

- Using cloning technology is smart
- Automating this usage is even smarter
  - The creation, use but also the house keeping

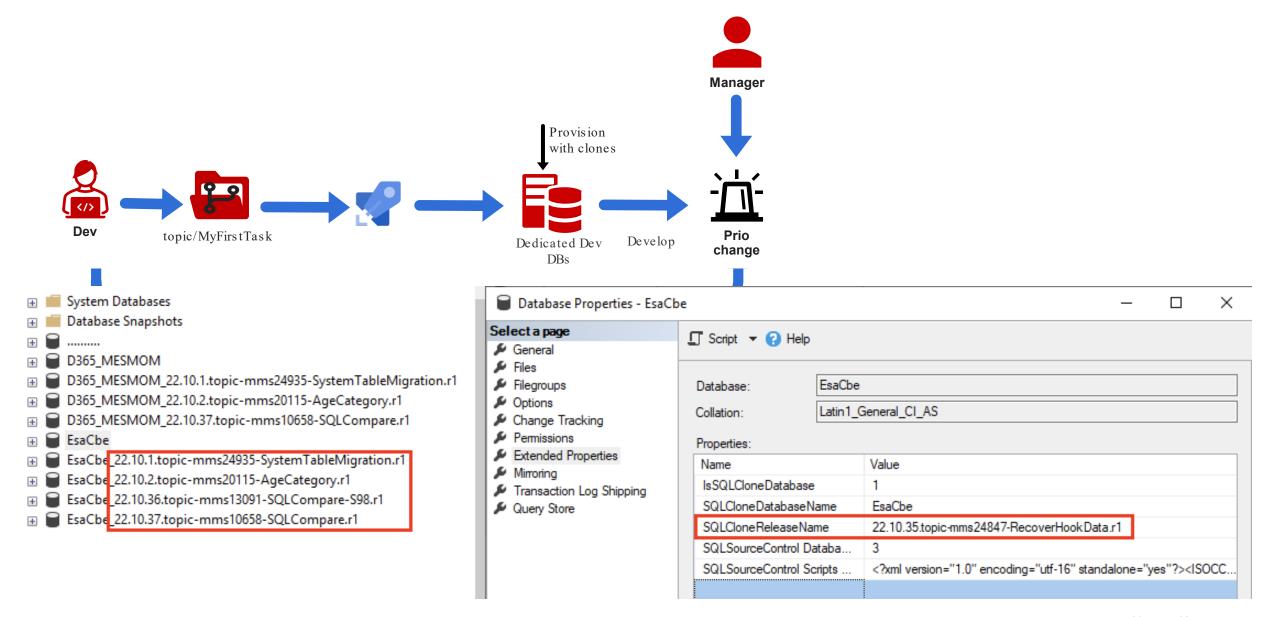


#### The concept of database stashing

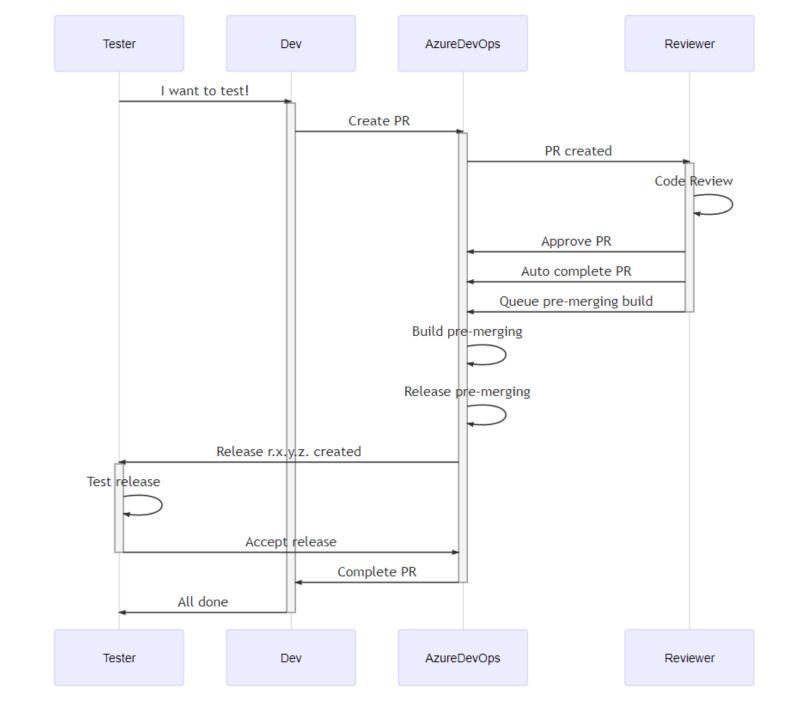


- Changing priorities
- git stash but then for DBs
- Personal instance / environment
- Through AzDo not on your system











## Manual vs Pull Request Release

- Release test are done on pre-merge build
  - More realistic testing
  - Prevent merge conflicts in master
- Less manual, more automation
  But please still communicate!





Demo



## Deliver workflow improvements

- ✓ Test in parallel, just like development
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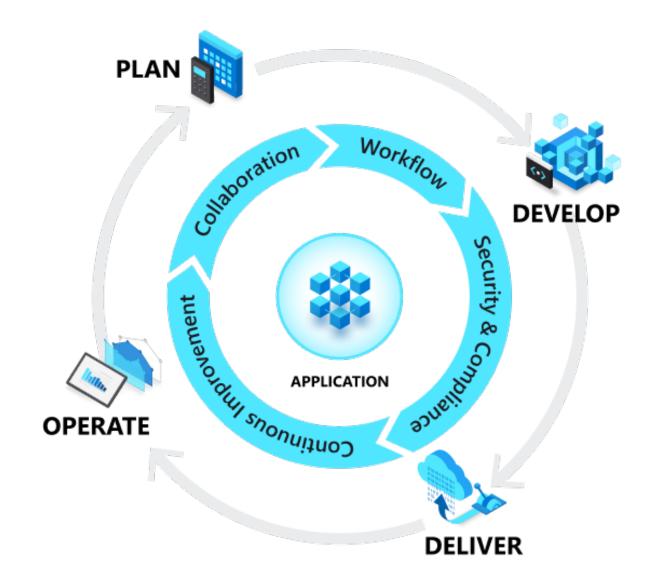


## **Deliver DevOps practices**

- Automate delivery processes
- ✓ Use release pipelines with approvals
- ✓ Release artifacts to different environments



## **DevOps**





## **Operate DevOps practices**

- Monitor & troubleshoot
- Securing knowledge



#### **Troubleshoot**

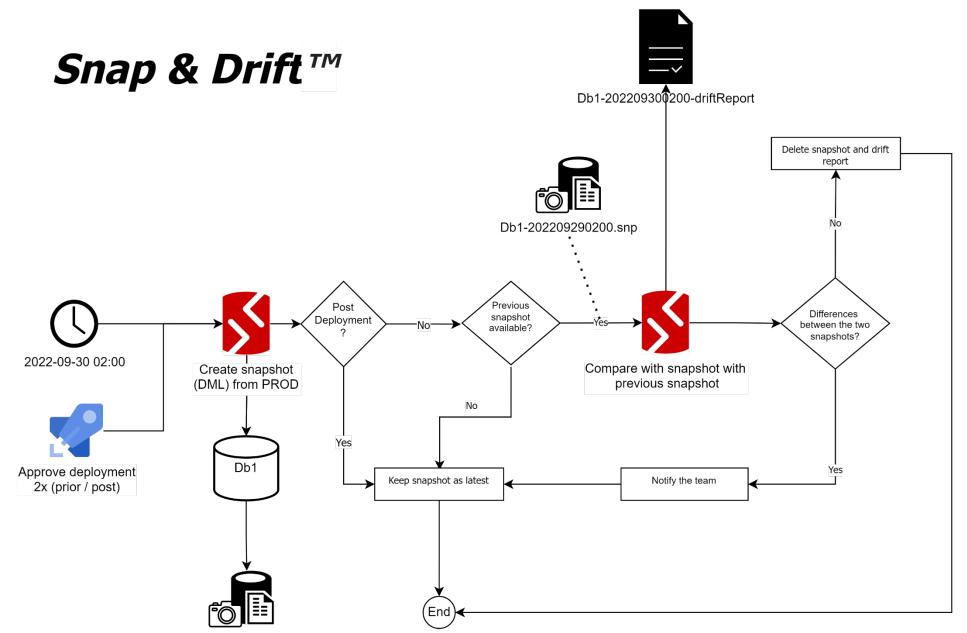
- What was changed?
- Who signed off for this?
- Where did the change come from?

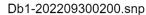


### Monitor production databases

- Integrated in every deliver
- Nightly automated check
- Create work items on drift









#### **Troubleshoot**

- ✓ What was changed?
- ✓ Who signed off for this?
- ✓ Where did the change come from?



## **Operate DevOps practices**

- ✓ Monitor & troubleshoot
- Securing knowledge



## Share and securing knowledge

- Encourage documentation everywhere
- Linking ensures provenance
- SQL Extended properties (SQL Doc)
  - Convert to markdown (wiki) format
- Use Azure DevOps (Elastic)search



## **Operate DevOps practices**

- ✓ Monitor & troubleshoot
- ✓ Securing knowledge



## **Key take aways**

- People, process and tools (in that order)
- First do DevOps
- Only then Database DevOps can happen



Questions?



## Session evaluation

Your feedback is important to us





# Thank you

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