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



Tonie Huizer

DevOps consultant

Promicro









Database DevOps – the challenge





Tonie Huizer

DevOps consultantPromicro

- in linkedin.com/in/toniehuizer
- **2** @promicroNL
- github.com/promicroNL
- **1** www.promicro.nl



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

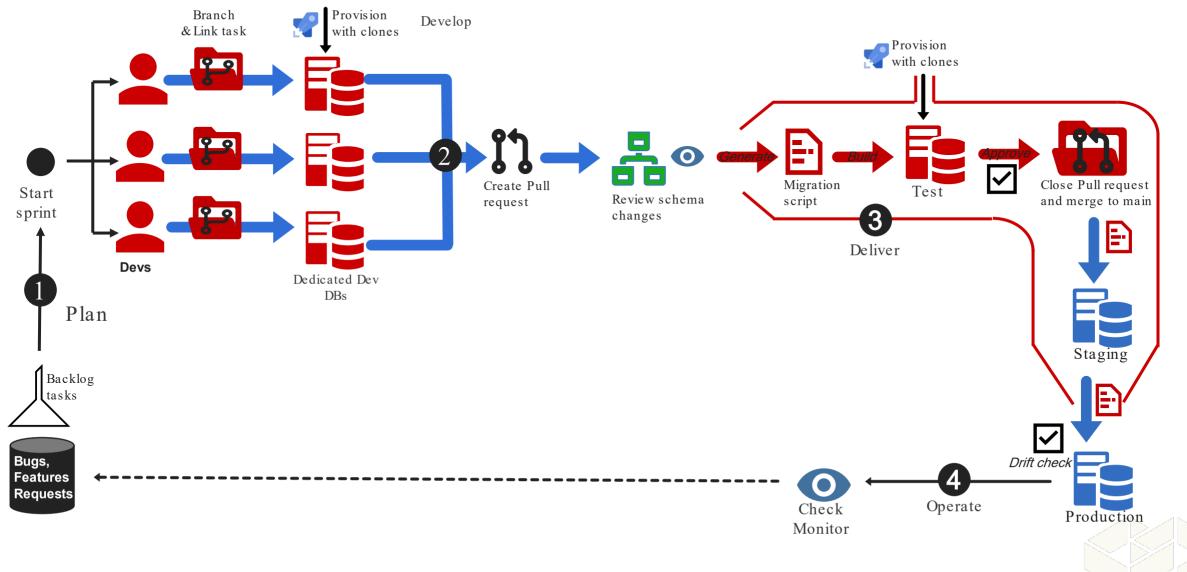


What to expect of todays session

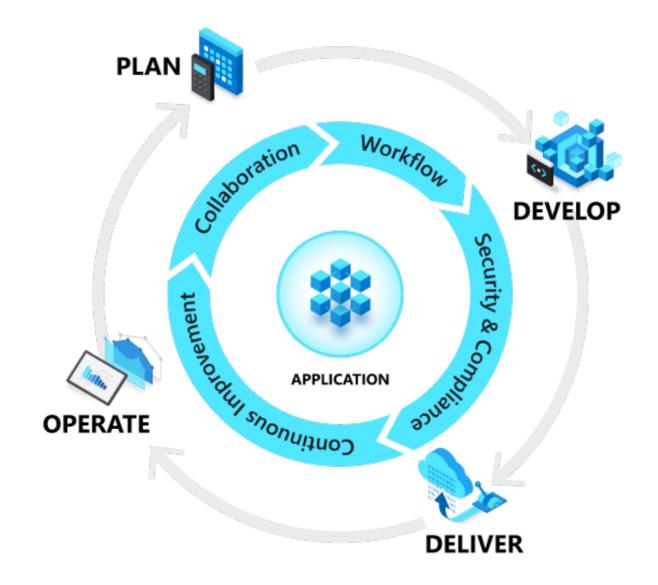
- Transforming to DevOps, CJ/CD?
- The 4 DevOps phases walk through
- Room for discussion & questions



Database DevOps – the end goal



DevOps



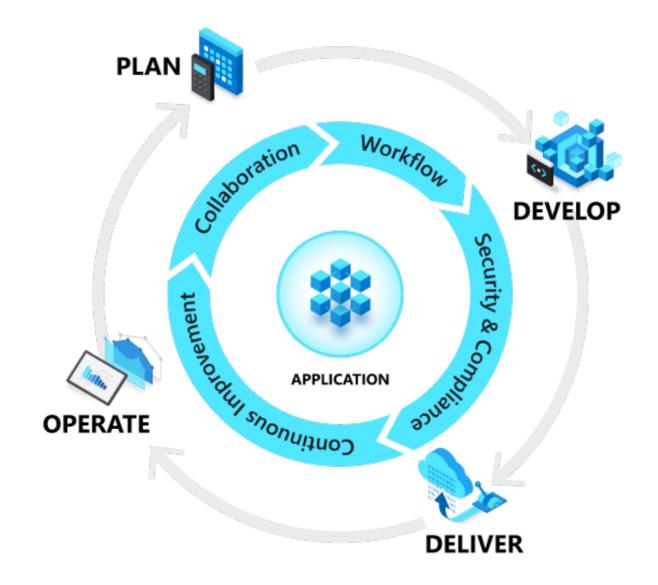


"DevOps is the union of people, process, and products to enable continuous delivery of value to our end users."

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

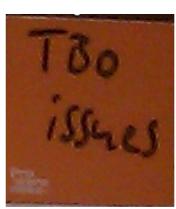
Why?



- Team was too big
- No fixed iteration path



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





A A A SATURDAYS

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

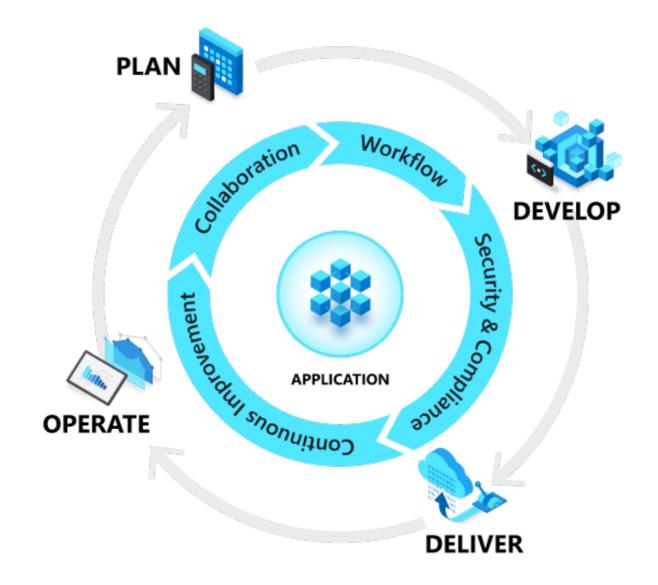


Plan DevOps practices

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



DevOps



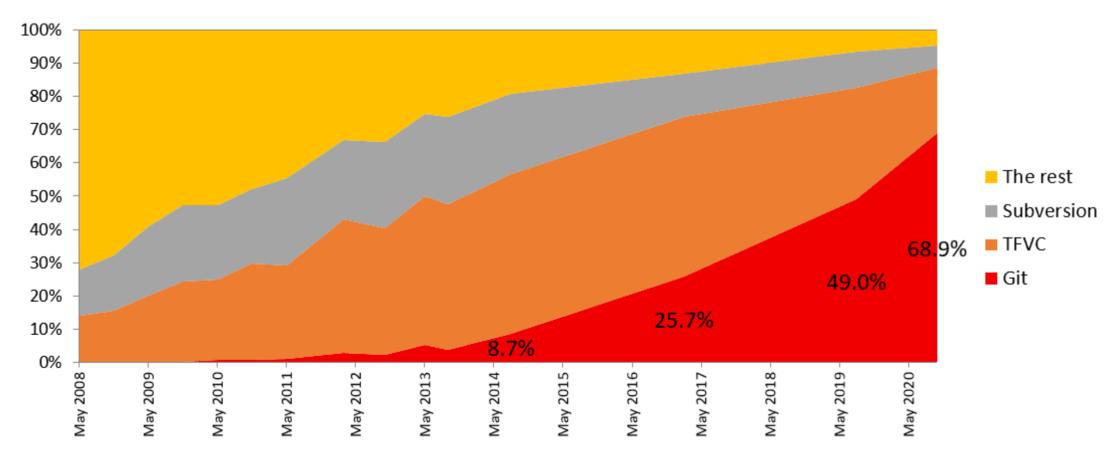


Develop DevOps practices

- 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

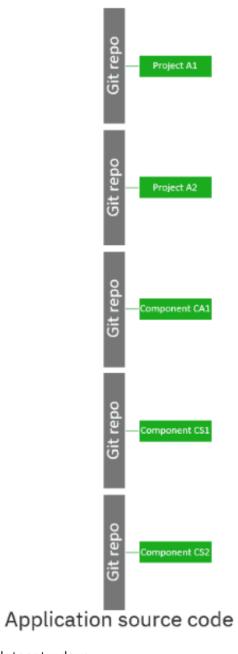




Switching to git

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







Database source code

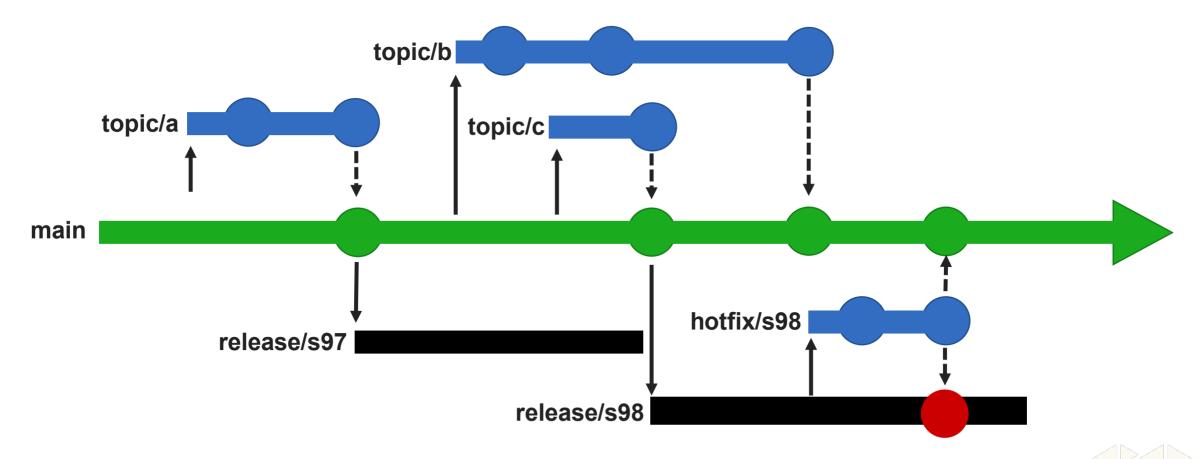


Branching strategy

- 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

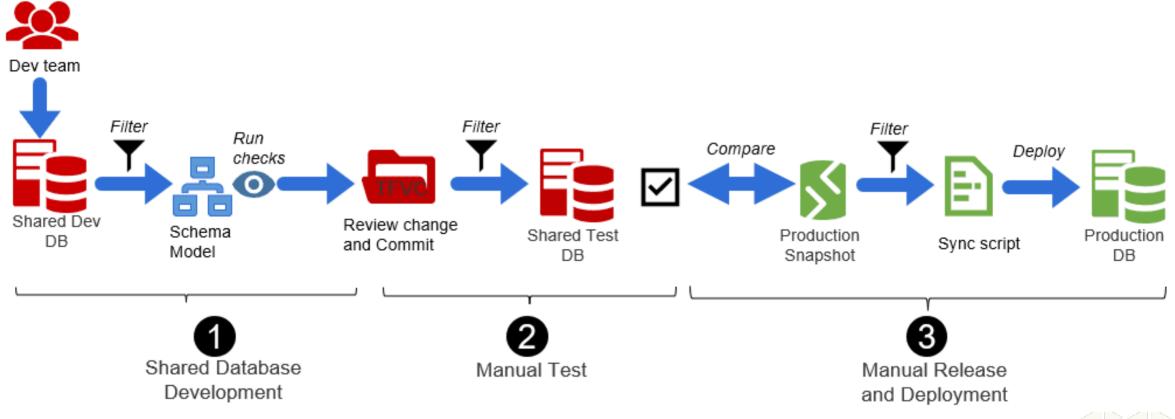


Develop DevOps practices

- 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



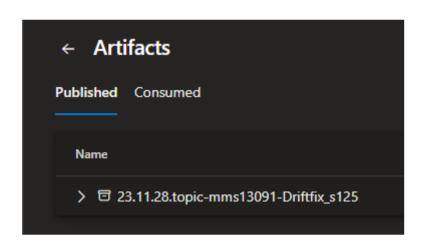
A A A SATURDAYS

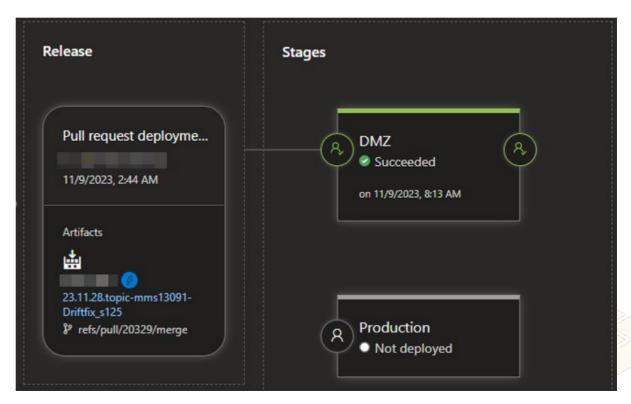
Demo



Build artifact & automate repetitive tasks

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





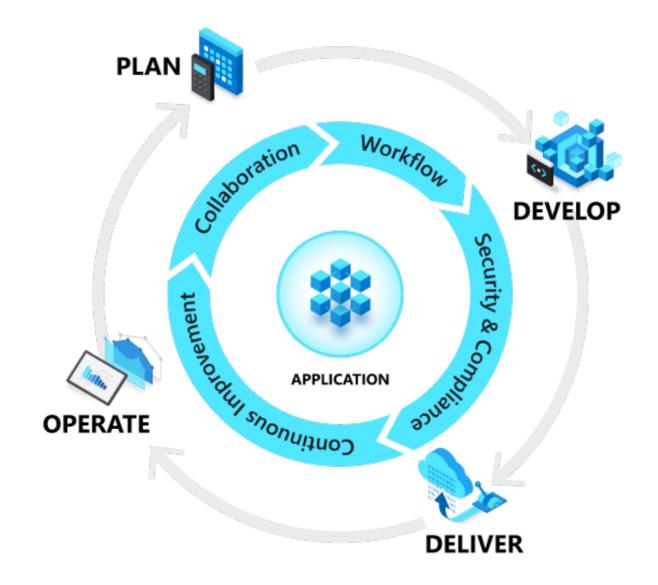


Develop DevOps practices

- ✓ 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

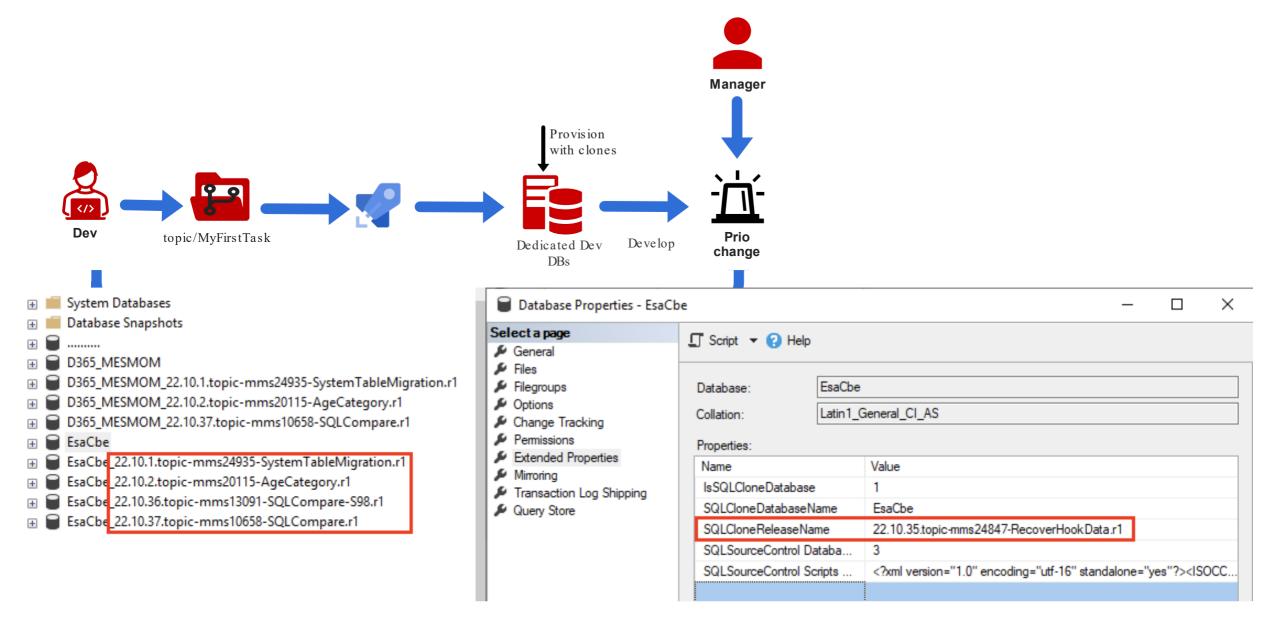


The concept of database stashing

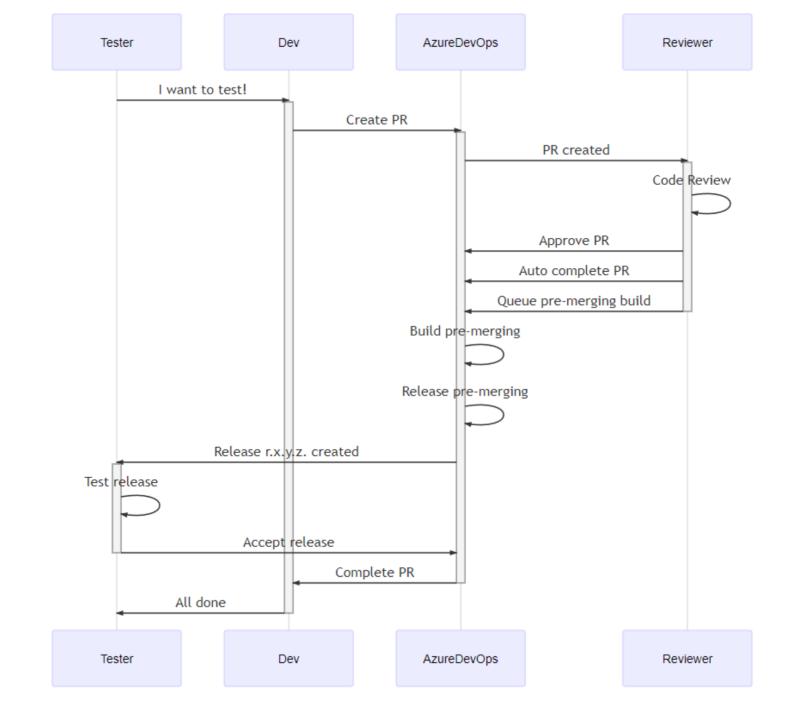


- Changing priorities
- git stash but then for DBs
- Personal instance / environment
- Through AzDo not on your system











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!



A A A SATURDAYS

Demo



Deliver workflow improvements

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

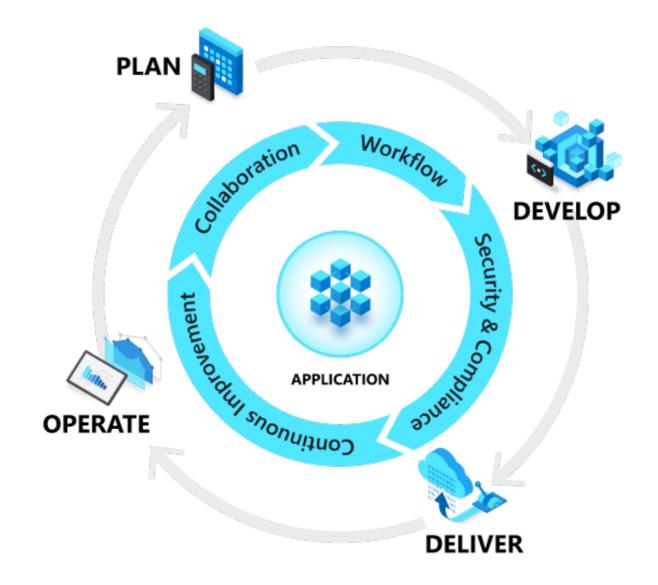


Deliver DevOps practices

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



DevOps





Operate DevOps practices

- Monitor & troubleshoot
- Securing knowledge



Troubleshoot

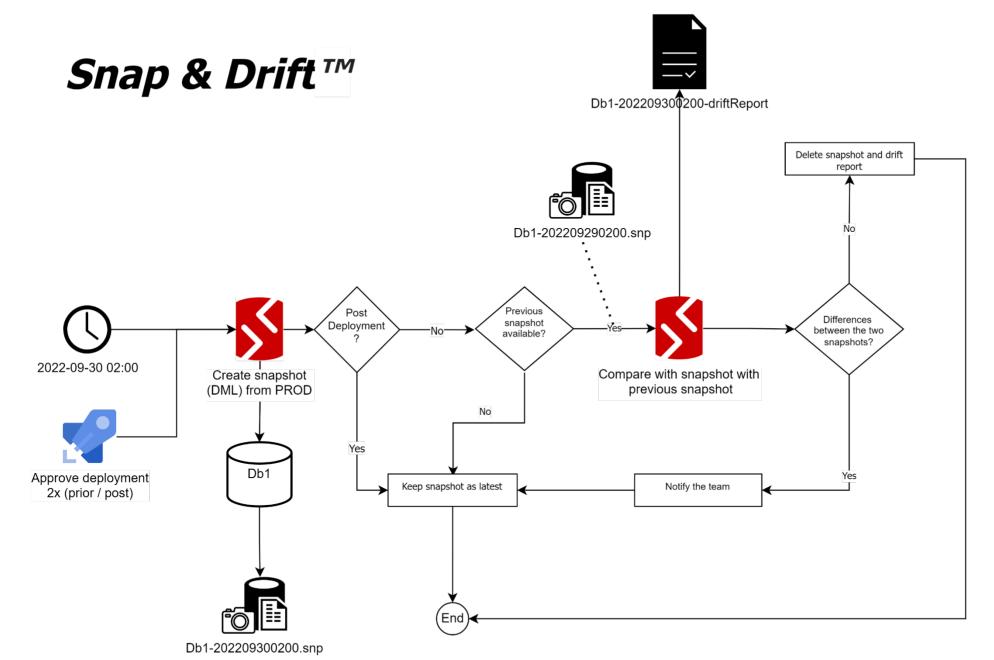
- What was changed?
- Who signed off for this?
- Where did the change come from?



Monitor production databases

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







A A A SATURDAYS

Demo



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





Session evaluation

Your feedback is important to us





Thank you

- in linkedin.com/in/toniehuizer
- **2** @promicroNL
- github.com/promicroNL
- **1** www.promicro.nl

