**Assignment 2.3 – Where to Start**

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The DevOps method of value steaming was created in order to help companies with software development become better at looking at the value of different parts of the project. Though implementing this method might be difficult in the beginning the benefits seem to outweigh that when the method is put to work correctly. The value steam method helps the developers and other team members see the lifecycle of software delivery from the idea all the way to the finished production. (White, S.) Below I will go into detail about some of the tools this method uses to accomplish this.

Value steaming was one thing I can across in my reading and research that I found to be a fairly important thing in DevOps management and when choosing your value stream, you should choose your choice wisely. Your choice will dictate how hard the transformation might be with what you choose to work on. (Kim, G. Debois, P., Willis, J., Humble, J., & Allspaw, J.) It will also dictate who will be able to work on them. So if you choose the wrong item or the wrong team members you might have to start back at square one. So, at this point you might be wondering what valve streaming actually is, well it’s a way for companies to learn the value of different things such as ideas, things being developed and so on. (White, S.) After choosing where you want to start the next important step would be applying the DevOps principles and patterns. (Kim, G et al.) This will allow the team to start learning and understanding of how the value is being distributed to the customer. (Kim, G et al.) We also start to figure out who will be preforming the different parts of work and by which team members and how the flow can be improved upon. (Kim, G et al.) Seeing where you can make improvement when you can really helps cut down setbacks on projects.

When starting the value steam process, a good tool to use when you begin process is a steam mapping exercise. This is a good tool to use with team members and any major stakeholders in the project. (Kim, G et al.) Value steam mapping is a way for the team to layout as visualization of any and all steps in the work process. (Kanbanize.) It will show the flow of goods from the supplier to the customer and the developing company. (Kanbanize.) During this process you will go into detail about every important step that you take during the project and then try to figure out how that brings any value to the project, company or to the customer. Doing all this helps to show you where you might be able to make changes and improvements to better both. (Kanbanize.) Toyota Production Systems helped along with the Lean process to make the Value Steam Mapping really take off in popularity. (Kanbanize.) All of these tools are to help with making sure that teams can quickly and self-sufficiently deliver value to our customers with their products. This can often be hard to do when there are several different teams and departments working on one project.

Inconclusion, the DevOps value steam method seems to play a huge role in the DevOps management. It’s a good way to see what values your development team and shareholders believe to be important. The tool of value steam mapping can give the team a visualization of things they might be able to change if they aren’t really that valuable or important to the end product. All the tools that the value steam uses where made to really help improve the overall outcome of the project for both the customer and the team. Thought it might take a little bit of time and effort to get everyone on board with this DevOps method in the long run it should benefit everyone that gives it a try.

Bibliography

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