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The History of DevOps

There is a process to everything, and the better the process and planning, the better the outcome. The same applies to creating efficient software with good turnover rates. Through decades of trial and error, the development process for making efficient software has been continuously tested, altered, and refined. This journey has led us to our present-day solutions, templates, and recommended tactics, known today as DevOps practices.

The Lean Movement

The Lean Movement strives to achieve quality outcomes with good production time. Implemented in the 1980s by Toyota's Production System, Lean introduced several groundbreaking techniques, including value stream mapping, kanban boards, and total productive maintenance. These techniques were so effective that they were later adopted by industries such as healthcare and service, thanks to the efforts of the Lean Enterprise Institute.

Lean principles emphasize that smaller batch sizes lead to better quality, faster lead times, and higher customer satisfaction. By reducing the size of work batches, companies can enhance product quality, improve efficiency, and deliver value more quickly.

The Agile Manifesto

The Agile Manifesto, originally referred to as "lightweight methods" in software development, was introduced in 2001. This innovative approach aimed to generate quicker turnaround times in software development while maintaining high quality. Agile focuses on adaptability, prioritizing shorter development cycles over the longer, rigid processes that were common at the time.

Key to Agile is the concept of incremental releases, which advocates for delivering smaller, functional pieces of software more frequently. This approach not only reduces the risk of large-scale failures but also allows for continuous improvement based on user feedback. Agile's principles, such as valuing individuals and interactions over processes and tools, and responding to change over following a plan, have significantly transformed the software industry.

The Continuous Delivery Movement

The Continuous Delivery Movement, pioneered by Jez Humble and David Farley in 2006, extends the principles of Agile by focusing on the discipline of continuous build, test, and integration. Their vision was to ensure that software could be reliably released at any time, with every change being automatically tested and integrated into the codebase.

This movement builds upon Agile principles, aiming to reduce the time and risk associated with software releases. By making deployment a routine activity, Continuous Delivery ensures that software is always in a deployable state, ready to be released to production whenever needed.

Resources :

The DevOps Handbook by by Gene Kim; Jez Humble; Patrick Debois; John Willis; Nicole Forsgren.