## **Opening statement on Informed consent**

You are being invited to participate in a research study titled Modeling Automation Maturity in Software Development. This study is being done by Simcha Vos from the TU Delft and Sebastian Proksch in the role of responsible researcher.

The purpose of this research study is to better understand how CI/CD automations can be categorized, and will take you approximately 5 minutes to complete. The data will be used for the findings of the master thesis and possibly paper publication.

As with any online activity the risk of a breach is always possible. To the best of our ability your answers in this study will remain confidential. We will minimize any risks by not storing any private identifiable information, survey entries will be completely anonymized. The only exception to this is, if you choose to submit your email address, for either a follow-up email or to participate in the raffle. This data will be stored encrypted and deleted immediately after the survey has finished. Results will be aggregated together so no single entry of this survey will be traceable. After the end of this survey, the survey will be deleted.

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and you can withdraw at any time. If you have entered any personal data, you can always ask for your personal data to be removed from the survey at a later point in time.

For any further questions or concerns, you can directly contact me, Simcha Vos (<u>a.s.j.vos@student.tudelft.nl</u>) or the responsible researcher, Sebastian Proksch (<u>s.proksch@tudelft.nl</u>).

By continuing to and submitting this survey, you agree to this opening statement on your informed consent. Thank you for your help!