**# Why I Became a DevOps Consultant**

*Today, we talk about time to market, we talk about quality and we talk about competitiveness. We want to be the best not necessarily because we have to but also because we want to. We love what we do. Everybody wants to be a rock star, me, you, your colleagues. DevOps pushes us onto the stage. It challenges us. DevOps challenges people and processes, architecture and technologies. I became a DevOps Consultant because I wanted onto the stage. I wanted to be a part of a movement that seems to be the biggest and most important movement since eCommerce.*

DevOps is important because it unites stakeholders. And through this uniting we can accomplish amazing things. When the organization I work for started to move towards DevOps two years ago our lead time from development ready to production where roughly 6 weeks. The organization was a foggy forest. We new what others were doing but we couldn’t see it. Thus we couldn’t work together and we couldn’t improve our overall complex processes. Today our lead time is less than a week, too long, still, but we can now see better and that makes us work together and improve what’s not working properly.

It excites me to speed up processes and repetitive tasks. An example, we hire many consultants and they all need a computer with lots of software that want to play together. I remember my my first day(s) as an IT Consultant at a large organization. I basically downloaded, installed and configured software that I didn’t know so well. I learned a lot but I also felt that I didn’t get any work done. I wanted to be an asset but I couldn’t be one. DevOps makes it possible, automation makes it possible to be an asset from day one.

I like to compare DevOps with the German Autobahn where speed is what matters most. Driving over 200km/h brings you pretty fast from Frankfurt to Berlin. DevOps has the same goal, pushing software from development to production in high speed. But building an Autobahn for software is hard work, many stakeholder will be involved. Once all needed information and all access rights are in place we can start building the Software Autobahn using tools like Ansible and Docker.

Many software developers still spend many hours doing work that doesn’t generate immediate and understandable value for stakeholders. Work like setting up a local workstation, a new test environment or running updates on a critical infrastructure. DevOps brings us faster and safer to our destination. The result is shorter time to market, improved quality and the best, we are ahead of our competitors.

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