Lesson 1.5: DevOps Principles: Improvement Kata

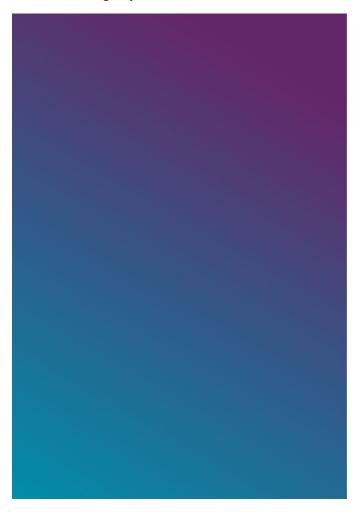
DEVOPS CULTURE AND MINDSET DevOps Principles: Improvement Kata



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Slide 1: Learning Objectives



Learning Objectives

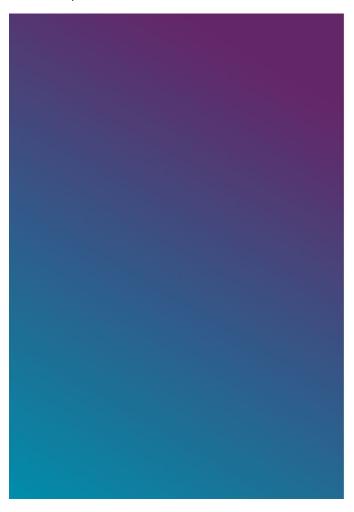
Define **Improvement Kata** in basic terms

Inspire further research

Discuss origins of Improvement Kata

Describe **steps** to using it successfully

Slide 2: Improvement Kata



Improvement Kata

Comes from Toyota production system

A process for continuous improvement

Slide 3: Improvement Kata Steps



Improvement Kata Steps

- I. Understand **vision** & **direction** for project
- 2. Analyze to understand current condition
- 3. Establish target condition
- Plan > Do > Check > Act (PDCA) toward target

Slide 4: An Example of Using Improvement Kata at Nordstrom



Value stream mapping and improvement kata were used

Customer-facing engineering teams aimed to reduce cycle time by 20%

Slide 5: Next Step at Nordstrom



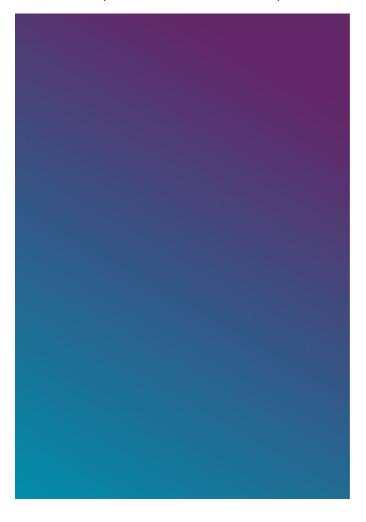
Next Step at Nordstrom

Each team had to grasp current condition

Set target (cycle time from 5 to 4 weeks)

Pick experiments to **iterate toward target**

Slide 6: One Experiment in Nordstrom Example



One Experiment in Nordstrom Example

Remove an approval process in hardening phase

Result: Saved a day in the process

Slide 7: Next Team Focus in Nordstrom Example



Next Team Focus in Nordstrom Example

Target: Reduce exceptions in hardening phase

Implementing automation shaved 2 days from cycle time

Slide 8: Next Team Focus on the Deployment Process



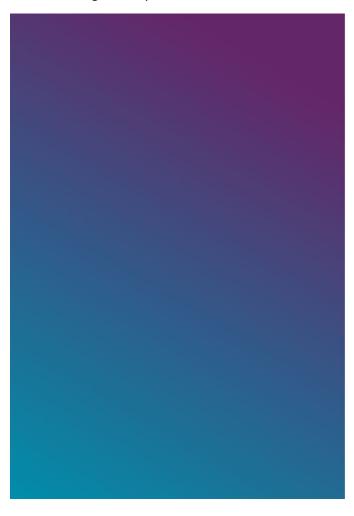
Next Team Focus on the Deployment Process

Aim to automate tasks & improve quality

Result: Release took fewer days

Reached goal of 4-week process

Slide 9: Setting PDCS Cycles



Setting PDCA Cycles

Weekly check-ins

Plan > Do > Check > Act

Set check frequency at 3 weeks



People assume they know what problems they need to solve

They jump to conclusions about how to solve assumed problems

Leveraging Improvement Kata requires leaders to direct problem-solving

Improvement Kata provides a useful methodology