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The History of DevOps – Assignment 1.3

CSD 380 – Professor Sue Sampson

To write about the history of something, one must know what it is first. The methodology known as DevOps is a metamorphic intellectual and technological movement in the discipline of software development. It creates direct collaboration between the developers and the operations personnel in an effort to consistently output production with concentrations on better speed, value, and team cooperation. The stories behind DevOps really display the need for its appreciation and continuing advancement.

It all starts with The Lean Movement which traces back to post-World War II Japan, where W. Edward Deming and Walter A. Shewhart decided to shake up the manufacturing industry and suggest the concept of statistical process control models that ended up impacting the automobile giant, Toyota, and their production system which became known as the Toyota Production System or TPS. The reasons for this include their focuses on just-in-time production methods and pull systems to stay away from over-producing, the concept of kaizen which stands for ceaseless amelioration, and a cutthroat approach to eliminating waste.

Within this movement are the Lean principles such as value, value stream mapping, flow, pull, and perfection. The application of these to software development logically became the concept of Lean Software Development which attributes its creation to Mary and Tom Poppendieck in 2003. It has specific tools for software environments that match up with Agile viewpoints and actions. The Lean Movement lives with DevOps in the way they both prioritize eliminating waste, efficient delivery, and nonstop betterment.

Now it's time to discuss The Agile Manifesto which was born from Agile in 2001 where a group of software developers actually published The Agile Manifesto which emphasizes

individualistic interactions, functionality, customer communities, and adaptability in a modernizing world.

As one could guess, this influenced the future of DevOps by creating the footing for it with the use of small, iterative cycles and prompt assessments. It's interesting since Agile didn't initially consider the operations department, but in 2008, Andrew Shafer proposed the collaboration of Agile's principles to operations management at a conference and then in 2009, John Allspaw and Paul Hammond showed how efficient this team actually is. Like a domino effect, this led to DevOpsDays from Patrick Debois, which was, in fact, the first use of the term DevOps. This launched its availability to the greater community.

References

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