



eBook

Professional Services

Four Keys to Your DevOps Journey

Bring Together Apps and Operations with DevOps Principles

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DevOps Defined

Devops is a set of best practices and cultural changes that allow development, quality assurance, and operations to better meet customer needs. This integrated team approach facilitates communication, collaboration, and integration to manage today's rapidly changing business demands.





DevOps Defined



The Challenge



Driving Collaboration



Micro Focus Approach



Four Keys



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The Challenge: Keeping Pace with a High-velocity Business

To stay competitive, your business needs to accelerate the delivery of new software features and functionality. That's the idea behind the agile software-development processes that are now widely used by application delivery teams to reduce delivery cycle times.

But here's where things get harder. While agile methods are a huge step forward for application delivery teams, they alone don't ensure the fast rollout of new software. Cycle times are also driven by IT operations teams, which historically have been a speed bump in the road to putting applications into production.

Why the delays? Operations teams want to avoid the risks that come with changes made to applications and infrastructure, such as breaching service-level agreements (SLAs), system downtime, and outages. So they approach new software releases cautiously. The result: New software releases are delayed, and business agility is lost.

DevOps helps your organization to bring together the key stakeholders (business, apps, and ops) by focusing on collaboration, automation, and monitoring, resulting in improved application release velocity with quality.



DevOps Defined



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Driving Collaboration Across the Development Lifecycle and IT Operations

DevOps is all about people, process, and technology, and applying principles and methods to drive better collaboration between your software delivery and IT operations teams. DevOps extends the agile mindset to incorporate operations. Whether your organization uses agile, waterfall, or both, DevOps recognizes the interdependences of application delivery and IT operations in accelerating the release of high-quality software.

DevOps enables continuous delivery, which focuses on what is ultimately most important: shorter cycles for putting high-quality software into the hands of end users. Continuous delivery relies on better collaboration, integrated processes, and the comprehensive automation of build, test, and deployment processes to make software ready for release on demand.

Key Benefits of DevOps

Here are some of the ways that DevOps helps you drive business value.

- **Gain a competitive advantage.** Accelerate the release of applications into production. Respond faster to business demand.
- **Increase IT resource efficiency.** Automate provisioning and deployment. Remove manual processes.
- **Enable better and faster decisions.** Create an immediate feedback loop. Identify issues earlier in the process.
- **Keep pace with business demands.** Bring new apps and updates to market quickly to create satisfied customers.



DevOps Defined



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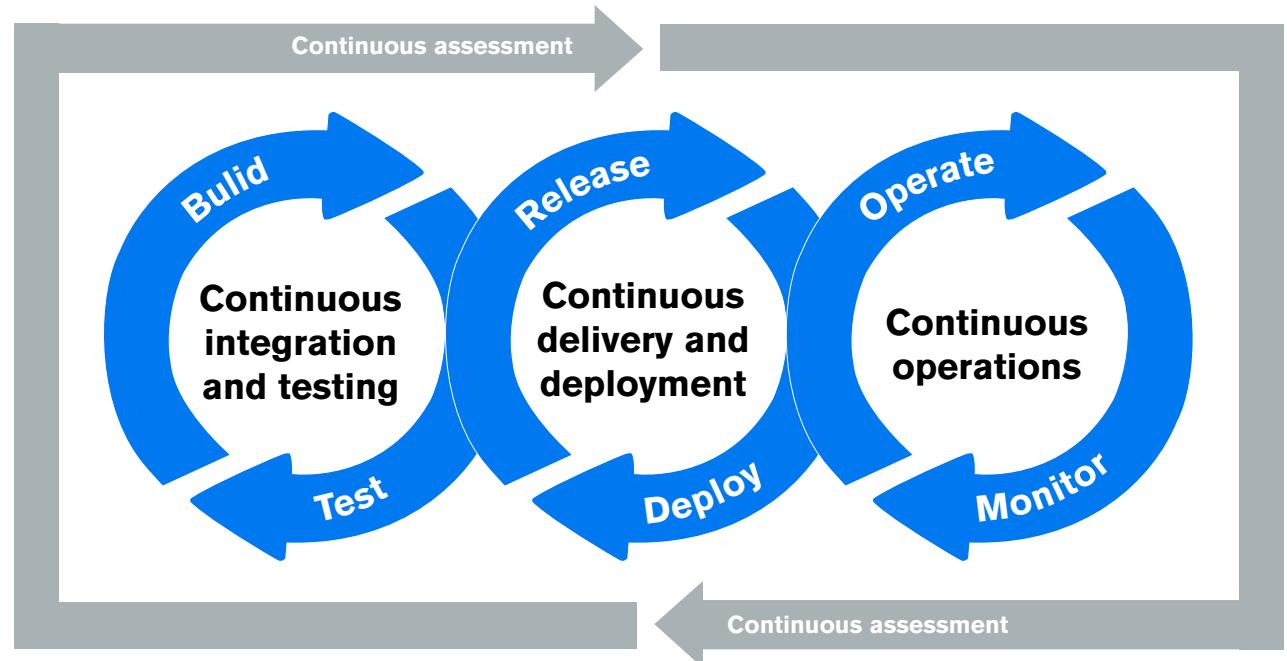
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A Holistic Approach to DevOps

Many technology vendors and service providers can deliver pieces and parts of DevOps, but not the full solution. That's not the case with Hewlett Packard Enterprise. Drawing on a vast software portfolio and the broad reach of the Micro Focus Professional Services organization, Micro Focus delivers end-to-end solutions for DevOps.

The holistic Micro Focus Professional Services approach to DevOps spans from planning and definition through monitoring and optimization of your in-production applications. It extends agile principles to:

- Eliminate silos across your organization
- Enable cross-team collaboration
- Automate build, test, and deployment processes
- Accelerate release cycles
- Test and monitor earlier in the development process and test in production





DevOps Defined



The Challenge



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Four Keys



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Get on the Path to DevOps with These Four Keys

DevOps brings fundamental changes to the way application delivery and operations teams interact and carry out processes. It requires changes to technology, processes, and culture, and change at this level can be challenging if not addressed in a systematic manner.

So how do you approach DevOps? Micro Focus Professional Services recommends that you begin your DevOps journey by focusing on four keys to a successful DevOps implementation.

1. Assess your DevOps strategy.
2. Identify the DevOps maturity of your core development and IT operations processes.
3. Adopt and implement change to improve velocity.
4. Measure progress and plan next improvement.



Key 1. Assess Your DevOps Strategy

The first step on the path to DevOps is an assessment of your DevOps strategy and what you are trying to achieve. Gartner adds these thoughts on the assessment process: "Before beginning a DevOps initiative, an assessment of current systemic issues (and technical debt) is needed to develop a common understanding of costs and intended efficiency gains to assess what needs fixing."¹

In more specific terms, the assessment process helps you:

- Identify your DevOps business drivers, challenges, and initiatives
- Examine critical success factors and best practices from successful projects
- Review critical DevOps domains that align to your business goals
- Identify priorities for short, midsize, and long-term projects

Read the [Micro Focus DevOps Transformation Workshop Service brief](#).

"What are we trying to achieve?"

¹ Gartner, "Seven Steps to Start Your DevOps Initiative," September 16, 2014.



“How far along are we?”

Key 2. Identify the DevOps Maturity of Your Core Development and IT Operations Processes

To put your organization on the path to DevOps, you need a clear understanding of your current practices for development and operations. Do your development processes use agile or waterfall methodologies, or both? Do your operations teams follow ITIL processes? What are your current practices for planning and communication?

In some specific areas of focus, the exploration of development practices looks at your approaches to application decoupling, continuous integration and the use of an apps hub, test automation, good coding practices, configurability, and maintainability. The review of operations practices explores your approaches to an operations hub, infrastructure as code, automated release management, resolution practices, and monitoring.

Ultimately, this process helps you:

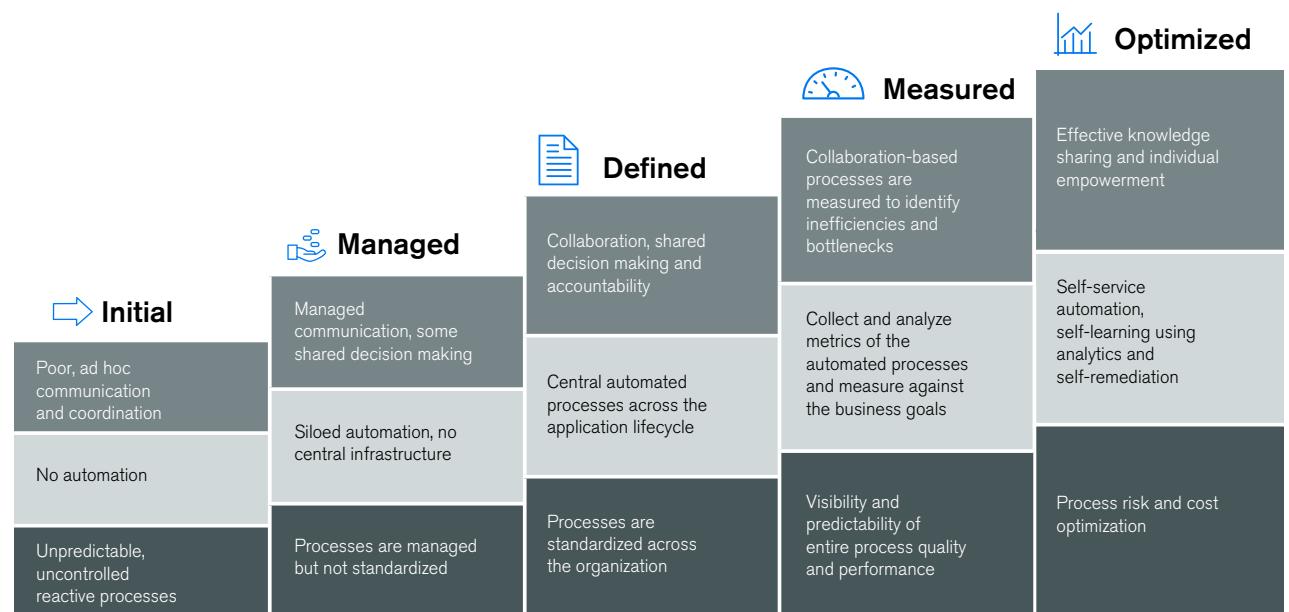
- Identify key stakeholders in business, development, QA, and operations
- Determine the app development methodologies—agile, waterfall, both—that are most important
- Determine the ITIL processes that are most important
- Understand your planning and communication practices

Read the [Micro Focus DevOps Solution Discovery Workshop Service brief](#).

DevOps Maturity Model: a Proven Approach

To understand the DevOps maturity of your core development and IT operations processes, Micro Focus Professional Services leverages a proven DevOps maturity model. This model looks at DevOps from three viewpoints—process, automation, and collaboration—and spans a series of clearly defined states on the path to an optimized DevOps environment.

The DevOps maturity exploration leaves you with an understanding of your organization's maturity level in terms of process standardization, automation tools, and collaboration approaches, along with insights into your opportunities for improvement.





Key 3. Adopt and Implement Change to Improve Velocity

DevOps encompasses the entire application lifecycle. The ultimate goal is to ensure that apps can be deployed into production in an agile, automated, and continuous manner.

To that end, the DevOps journey determines areas of standards and automation and then implements them in a phased approach. The ultimate goal is to move your organization to accelerate at the speed of business.

Here we focus on the people, process and technology around four key DevOps areas: (1) continuous assessment, (2) continuous integration and testing, (3) continuous delivery and deployment and (4) continuous operations. Organizational change and cultural change is addressed throughout.

Read the [Micro Focus DevOps Services brief](#).

“Where can we change?”



“What will our results look like?”

Key 4. Measure Progress and Plan Next Improvement

Another key to the journey to DevOps is to identify the measures and metrics you will use to gauge the success of your initiative, such as business enablement, cycle times, and escaped defects. In many cases, your DevOps metrics will be different from those used today in app delivery and IT operations. The goal is to establish a common set of business-driven metrics that incorporates development, QA, and operational views.

Gartner offers this guidance: “Build new shared metrics that align with the business needs and impacts, but, more importantly, help people realize that they must work together. Goals should be service-focused, with an eye toward improving agility (velocity) and improving business value (quality).”²

“In a DevOps initiative, the metrics must be aligned to the end goal—business enablement via faster production release.”

—Gartner²

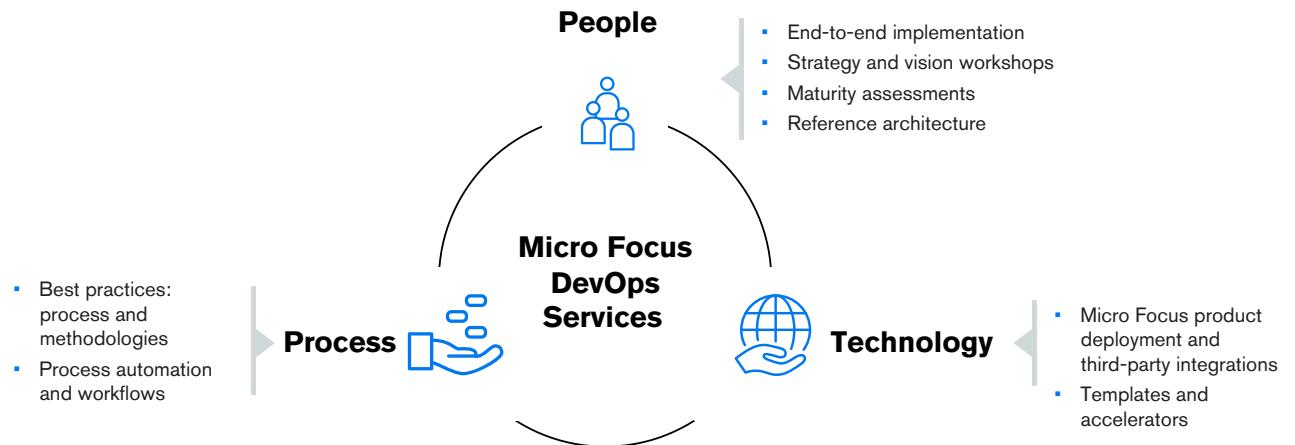
² Gartner, “Seven Steps to Start Your DevOps Initiative,” September 16, 2014.

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Make Your Journey to DevOps with Micro Focus Professional Services

With its holistic approach to DevOps, extensive software services portfolio, and unique intellectual property, Micro Focus Professional Services is your ideal partner for your journey to DevOps. Micro Focus offers all the resources you need to bring together your people, processes, and technology to enable unified application delivery and increase business agility.

Better still, the Micro Focus approach to DevOps is designed to help you to gain business value at each incremental step in your journey.



Let's Get Started

In today's application-driven world, your competitive edge increasingly relies on your ability to continually deliver high-quality software to end users. That's a key value enabled by DevOps. Through its ability to bring together application delivery and IT operations, DevOps gives your business the agility it needs to compete successfully in the era of the app.

Ready for a Deeper Dive?

For more information on Micro Focus Professional Services offerings for your DevOps journey, visit us at microfocus.com/devopsservices.

Additional contact information and office locations: microfocus.com/about/contact