THE 10 MYTHS OF DEVOPS
I am @sethvargo
LET'S TALK MYTHS.
Myth #1 - You can hire a DevOp to fix your organization
DevOps Is Dead (Long Live DevOps)
HYPE CYCLE
INFLATED EXPECTATIONS

TRIGGER
INFLATED EXPECTATIONS

TRIGGER

TROUGH OF DISILLUSIONMENT
TRIGGER

INFLATED EXPECTATIONS

SLOPE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

TROUGH OF DISILLUSIONMENT
TRIGGER

INFLATED EXPECTATIONS

SLOPE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

TROUGH OF DISILLUSIONMENT

PLATEAU OF PRODUCTIVITY
TRIGGER

INFLATED EXPECTATIONS

SLOPE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

TROUGH OF DISILLUSIONMENT

PLATEAU OF PRODUCTIVITY
INFLATED EXPECTATIONS

PLATEAU OF PRODUCTIVITY

SLOPE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

TROUGH OF DISILLUSIONMENT

TRIGGER
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1/3 as many search results
1/3 as many search results

1 fewer "top profile"
1/3 as many search results

1 fewer "top profile"

30 years senior profession
WHY?
THE HYPE IS OVER.
DevOps is two or more organizational units working together peacefully for a common success criteria.
Many organizations are mistaking operations for DevOps.
A "DevOps Engineer" would be responsible for ensuring two or more organizational units communicate with each other.
Sound familiar?
Sound familiar? We call those people managers.
Featured positions

Accounts Payable Specialist (Dublin)
International
Join the people who make Etsy global.

Full Stack Software Engineer
Software Engineering
Join the people who make Etsy's code a craft.

Full Stack Software Engineer (San Francisco)
Software Engineering
Join the people who make Etsy's code a craft.

Senior Product Designer, Localization (San Francisco)
Product and Design

Network Security Engineer
Operations
Join the people who make Etsy's code a craft.

Accounting Supervisor - International & Consolidations
Finance
Core Data Science
• Data Scientist, Economic Research (Menlo Park)
• Data Scientist, Identity Research & Modeling (Menlo Park)
• Data Scientist, Product Science (Menlo Park)
• Data Scientist, Statistics & Decision Science (Menlo Park)

Database, Storage, Systems Engineering
• MySQL Database Engineer (Menlo Park)

Developer Operations
• Manager, Global Support Engineering (Singapore)
• Partner Engineer, Platform (São Paulo)

G&A
• Academic Relations Coordinator (Menlo Park)

Growth, Engagement, Mobile
• Software Engineer, RTC Audio (Seattle)
• Software Engineer, RTC Windows Mobile (Seattle)

IT
• Mac Production Engineer (Menlo Park)
• Software Engineer, Enterprise (Menlo Park)

Infrastructure

Growth, Engagement, Mobile
• Growth, Engagement, Mobile (2)

IT
• IT (2)

Infrastructure
• Infrastructure (1)

Instagram
• Instagram (2)

LiveRail
• LiveRail (2)

Monetization
• Monetization (1)

Oculus
• Oculus (19)

Parse
• Parse (2)

Partnerships, Games
• Partnerships, Games (1)

Program Management and Analysis
• Program Management and Analysis (4)

Security
• Security (5)

Software Engineering
• Software Engineering (75)

Solutions & Partner Engineering
• Solutions & Partner Engineering (22)

Systems
• Systems (4)

Technical Account Management
• Technical Account Management (1)

WhatsApp
• WhatsApp (2)
Myth #2 - DevOps is the panacea for all your problems
Production went down again!?
Production went down again!? 

Yea, we just need better DevOps
Production went down again!?

Yea, we just need better DevOps.
BUZZWORD
APPLICATION
DISORDER
Your whole team quit!?

Yea, we just need better DevOps

Your whole team quit!?
You have male pattern baldness!?

Yea, we just need better DevOps

You have male pattern baldness!?
STORY TIME
Myth #3 - You can be certified in DevOps
I have attended and passed (with a C or better) either the first (1st) or second (2nd) grade of elementary school.

Yes

No
I have attended and passed (with a C or better) either the first (1st) or second (2nd) grade of elementary school.

[ ] Yes  [ ] No

Name: ______________________________________
I have attended and passed (with a C or better) either the first (1st) or second (2nd) grade of elementary school.

Yes  No
The only difference between second grade and the tech industry is the size of the toys.
When and where did we lose the desire and willingness to work with others?
WHAT CHANGED?
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
In secondary and post-secondary education, we are actively discouraged from working with others.
Sometimes we are quantified or even ranked by standardized testing, which encourages unhealthy competition.
NOT EASILY UNLEARNED
DevOps is about communication, collaboration, and sharing ideas.
If you need a certificate to say that you play well with others, I think you have bigger problems than a bullet point on your resume.

- Seth Vargo
AWS Training Certificate of Completion

Seth Vargo

Has successfully completed the following course

DevOps Engineer - Professional

05/18/2015
Date
3. Write the script to call the ec2-create-volume API, tag the Amazon EBS volume with the current date-time group, and use the ec2-copy-snapshot API to back up data to the new Amazon EBS volume. Use the ec2-describe-snapshot API to enumerate existing backup volumes. Call the ec2-delete-snapshot API to prune backup Amazon EBS volumes that are tagged with a date-time group older than 30 days.
3. Write the script to call the `ec2-create-volume` API, tag the Amazon EBS volume with the current date-time group, and use the `ec2-copy-snapshot` API to back up data to the new Amazon EBS volume. Use the `ec2-describe-snapshot` API to enumerate existing backup volumes. Call the `ec2-delete-snapshot` API to prune backup Amazon EBS volumes that are tagged with a date-time group older than 30 days.
3. Write the script to call the *ec2*-create-volume API, tag the Amazon EBS volume with the current date-time group, and use the *ec2*-copy-snapshot API to back up data to the new Amazon EBS volume. Use the *ec2*-describe-snapshot API to enumerate existing backup volumes. Call the *ec2*-delete-snapshot API to prune backup Amazon EBS volumes that are tagged with a date-time group older than 30 days.
Myth #4 - DevOps is using Chef/Puppet/Ansible/Salt
Some of the original pioneers of the DevOps philosophy actually started in the Configuration Management circle.
Thank You!
It may appear that you must be using these configuration management tools in order to be "doing DevOps right".
While we should appreciate the support of Chef, Puppet, Ansible, and Salt have, DevOps is not affiliated with any company.
Myth #5 - DevOps is just for engineers and operators
Originally not a myth.
DevOps originally proposed to bridge the gap between engineers and operators.
Organizations began to realize that DevOps principles extended beyond their engineering teams.
Development

Operations

Sales
Marketing
Q/A
Consulting
Management
Leadership
Customers

DevOps
DevOps *should be* unilaterally applied across the organization.
Myth #6 - DevOps is going to conferences
THIS IS AWKWARD
YOU'RE AT A DEVOPS CONFERENCE
I GO TO DEVOPS CONFERENCES
I EVEN ORGANIZED A FEW
DevOps Days conferences are the best environment for learning and collaboration.
DevOps conferences

Upcoming events 37  Past events 342  Events in 2014 113

MAY 2015

Portland DevOps User Group
United States, Portland
18th May 2015
DevOps

GluCon 2015
United States, Broomfield
19th–21st May 2015
DevOps

CODESHOW|SE 2015
United States, Charleston
21st May 2015, 8am

DevOps coverage
48 videos
Most recent added 1 month ago

74 slide decks
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1 audio clip
Added 1 year ago

3 write-ups
Most recent added 1 year ago

1 photo
Added 2 years ago

4 notes
Most recent added 1 year ago

7 links
Most recent added 1 year ago

By country
United States 16
United Kingdom 9

By year
2015 102
2016 21
2017 13
2018 9
2019 3
2020 1

By type
Meetups 28
Workshops 26
Conferences 25
Podcasts 24
Audios 21
Webinars 21
Virtual Events 20

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That being said...
An organization can implement successful DevOps practices without ever setting foot in an auditorium or conference center.
But you should still go to a DevOps conference.
But you should still go to a DevOps conference.
But you should still go to a DevOps conference.
Myth #7 - DevOps is using "the cloud"
THE CLOUD
TECHNICAL USER
A public cloud, private cloud, or any virtualized environment is not required to implement DevOps practices.
Even *mainframe operators* can DevOp!
Myth #8 - DevOps is doing the same things as Etsy/Facebook/GitHub/Google
We should use Rails because GitHub did.
We should write our StatsD service in Node.js because Etsy did.
We should use PHP because Facebook did.
We should start with a Rails app and then migrate to a highly-distributed, multi-tiered, Scala-based SOA after a year because Twitter did.
Sound crazy?
Sound crazy? It should.
DevOps is not conforming to the norm; it is defining it.
"If all you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail..."

- Abraham Maslow

The Psychology of Science
While we can learn from the successes of these organizations, DevOps is ultimately doing what is best for your organization and its individual members.
Myth #9 - DevOps is using technologies like node.js, Ruby, or Go instead of "old" technologies like C, Scheme, or Java
def'n: "programming hipster"
def'n: "programming hipster"

programming hipster

A software programmer that probably writes in Ruby, JavaScript or some other "popular but nonetheless probably crap" language. Typically more "artsy fartsy" types than an actual computer scientist. Millennial generation. Street clothing at all times. Hardware stack is entirely Apple-based. High concentrations exist in Shoreditch of London and Bay Area of San Francisco.
programming hipster

A software programmer that probably writes in Ruby, JavaScript or some other "popular but nonetheless probably crap" language. Typically more "artsy fartsy" types than an actual computer scientist. Millennial generation. Street clothing at all times. Hardware stack is entirely Apple-based. High concentrations exist in Shoreditch of London and Bay Area of San Francisco.

*I went to a software conference last week and there was so many programming hipsters there talking about their shitty dynamically typed languages.*
The type or maturity of your stack does not matter.
The type or maturity of your stack does not matter.

"hipster"

ruby
python
node.js
rust
go
The type or maturity of your stack does not matter.

"hipster"
- ruby
- python
- node.js
- rust
- go

"enterprise"
- java
- cobol
- c
- .net
The type or maturity of your stack does not matter.
The enterprise is often omitted.
Big organizations are left behind
Big organizations are left behind, not because they can't
Big organizations are left behind, not because they can't, but because they don't know they can.
Big organizations are left behind, not because they can't, but because they don't know they can.
Big organizations are left behind, not because they can't, but because they don't know they can.

2 employees

100k employees
Big organizations are left behind, not because they can't, but because they don't know they can.

2 employees  DevOp  100k employees
Myth #10 - DevOps is just a fad like "Agile" or "mainframes"
Mainframes were a datacenter technology
Mainframes were a datacenter technology

Agile was a programming methodology
Mainframes were a datacenter technology

Agile was a programming methodology

DevOps is an organizational ideology
technology changes

Agile was a programming methodology

DevOps is an organizational ideology
Mainframes were a datacenter technology changes

Agile was a programming methodology evolves

DevOps is an organizational ideology.
technology changes

methodology evolves

ideology stays the same
DevOps is a way to facilitate organizational prosperity and growth while increasing employee happiness along the way.
That sounds pretty awesome to me.
I am @sethvargo

QUESTIONS?