Why is DevOps Transformation recommended for Business Transformation?

Digital Technologies such as IoT, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, and Robotics are definitely changing the way customer experience (CX) is being delivered and sustained in the current scenario. Practically, Digital Transformation is disrupting every industry vertical with distinct and compelling applications, which are needed for a successful digital strategy. Can DevOps as a process help teams to manage the issues related to digital turbulence?

When it comes to application development and maintenance, DevOps is kind of indispensable. The underlying thought process of DevOps is to enable continuous development, testing, and integration of code within the web and mobile apps. Ultimately, the factors influencing this continuous process is the collaboration of cross-functional teams, organizational workflows, across a technology platform. The overall process further boosts the Application's Intelligence and enables seamless performance.

Key elements of DevOps Transformation

DevOps Transformation is more than mere technology adoption. This implies that it is a process that involves adoption of software development methodology in line with agile development methods and ensuring that these practices run through the value system of the organization.

Gartner defines DevOps as a change in IT culture, focusing on rapid IT service delivery through the adoption of agile, lean practices in the context of a system-oriented approach. DevOps emphasizes people (and culture), and seeks to improve collaboration between operations and development teams. DevOps implementations utilize technology — especially automation tools that can leverage an increasingly programmable and dynamic infrastructure from a life cycle perspective.

Keeping into perspective that DevOps is not just about technology, it is important to dissect various elements that comprise the overall transformation process.

- ### Develop an Agile perspective

As the industry understands and believes, DevOps has evolved out of Agile software development in order to accelerate the release cycles. Hence, it becomes all the more important for teams to build an agile mind-set while adopting DevOps. It means that there should be faster feedback, transparency, open communication channels, automation of testing efforts, and shorter release cycles. This makes agile philosophy the core of the DevOps strategy.

- ### Stay 'practice-driven', not 'hierarchy-driven'

DevOps means more collaboration and less compartmentalization in the software development process. Hence, the idea is to keep all the communication channels open for constant interaction and information sharing between teams. Only when communication is encouraged between teams, it is possible to ensure continuous development and integration, resulting in continuous deployment.

- ### Look within and establish your scope

In the DevOps Transformation process, it is not possible to build a relevant strategy unless the organization establishes its business metrics, profit targets, employee-centric goals, and client acquisition goals. This will help teams to build a cohesive strategy that brings various organizational elements together for a collaborative strategy. Moreover, the plan has to be farfetched and not just for shorter goals, as DevOps will show its effectiveness even in the longer in line with the DevOps Maturity Model.

Business Transformation with DevOps

What exactly does business transformation imply? In practical terms, it refers to a process that works in line with the core business objectives and works towards making it better and smarter. Can DevOps as a methodology make this possible? Let's look at this by weighing it across various parameters.

Accelerating growth with a collaborative outlook

Collaboration is at the core of every DevOps initiative and protocol. With an all-inclusive and open communication culture it would be easier for teams to develop and launch products faster and with much more conviction. Moreover, the accountability to launch a quality product gets shared, which reduces the burden on one team at a time. Values such as these will enable Business Transformation and trigger Quality Transformation within the organization.

Helps ensuring Customer Experience

The ultimate objective of any business venture, whether it's a start-up or an established entity, is to ensure that customer experience is constantly delivered and enhanced. DevOps with shorter development cycles and mechanisms such as continuous development and testing, is able to ensure the performance and functionality of the application. The process being flexible, it also enables teams to go back and make changes to the application to make it better. This helps to further ensure customer experience.

Helps to bring in Automation across functions

Automation is the basic requirement in the DevOps methodology, focussing on automating the basic tasks and testing efforts. This helps teams to skip the repetitive activities and focus on the high level tasks for better application development. Automation of efforts across functions ensures efficiency and growth even in the longer run.

Enables home-grown growth strategy

A DevOps strategy requires skilled resources to ensure seamless adoption of technology platforms and internal application of the refined processes. The immediate option for enterprises is to source talent and resources with skill sets from outside. However, there is a serious crunch of talent in the industry for DevOps resources, which presents scope for enterprises to build the skill sets within the organizations and give opportunities for growth. This not only saves costs, but gives a new spin to the roles of the existing resources.

DevOps is a cultural shift and a strategic decision for enterprises when they decide to adopt the methodology within the organizational framework. DevOps adoption with its intrinsic qualities enables Business Transformation. However, enterprises need to be sure about it and prepared to take in the DevOps storm.