Accenture Architecture Services

DevOps: Delivering at the speed of today's business

High performance. Delivered.
Over the last 10 years, the nature of IT delivery has shifted from large-scale, project-based system implementations and follow-on maintenance to a continuous evolution of IT systems. DevOps is one of the leading software engineering trends that make this shift possible, bringing business, development and operations stakeholders together to streamline IT delivery. Leveraging a powerful combination of complex delivery experience, proprietary and open source tools, Accenture’s DevOps services help organizations define, implement and run DevOps to compete successfully in today’s high-velocity business world. DevOps represents both a technology and a culture change.

In the DevOps environment, no longer are applications “built” as one distinct activity and “maintained” as another. DevOps uses both cultural change and automation techniques for deployment, environment set-up, configuration, monitoring and testing to achieve this outcome. Together, this accelerates the interaction between development teams, which focus on building applications, and operations teams, which are accountable for releasing and maintaining those applications. The result: faster, more predictable deployments to market, performed with radically greater efficiency, to enable companies to sustain their competitive edge, enter new markets and scale their business.

DevOps: A matter of survival in the digital age

The ability to roll out business capabilities continuously will be the difference between companies that can evolve and ones that stagnate.

What is DevOps?
Why Now?

Addressing the need for flexibility and speed

Today, every company is also a software company. Software is a key driver of differentiation and business innovation. It’s a gateway to new services and revenue streams, seamless customer experiences and expansion into new markets. In this world, companies must fundamentally change the way they build and deliver applications to support dynamic business needs. Creating a collaborative DevOps culture, developing a lean governance model and implementing DevOps practices helps companies deliver applications faster and more reliably, while remaining flexible to react to changing market feedback. DevOps allows companies to shift from traditional phased delivery models to a continuous delivery mindset, made possible by better integrating teams within IT and employing more automated processes. For the software-driven business, the ability to roll out business capabilities continuously will be the difference between companies that can evolve and ones that stagnate. Every company today should consider making DevOps part of their operating model.

DevOps and other lean-inspired principles such as agile and continuous delivery support the new reality that IT has to deal with increasing speed and complexity. Customer-facing digital and mobile applications require rapid change without compromising quality in order to respond to very short feedback cycles from customers. Enterprise systems call for more efficient and automated development and deployment approaches to keep pace with business. DevOps supports the requirement for greater efficiency and speed in both digital and enterprise applications, making it a key enabler in today’s high-velocity business environment.

Lean IT: DevOps and Agile

Agile and DevOps are both elements of lean IT. Agile focuses on development methodology along with the cultural alignment between business and IT. DevOps focuses on engineering culture and automation practices for development and operations. It is possible to leverage DevOps principles beneficially to support traditional delivery, but due to the complimentary and overlapping nature they work best together. Agile specifically requires reliable speed of delivery to support short iterations.

Accenture has created a defined end-state for lean IT organizations that can support the required speed of delivery. Often supporting a multi-speed IT model is initially necessary while transforming to a true lean IT organization. Accenture has defined adaptable models that are able to scale and jumpstart lean IT.
Comprehensive DevOps services from Accenture

Accenture helps our clients continuously deliver across the application lifecycle. Our services include:

**Strategy**

- **Diagnostics:** We assess existing software delivery maturity and provide insights into the opportunities that DevOps will help realize.
- **Value Case for Change:** Based on closing maturity gaps, we create a value case, including key levers such as velocity, productivity and quality.
- **Client-specific Blueprint Plan:** We design program initiation activities to bring together stakeholders and support mobilization efforts required for DevOps implementation.
- **Modern Engineering Capabilities Blueprint:** Based on the maturity assessment inputs and recommendations, we define a DevOps framework to support an IT Operating Model based on DevOps principles.

**Implementation**

- **Build and Deploy Automation:** We implement automation tools supporting Continuous Delivery and DevOps capabilities along with automation improvements.
- **Organizational DevOps Change:** We build an IT Operating Model, based on DevOps principles, into the organization through workshops, training and working alongside key stakeholders and teams.
- **DevOps Governance:** We implement a governance structure, enabling establishment and ongoing improvement of DevOps capability.
- **DevOps Tooling Platform:** We run and operate the automated tooling platform, helping select the right blend of tools and infrastructure solutions to meet the organization’s needs.

**Complementary Capabilities**

- **Accenture Cloud Platform:** We provide the power and flexibility to manage your organization’s workloads simply and securely across multi-clouds on demand, at speed and from a single point.
- **Lightweight Architecture:** We create an architecture roadmap, covering existing investments, future target state and concepts like micro-services and containers.
- **Security:** We provide end-to-end security solutions, spotting vulnerabilities and building resilience, at speed and on a global scale.
- **Test Automation:** We adopt automation techniques in security, performance and functional testing to allow for a comprehensive automated test approach.
- **Agile:** We provide a set of options on how to organize Agile teams for co-located and distributed types of Agile projects.
Complex delivery experience
We create state-of-the-art technical architectures for DevOps practices backed by over 20 years of experience with automation to support complex delivery across digital and enterprise applications. Accenture has successfully applied DevOps practices to large and small engagements and also to a variety of enterprise products including Oracle and SAP. Although interest in DevOps is rising rapidly, automation practices have been part of the Accenture methodology for over 15 years even before DevOps increased the visibility in the industry. Within Accenture, we have defined career paths for DevOps and Agile practitioners including certifications and a specific training curriculum for each career path.

Integrated approach
Accenture brings together all of the capabilities needed to implement Continuous Delivery for our clients, including IT strategy, deep industry knowledge, change management and large-scale application delivery. Accenture has an extensive suite of assets for DevOps, which includes maturity assessments, automation blueprints for many popular technologies, connectors for common tool choices and methodology frameworks for all aspects of the adoption.

Accenture DevOps Platform
Our cloud-based DevOps and Continuous Delivery tooling platform provides DevOps capabilities and is provisioned from a web interface. An on-premise solution is available if required and can integrate with client tools. Accenture’s tools are preconfigured, providing a capability that clients can leverage to reduce the cost of their DevOps infrastructure and increase the speed of adoption.

Accenture Cloud Platform
DevOps can be enabled by the Accenture Cloud Platform, which gives you the power and flexibility to manage your organization’s workloads simply and securely on demand, at speed and from a single point. Our platform supports private and public cloud technology from leading providers such as Amazon Web Services, Cisco, Microsoft Windows Azure, NTT Communications and Accenture Private Cloud.
Benefits

Our clients deliver faster and with lower risk by implementing DevOps:

**Faster time to market**
The ability to make frequent, predictable, low-risk releases to production makes IT departments more agile and decreases deployment times, often by more than 50 percent. Instead of waiting for a monthly or quarterly production release cycle, features can be made available in days rather than weeks or months.

**Increased throughput**
By removing bottlenecks such as manual testing or environment set-up from the software lifecycle, teams are more productive and can deliver new functionality faster. Using DevOps practices, IT is able to improve response time to business needs.

**Lower risk through automated quality**
With frequent deployments, developers receive real-time feedback about quality and are able to respond immediately, enabling an environment of continuous learning. Early identification of quality concerns, reduces defects across the lifecycle up to 30 percent.

**Improved security with resiliency**
A continuous delivery approach results in systems that are elastically scalable and highly resilient that function well under significant pressure or change. This results in an operational state that is more stable and secure and changes are systematically auditable.

---

**Time to Market**
Reduce time to market by up to 50% through streamlined software delivery

**Throughput**
Increase team productivity and deliver new functionality faster

**Risk**
Early identification of quality concerns, reduction of defects across the lifecycle up to 30%

**Resiliency**
Operational state is more stable and secure and changes are systematically auditable
European retailer
The retailer saved over $300,000 in build and deployment efforts, as well as $1M in testing efforts through a program to industrialize delivery. Accenture’s DevOps services provided tooling design, support, automated environment creation and ongoing environment support to deliver new applications in a multi-release, multi-production environment project. Accenture helped industrialize delivery from the outset using continuous integration, automatic test environment creation, automated testing and automated quality gates.

Asian telecommunications company
The company saved over 5000 days per year by creating a new delivery model for Siebel, Java and TIBCO development based on Agile and DevOps principles. Lifecycle automation and organizational and process changes significantly reduced effort and led to faster time to market for application releases.
Contacts
To learn more about how Accenture can help you unleash the power of DevOps to optimize application delivery to the pace of business, please reach out to:

Martin Croker
martin.croker@accenture.com

Mirco Hering
mirco.hering@accenture.com

About Accenture
Accenture is a leading global professional services company, providing a broad range of services and solutions in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations. Combining unmatched experience and specialized skills across more than 40 industries and all business functions—underpinned by the world’s largest delivery network—Accenture works at the intersection of business and technology to help clients improve their performance and create sustainable value for their stakeholders. With approximately 373,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries, Accenture drives innovation to improve the way the world works and lives. Visit us at www.accenture.com.