



We fear change.

Understanding why people resist using your platform

Coté - February 6thth, 2024

We all know that

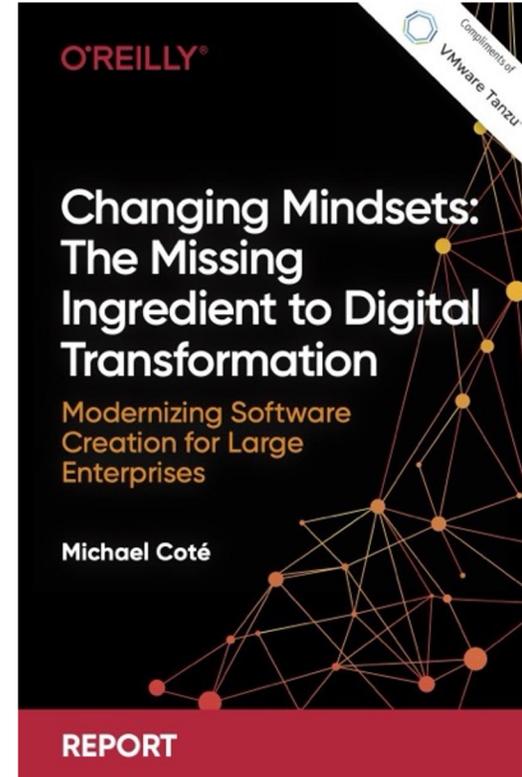
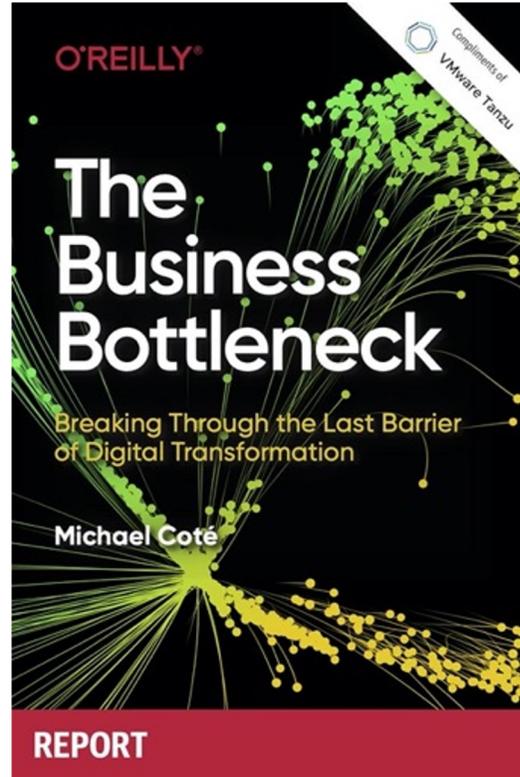
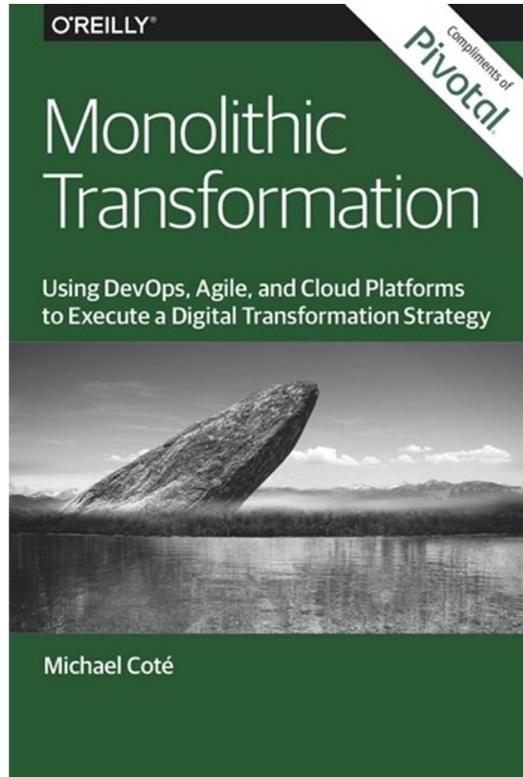
**Changing organizations fails 70% of
the time.**

Actually,

**We have no idea how frequently
changing organizations succeeds or
fails.**

Coté

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The Wonderful World of Management



HAPPY
TRANSFORMATION

“People”



“This is a 1 ½ CIO Job.”



Sources: “[Fortune 500 C-Suite Snapshot: Profiles in Functional Leadership](#),” SpencerStuart, 2023 (analysis done as of June 30, 2023).

Management & workers often have different incentives & motivations

Adding a focus on opportunities to software developer productivity metrics can offer clearer paths to improvement.

Focus areas by level

● DORA¹ metrics ● SPACE² metrics ● Opportunity-focused metrics

	Outcomes focus <i>Are you delivering products satisfactorily?</i>	Optimization focus³ <i>Are you delivering products in an optimized way?</i>	Opportunities focus <i>Are there specific opportunities to improve how you deliver products, and what are they worth?</i>
System level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Deployment frequency ● Customer satisfaction ● Reliability (uptime) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Code-review timing ● Velocity/flow through the system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Satisfaction with engineering system ● Inner/outer loop time spent
Team level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lead time for changes ● Change failure rate ● Time to restore service ● Code-review velocity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Story points completed ● Handoffs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quality of documentation ● Developer Velocity Index benchmark⁴ ● Contribution analysis
Individual level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developer satisfaction ● Retention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interruptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contribution analysis ● Talent capability score

¹Google's DevOps research and assessment team, which developed these outcome metrics.

²Satisfaction and well-being, performance, activity, communication and collaboration, and efficiency and flow; GitHub and Microsoft Research developed these metrics, which aim to look at developer well-being as a measurement at the individual level.

³Nonexhaustive.

⁴Benchmarks an organization's technology, working practices, and organizational enablement; see Shivam Srivastava, Kartik Trehan, Dilip Wagle, and Jane Wang, "Developer Velocity: How software excellence fuels business performance," McKinsey, Apr 20, 2020.

McKinsey & Company

Happiness is not a business outcome

FIGURE 1: EXAMPLE METRICS

LEVEL	SATISFACTION & WELL-BEING How fulfilled, happy, and healthy one is	PERFORMANCE An outcome of a process	ACTIVITY The count of actions or outputs	COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION How people talk and work together	EFFICIENCY & FLOW Doing work with minimal delays or interruptions
INDIVIDUAL One person	*Developer satisfaction *Retention! *Satisfaction with code reviews assigned *Perception of code reviews	*Code review velocity	*Number of code reviews completed *Coding time *# Commits *Lines of code!	*Code review score (quality or thoughtfulness) *PR merge times *Quality of meetings! *Knowledge sharing, discoverability (quality of documentation)	*Code review timing *Productivity perception *Lack of interruptions
TEAM OR GROUP People that work together	*Developer satisfaction *Retention!	*Code review velocity *Story points shipped!	*# Story points completed!	*PR merge times *Quality of meetings! *Knowledge sharing or discoverability (quality of documentation)	*Code review timing *Handoffs
SYSTEM End-to-end work through a system (like a development pipeline)	*Satisfaction with engineering system (e.g., CI/CD pipeline)	*Code review velocity (acceptance rate) *Customer satisfaction *Reliability (uptime)	*Frequency of deployments	*Knowledge sharing, discoverability (quality of documentation)	*Code review timing *Velocity/flow through the system

¹ Use these metrics with (even more) caution – they can proxy more things.

TABLE 1: EXAMPLE DEVEX METRICS

	FEEDBACK LOOPS	COGNITIVE LOAD	FLOW STATE
PERCEPTIONS <i>Human attitudes and opinions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfaction with automated test speed and output Satisfaction with time it takes to validate a local change Satisfaction with time it takes to deploy a change to production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perceived complexity of codebase Ease of debugging production systems Ease of understanding documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perceived ability to focus and avoid interruptions Satisfaction with clarity of task or project goals Perceived disruptiveness of being on-call
WORKFLOWS <i>System and process behaviors</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time it takes to generate CI results Code review turnaround time Deployment lead time (time it takes to get a change released to production) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time it takes to get answers to technical questions Manual steps required to deploy a change Frequency of documentation improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of blocks of time without meetings or interruptions Frequency of unplanned tasks or requests Frequency of incidents requiring team attention
KPIS <i>North star metrics</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall perceived ease of delivering software Employee engagement or satisfaction Perceived productivity 		

Causes of thriving	Because a developer is...
Agency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> able to voice disagreement with team definitions of success has a voice in how their contributions are measured
Motivation & Self-Efficacy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> motivated when working on code at work can see tangible progress most of the time is working on the type of code work they want to work on is confident that even when working in code is unexpectedly difficult, they will solve their problems
Learning Culture	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> learning new skills as a developer able to share the things they learn at work
Support & Belonging	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> supported to grow, learn, and make mistakes by their team agrees they are accepted for who they are by their team

Management vs. workers often have different urgency & motivation to change

Exec's View	Work the Same	Transform!
Compensation	\$	\$\$\$\$
Risk	HIGH	HIGH
Outcome		

Staff's View	Work the Same	Transform!
Compensation	\$	
Risk		HIGH
Outcome		

The people who do the work (should) decide how to change the work

Leaders at the Genba



The boss made immediate changes once I put him on the line!

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FLOW SYSTEM

5 DevOpsDays DFW 2022

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“We believe that we need to increase our independence to make product decisions, as well as our ability to follow our instincts to reduce complexity.”

Siew Choo Soh, DBS Bank





Containers *will not fix* your broken culture

(and other hard truths)

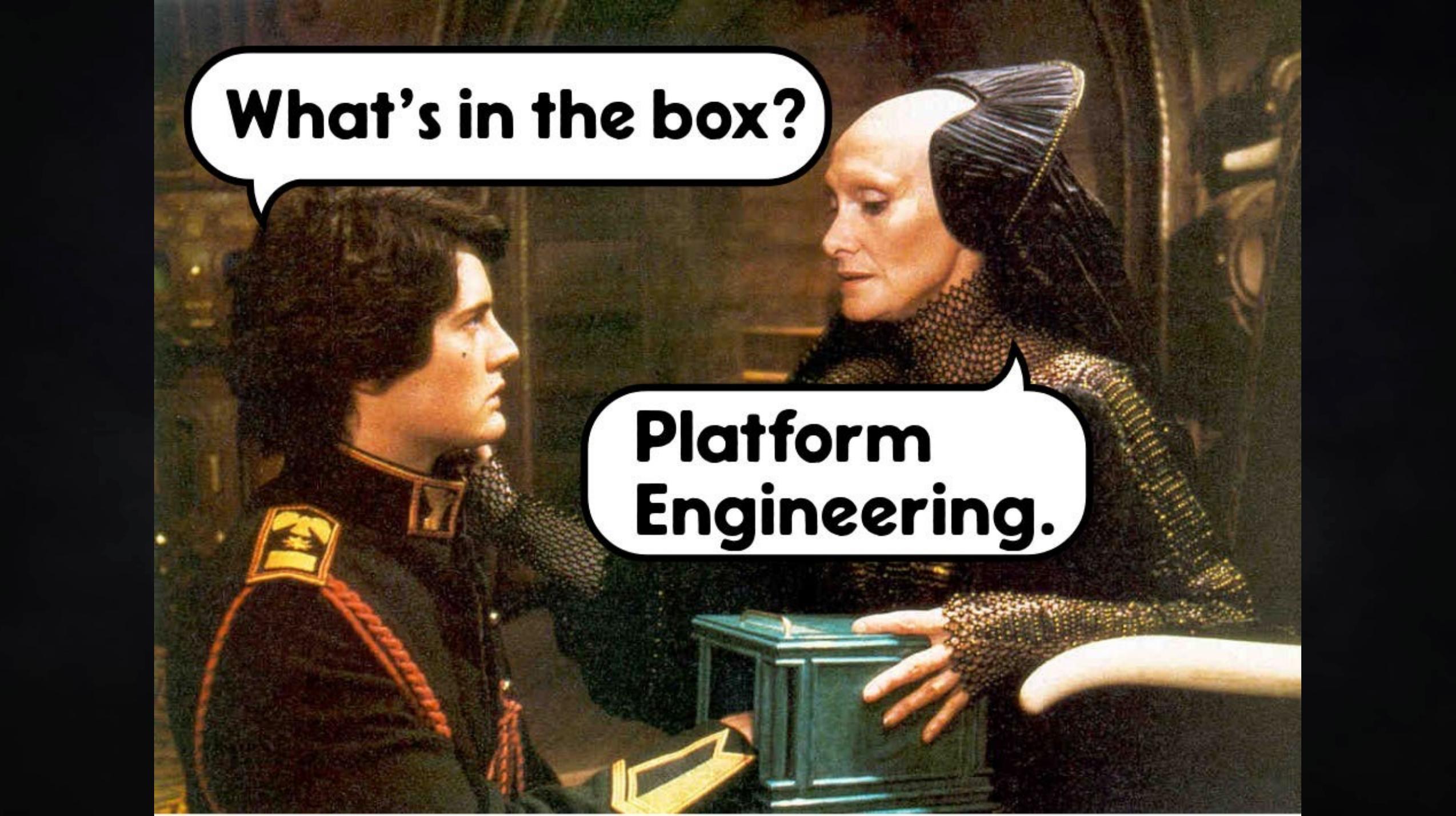
BRIDGET KROMHOUT

**COMPLEX
SOCIO-TECHNICAL
SYSTEMS
ARE HARD;
FILM AT 11**

We focus so often on technical anti-patterns, neglecting similar problems inside our social structures. Spoiler alert: the solutions to many difficulties that seem technical can be found by examining our interactions with others. Let's talk about five things you'll want to know when working with those pesky creatures known as humans.

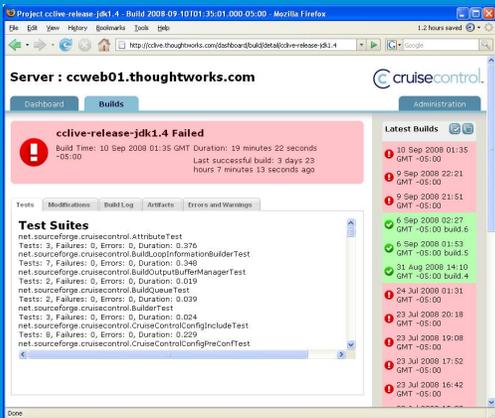
1. TECH IS NOT A PANACEA

According to noted thought leader [Jane Austen](#), it is a truth universally acknowledged that a techie in possession of any production code whatsoever must be in want of a container platform.

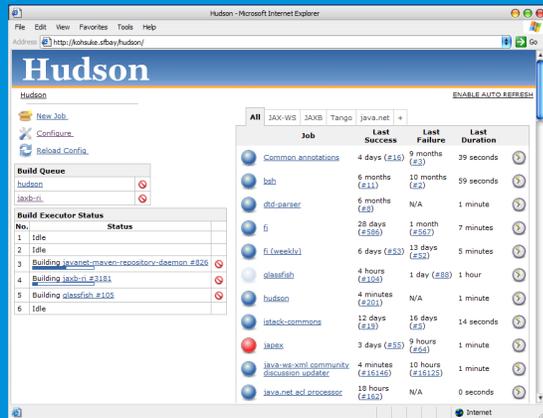


What's in the box?

**Platform
Engineering.**



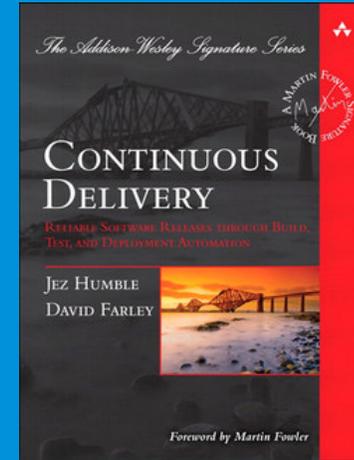
2001



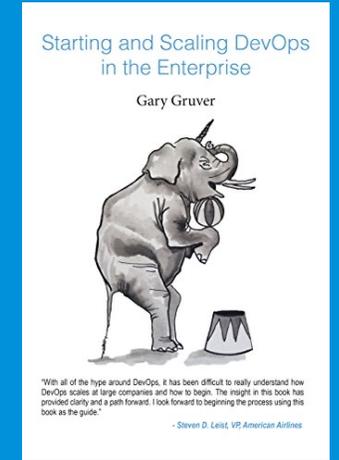
2005



2011



2010

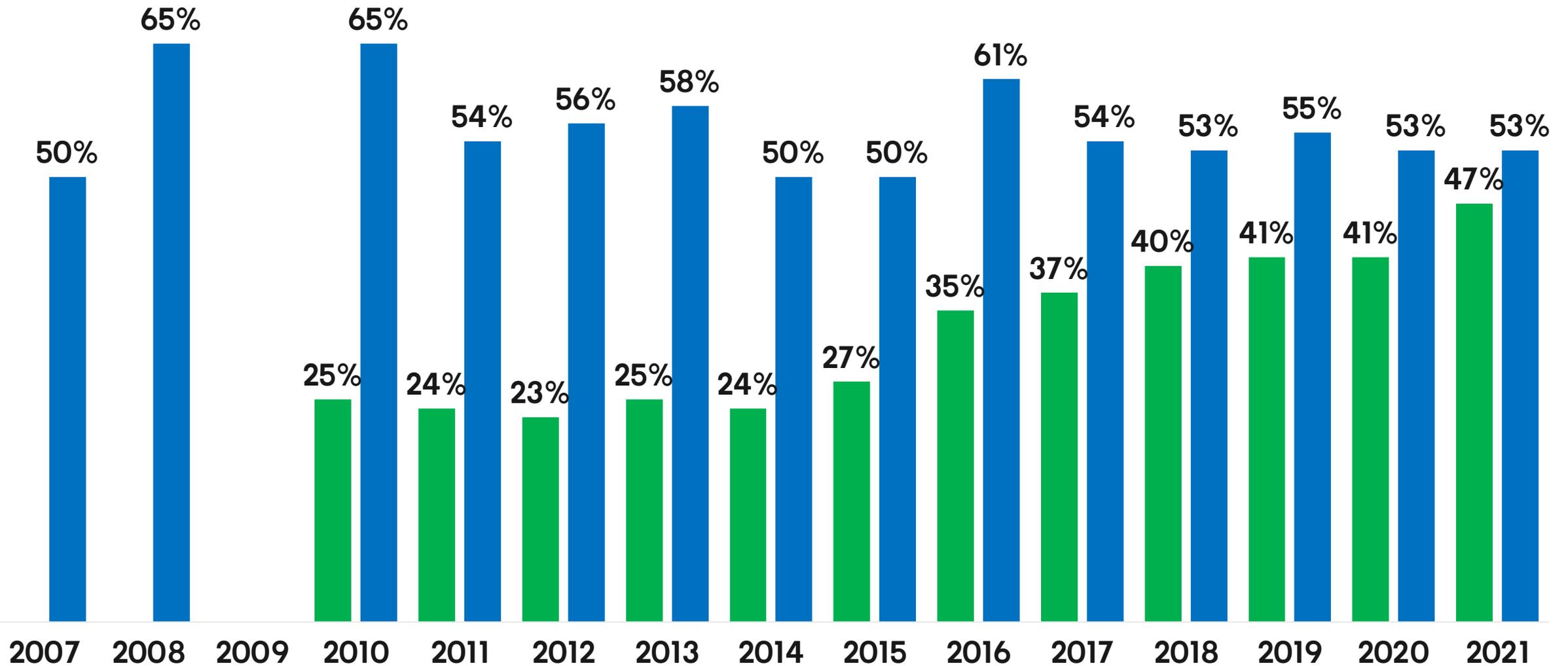


2016

"Printer firmware?
Hold my beer." ↗

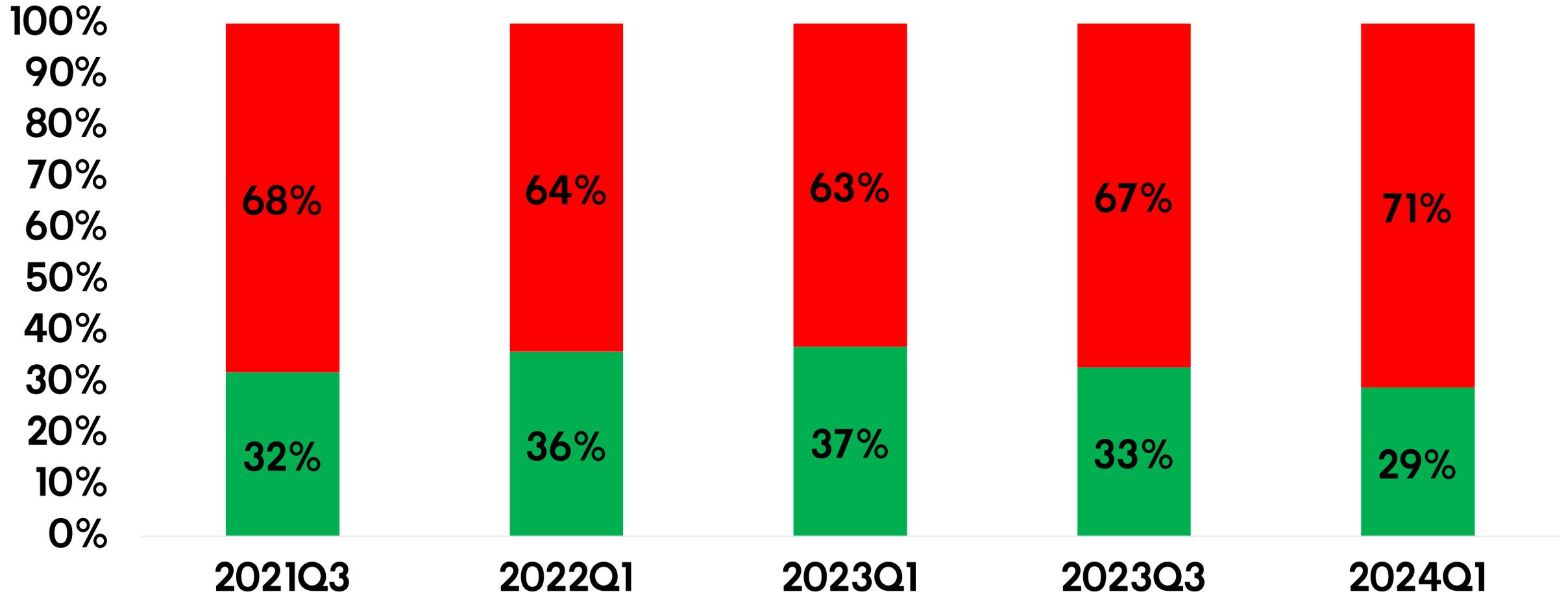
CI and CD usage, 2007 to 2021

■ CD ■ CI



CI Usage, 2021 to 2024

■ CI ■ No CI

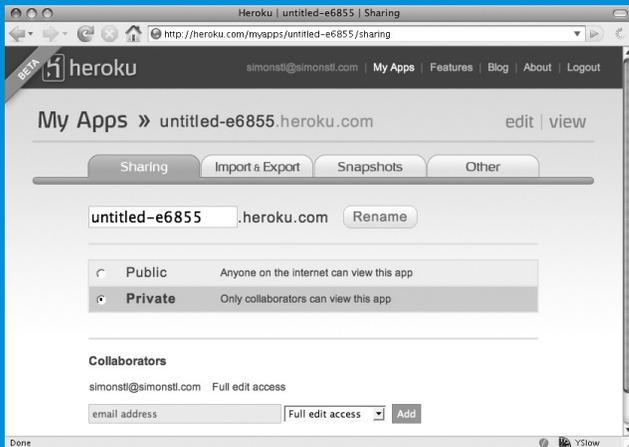


Question: Which of the following technologies have you used as part of your development activities in the last 12 months? Source: CD Foundation Surveys (Slashdata).

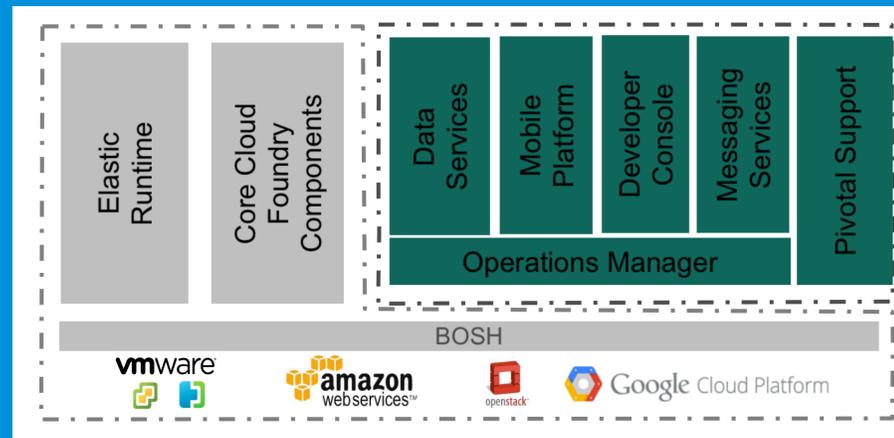
The Eternal Recurrence of (Platforms, PaaS, DevOps, Cloud Native, Golden Paths, Platform Engineering, ...)

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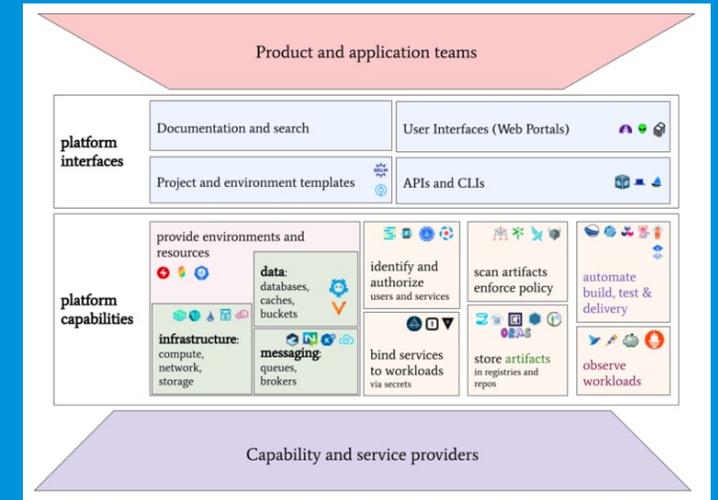
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2007



2011 to 2015

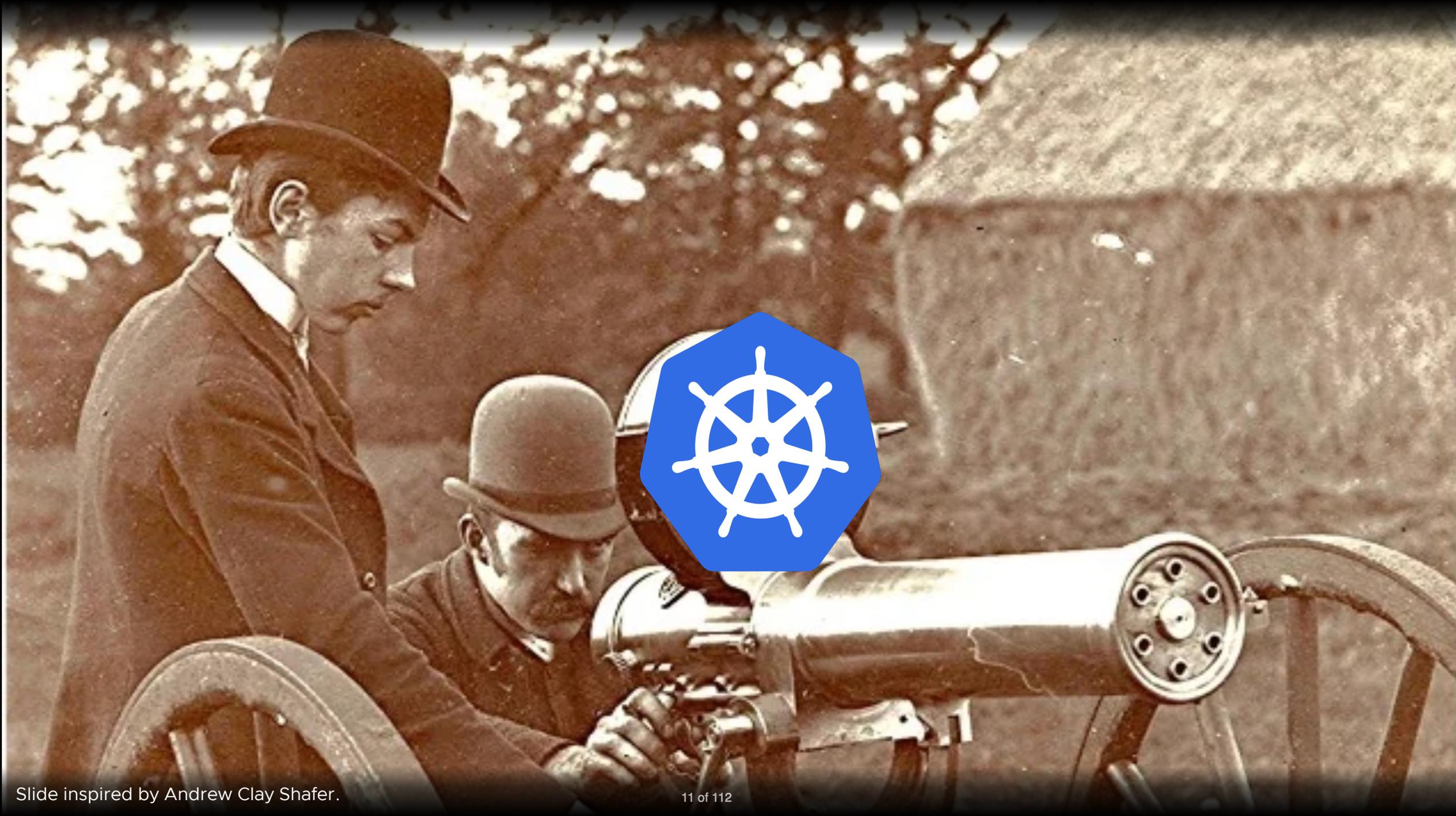


2023 & Beyond



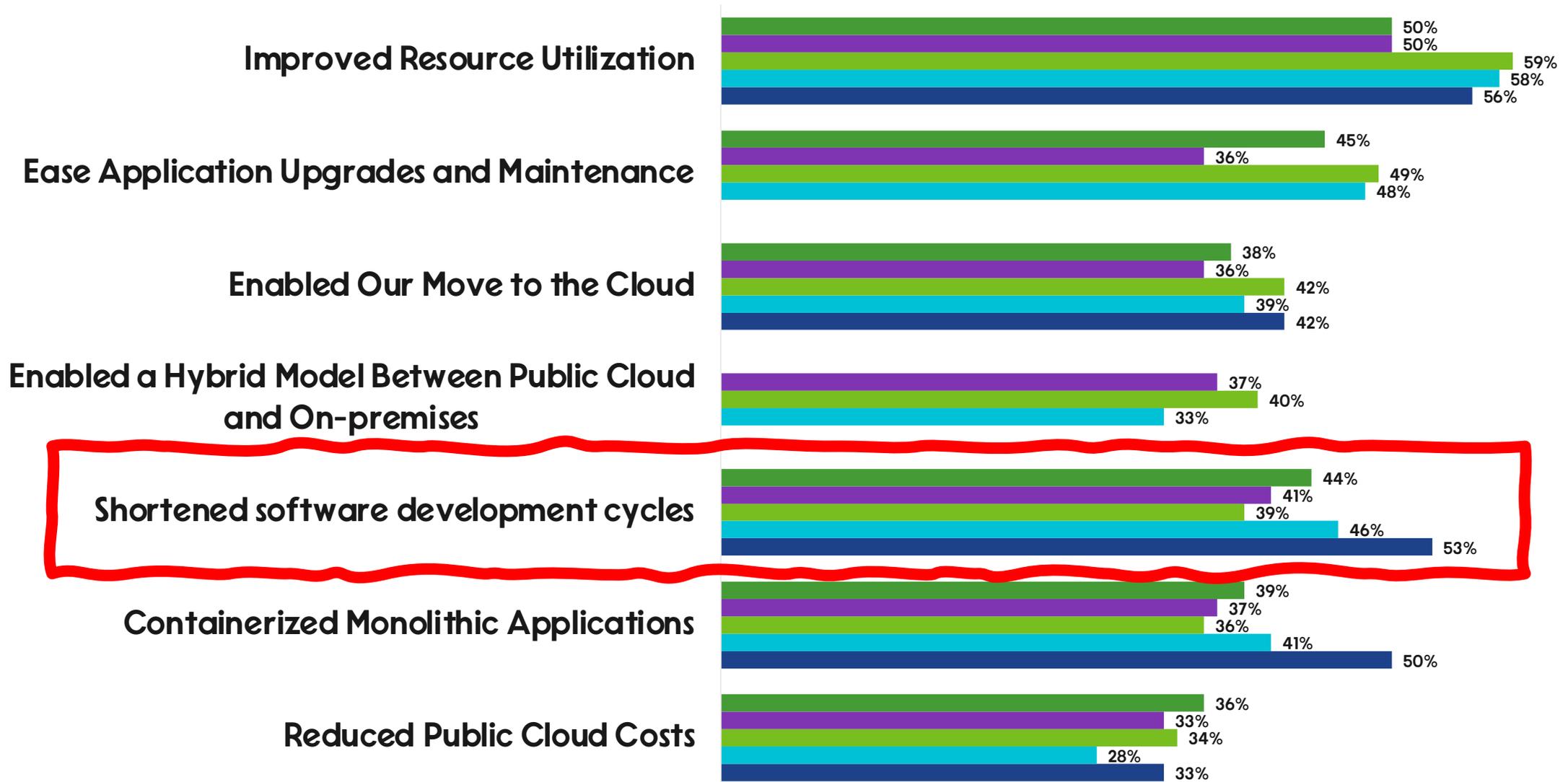
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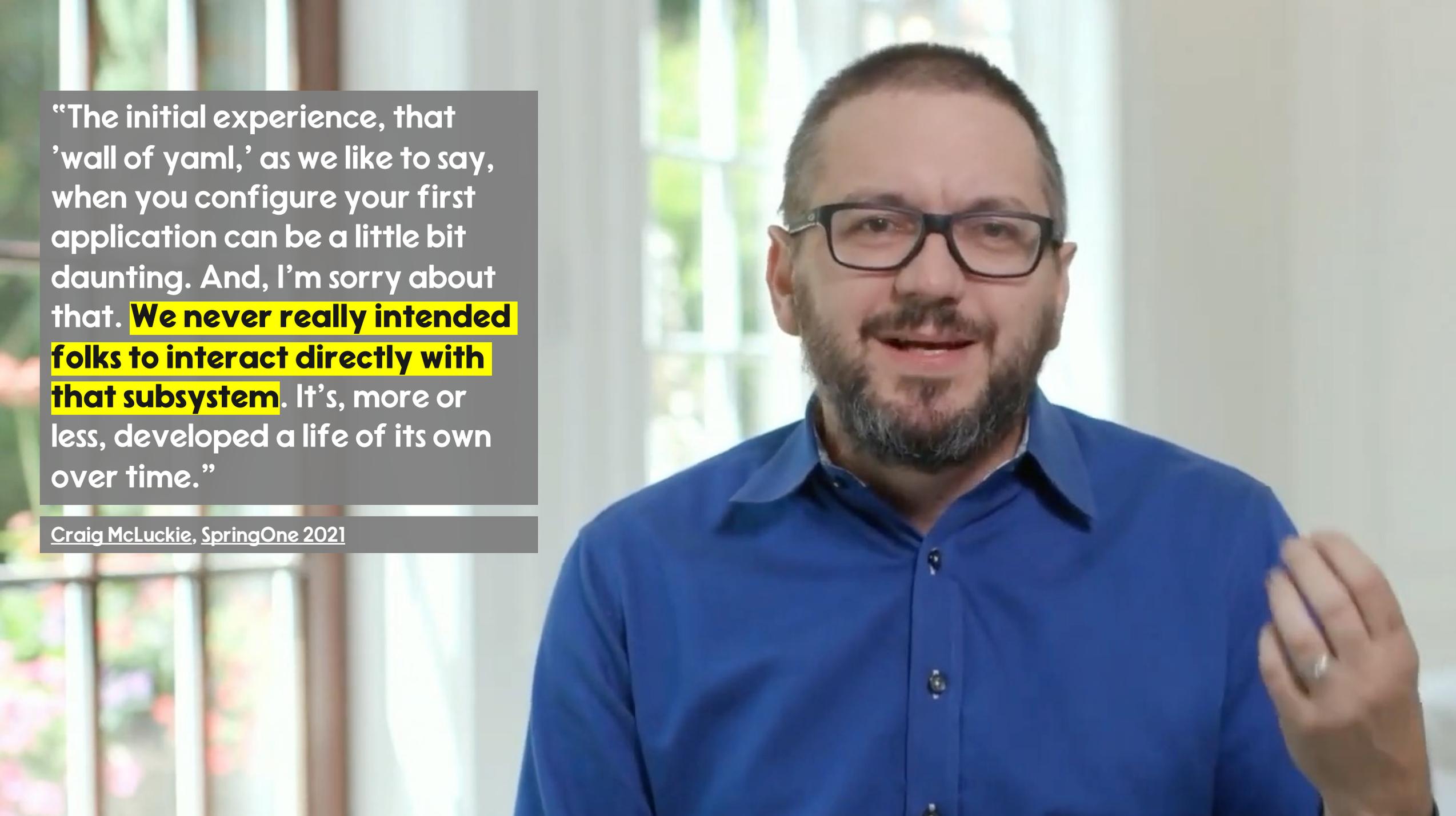
OO, Small Talk, RUP, CORBA, J2EE/.Net, SOA & WS-*, RAD, Low Code, Public Clouds



What benefits has your organization realized from operating Kubernetes?

■ 2024 ■ 2023 ■ 2022 ■ 2021 ■ 2020

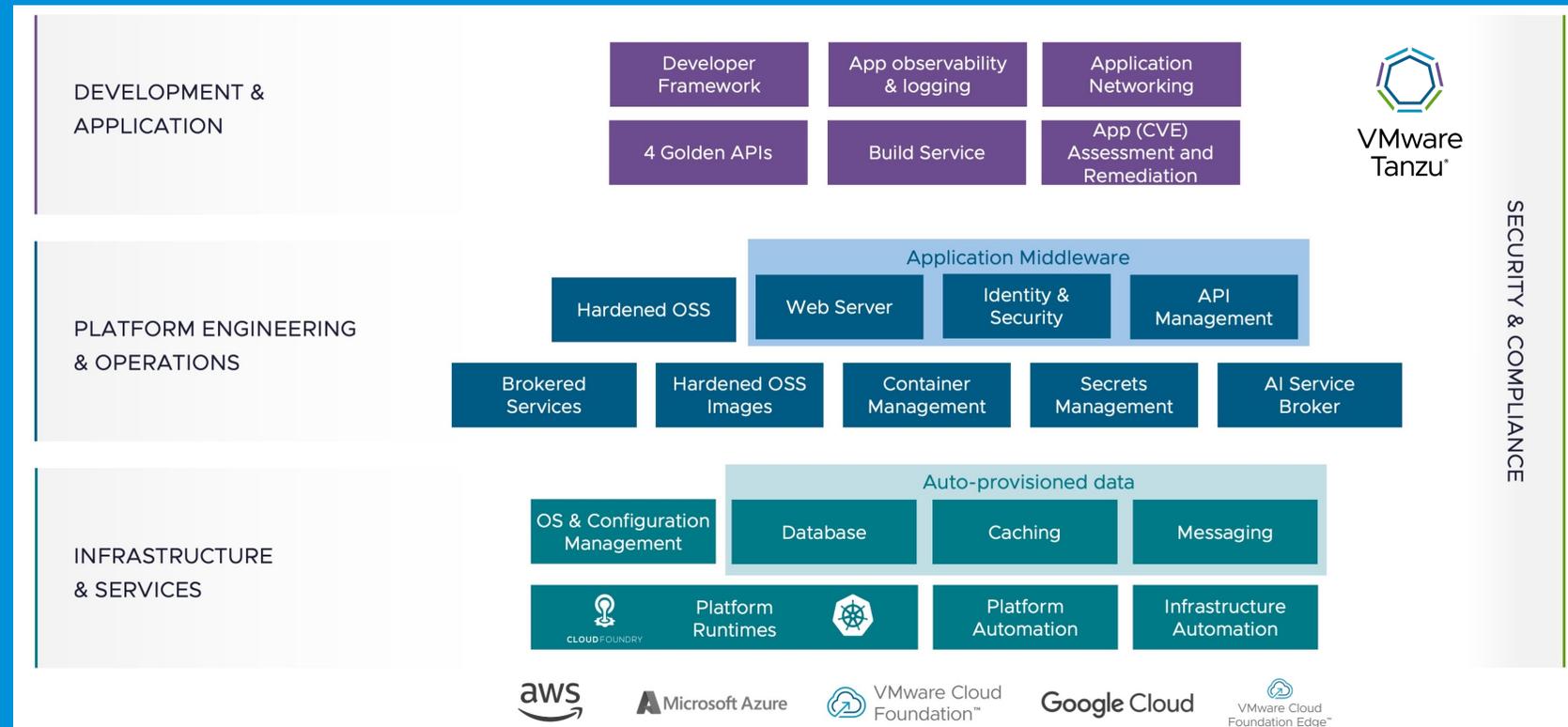
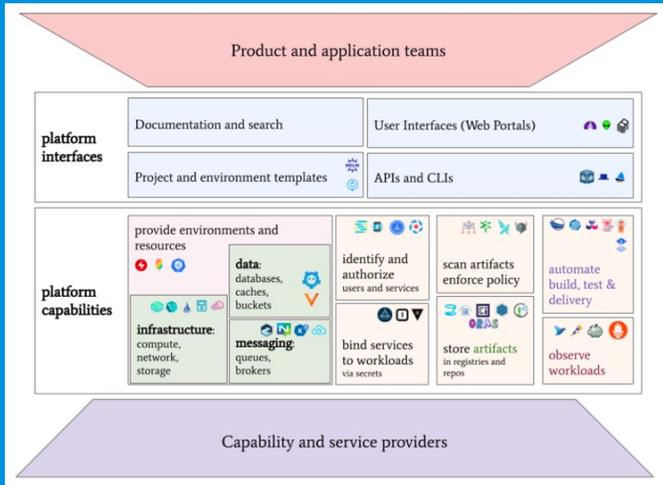


A man with short brown hair, a beard, and glasses is speaking. He is wearing a blue button-down shirt. He is positioned in front of a window with white frames, through which some greenery is visible. The background is slightly out of focus.

“The initial experience, that ‘wall of yaml,’ as we like to say, when you configure your first application can be a little bit daunting. And, I’m sorry about that. **We never really intended folks to interact directly with that subsystem.** It’s, more or less, developed a life of its own over time.”

Craig McLuckie, SpringOne 2021

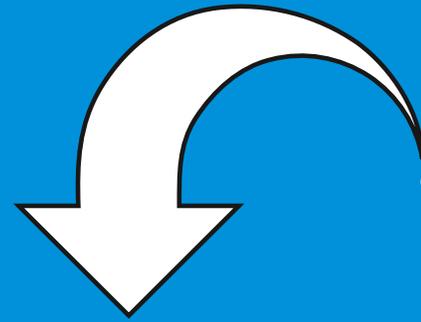
Don't build platforms, build apps



Don't build platforms.

Build apps.

Thanks!



Slides & stuff

 <https://newsletter.cote.io/>

 <https://cote.io/fearchange/>

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