# JOURNEY TO Network Reliability Engineering (NRE) and DevNetOps

**James Kelly** 

> **Engineering** Simplicity





### CONSUMPTION IS THE CONTEMPORY CHALLENGE



### Mistakes of the past

- Forcing engineers' rebirth as a "developer"
- The "pornography of tech" has left behind transformation of people & processes

Ironically... humans are the heroes in the journey to automated NetOps

# BRIGHT SPOT: Network reliability engineer(ing)



### TWO SIDES TO AUTOMATED NETWORKS





SPEED, AGILITY, EFFICIENCY & OTHER SUCCESSES

FOR THE NRE THAT HOLDS **RELIABILITY** PREREQUISITE TO OTHER USEFUL ECONOMIES



NRE **OPERATIONS** SIMPLICITY IS CREATED THROUGH ENGINEERING



### **INSPIRATION**





# DevNetOps OR NRE?



# WHAT IS (AN) NRE?



#### Def<sup>n</sup> An NRE

The professional that implements network reliability engineering

#### Def<sup>n</sup> NREing

*Engineering* an automated network to deliver measurable *reliability* (SLO/SLA of MTTF, MTTR, etc.) under measureable conditions (scale, rate of change, performance, etc.)

#### Def<sup>n</sup> DevNetOps

Like NRE, engineering automated network, but more explicitly says:

- Take a developer (software engineering) approach
- The application of the approach is to NetOps
- Focus on shorter cycles and lead time in code-to-prod pipeline
- Our work begins in pre-production and follows CI/CD/CR



## WHY N- RELIABILITY -E



- 1. Reliability is at the base of the hierarchy of needs It's prerequisite to security, velocity, agility or efficiency.
- 2. Reliability must be ensured before acceleration "It's not how fast you drive, it's how you drive fast"
- 3. Reliability forces us to automate and simplify Encompassing NetOps goals: resiliency, security, metrics...

#### Higher-order DevOps principles...

- 1. Eliminate toil and technical debt with automation
- 2. Truth and transparency. Management by metrics.
- 3. Allow for failure; Iterate and evolve with Agile; then triangulate...
- 4. Continuous improvement: turn local lessons into global ones
- 5. Continuous learning (kaizen)



# WHY NR - ENGINEER



- It's not just about network automation or technology: "Network automation does not an automated network make."
- NRE focus sidesteps DevOps vs. DevNetOps confusion
   There are clear NetOps projects outside of software teams, but
   some confusion on terms remains. NRE is more straightforward.
- **3. Engineers are builders with structure and rigor** Engineering picks up where vendors leave off
- 4. More to it than in-production NOC dashboards More creative, more satisfying, more money
- **5. By building, testing, stressing, staging what you build...** you prepare for better operations and better outcomes



# **5-STEP JOURNEY**



# **AUTOMATED NETOPS 5-STEP**







Network Reliability **Engineers** (NRE)



"DevNetOps" And NRE'ing

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Autonomous and automated NetOps



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# **TECHNOLOGY LANDSCAPE\***



\* It's not what you use, it's how you use it.

# A DEVNETOPS PIPELINE

Repos of config, secrets, artifacts + gitOps		1
	branching, reviewing, pairing, Agile	Code skills (not necessarily programmi
Pipeline CI/CD tools, test frameworks	TDD, measurement judgements	Build and debug skills, pipeline pros
Baking deliveries for ZTP, vendor refactors	Small-step commits/deployment	Hands off CLI/TTY
ZTD, virtualization, labs, traffic draining	Staging and simulation, canary analysis	In-hours maintenance, maybe roll forw
Traffic generation, DoS, chaos monkey	Chaos windows, document limits	Force failure for understanding
Big data analytics, ML, ITops integration	Incident playbooks, capacity planning	Management by stats, metrics, efficien
Auto-remediation, FaaS, predictive stats	Supervise self-driving	Drink tea, meditate
Upgrades, features, fixes, changes	Record local lesson into global knowledge	Active open-mindedness, post-morten
	Pipeline CI/CD tools, test frameworks         Baking deliveries for ZTP, vendor refactors         ZTD, virtualization, labs, traffic draining         Traffic generation, DoS, chaos monkey         Big data analytics, ML, ITops integration         Auto-remediation, FaaS, predictive stats         Upgrades, features, fixes, changes	Pipeline CI/CD tools, test frameworks       TDD, measurement judgements         Baking deliveries for ZTP, vendor refactors       Small-step commits/deployment         ZTD, virtualization, labs, traffic draining       Staging and simulation, canary analysis         Traffic generation, DoS, chaos monkey       Chaos windows, document limits         Big data analytics, ML, ITops integration       Incident playbooks, capacity planning         Auto-remediation, FaaS, predictive stats       Supervise self-driving         Upgrades, features, fixes, changes       Record local lesson into global knowledge

# THANK YOU



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