

DevOps: Creating Better Outcomes

What is DevOps?

DevOps transformations create high-performing organizations. At Excella, we know it's not just about tools, processes, or people, but a mindset shift rooted in [5 Key Aspects](#), abbreviated CALMS:

1. A generative, performance-oriented **Culture**
2. **Automation** to improve speed, consistency, and quality
3. **Lean** practices that focus on continual improvement of the end-to-end value stream
4. **Measurement** and metrics to drive feedback loops
5. Friction-free information flow through consistent and effective information **Sharing**



What are the Benefits of DevOps?

As the [2019 State of DevOps Report](#) illustrates, high-performing organizations achieve remarkably better outcomes with DevOps. Moving faster increases safety, value, and productivity. [Five ways](#) DevOps delivers value are through:



Faster delivery of **value** from more frequent deployments



Reduced **delivery risk** by shortening lead times



Reduced **business risk** by improving Agility and creating more opportunities to pivot



Reduced **operational risk** by lowering mean time to recover



Improved employee **retention** and **recruiting** by making it easier for employees to see their impact

So You Want Better Outcomes?

Excella has expertise in all aspects of DevOps and we use it to help our clients achieve better outcomes. [myUSCIS](#) is a ground-breaking website that is [transforming](#) how U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) does business. Excella helped the program win the [ACT-IAC Igniting Innovation](#) overall award for 2016. Excella's DevOps expertise also helped the [USCIS Verifications Program](#) win the same award for 2017.



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We deploy to production up to 100 times/week and go from “code commit” to running in production in 20 minutes.



In our approach to [DevOps](#), we analyze value streams to shorten cycle times, eliminate waste, and accelerate value delivery. We establish a generative culture through safe-to-fail experimentation. We break down functional siloes with cross-functional teams and visual information radiators. We create Continuous Integration and Continuous Delivery (CI/CD) pipelines and use Infrastructure as Code (IaC) to improve speed, consistency, and quality.



Our [CI/CD pipelines](#) execute a series of [automated tests](#) against each merge. Once tests confirm the code changes meet established standards for security, quality, and reliability, our pipelines trigger blue/green deployments. We move the code through environments with IaC to ensure consistency and repeatability. On one of our projects, we deploy to production up to 100 times each week and we go from “code commit” to running in production in 20 minutes.



Cultural behaviors maximize the value of this infrastructure. If any part of the pipeline fails, the team “stops the line” and addresses the problem before continuing. Rapid and frequent deliveries to production allow us to experiment and A/B test new features to validate we are meeting user needs. Visibility into the entire process flow allows us to [monitor cycle times](#) and relentlessly drive them down. Regular and consistent feedback—about the product, the work, and the process—drives continual improvement.

Why Excella

Excella Lives DevOps. We emphasize the 5 Key Aspects in all of our work, both internally and with our clients. We are thought leaders who drive innovative thinking, share our thoughts regularly on our [blog](#), and host [DevOps DC](#), the largest DevOps meetup in DC with over 3800 members.



[Jeff Gallimore](#), one of our founding partners, is part of the programming committee for the annual DevOps Enterprise Summits in London and [Las Vegas](#), helps facilitate the DevOps Enterprise Forum to produce [guidance for the industry](#), and is a [DevOps Influencer](#). His perspective and passion ensures our practice remains state of the art.

Let us show how our skill, experience, and expertise can help you make the most of DevOps.

Contact Us



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