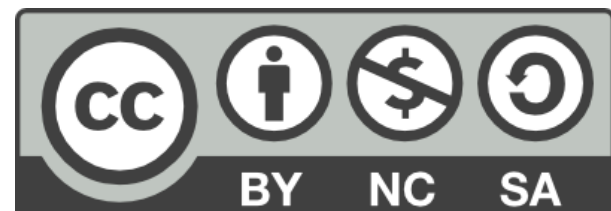




# DevOps Kaizen:

**Practical Steps to Start & Sustain an Organization's Transformation**

**Damon Edwards**  
**@damonedwards**





@damonedwards



Tools



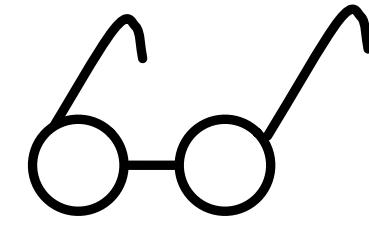
DevOps Consulting  
Operational Improvement



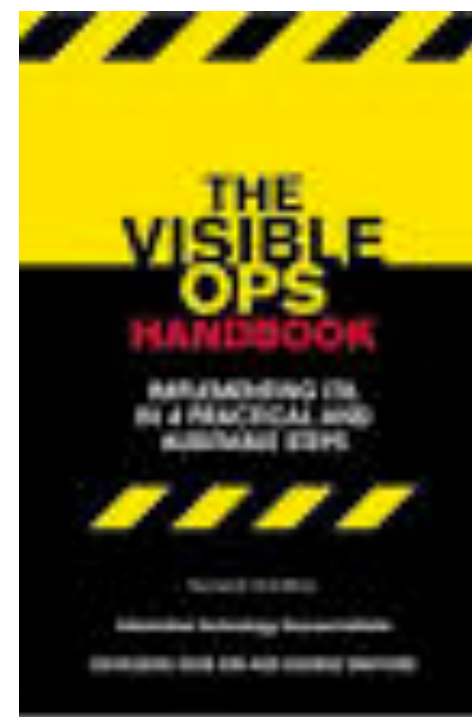
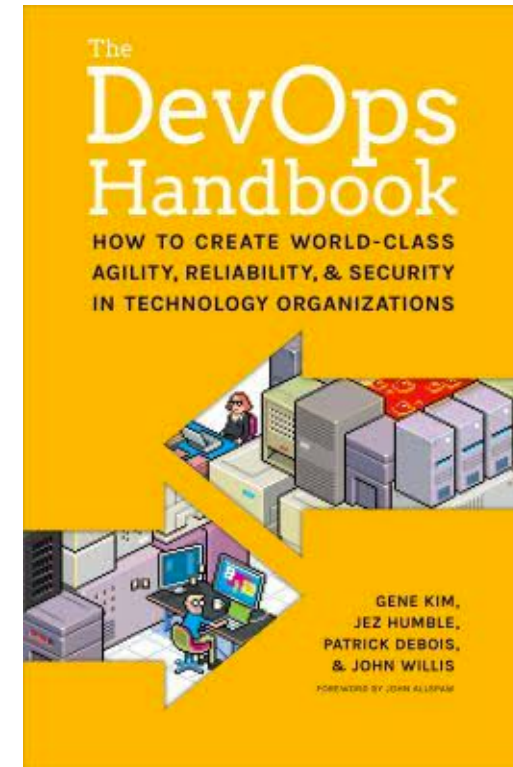
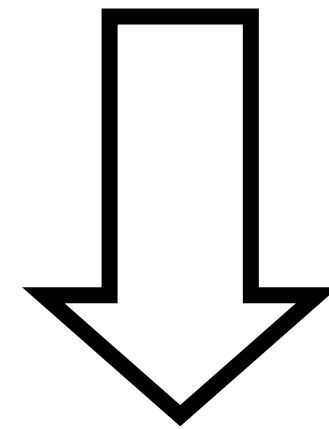
Community



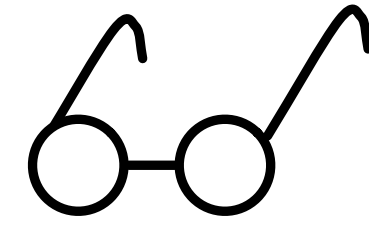
**Gene Kim**



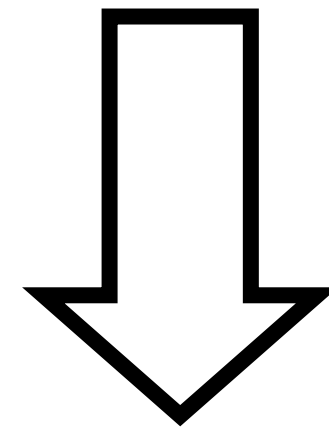
**Practices & Behaviors**



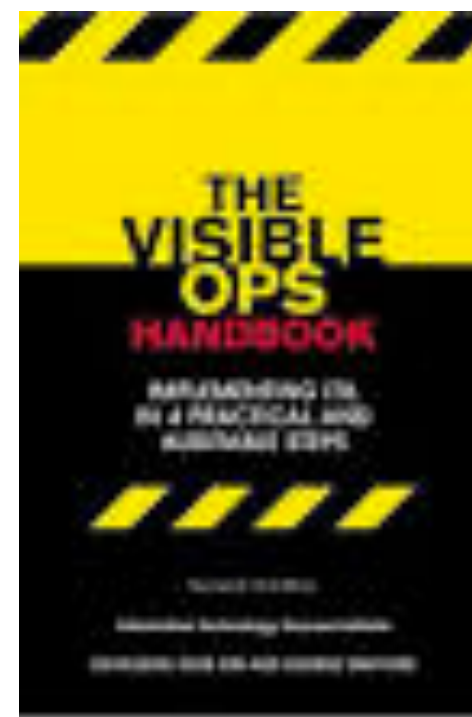
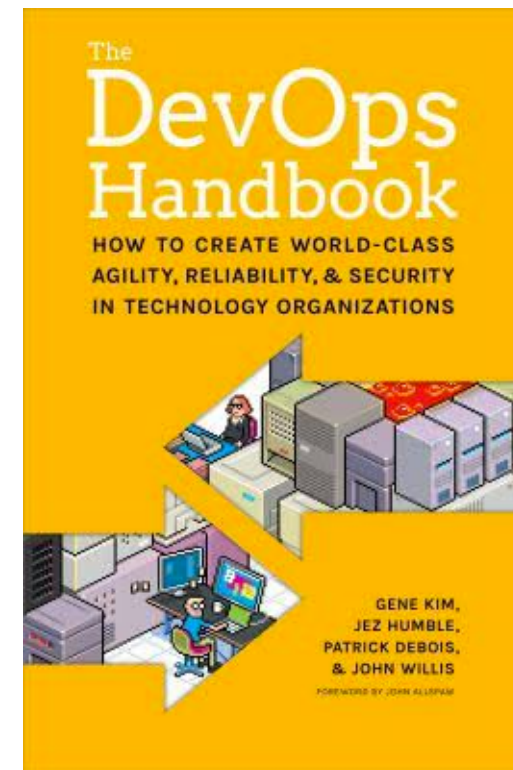
Gene Kim



Practices & Behaviors



... but WHY are they different?



**The ability to improve.**

**The unique trait of high-performing companies is  
that they are good at getting better.**

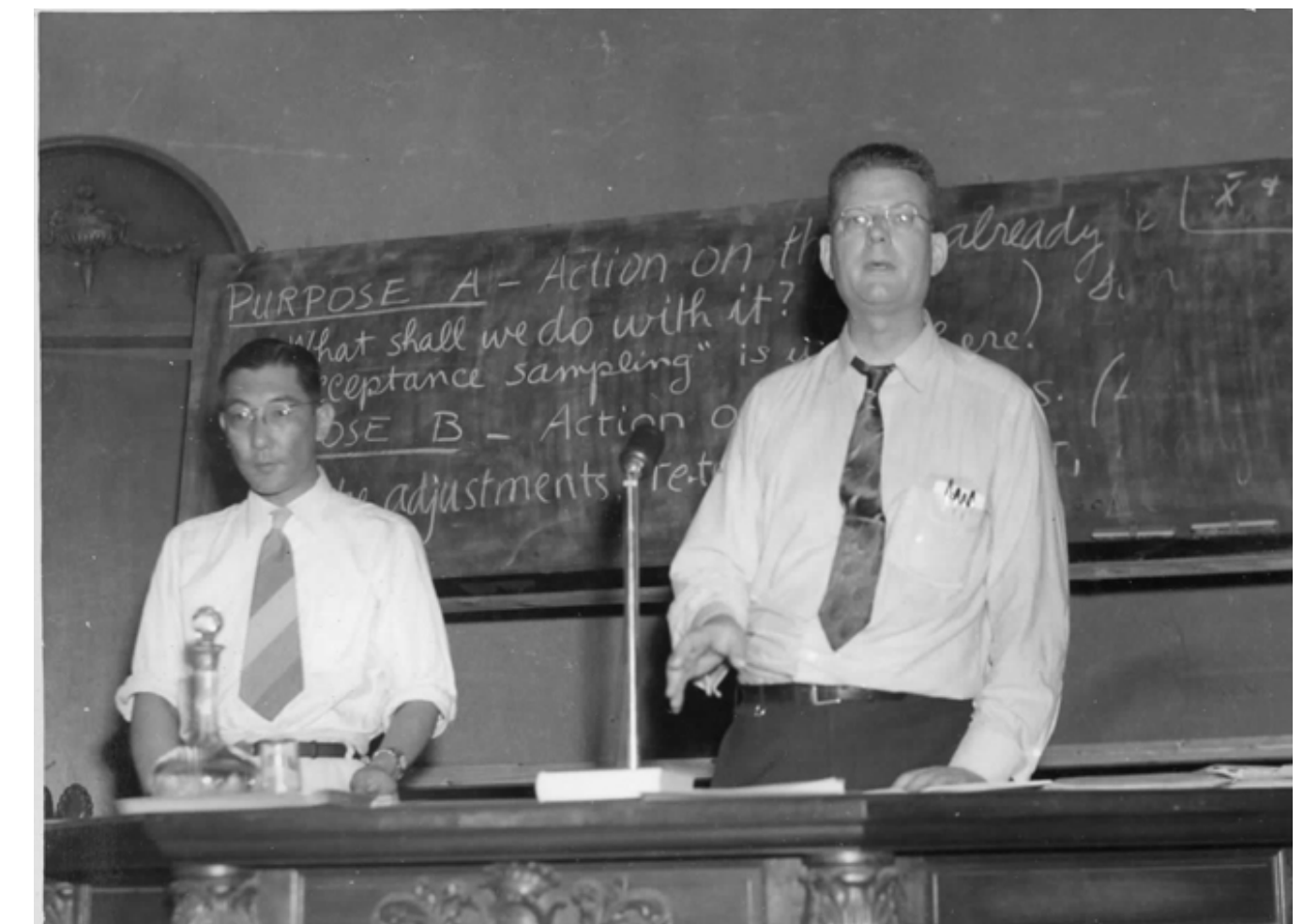
# Improvement already has a well known recipe: Plan - Do - Study - Act (PDSA)

---



*Other variants:*  
**PDCA**  
**OODA**

**W. Edwards Deming - 1950**



© The Deming Institute

# Why are so many organizations **unable** to improve?



# Why are so many organizations **unable** to improve?

## 1. The **work isn't visible**

# Why are so many organizations **unable** to improve?

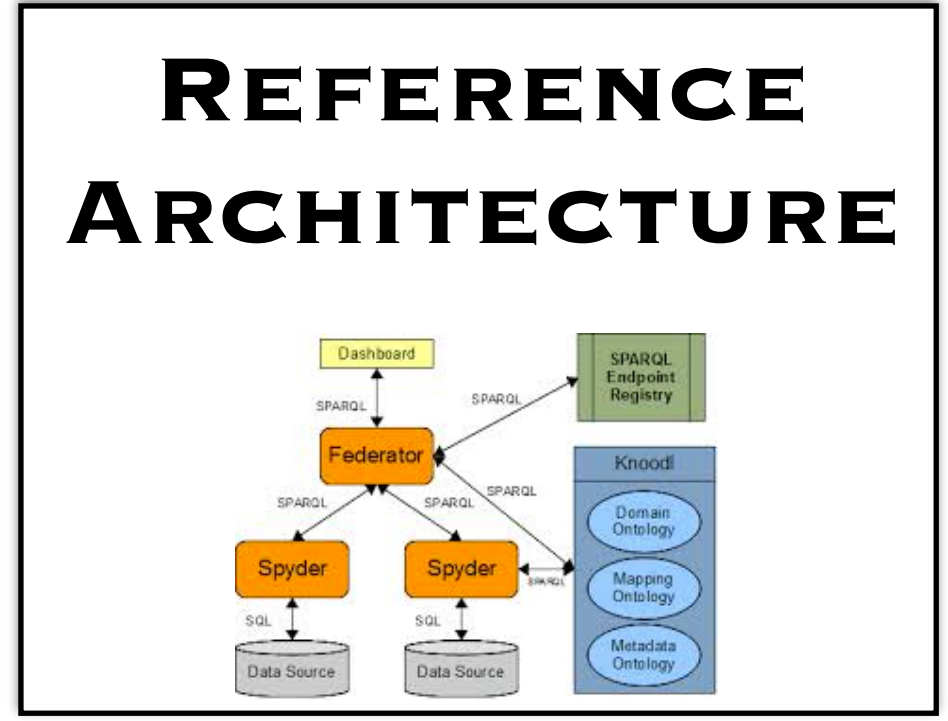
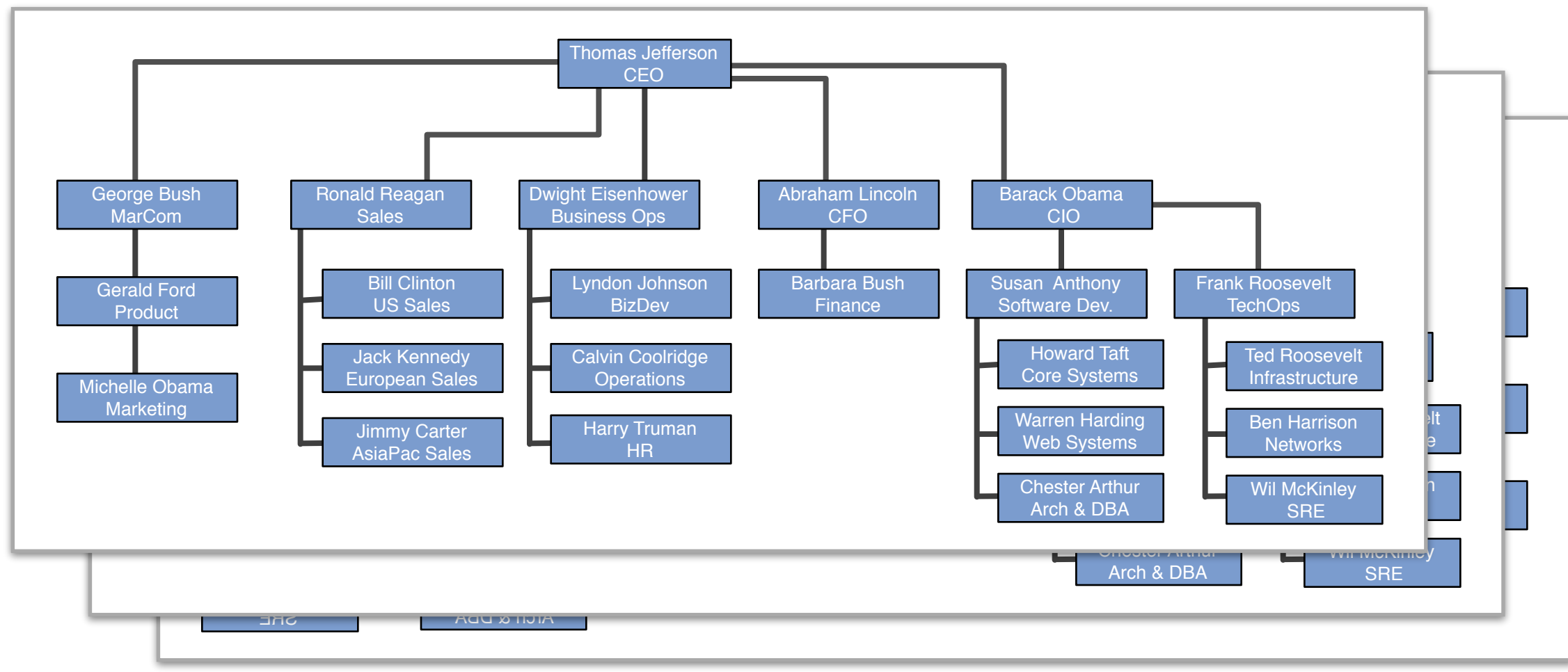
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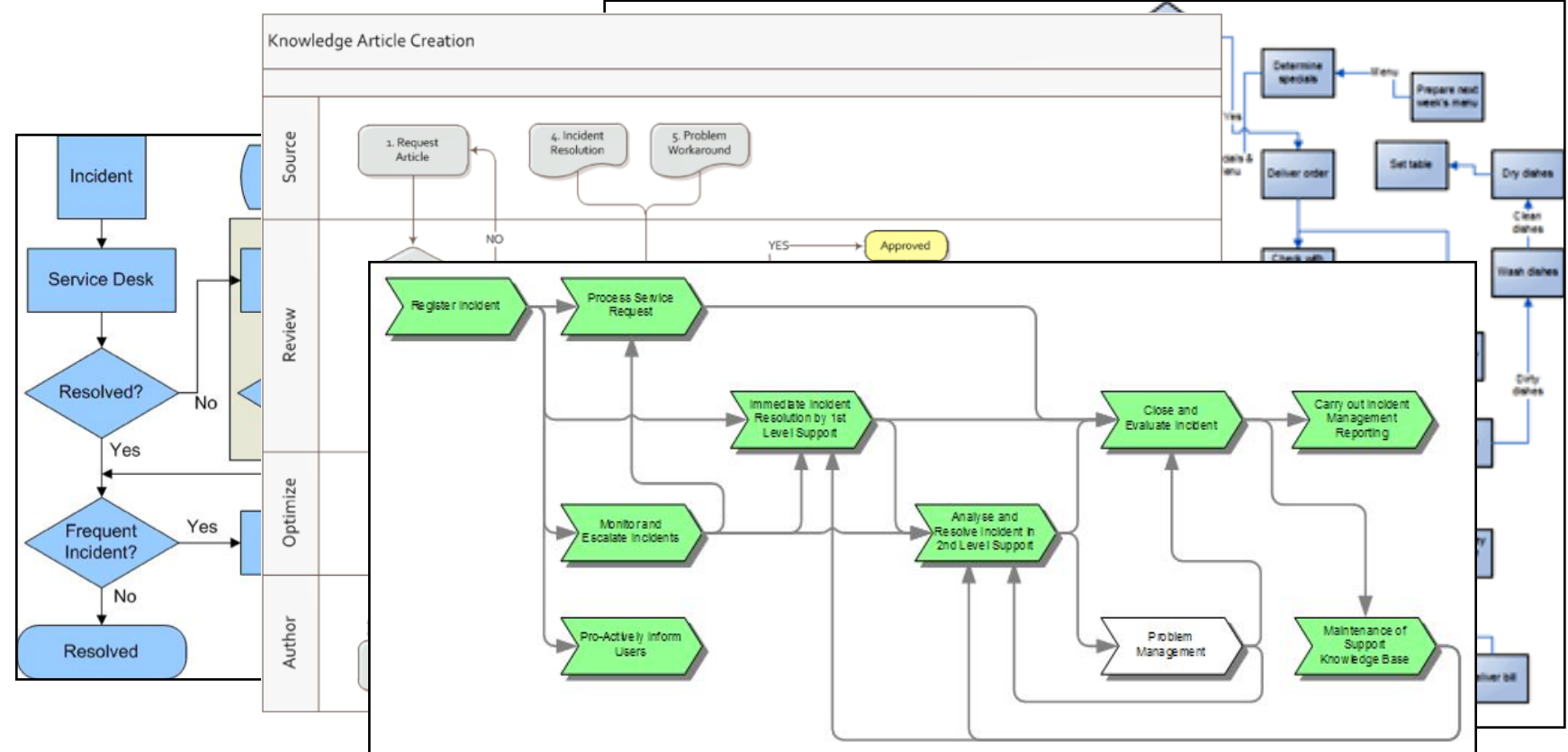
1. The **work isn't visible**
2. People are **working out of context**
3. Inertia is pulling your **org out of alignment**

# Traditional “visibility”

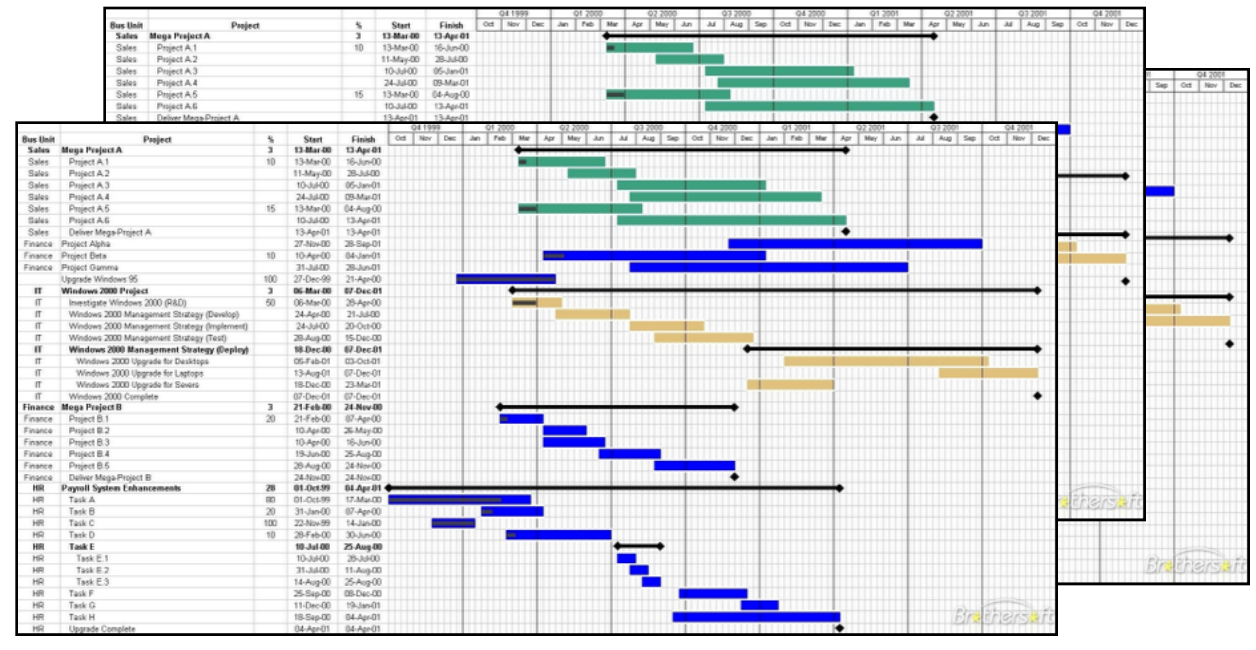
## Org Charts



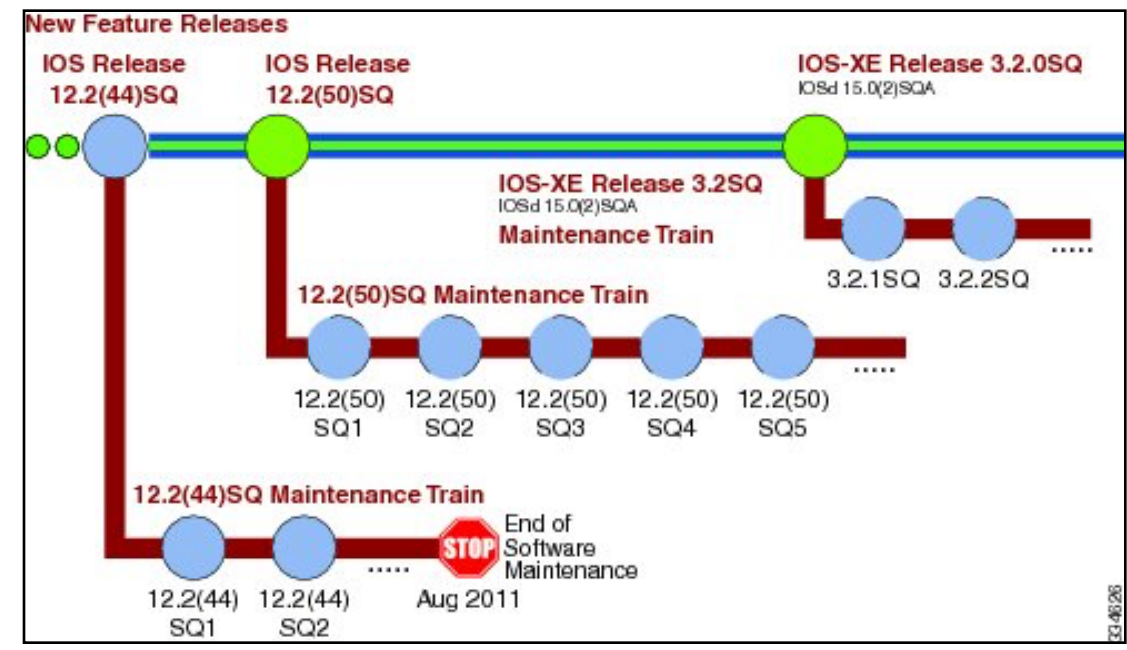
## Documented Processes



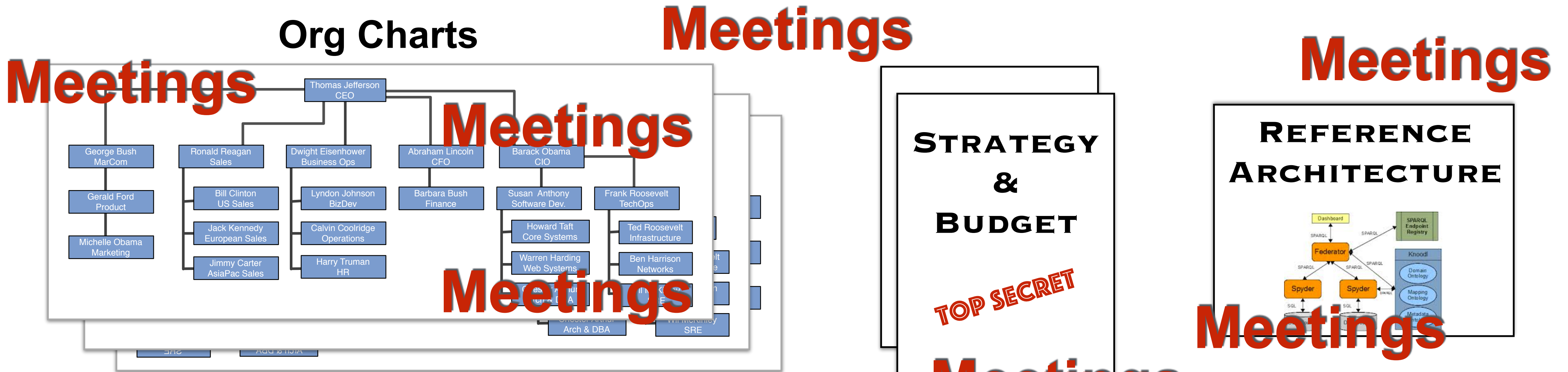
## Project Plans



## Release Trains



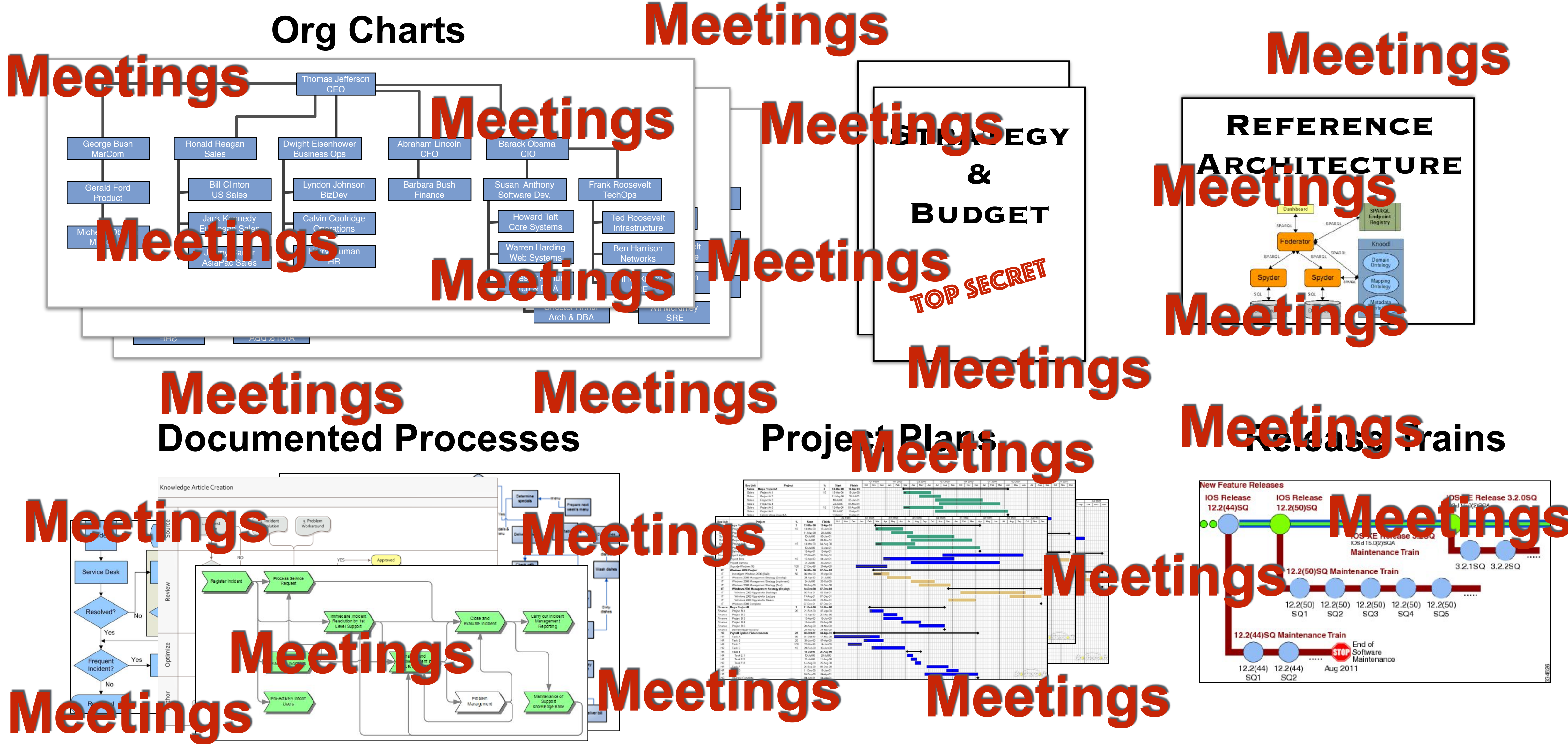
# Traditional "visibility"



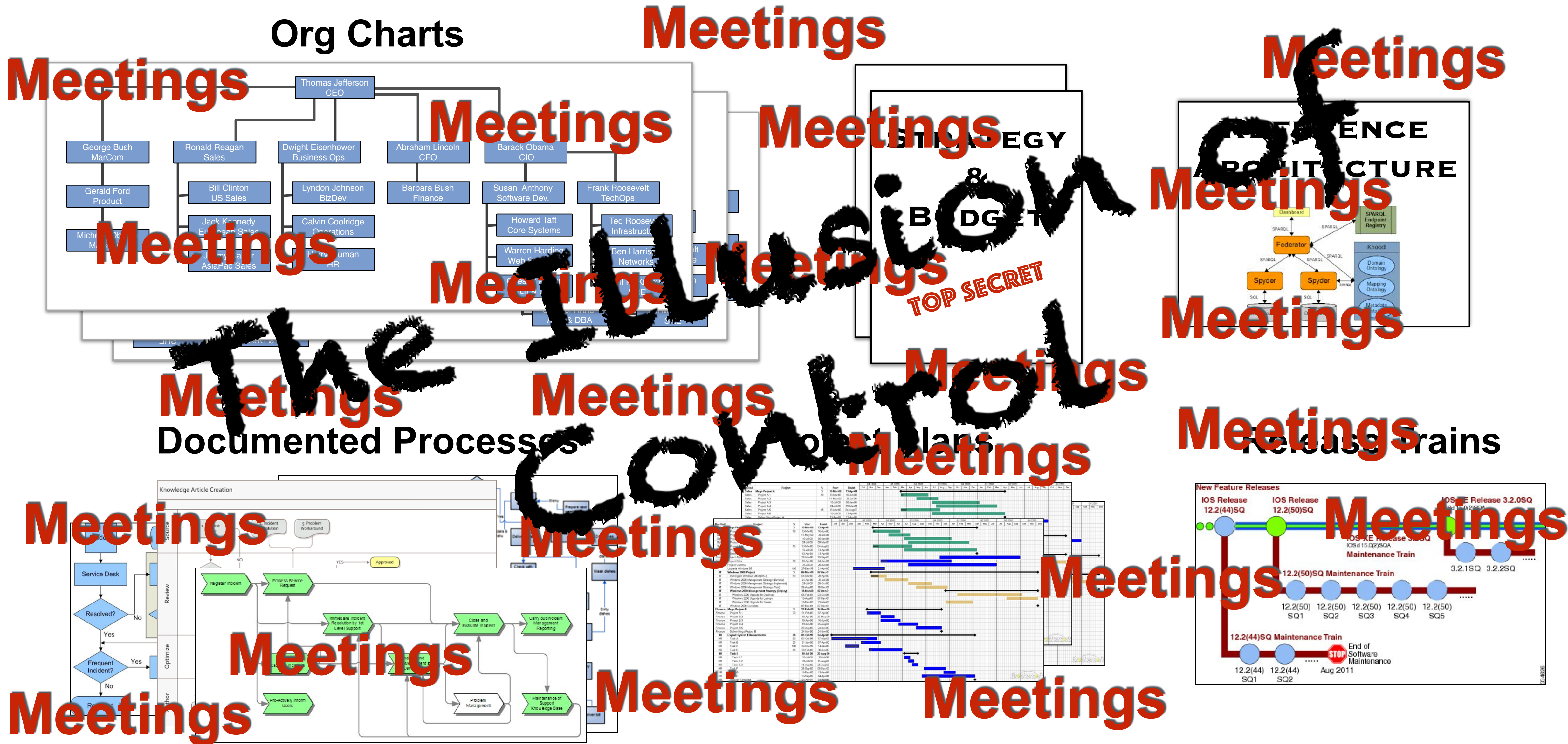
**Meetings** Documented Processes      **Meetings** Project Plans      **Meetings** Release Trains



# Traditional “visibility”



# Traditional "visibility"



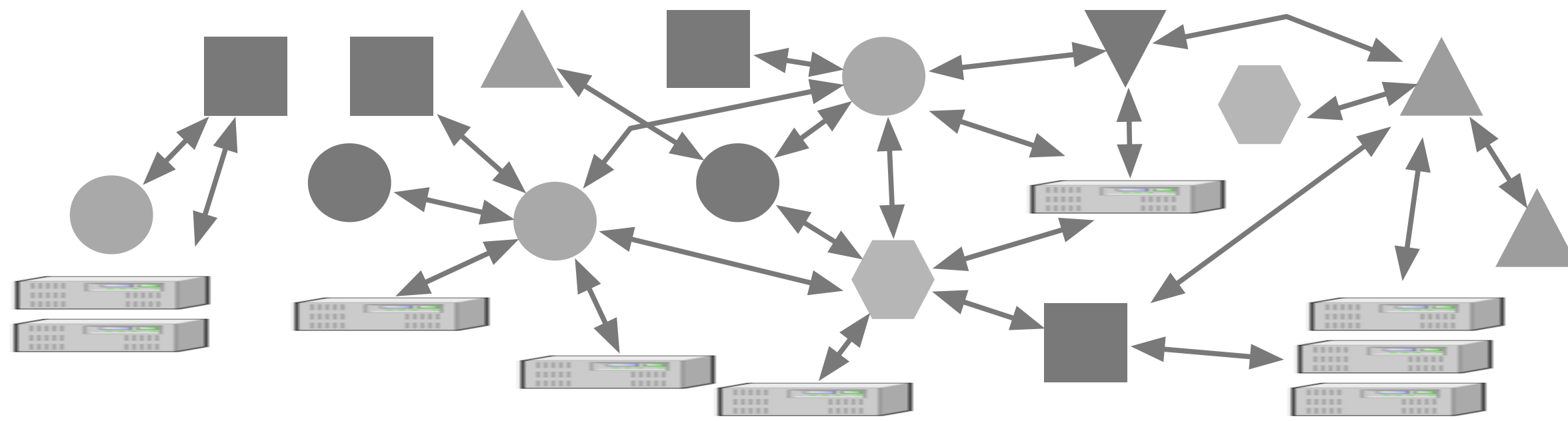
# It's a complex system<sup>2</sup>

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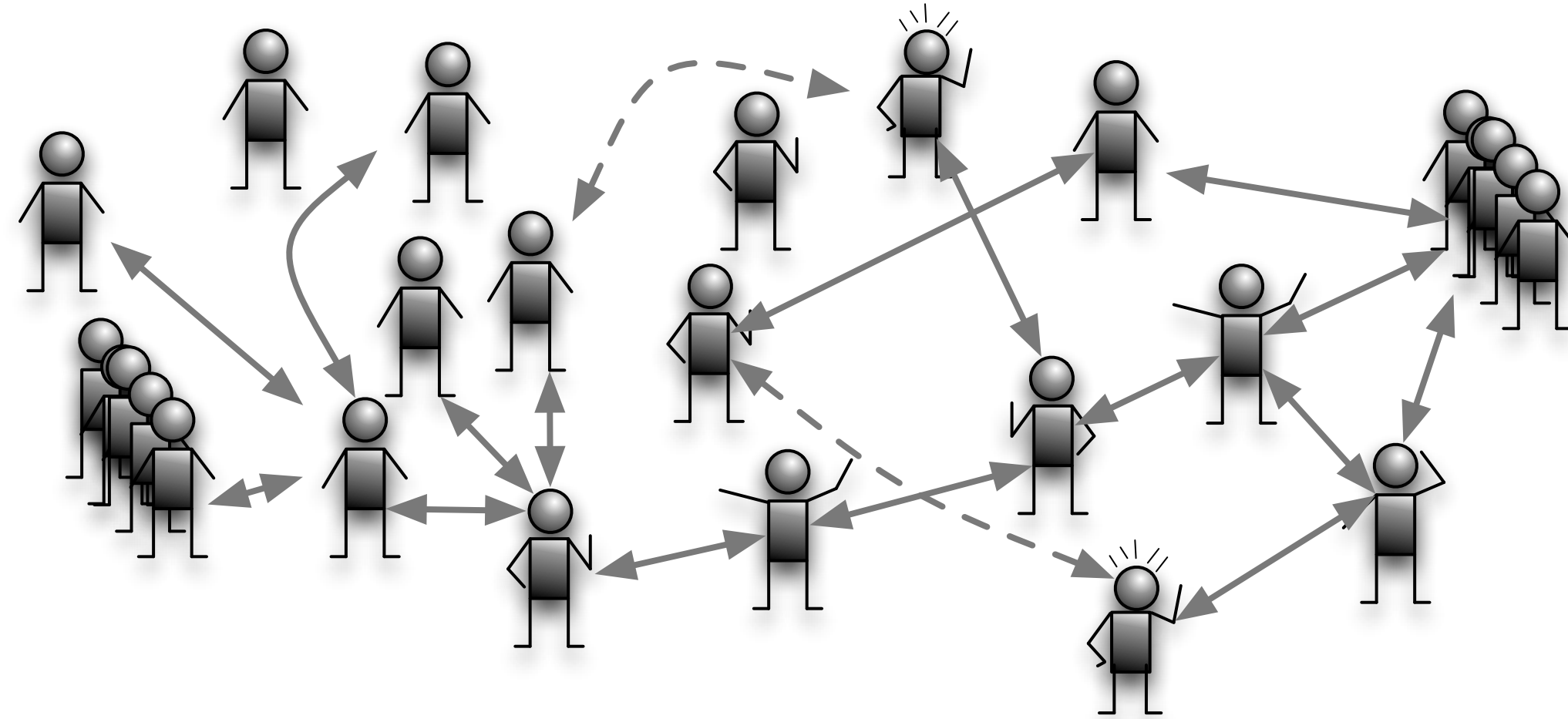
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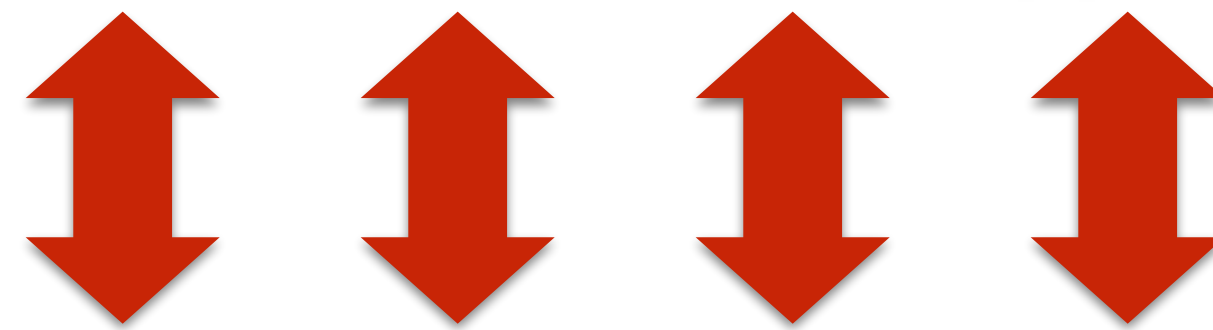


Complex  
System

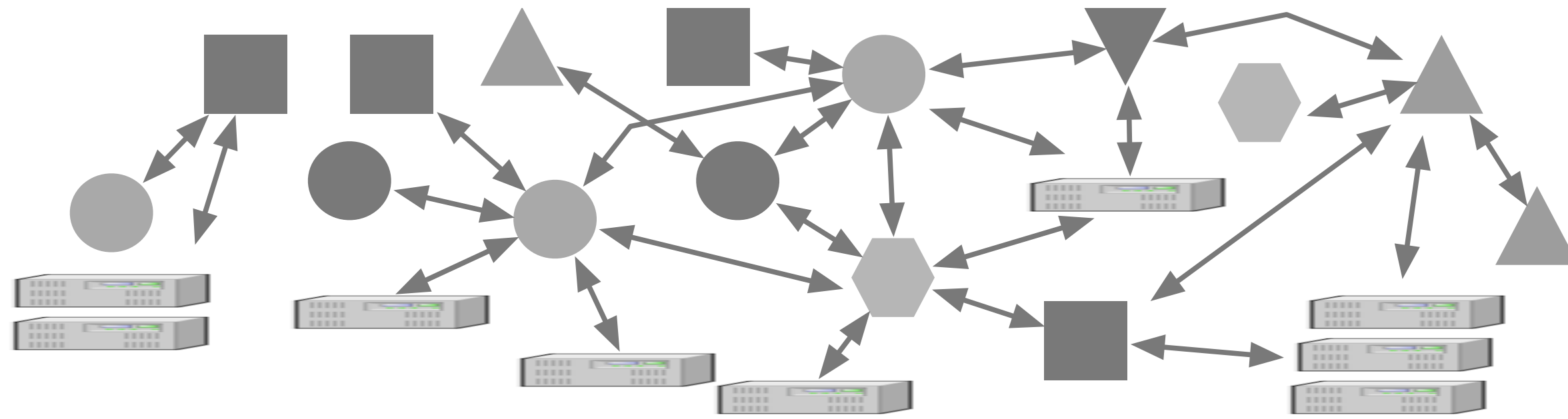
# It's a complex system<sup>2</sup>



Complex System



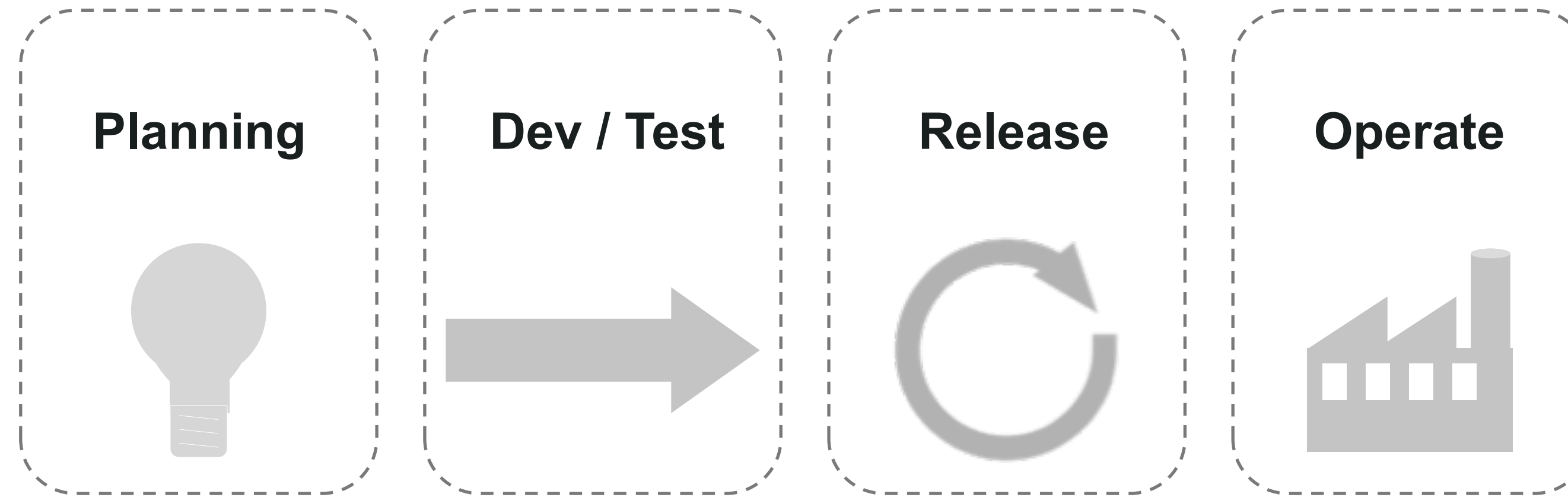
interacting with a



Complex System

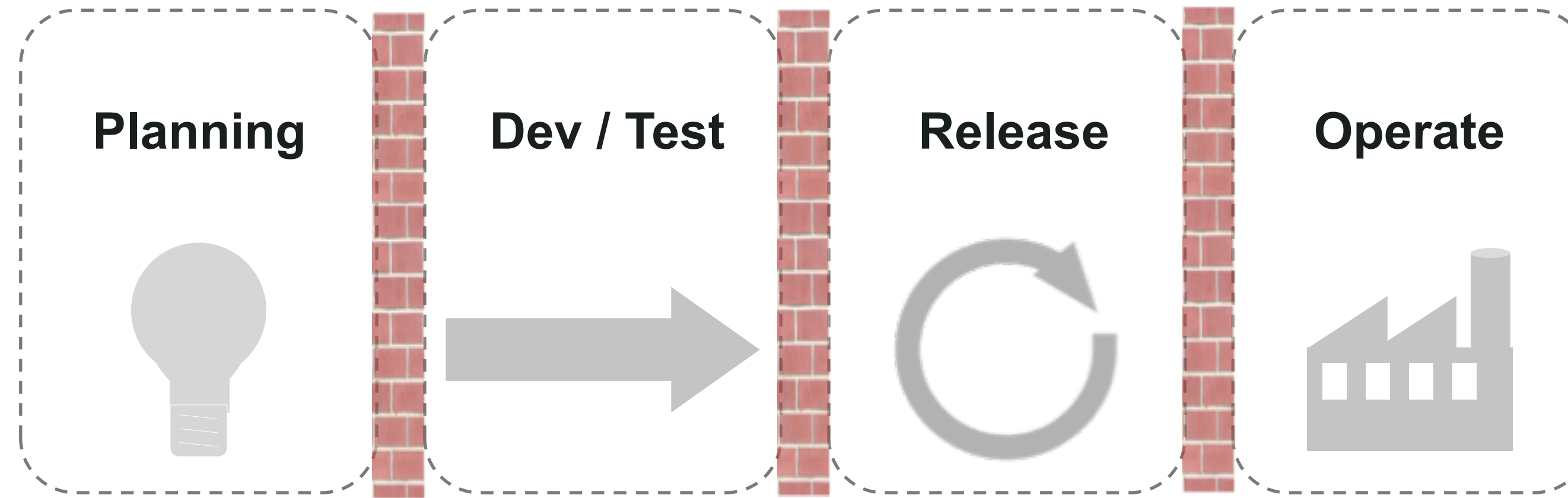
# Enterprises naturally trend towards silos

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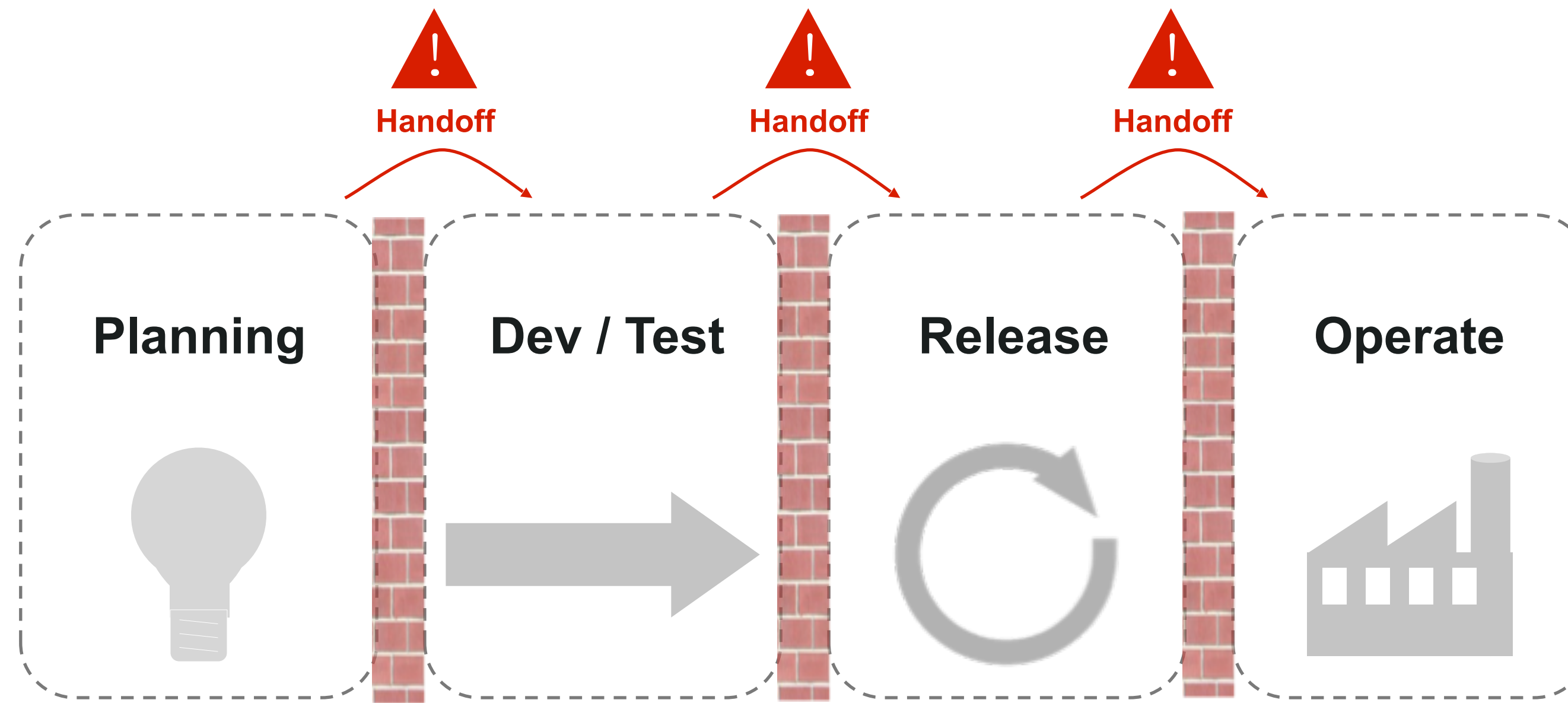
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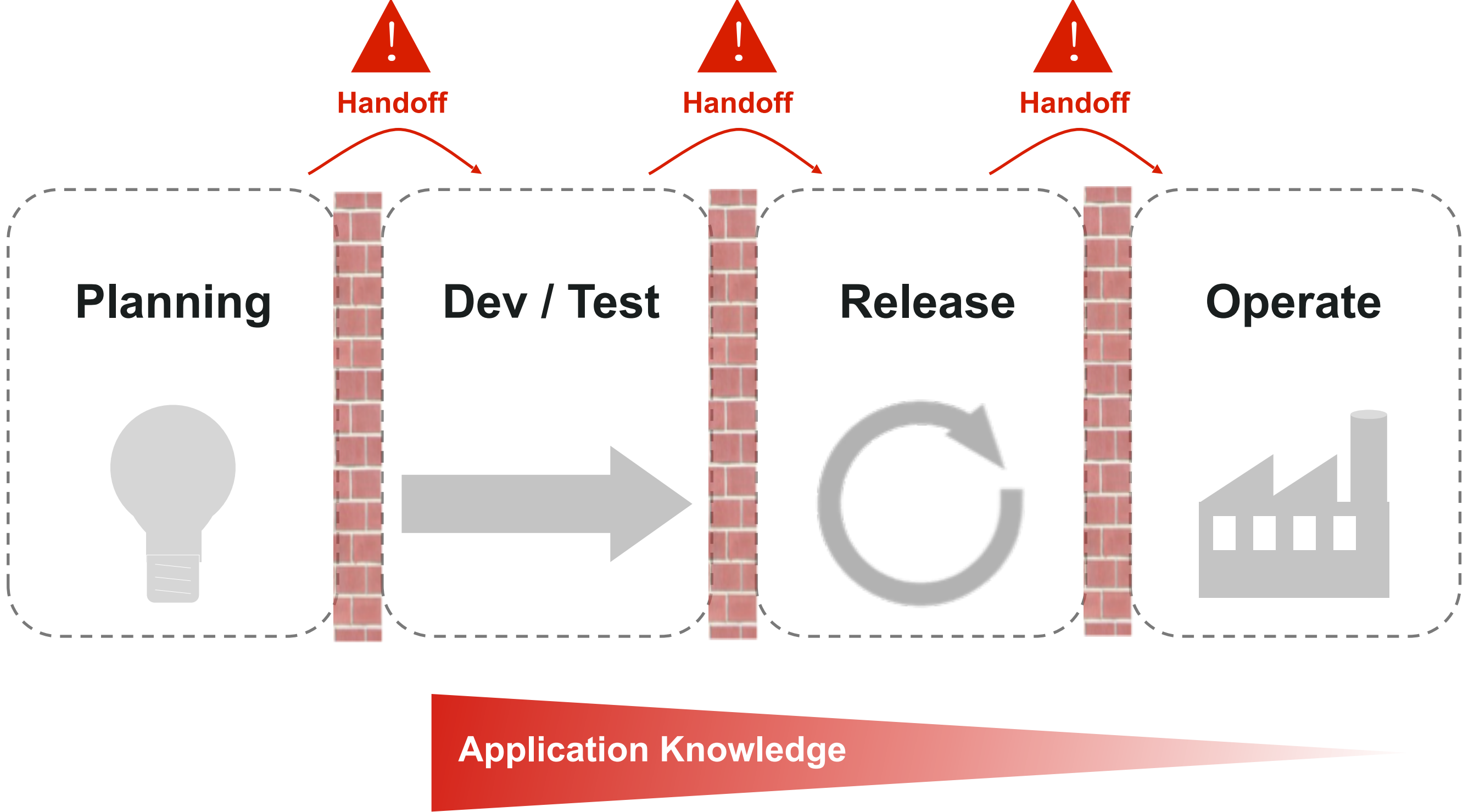


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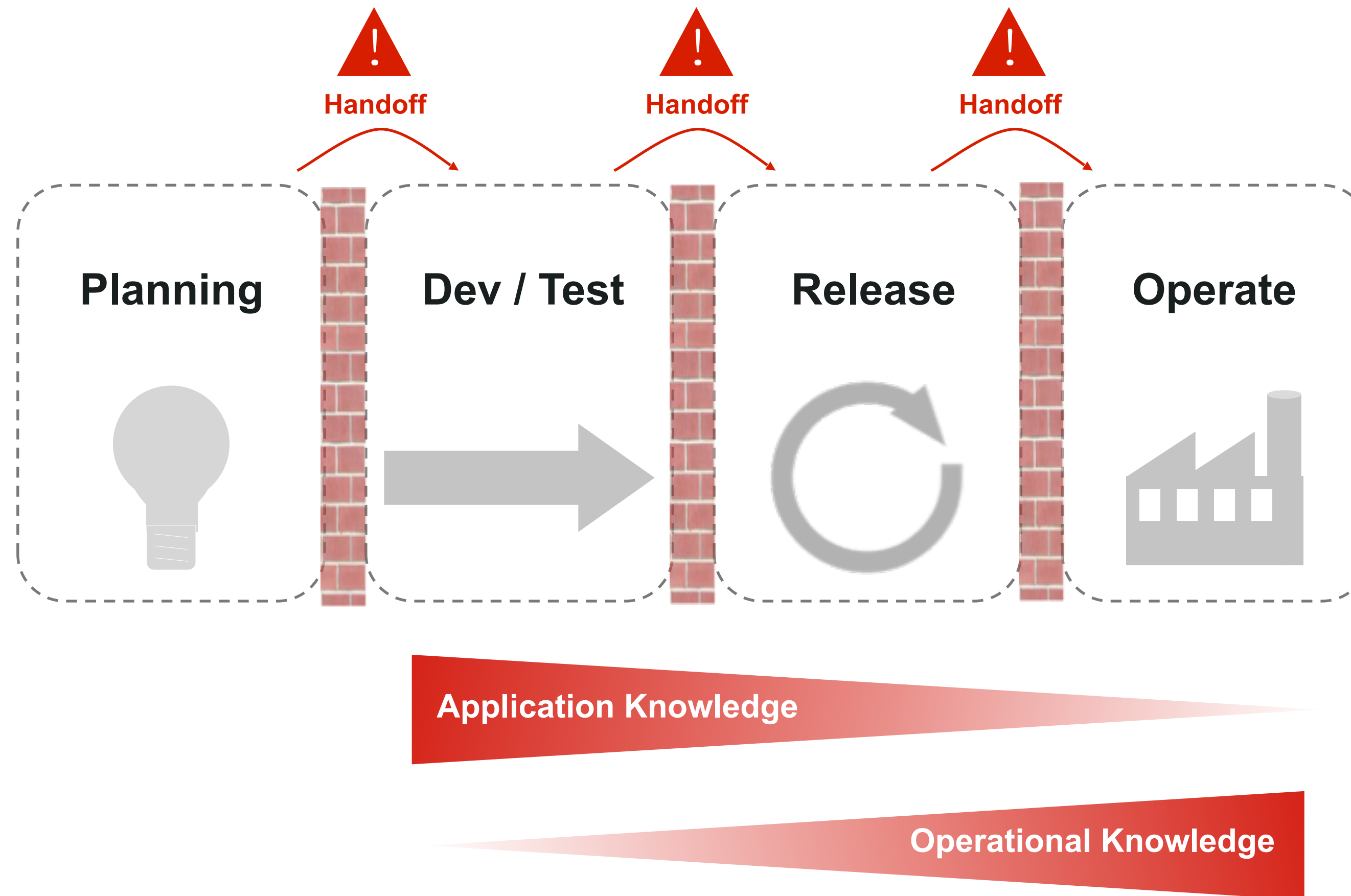
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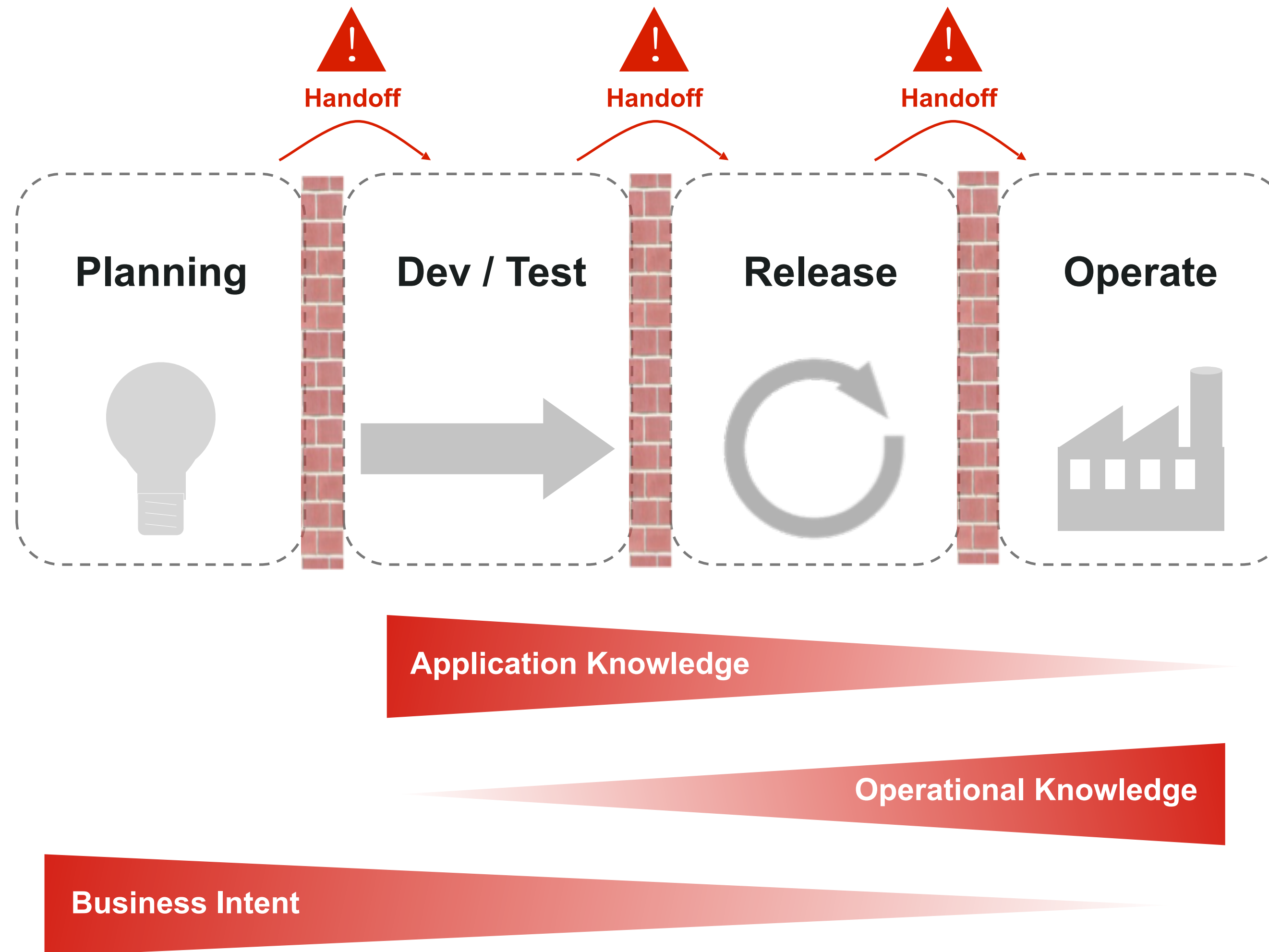
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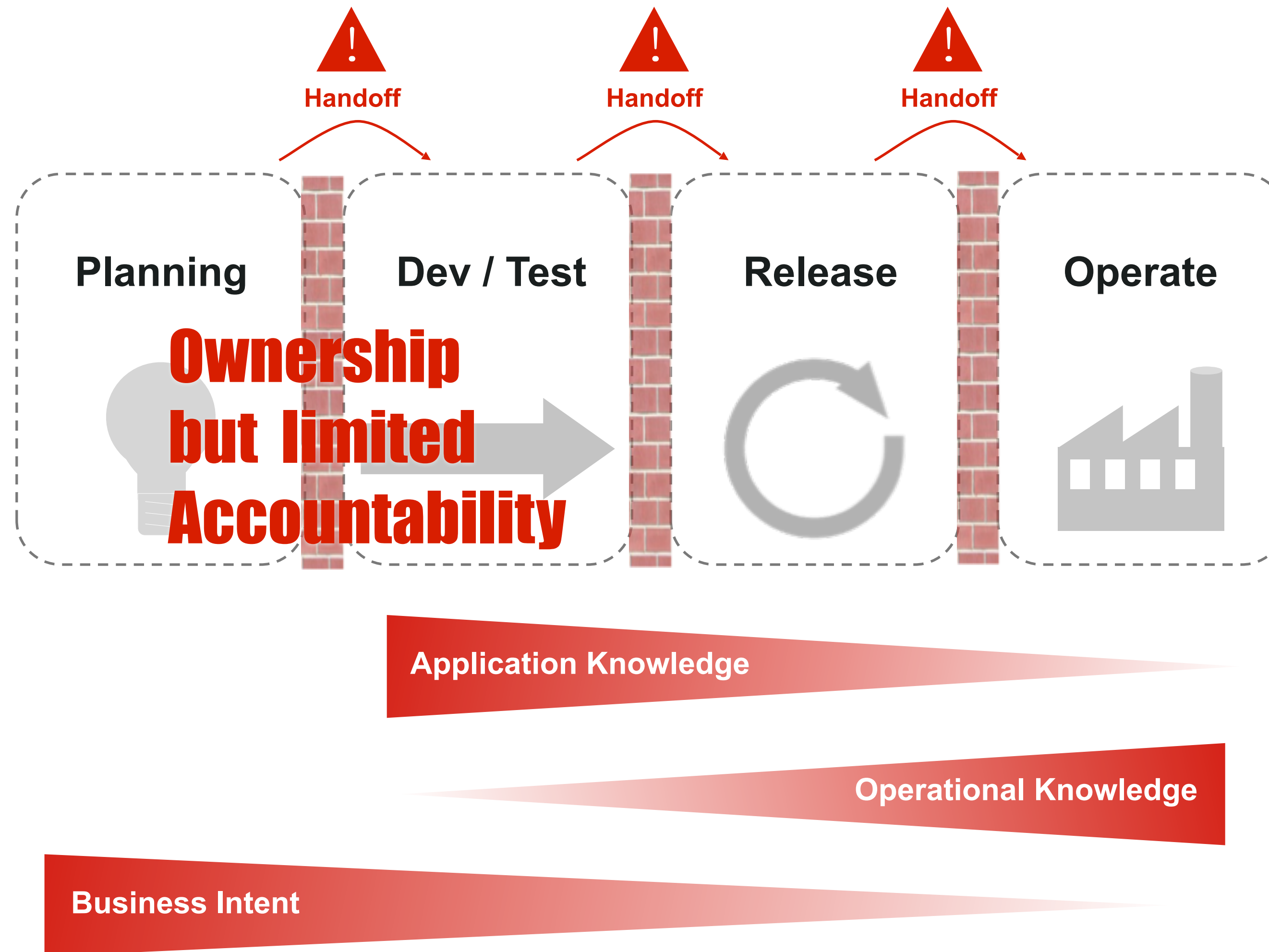


# Enterprises naturally trend towards silos

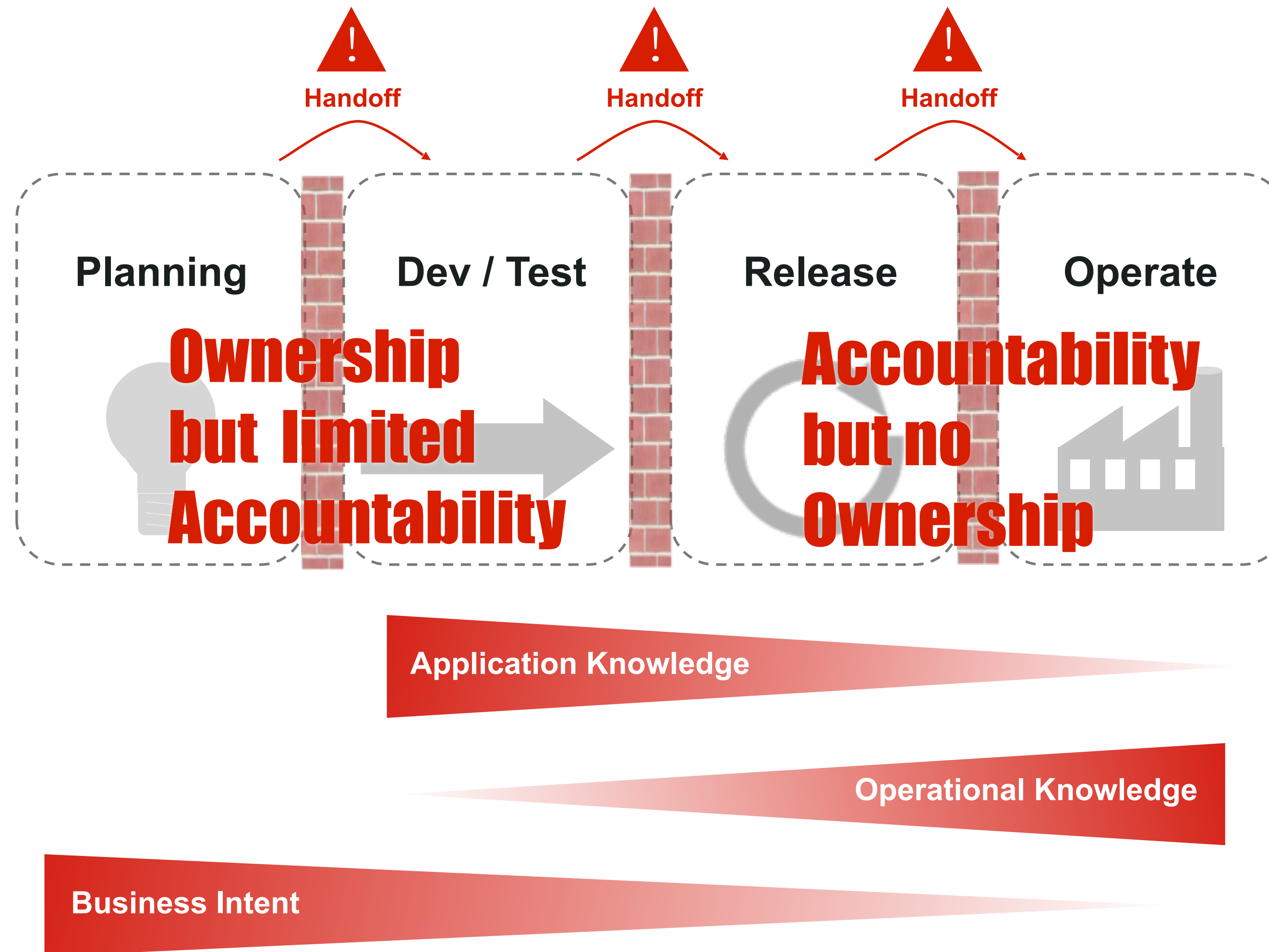




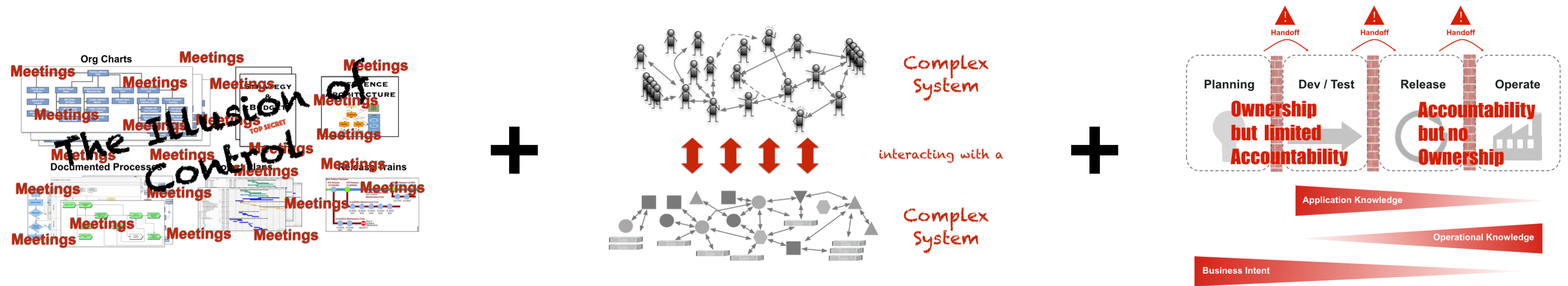
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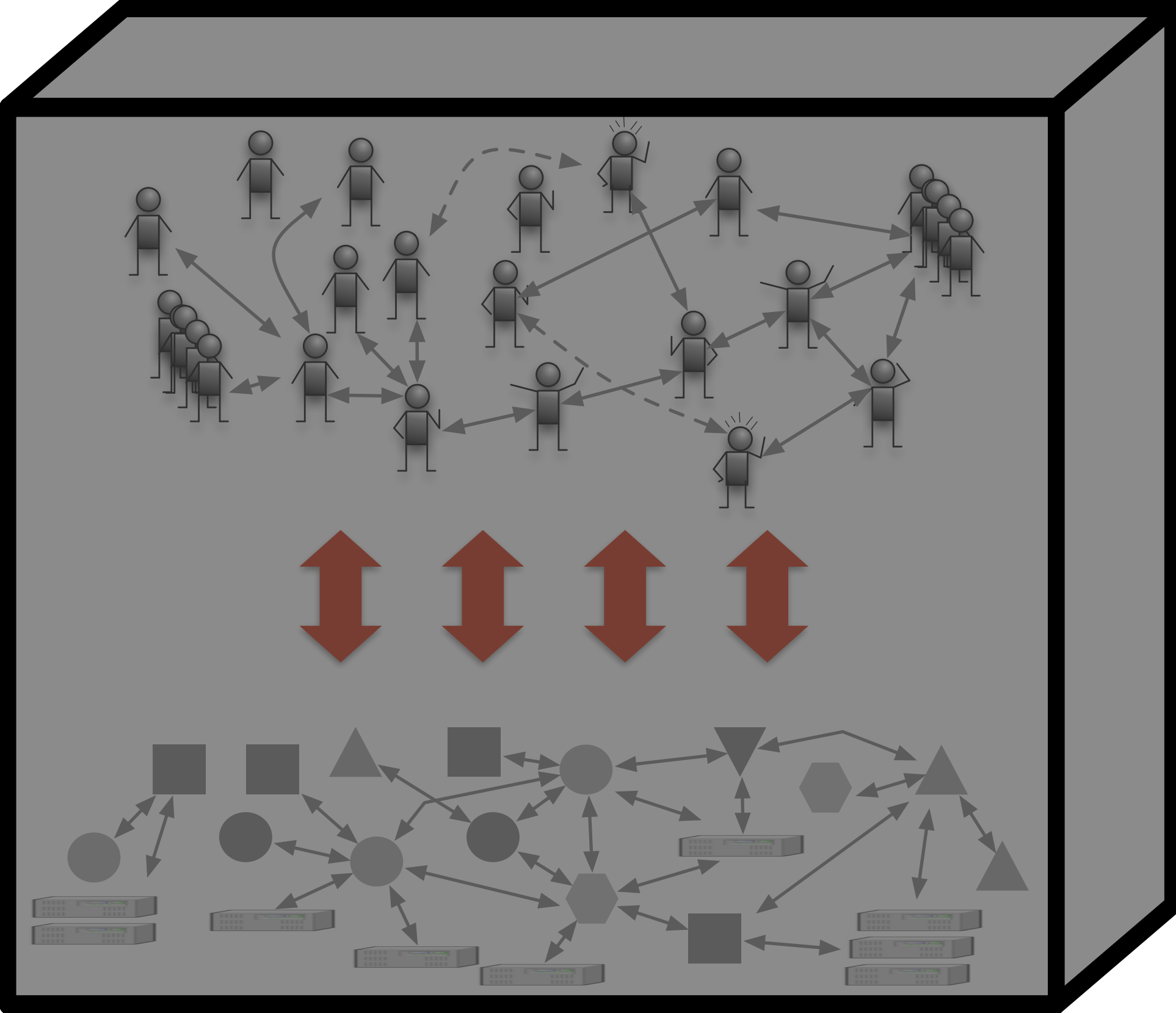


# Why are so many organizations **unable** to improve?

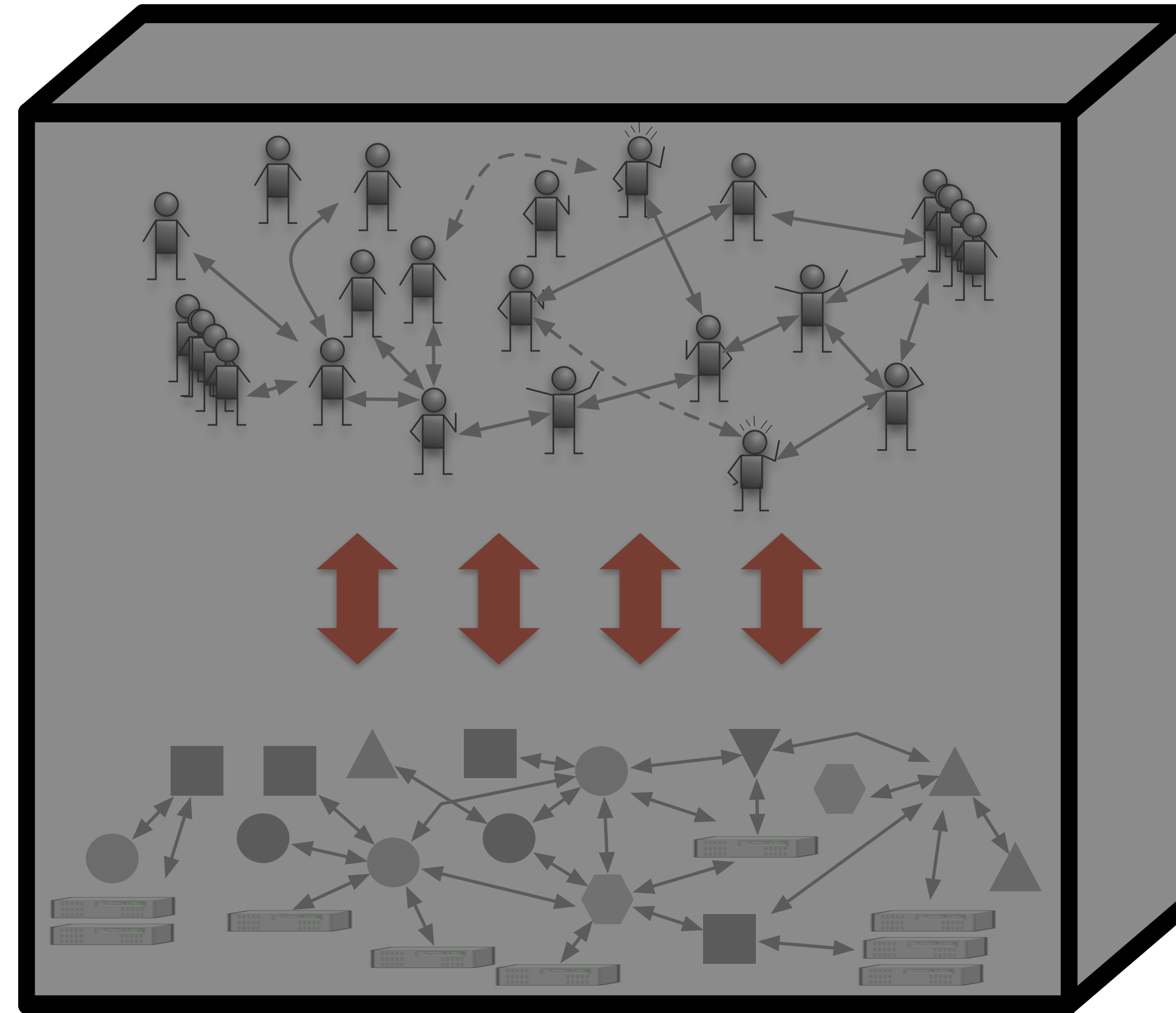


1. The **work isn't visible**
2. People are **working out of context**
3. Inertia is pulling your **org out of alignment**

**The only way to fix a sufficiently complex system is to create the conditions for the system to fix itself.**



***“I know the answer!...”***

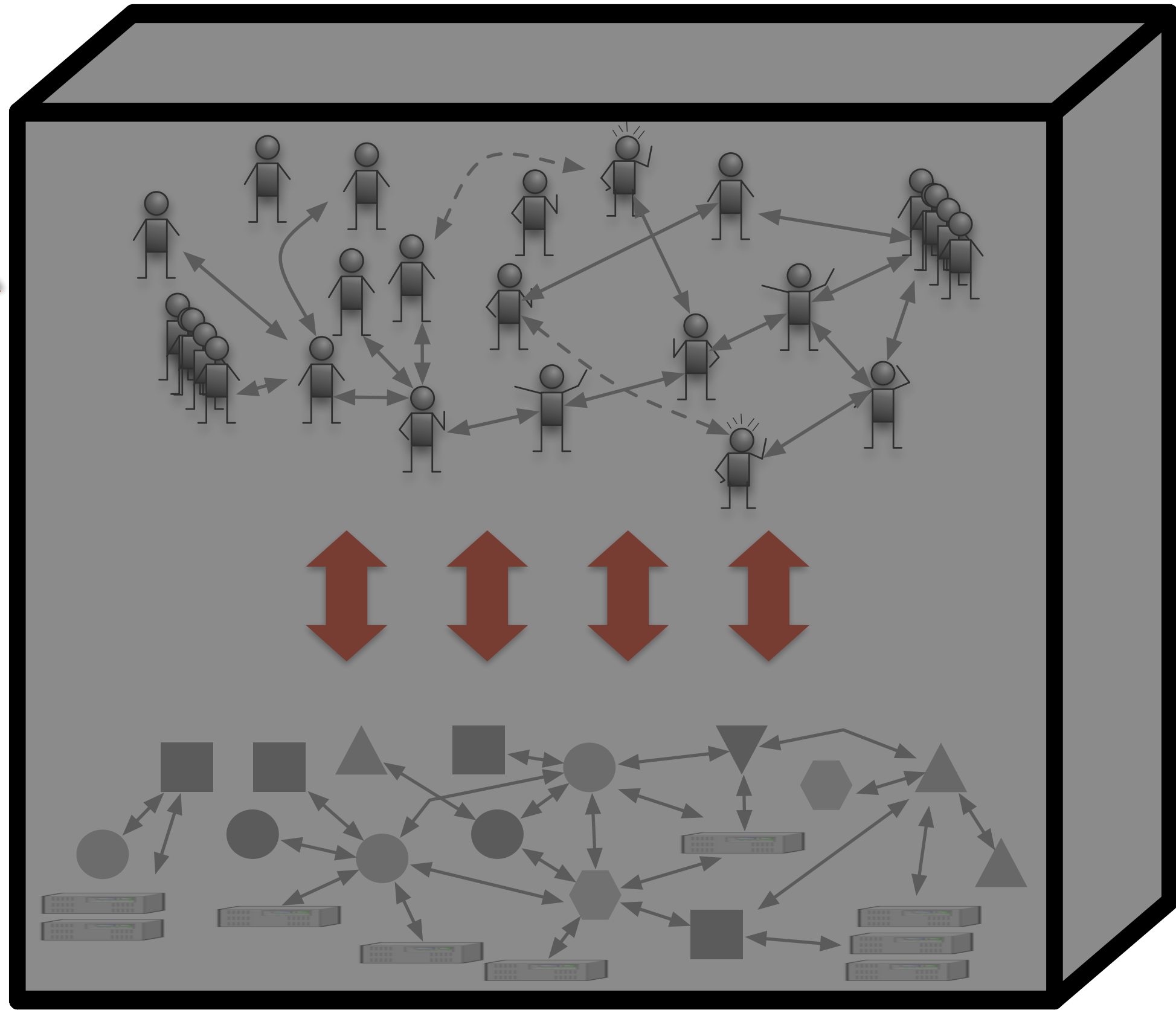
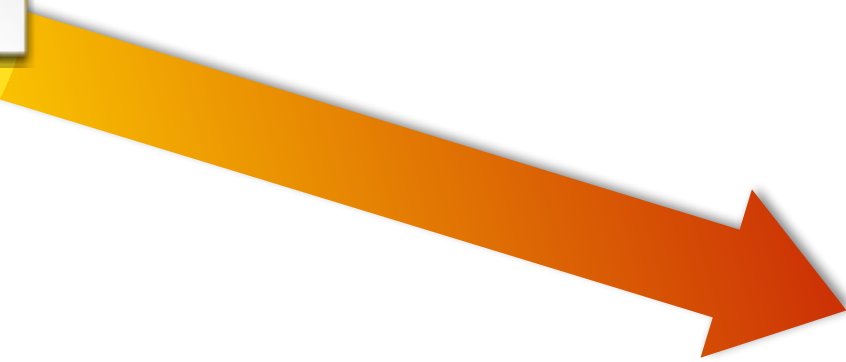


***“I know the answer!...”***

**Too costly...  
outsource more!**



**Finance**



***“I know the answer!...”***

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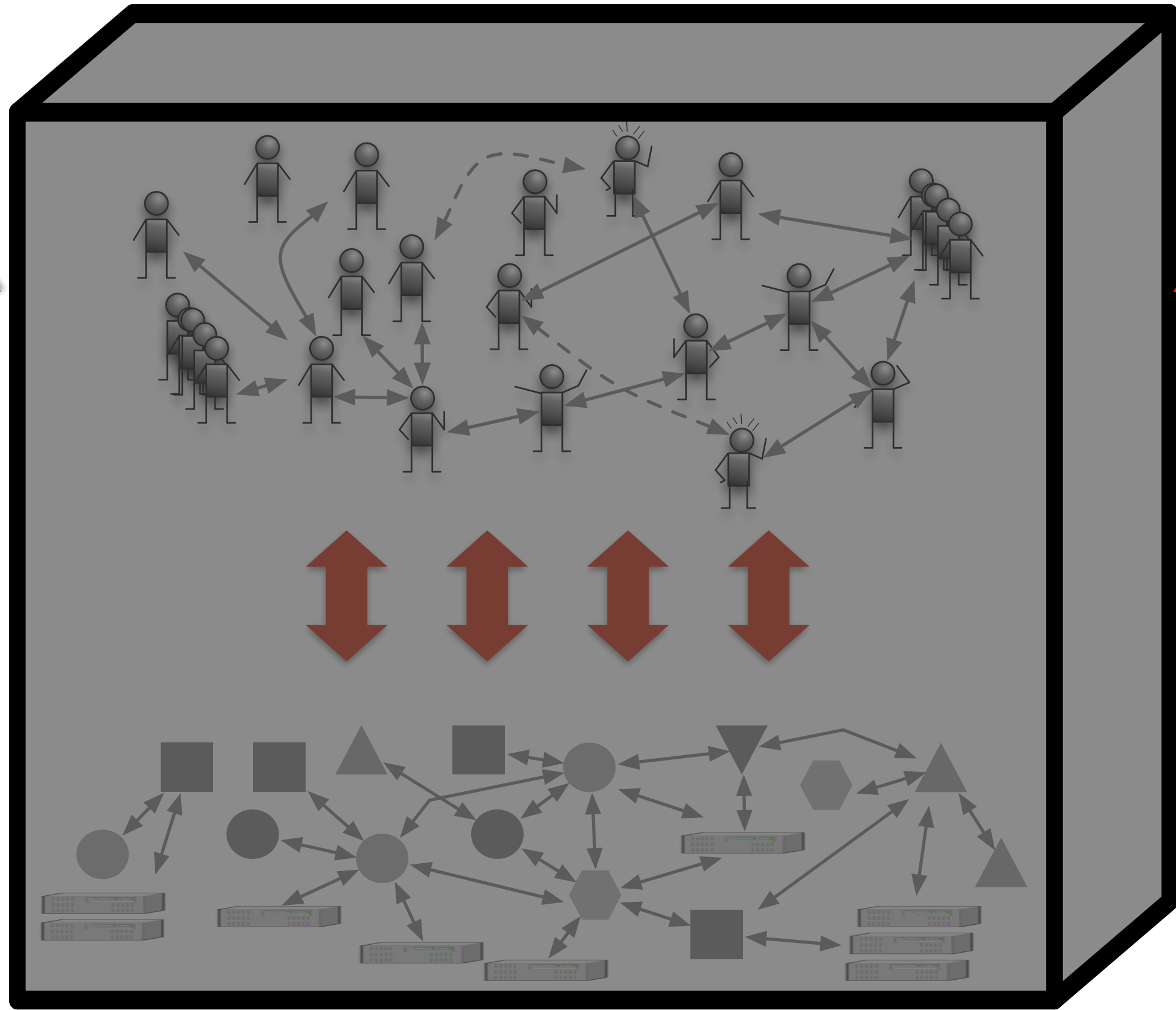
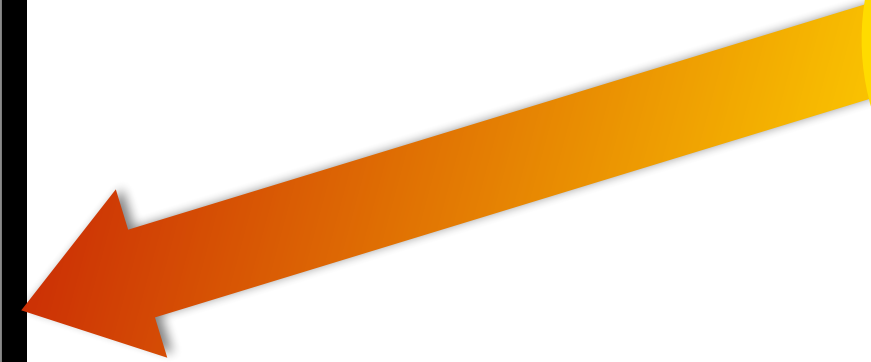
**Finance**



**We need results...  
re-org until we do!**



**Executive  
Committee**



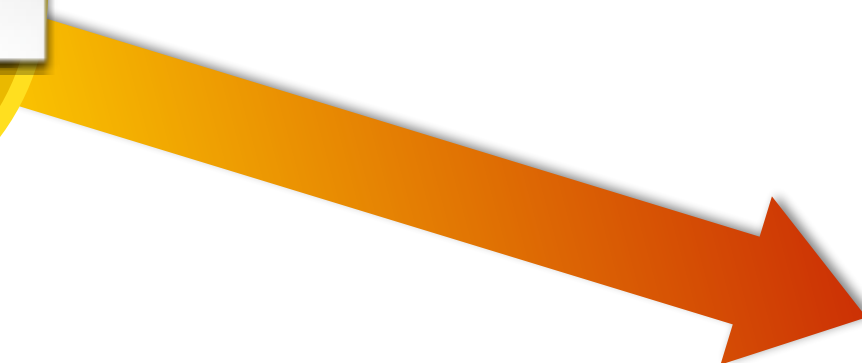


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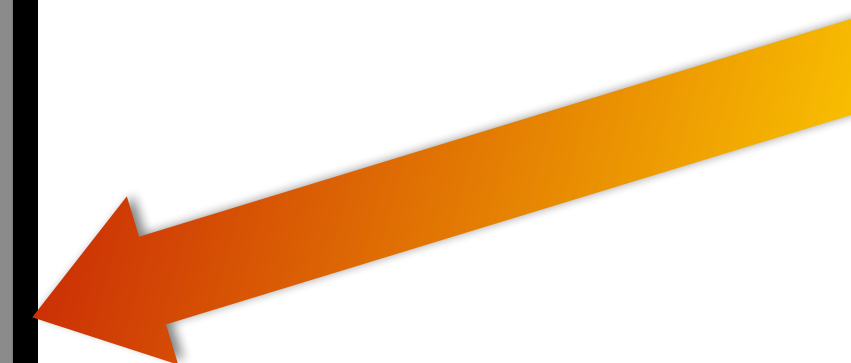
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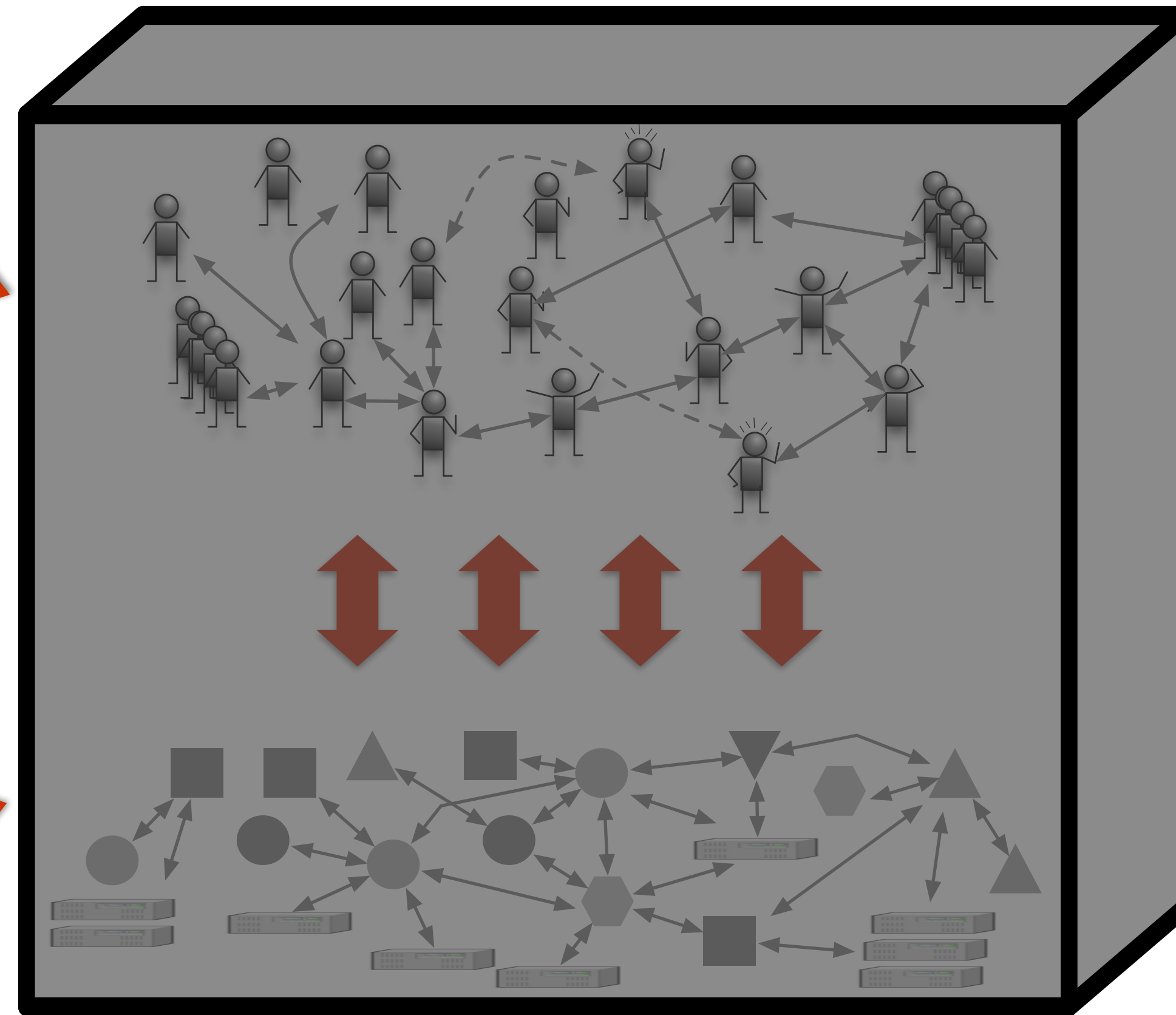
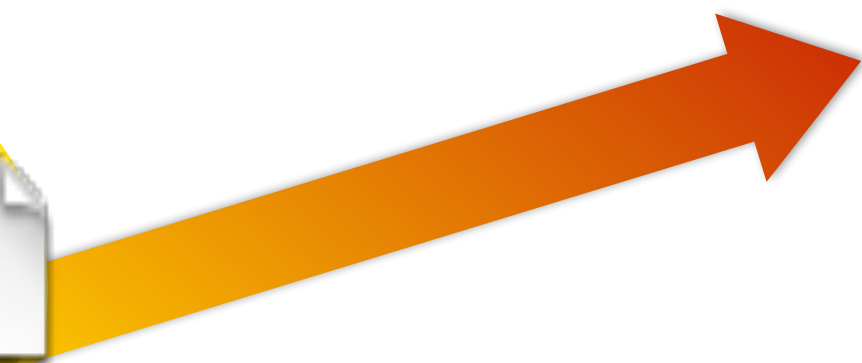
**Executive  
Committee**



**More discipline...  
tighter process and  
more approvals**



**Change  
Management**



***“I know the answer!...”***

**Too costly...  
outsource more!**



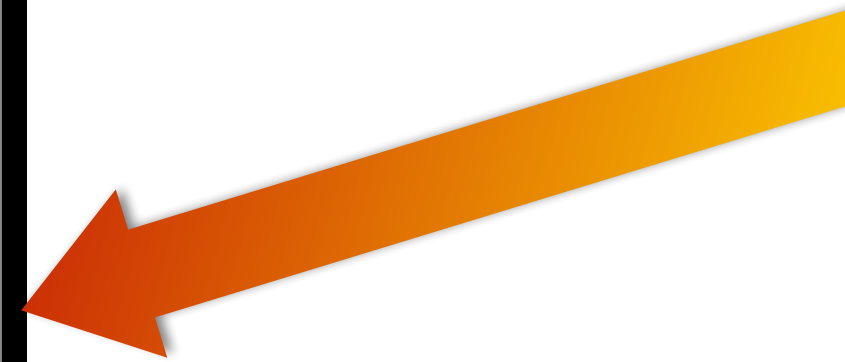
**Finance**



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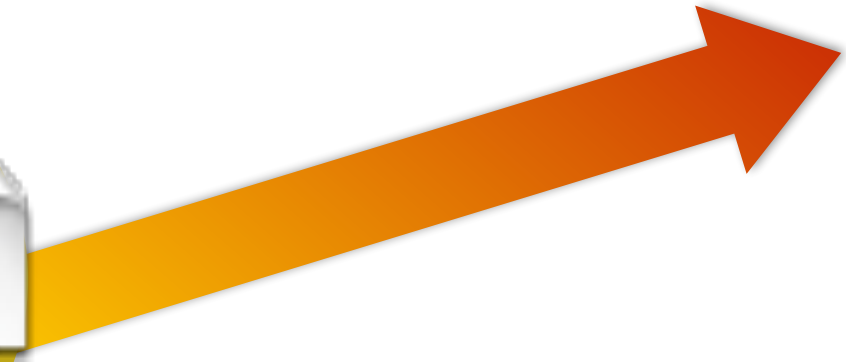
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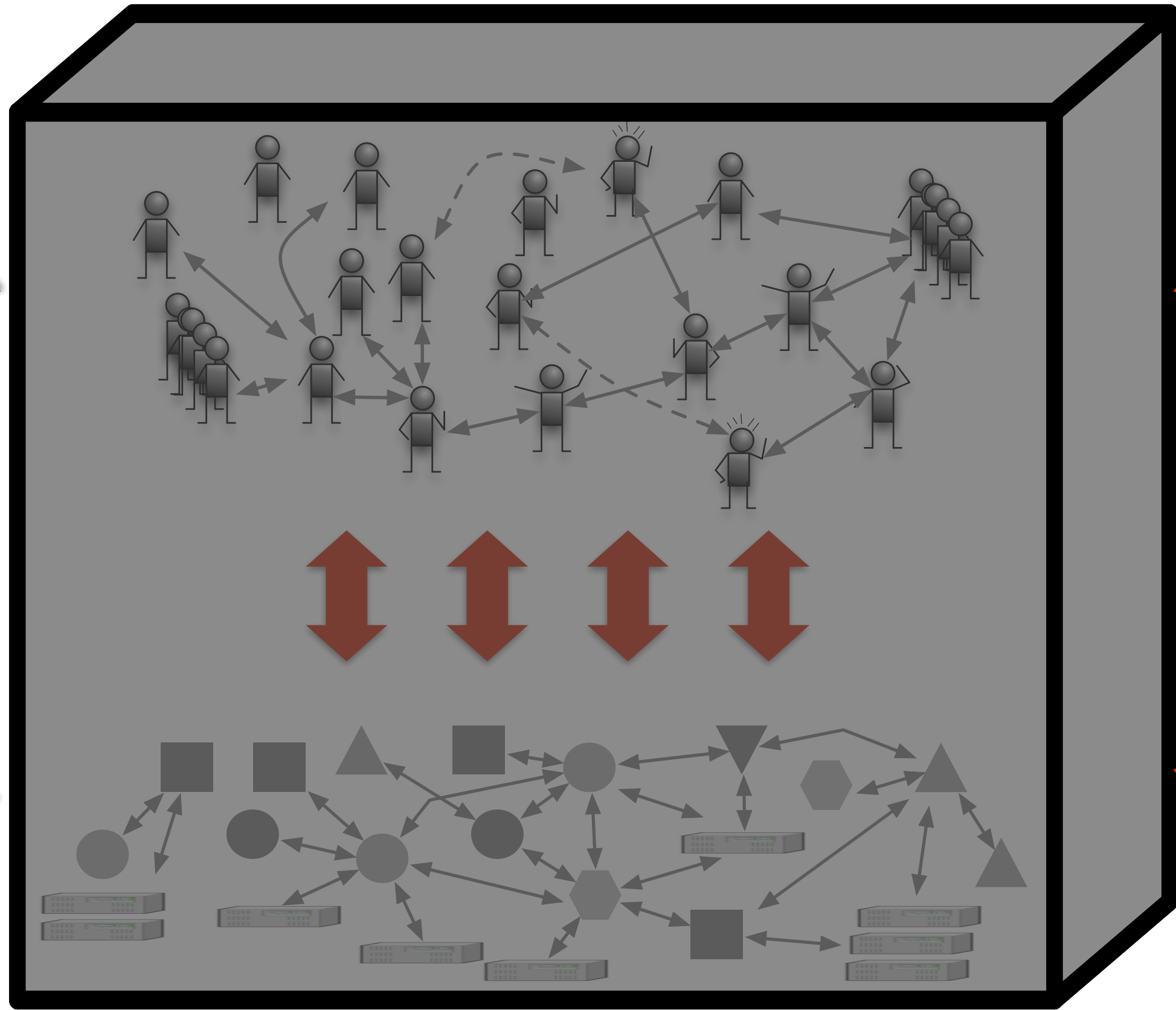
**Change  
Management**



**Need better tools...  
new automation and a  
new network!!**

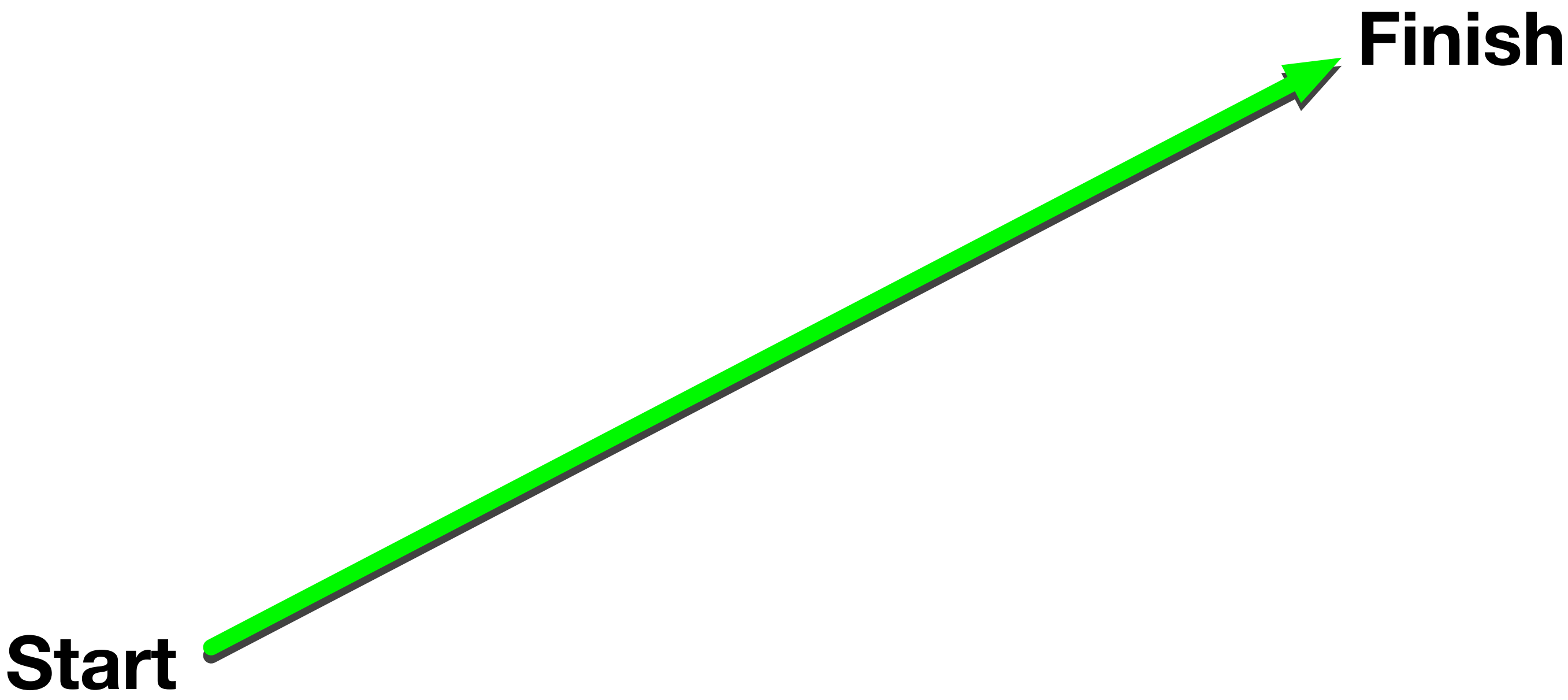


**Engineers**



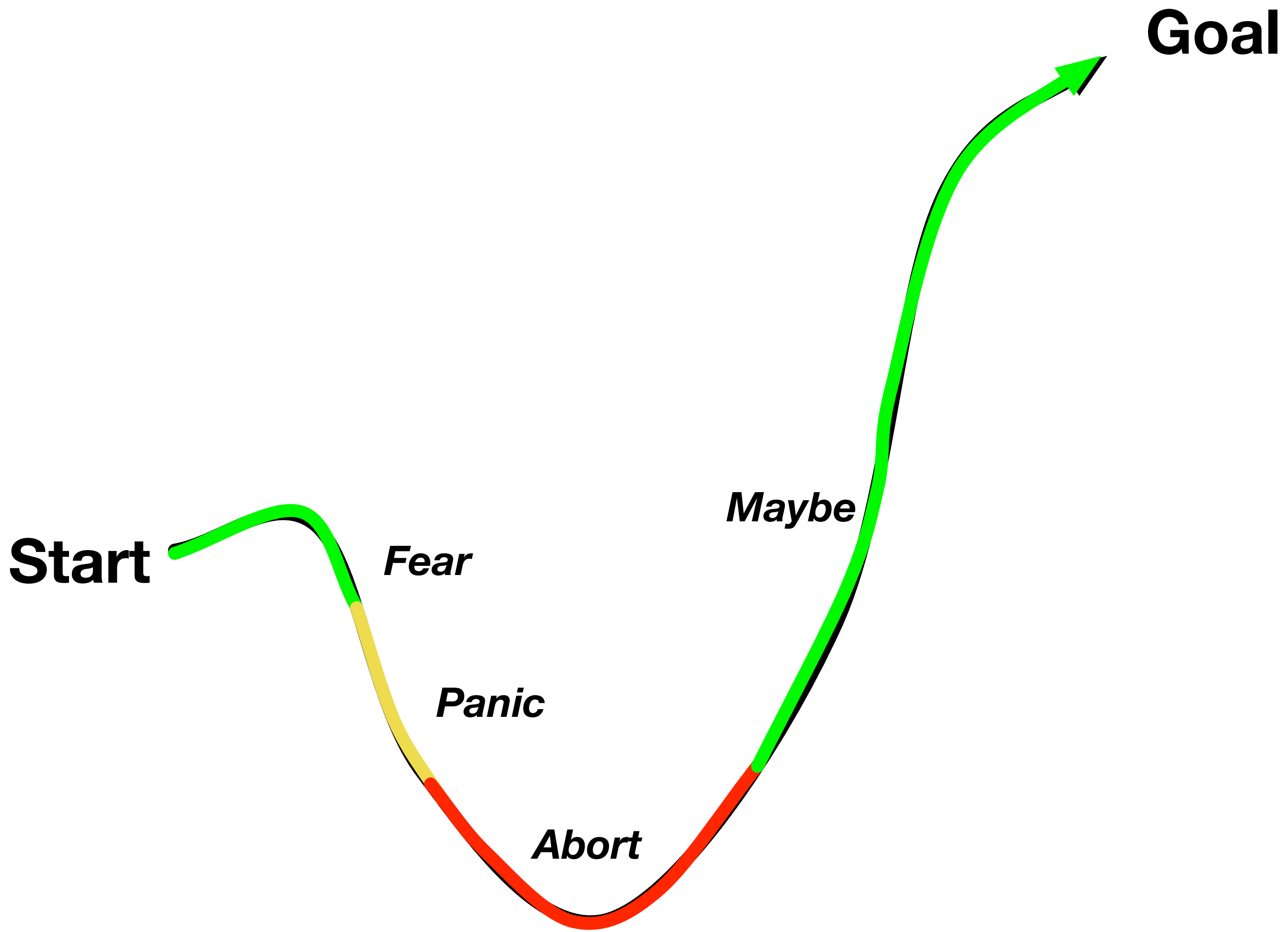
# The “Big Bang” Transformation Dream

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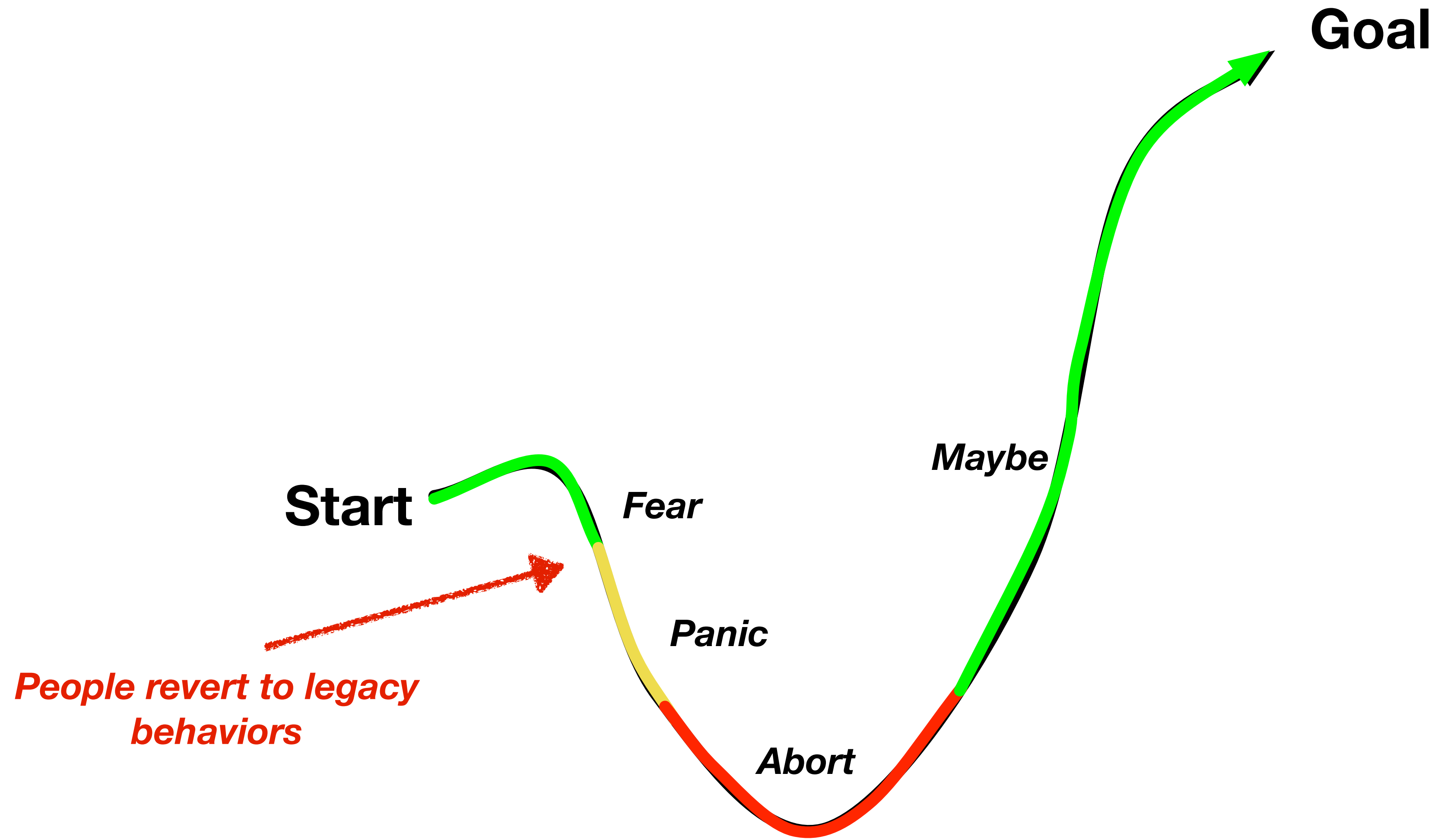
# The “Big Bang” Transformation Reality

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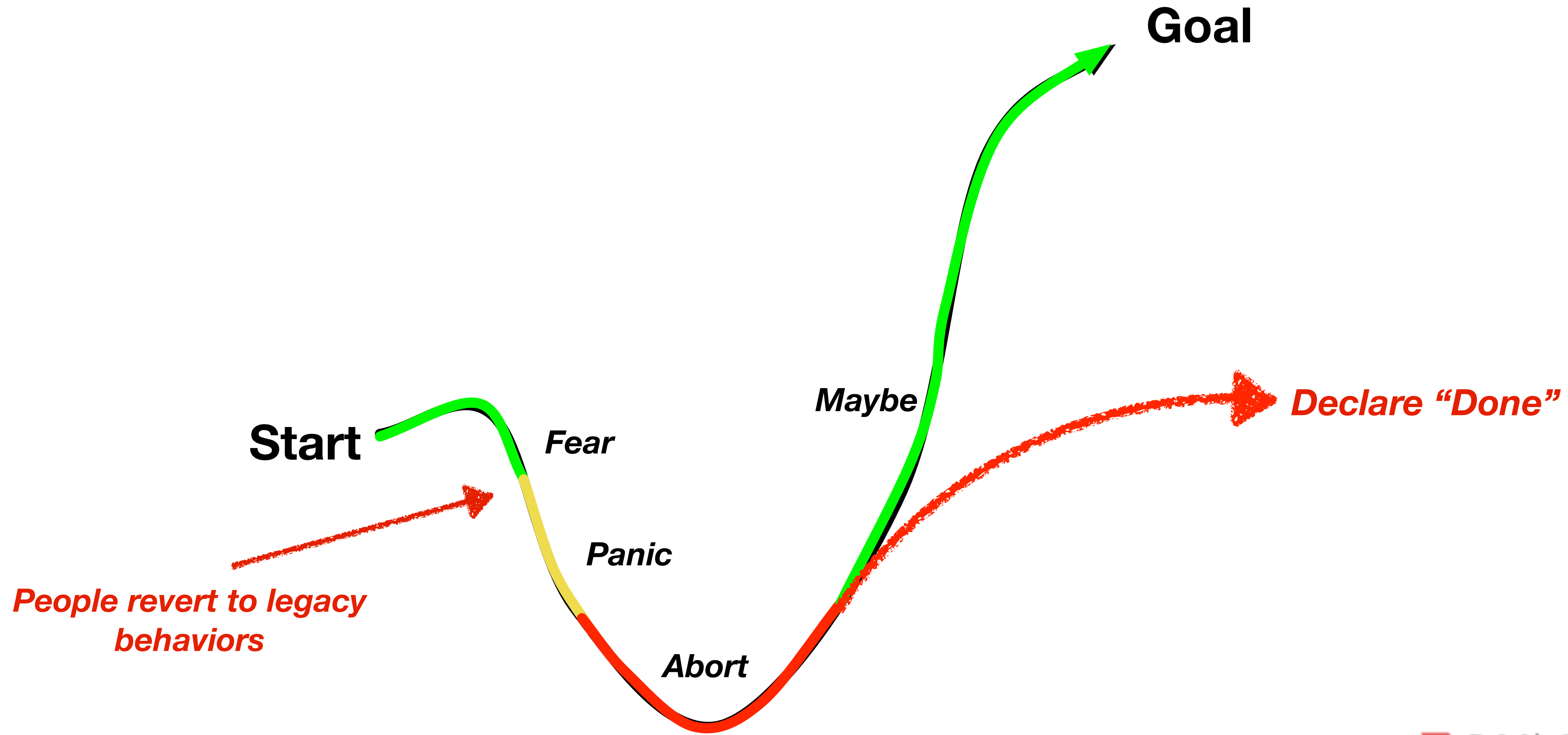
# The “Big Bang” Transformation Reality

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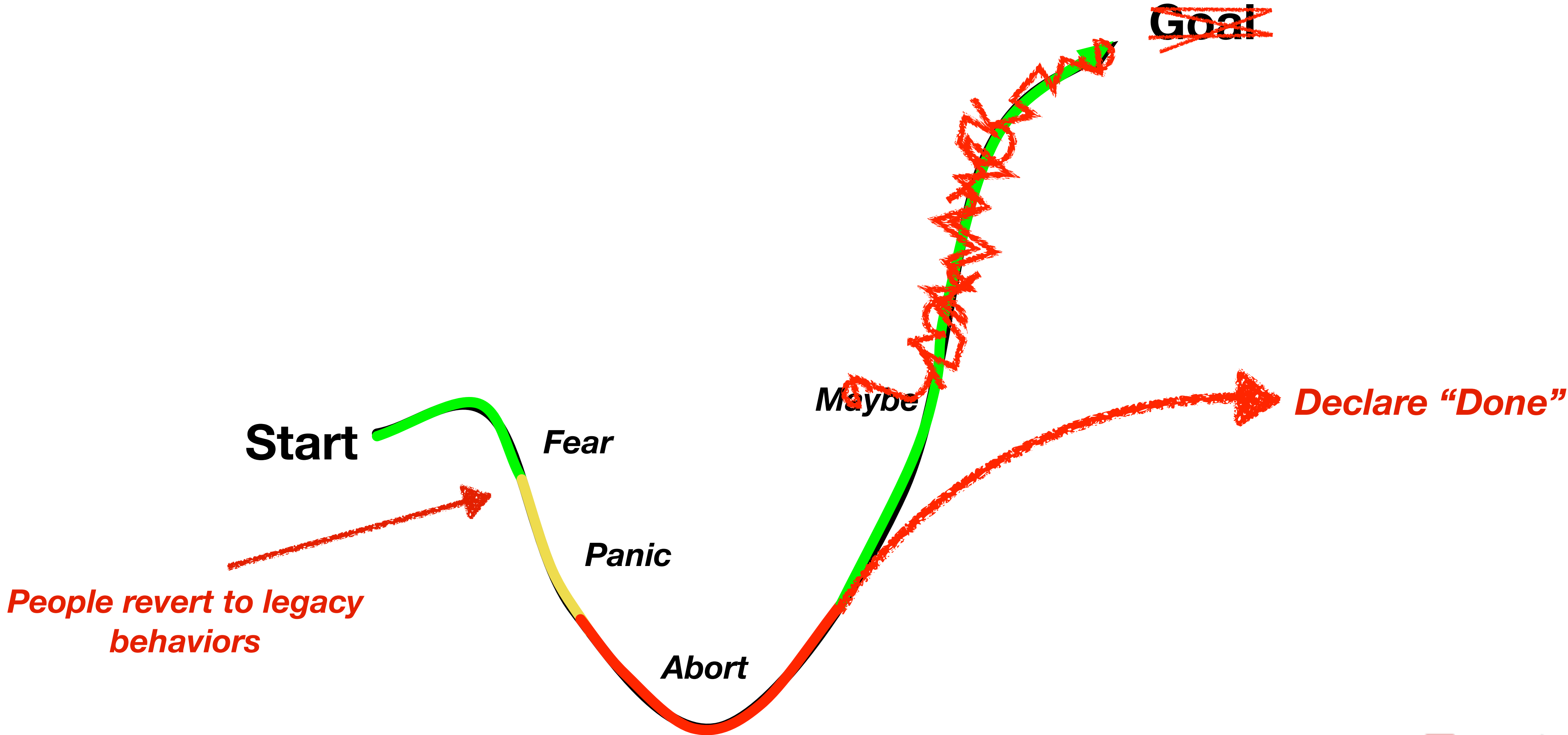


# The “Big Bang” Transformation Reality

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# The “Big Bang” Transformation Reality



**Too costly...  
outsource more!**

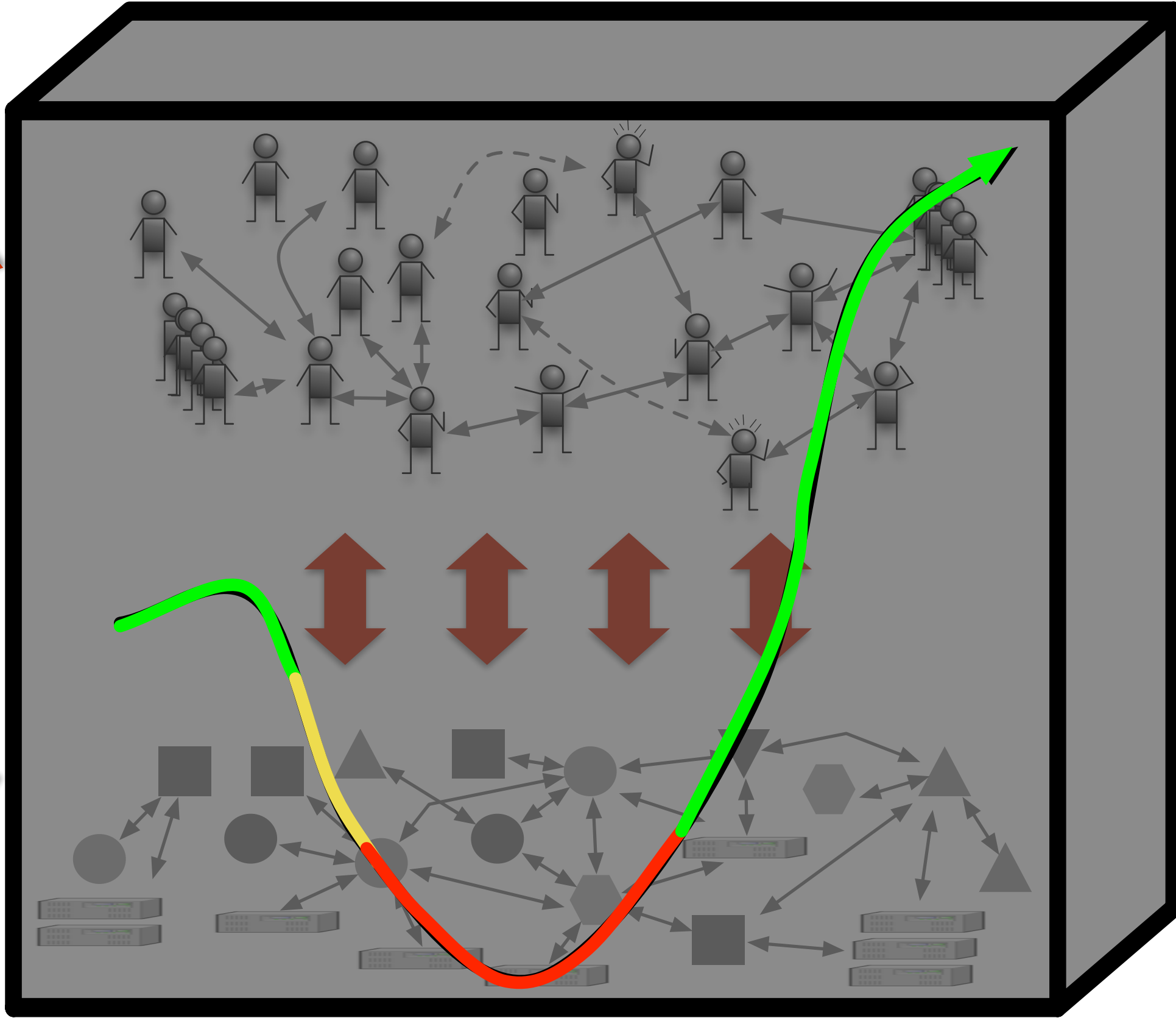


**Finance**

**More discipline...  
tighter process and  
more approvals**



**Change  
Management**



**Need Results...  
Re-Org!**



**Executive  
Committee**

**Need better tools...  
cool automation and a  
new network!!**



**Engineers**



**Too costly...  
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**Finance**

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**Change  
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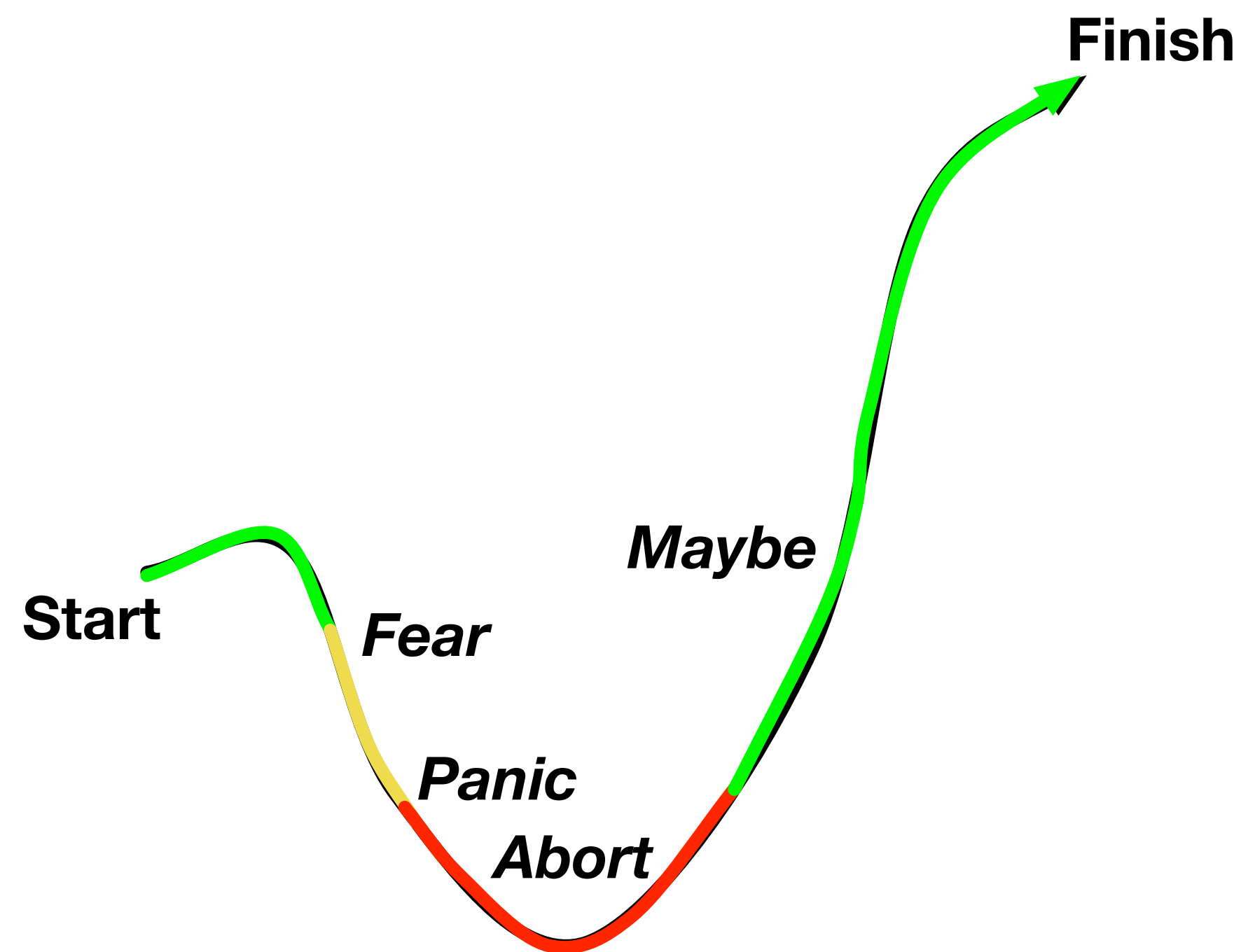
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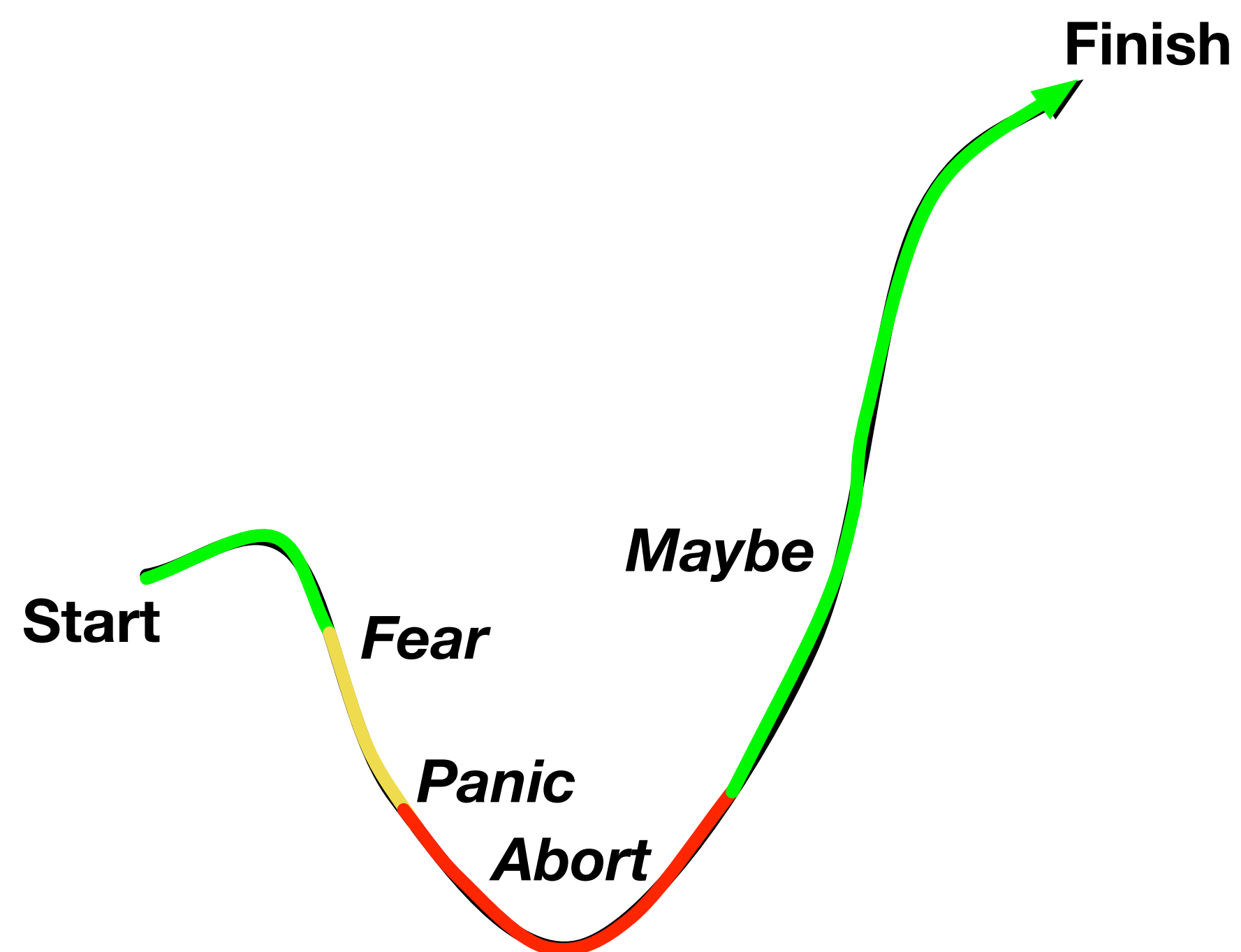
# “Little J’s” instead of “Big J”

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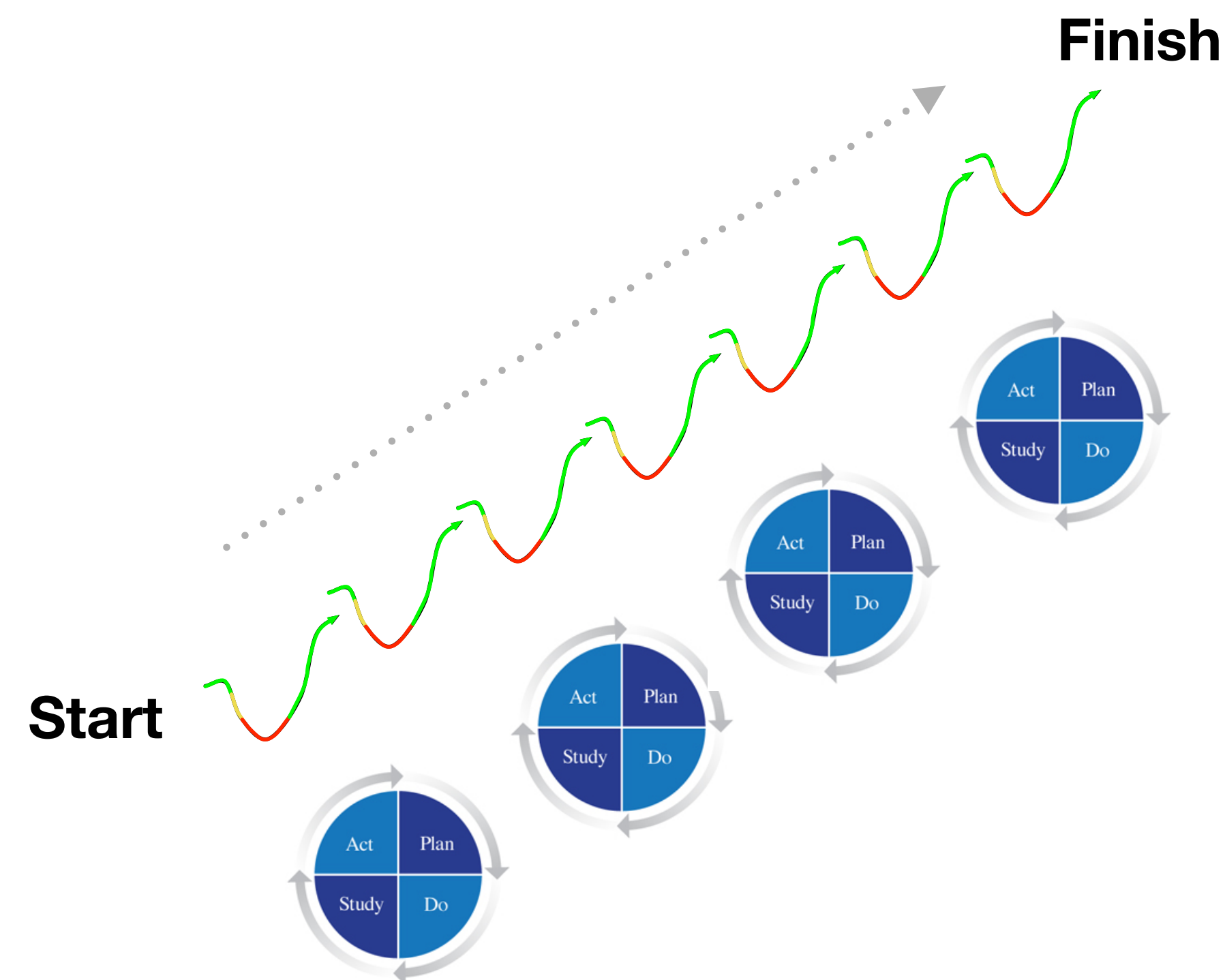


“Big Bang”

# “Little J’s” instead of “Big J”

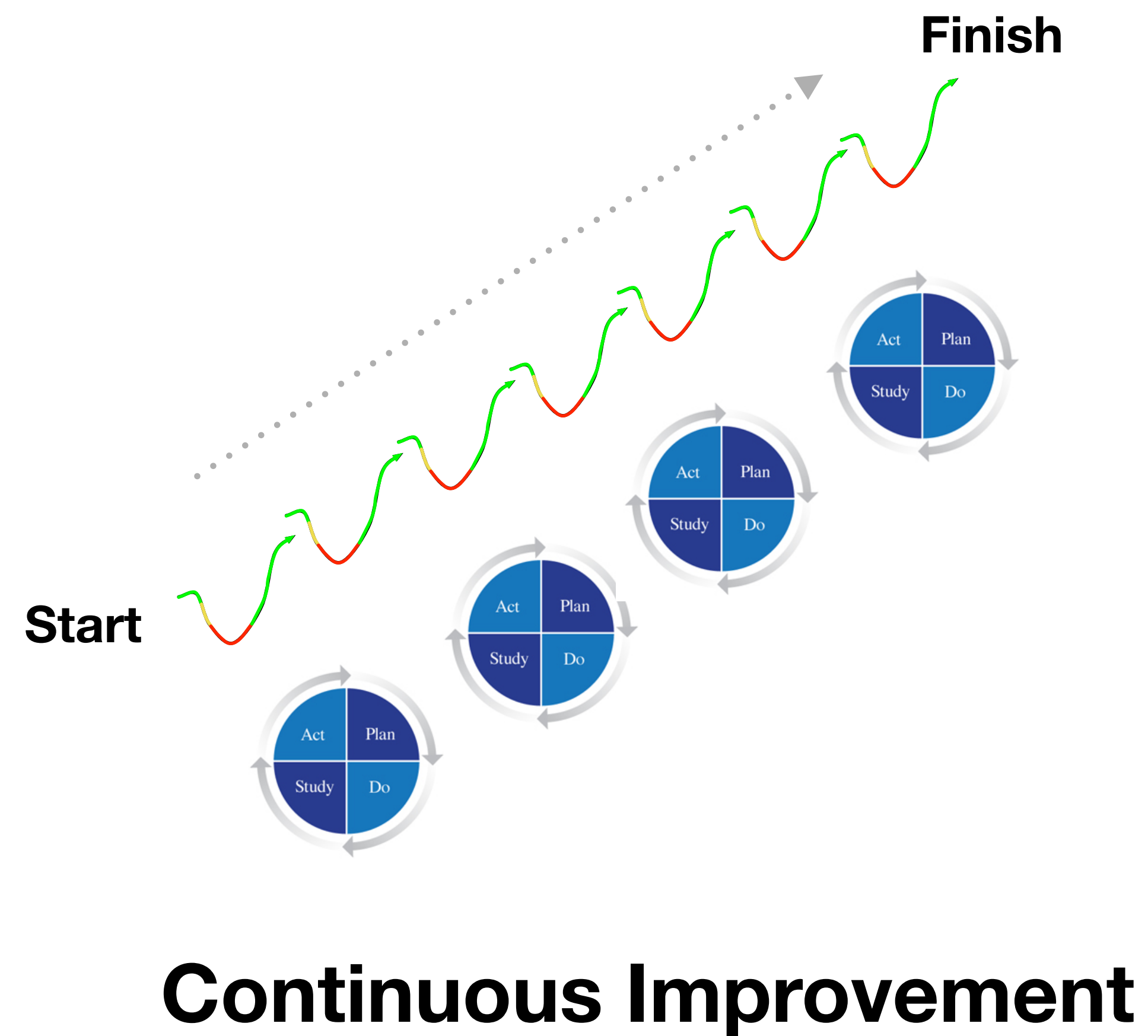
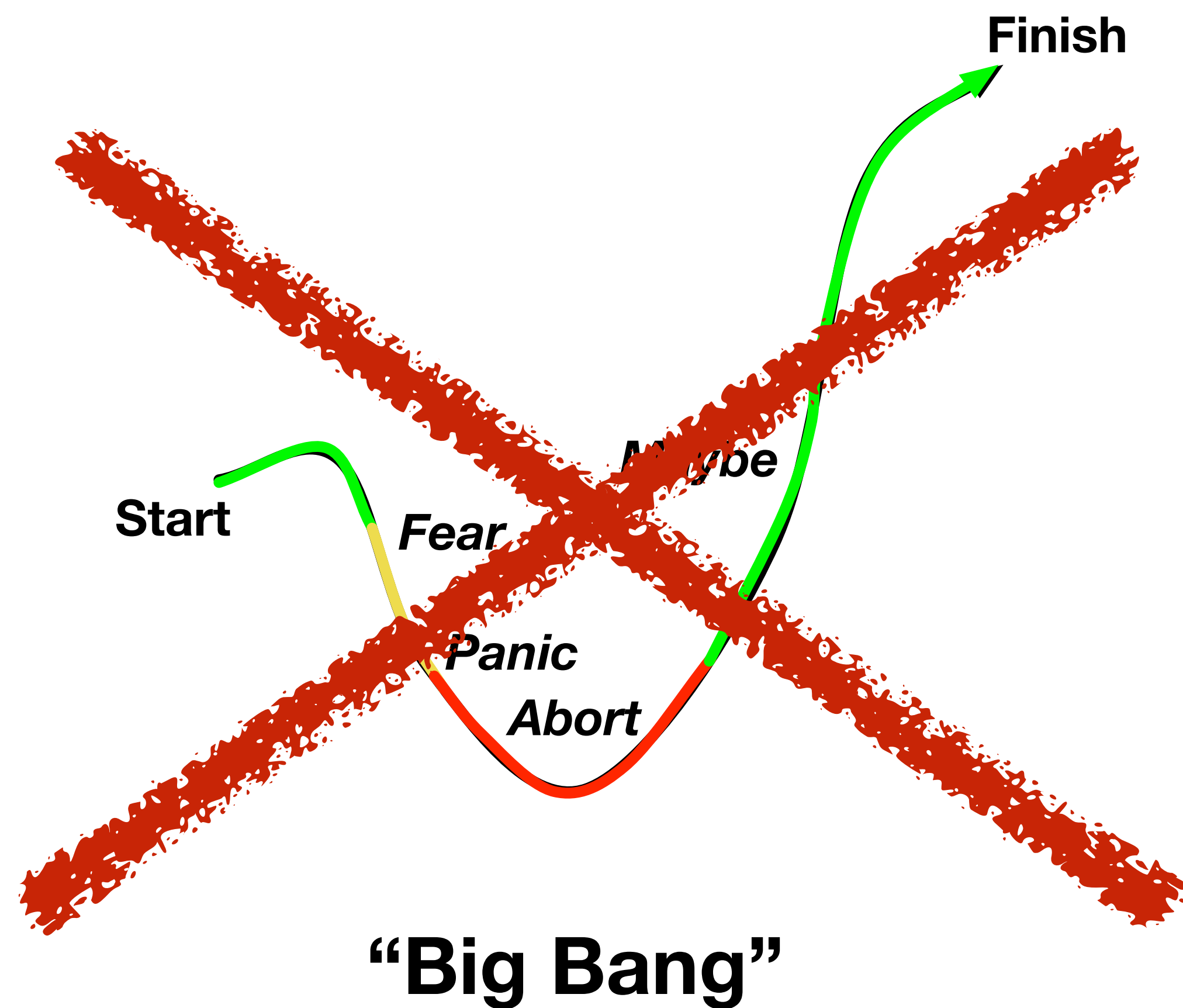


“Big Bang”



Continuous Improvement

# “Little J’s” instead of “Big J”



# Turn Continuous Improvement into an enterprise program

*You are going to have to...*

# Turn Continuous Improvement into an enterprise program

*You are going to have to...*

- **Keep improvement efforts aligned**

# Turn Continuous Improvement into an enterprise program

*You are going to have to...*

- **Keep improvement efforts aligned**
- **Scale quickly**

# Turn Continuous Improvement into an enterprise program

*You are going to have to...*

- **Keep improvement efforts aligned**
- **Scale quickly**
- **Span multiple organizational boundaries**



# Turn Continuous Improvement into an enterprise program

*You are going to have to...*

- **Keep improvement efforts aligned**
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- **Work with substantial numbers of legacy technologies**

# Turn Continuous Improvement into an enterprise program

*You are going to have to...*

- **Keep improvement efforts aligned**
- **Scale quickly**
- **Span multiple organizational boundaries**
- **Work with substantial numbers of legacy technologies**
- **Develop your existing staff in mass**

# Turn Continuous Improvement into an enterprise program

*You are going to have to...*

- **Keep improvement efforts aligned**
- **Scale quickly**
- **Span multiple organizational boundaries**
- **Work with substantial numbers of legacy technologies**
- **Develop your existing staff in mass**
- **Be self-funding after initial seed investment**

# But how do you do that when...

1. The **work isn't visible**
2. People are **working out of context**
3. Inertia is pulling your **org out of alignment**

**You need a systemic way to teach an organization to  
find and fix what is getting in its own way.**

# “Kaizen”

---

# “Kaizen”

---

- **Kaizen: Japanese word for improvement**

# “Kaizen”

---

- **Kaizen: Japanese word for improvement**
- **Modern business context:**
  - **Continuous improvement**
  - **Systematic, scientific-method approach**
  - **Total engagement of the workforce**
  - **Valuing small changes as much as large changes (outcome is what matters)**



# “Kaizen”

---

- **Kaizen: Japanese word for improvement**
- **Modern business context:**
  - **Continuous improvement**
  - **Systematic, scientific-method approach**
  - **Total engagement of the workforce**
  - **Valuing small changes as much as large changes (outcome is what matters)**
- **Kaizen in a DevOps context:**
  - **Continuously improve the flow of work through the full value stream in order to improve customer outcomes**

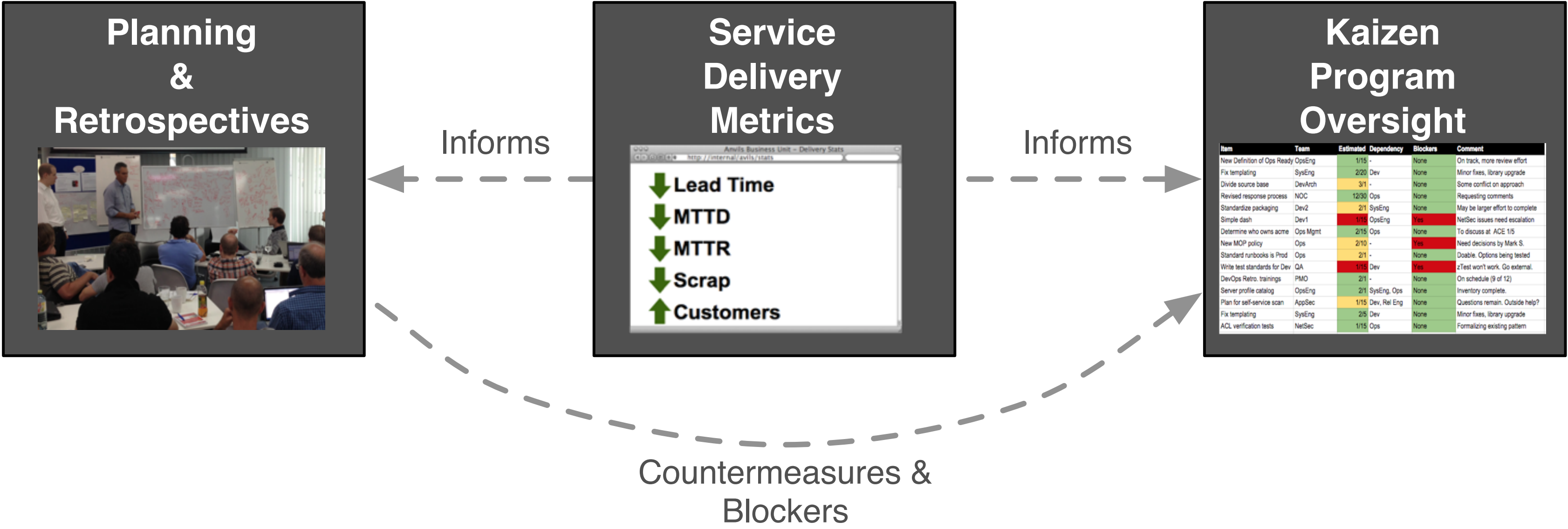
# “DevOps Kaizen”

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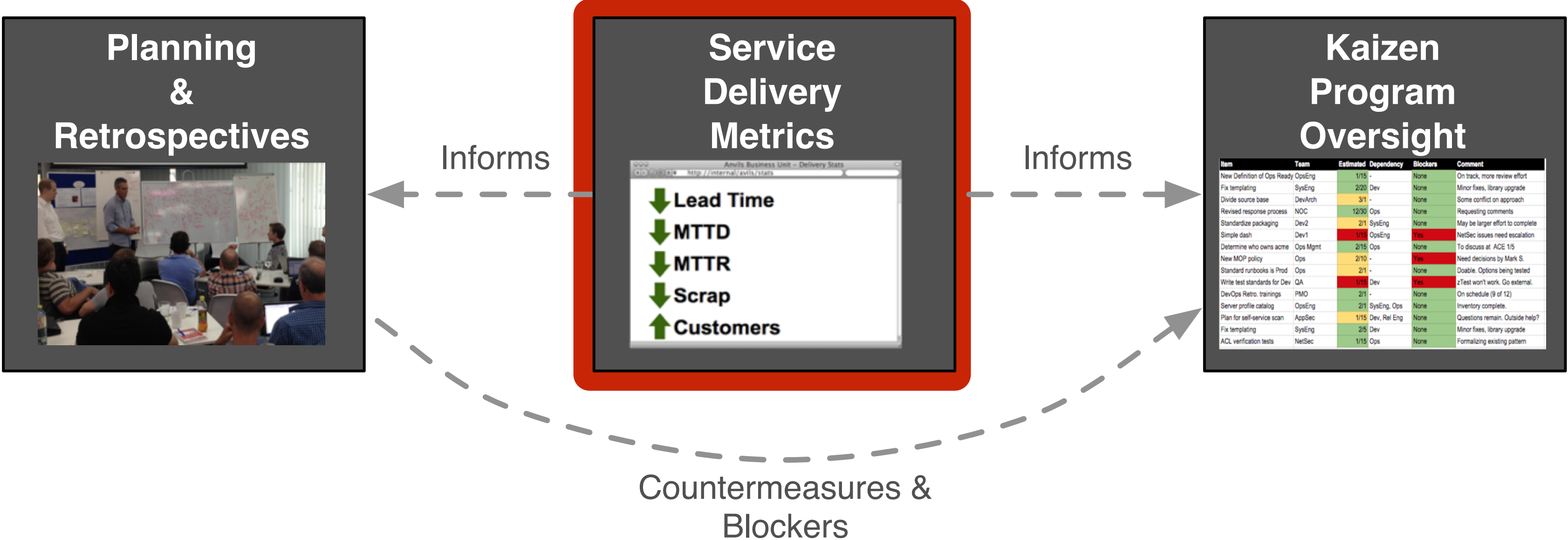
**Proven Lean Techniques  
+  
DevOps Context**

*“If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.”  
-Sir Isaac Newton*

# Elements of a DevOps Kaizen Program



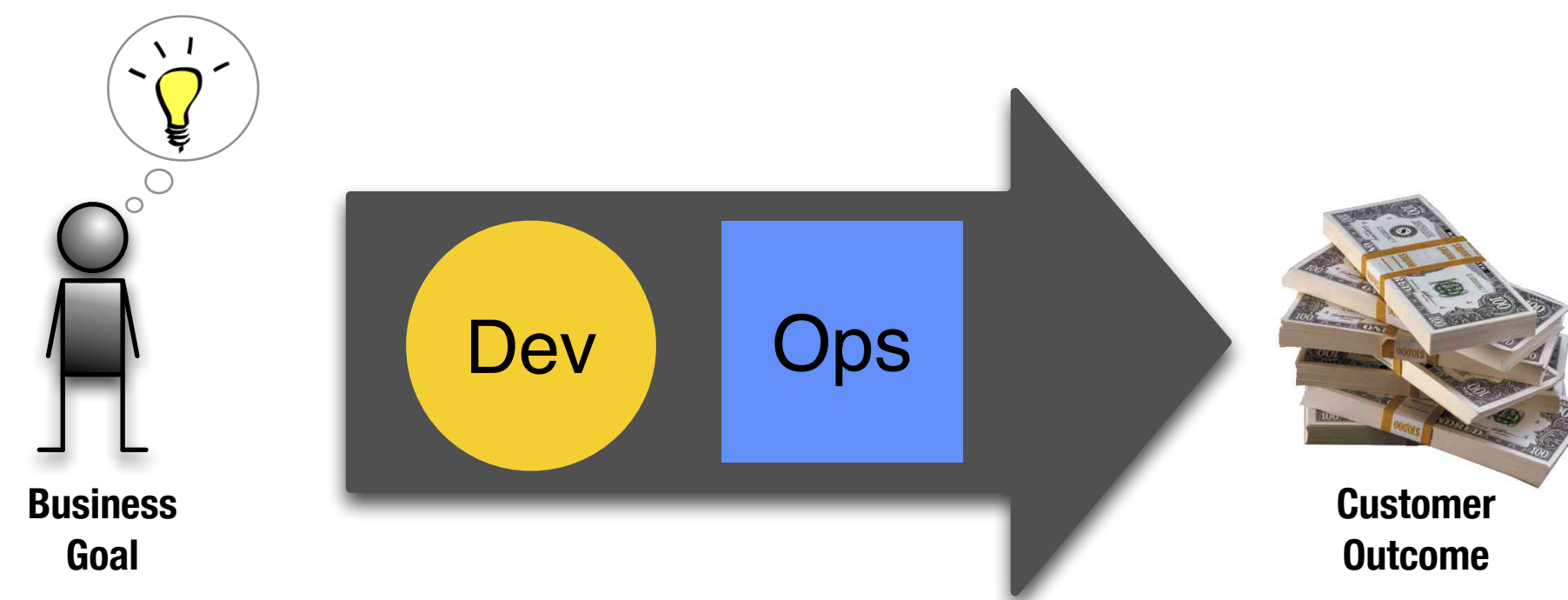
# Elements of a DevOps Kaizen Program



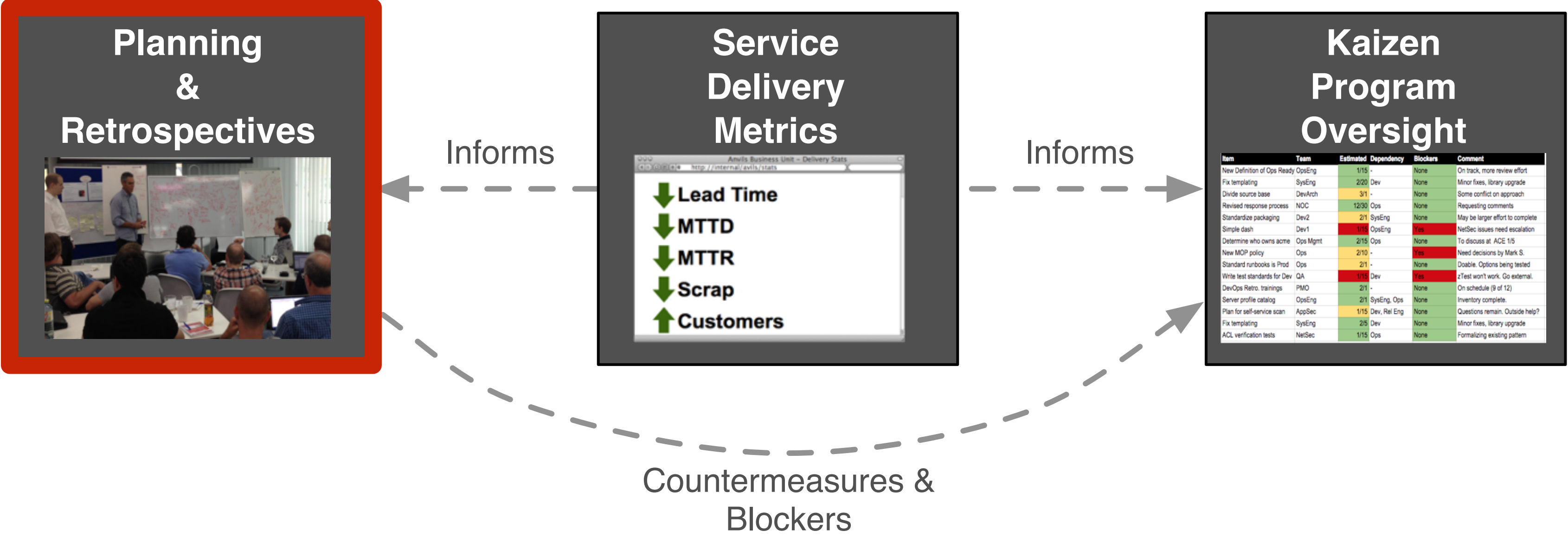
# Organization-wide focus on service delivery metrics

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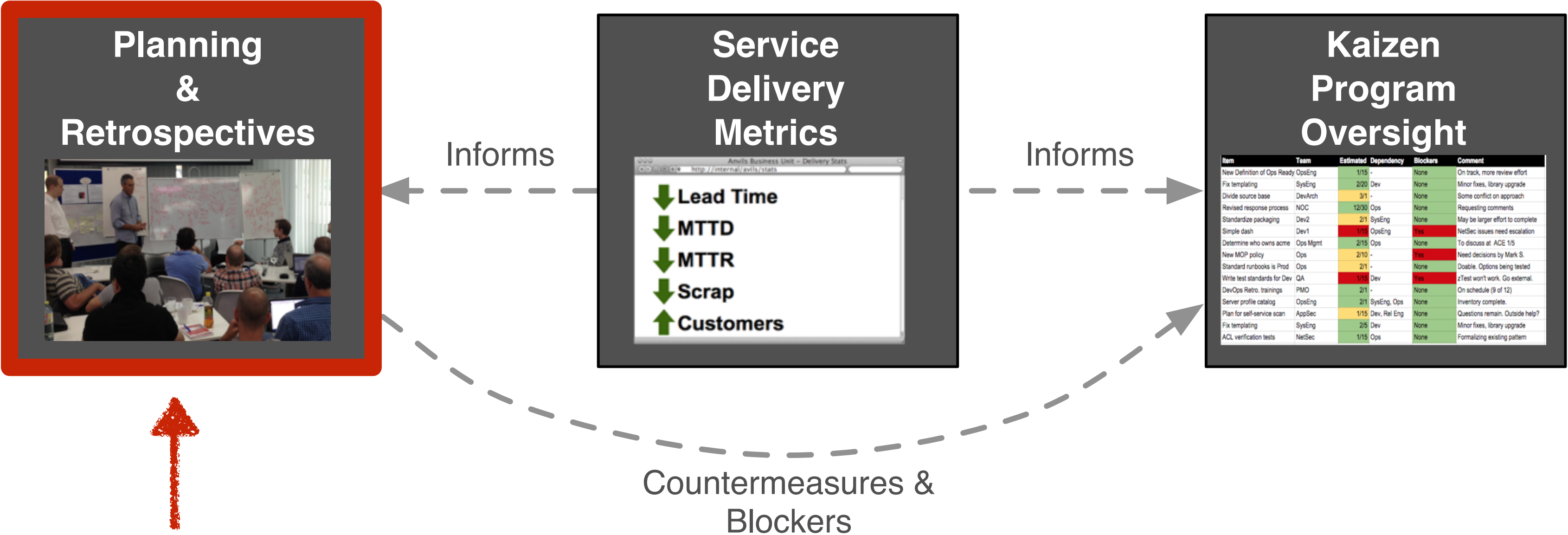
- **Lead Time** (Duration and Predictability)
- **MTTD** (Mean Time To Detect)
- **MTTR** (Mean Time to Repair, Mean Time to Fix)
- **Quality at the Source** (Scrap/Rework)



# Elements of a DevOps Kaizen Program

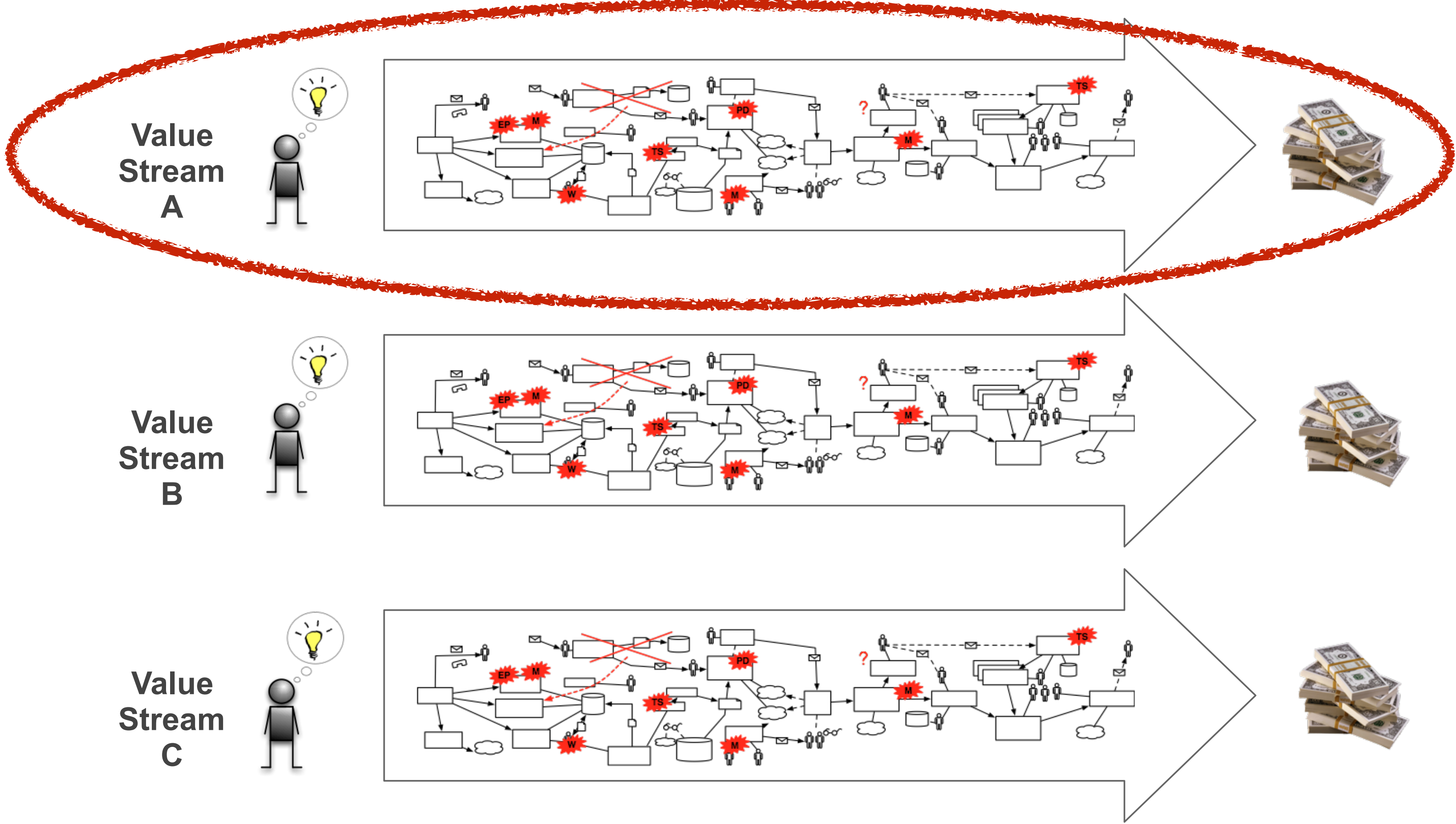


# Elements of a DevOps Kaizen Program



This is where the work becomes visible!

# Retrospectives are a per value stream tool

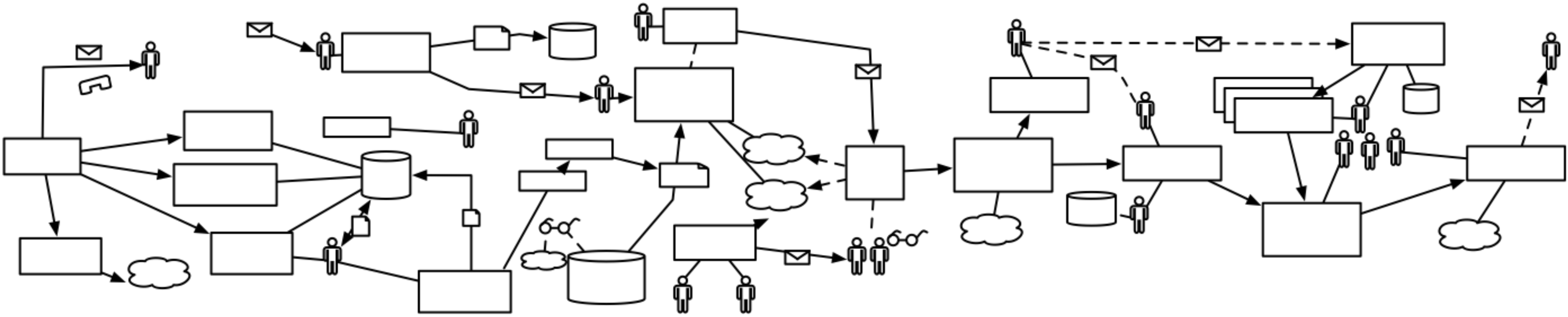


Key:  
"horizontal thinking"



# DevOps Kaizen: Retrospective Technique

## 1 Map end-to-end process

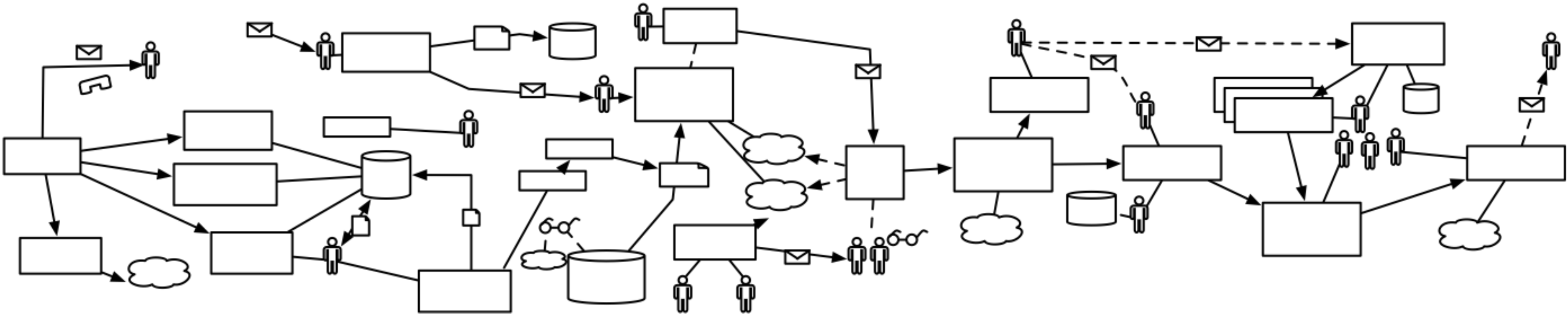


Include key process metrics:

- Lead Time
- Processing Time
- Scrap Rate
- Head Count

# DevOps Kaizen: Retrospective Technique

## 1 Map end-to-end process



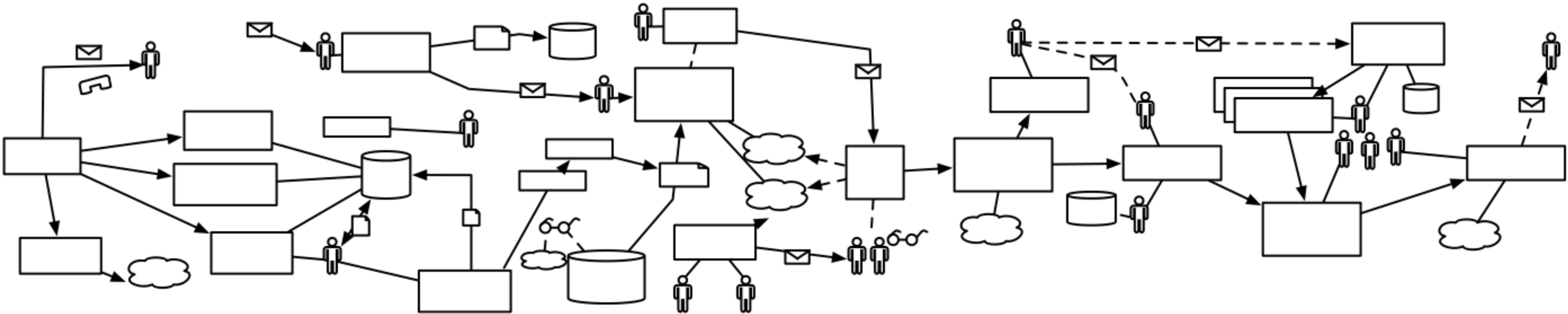
Note: "going to the gembu" requires making it visible together

Include key process metrics:

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# DevOps Kaizen: Retrospective Technique

## 1 Map end-to-end process



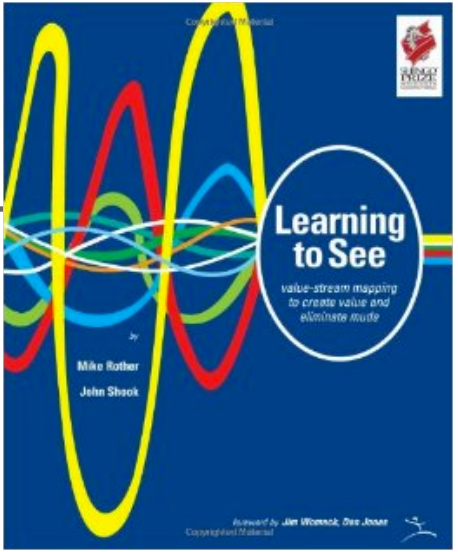
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Include key process metrics:

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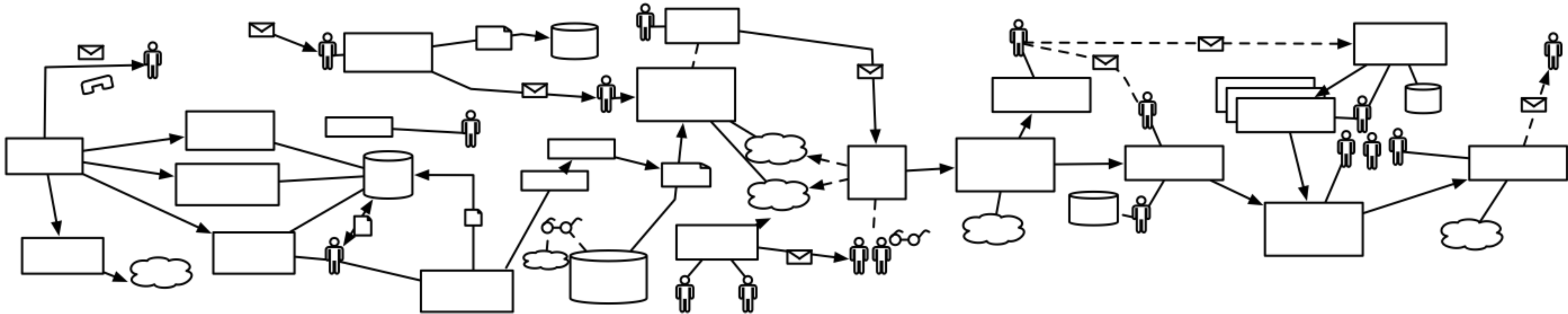
Key: graphical facilitation above all else!

# DevOps Kaizen: Retrospective Technique



## 1 Map end-to-end process

Inspiration: value stream mapping



Note: "going to the gembu" requires making it visible together

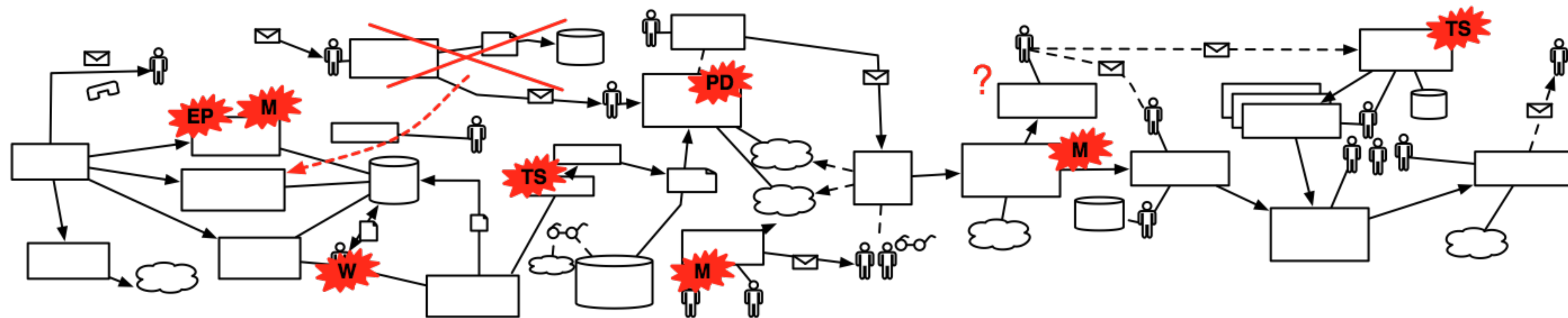
Include key process metrics:

- Lead Time
- Processing Time
- Scrap Rate
- Head Count

Key: graphical facilitation above all else!

# DevOps Kaizen: Retrospective Technique

## 2 Identify wastes, inefficiencies, bottlenecks

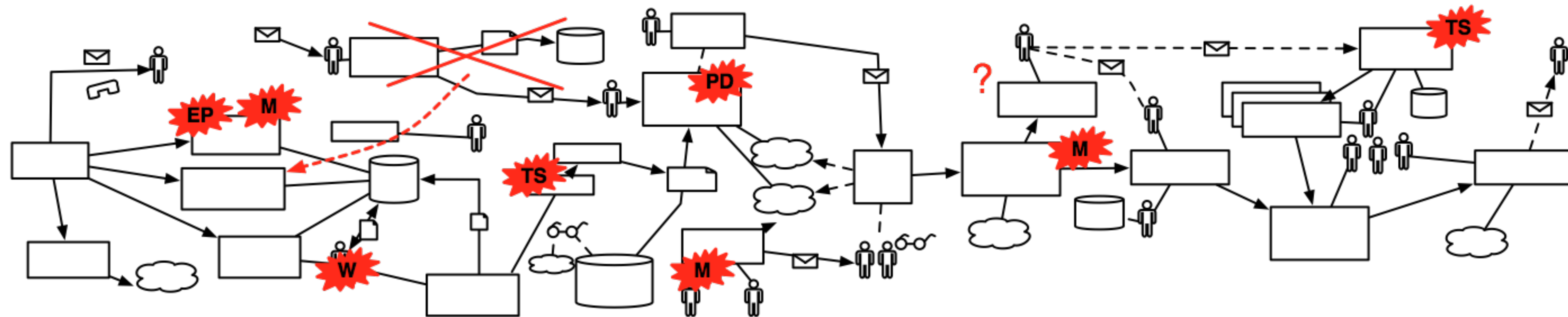


Structured approach building on DevOps  
adaptation of “7 deadly wastes” from Lean / Agile:

<b><i>PD - Partially Done</i></b>	<b><i>D - Defects</i></b>
<b><i>TS - Task Switching</i></b>	<b><i>EP - Extra Process</i></b>
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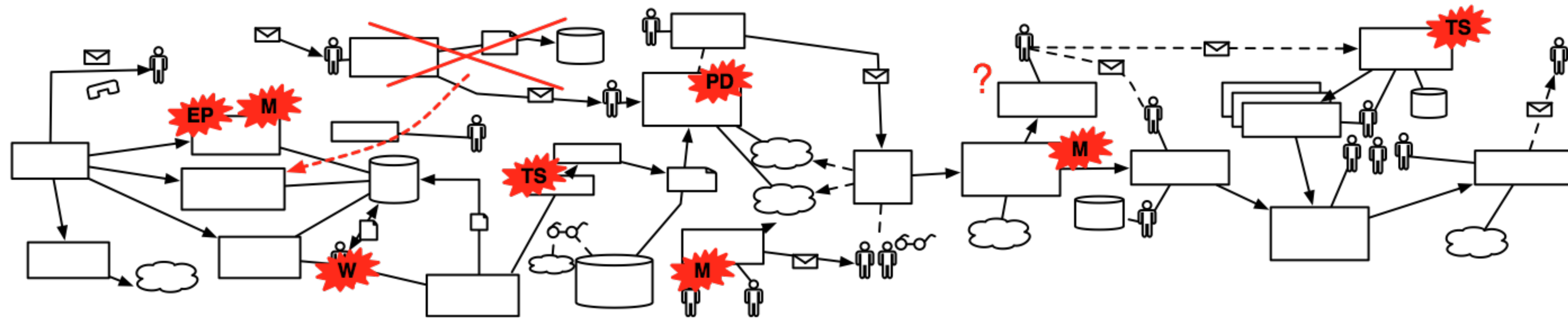
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Key: focus on  
flow of value...  
not gripes

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Inspiration: 7 Wastes of Software Development

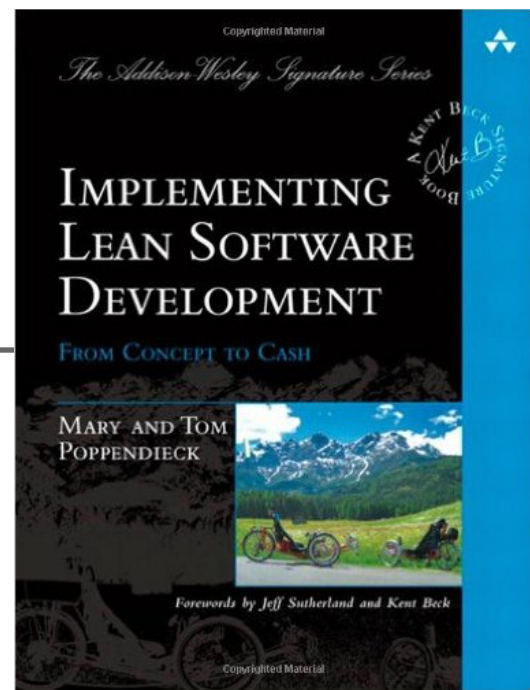
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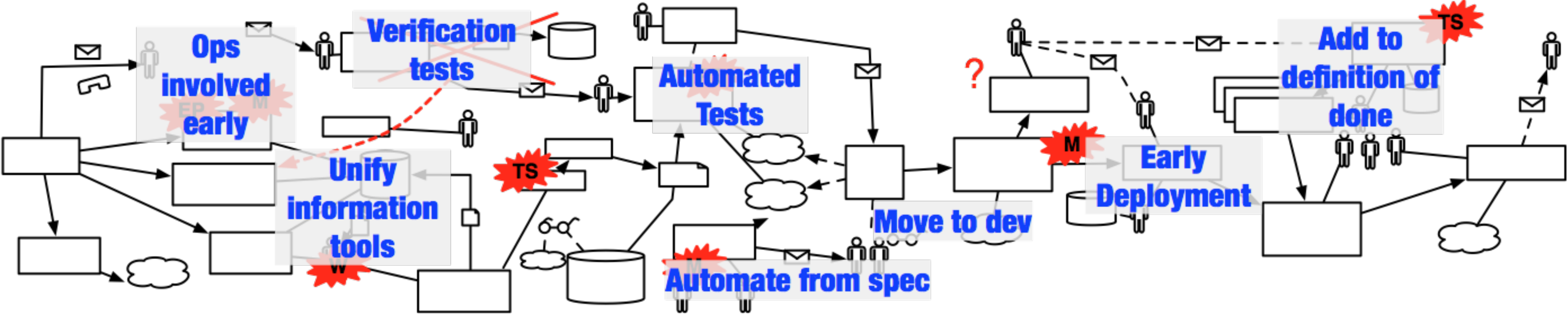
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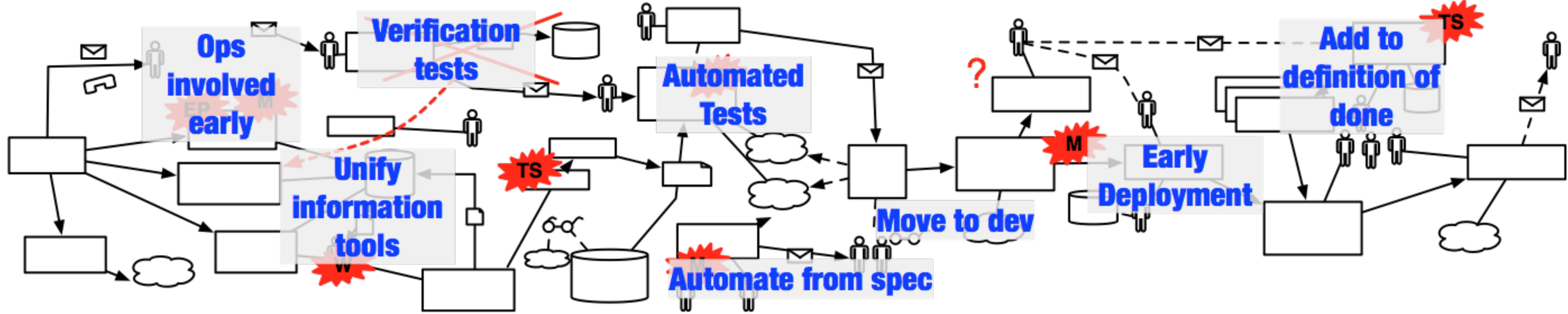


Countermeasures must be actionable, backlog ready. Focus on short-term “baby steps”. Note broader, strategic recommendations.



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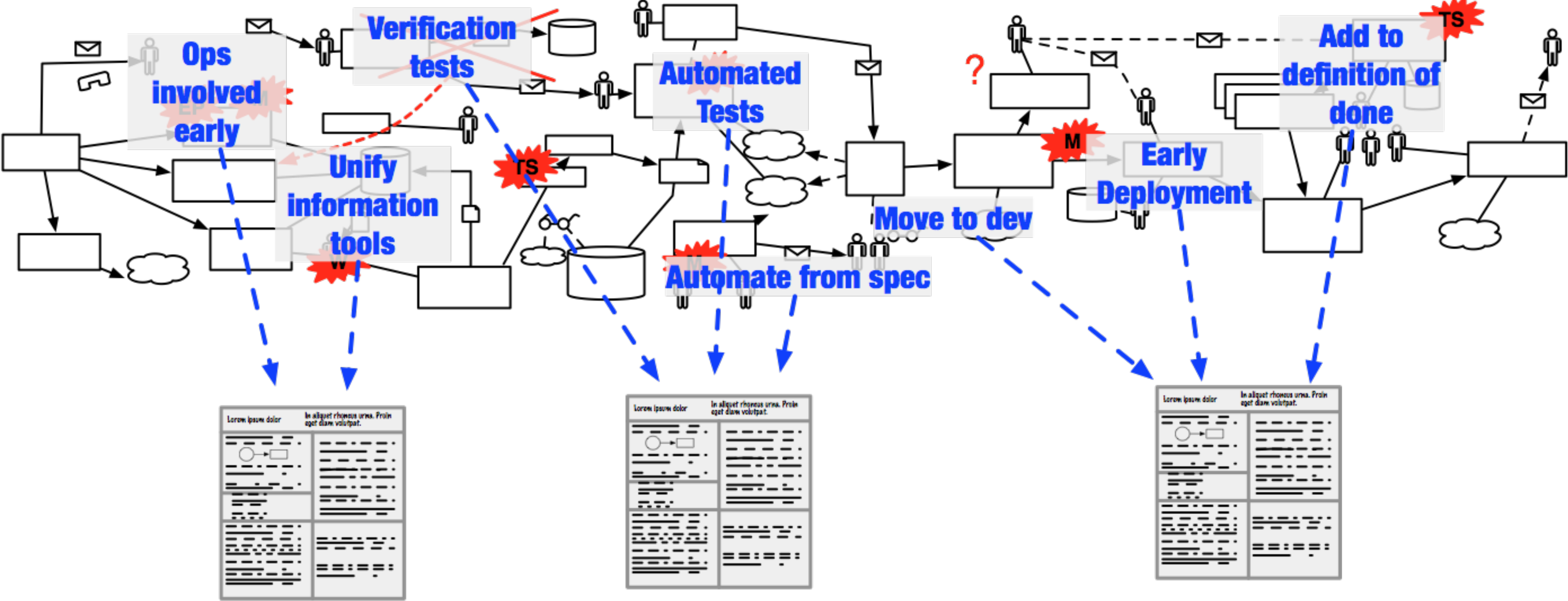


Key: "small j's,  
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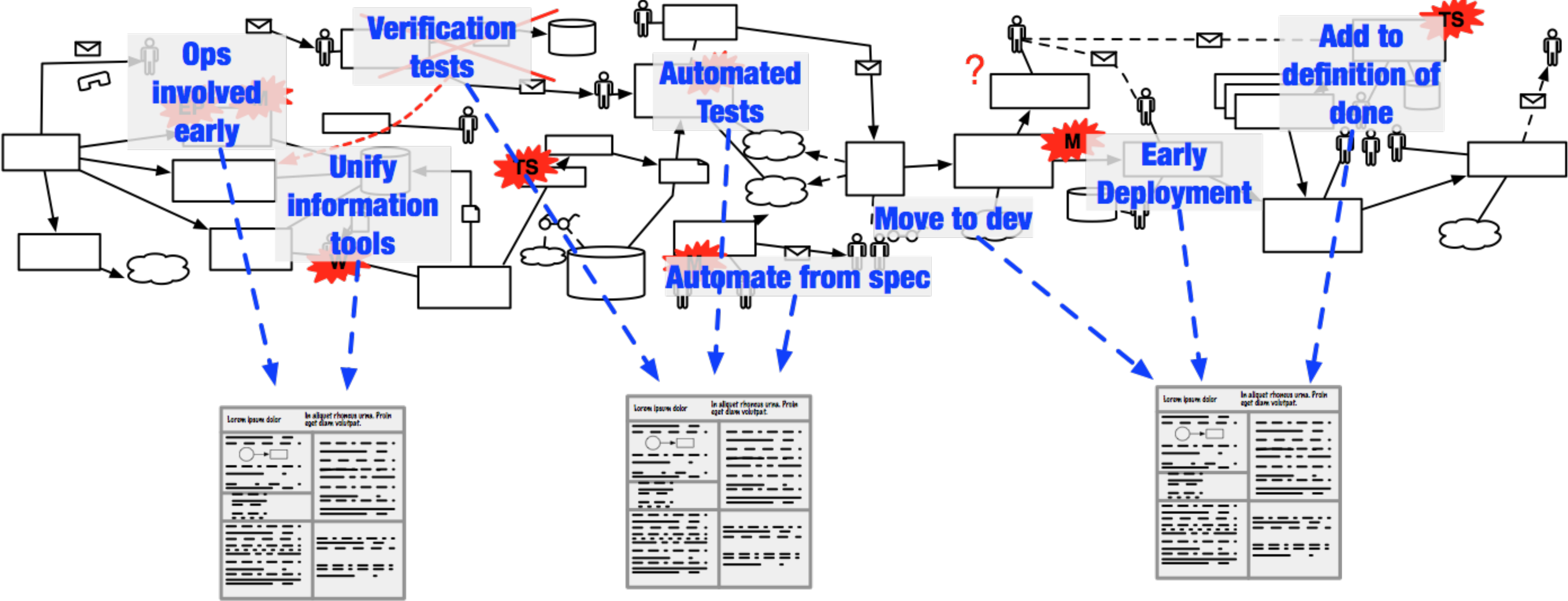
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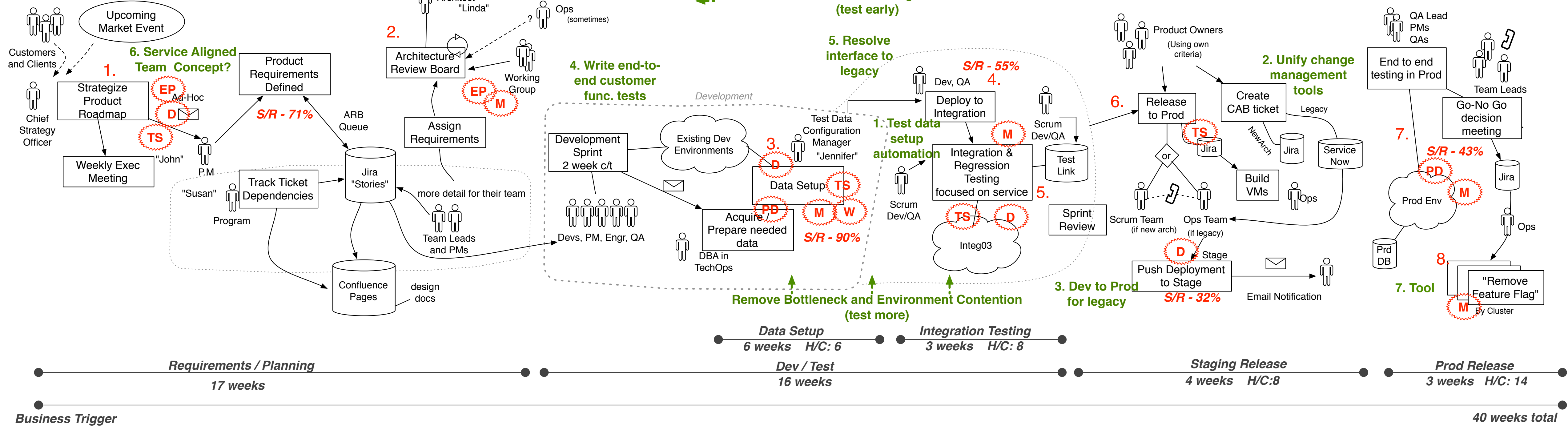


Key: actionable short-term "baby steps"...  
"what are we going to do next?"

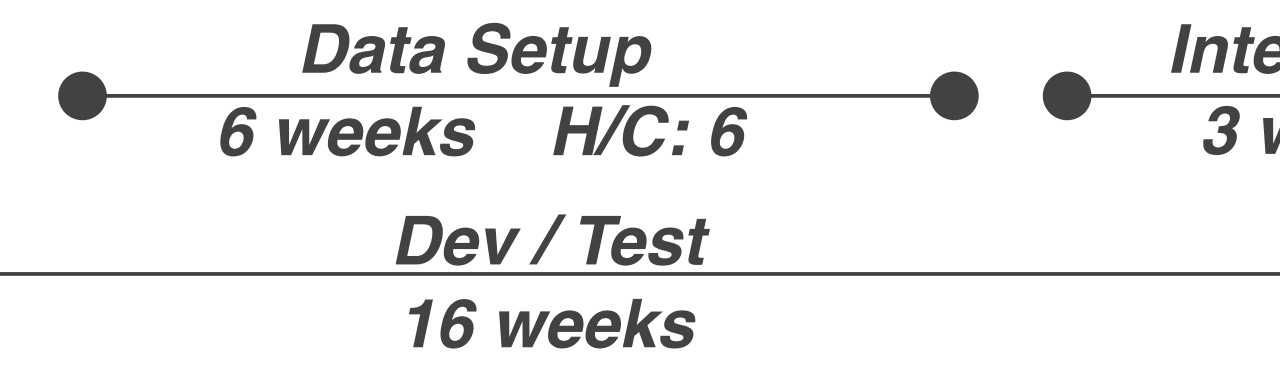
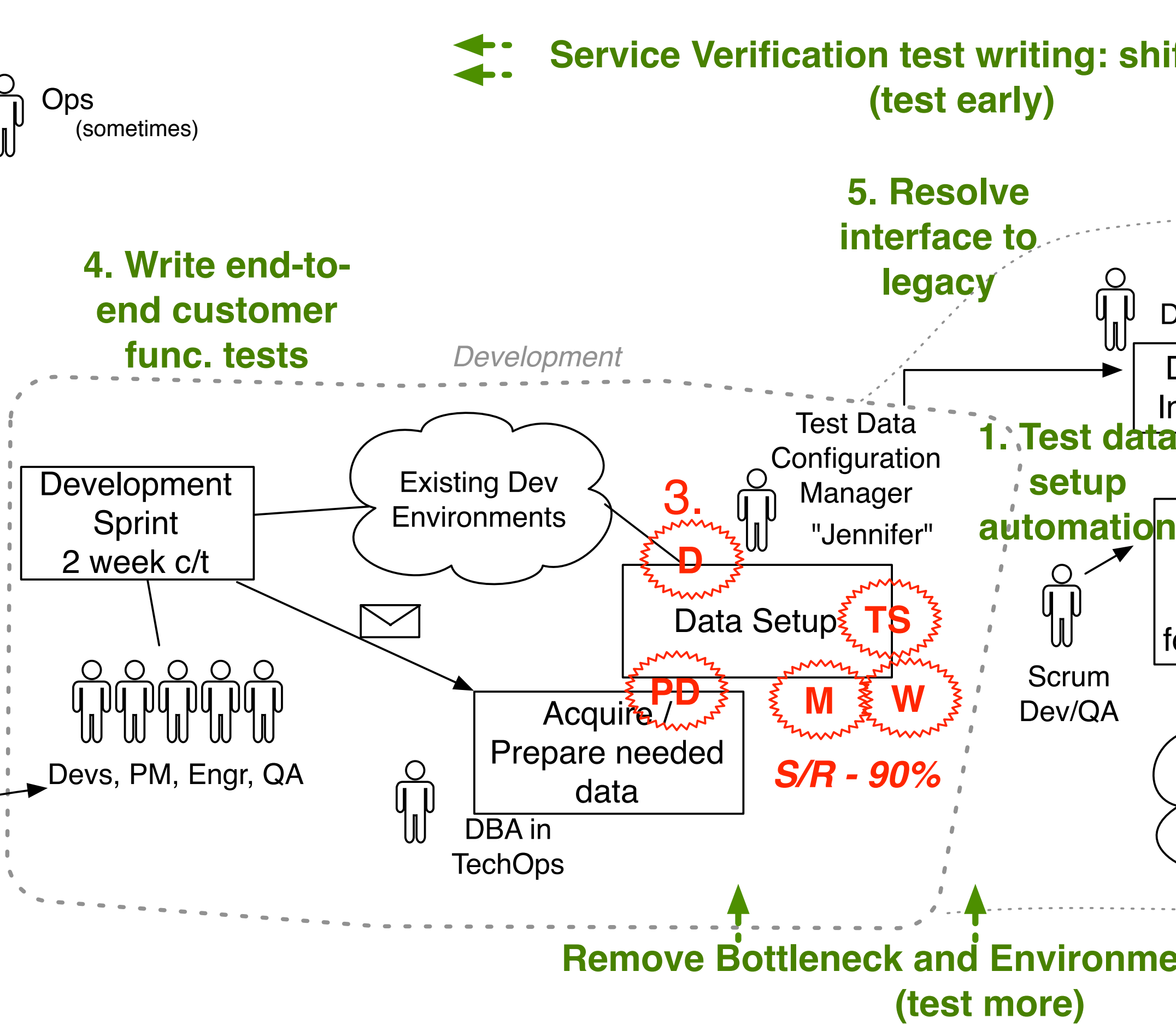
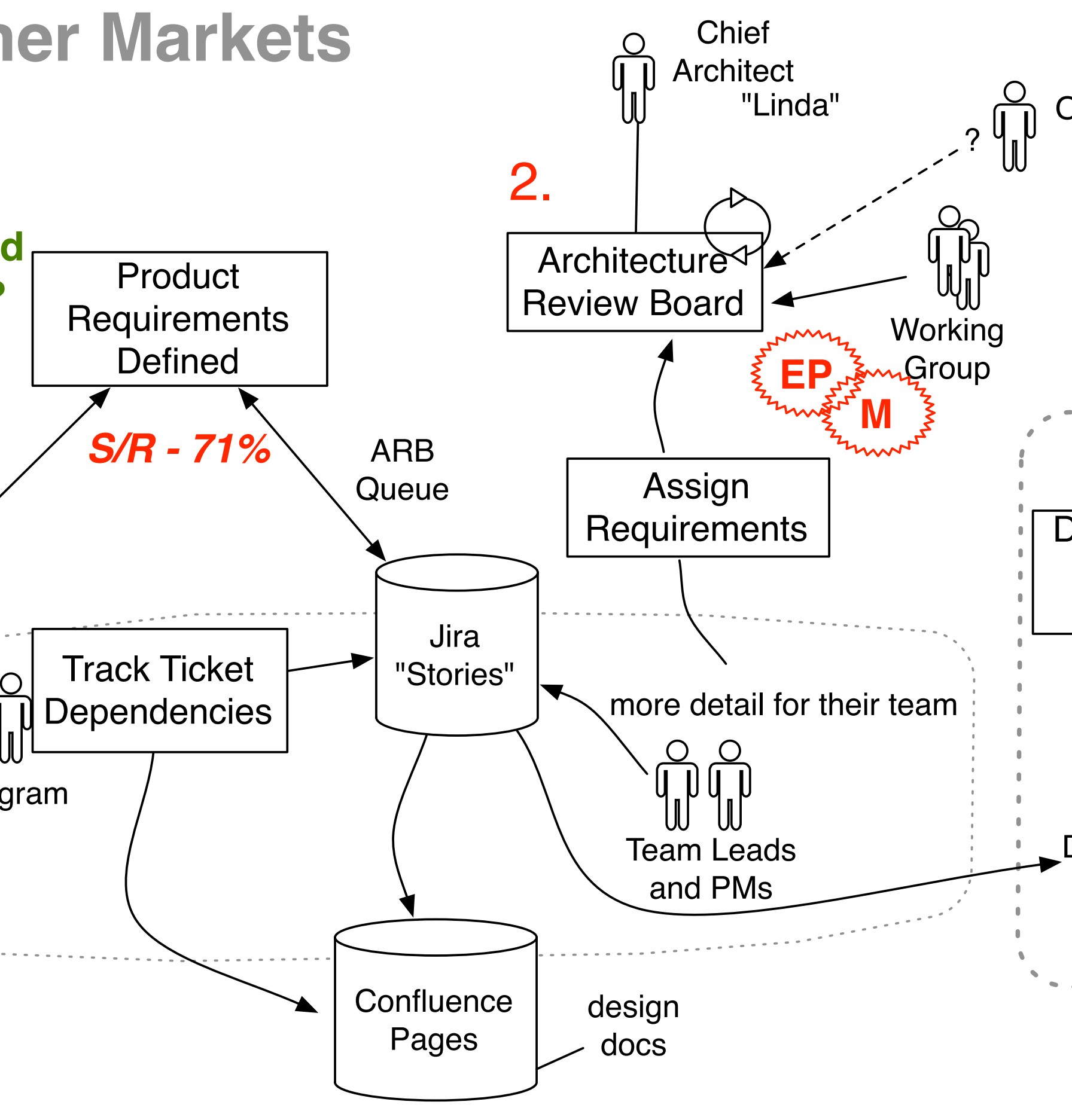
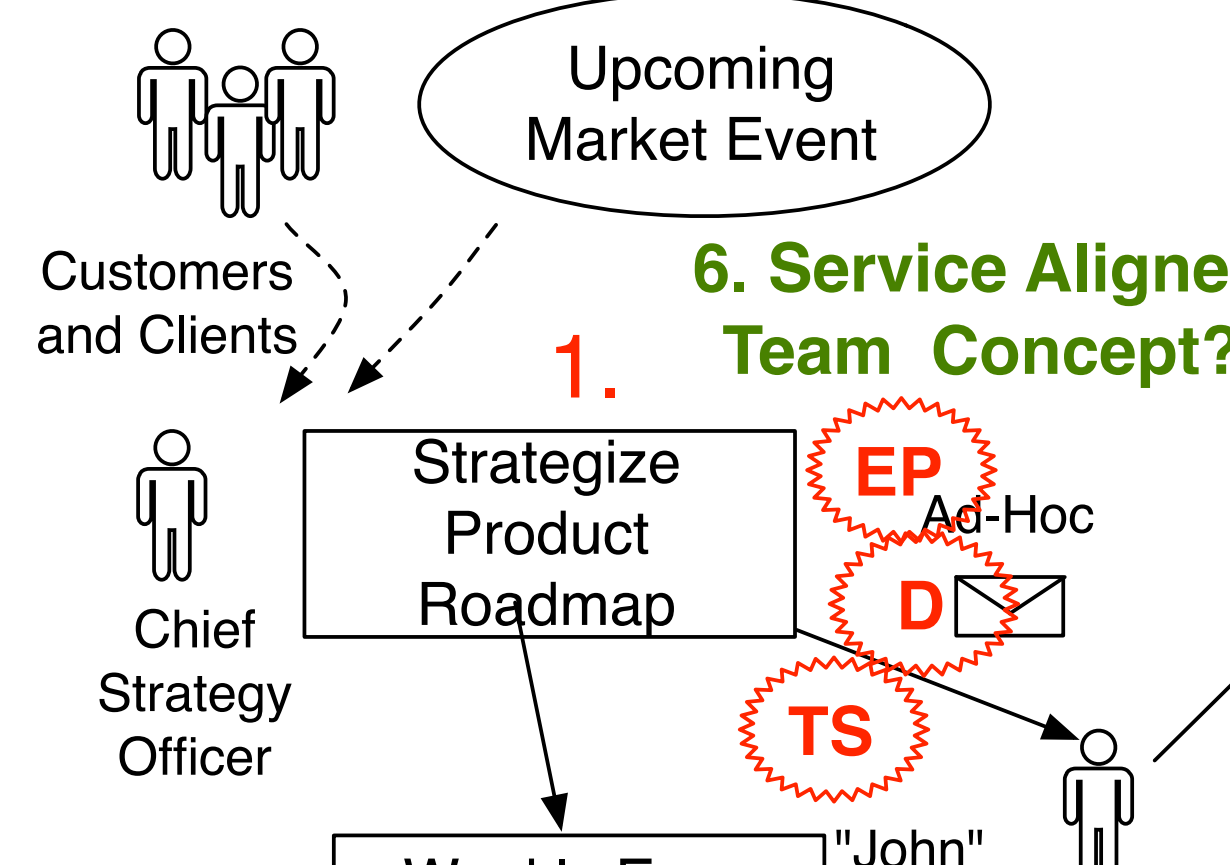
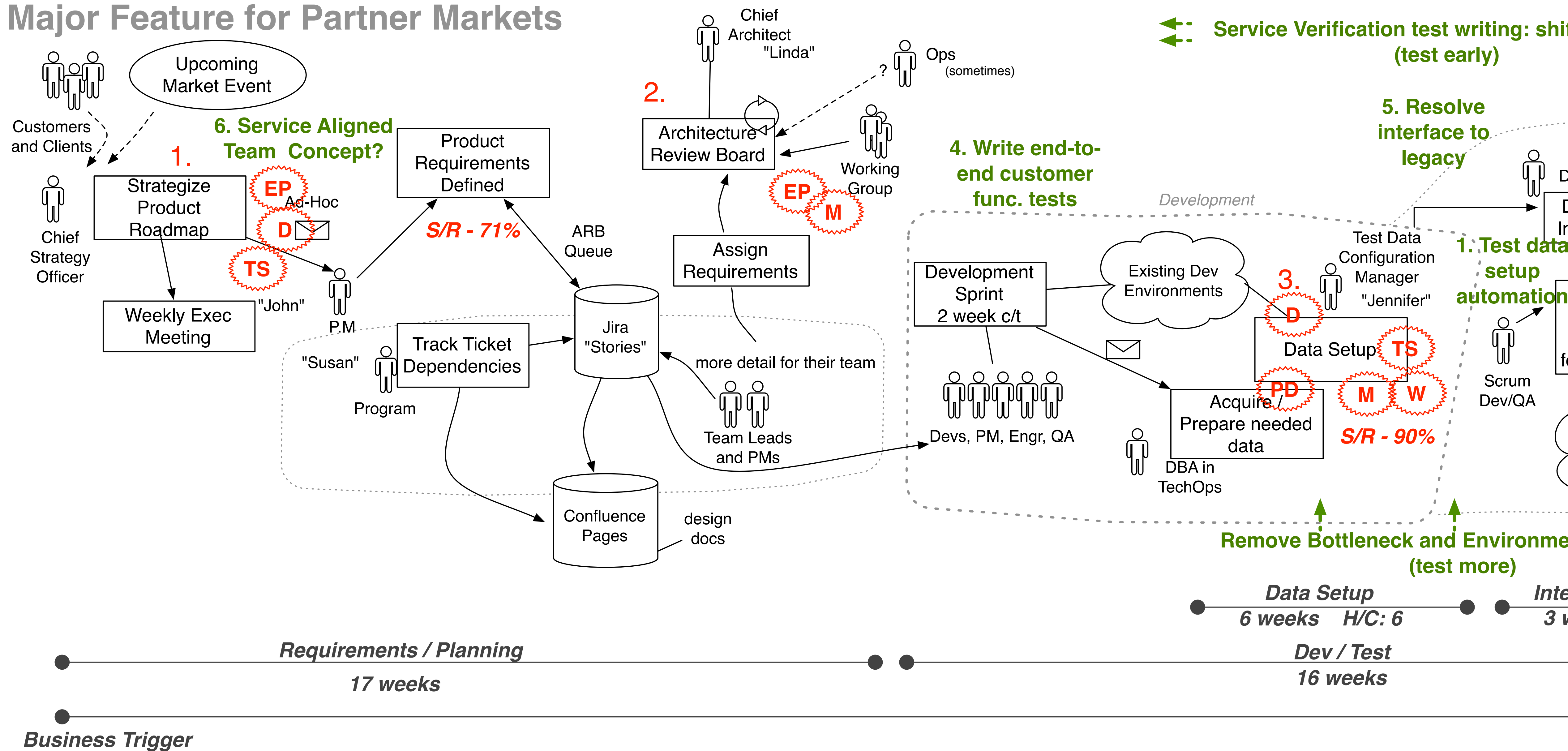
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# Major Feature for Partner Markets

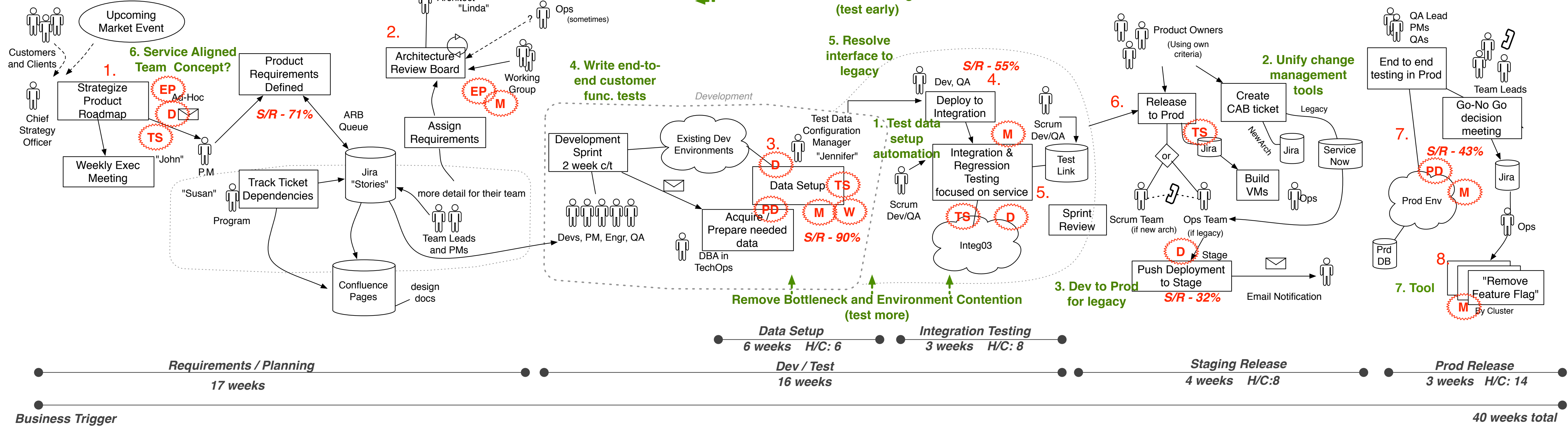


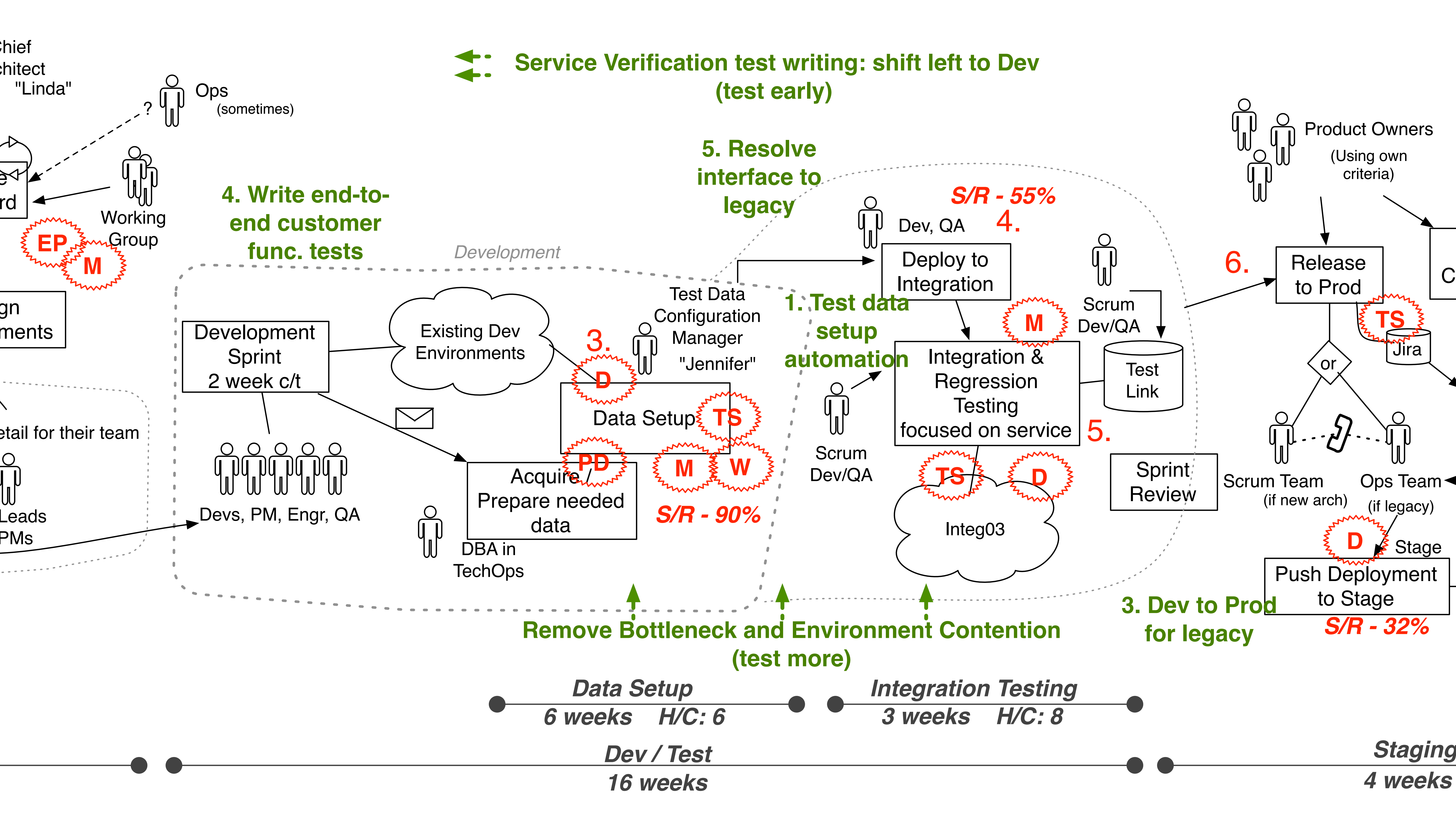
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Business Trigger

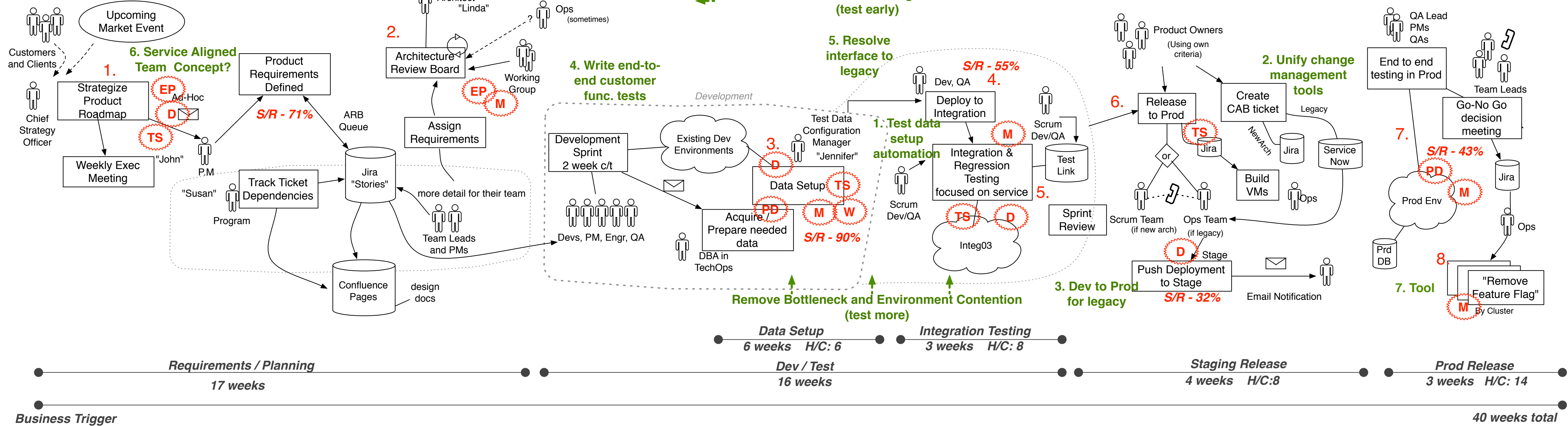
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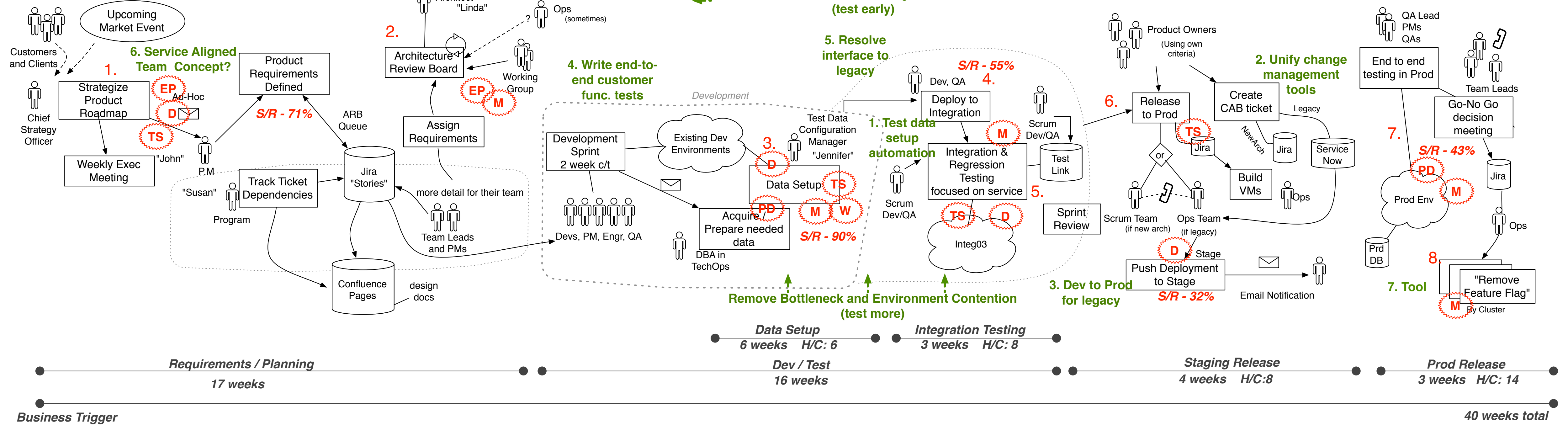


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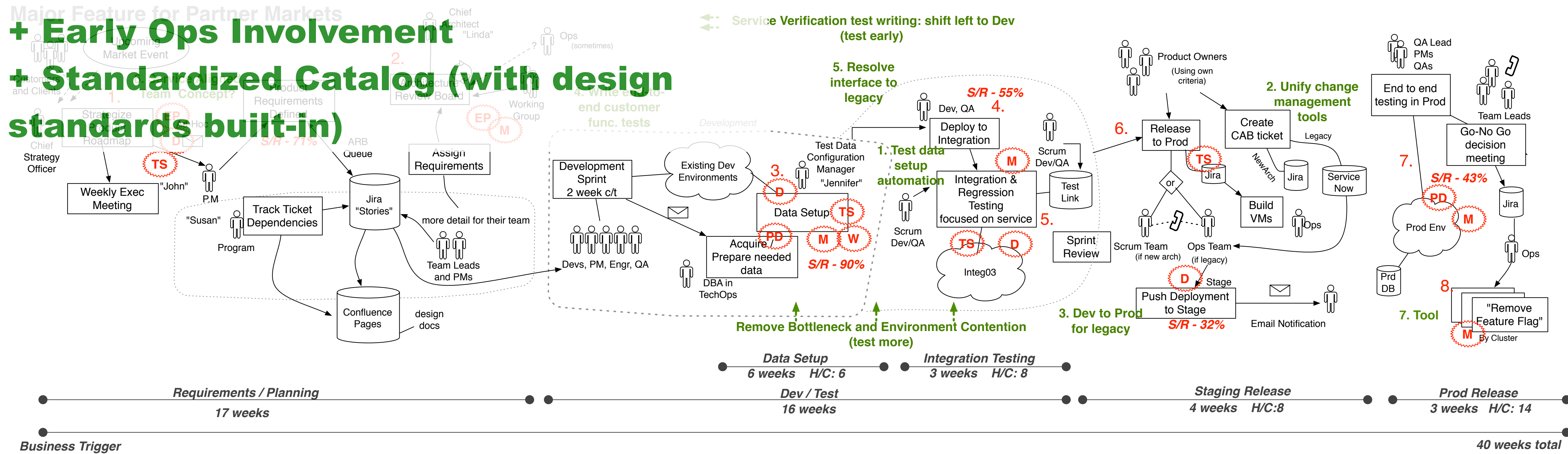
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**+ Work in small batches**

**+ Early Ops Involvement**

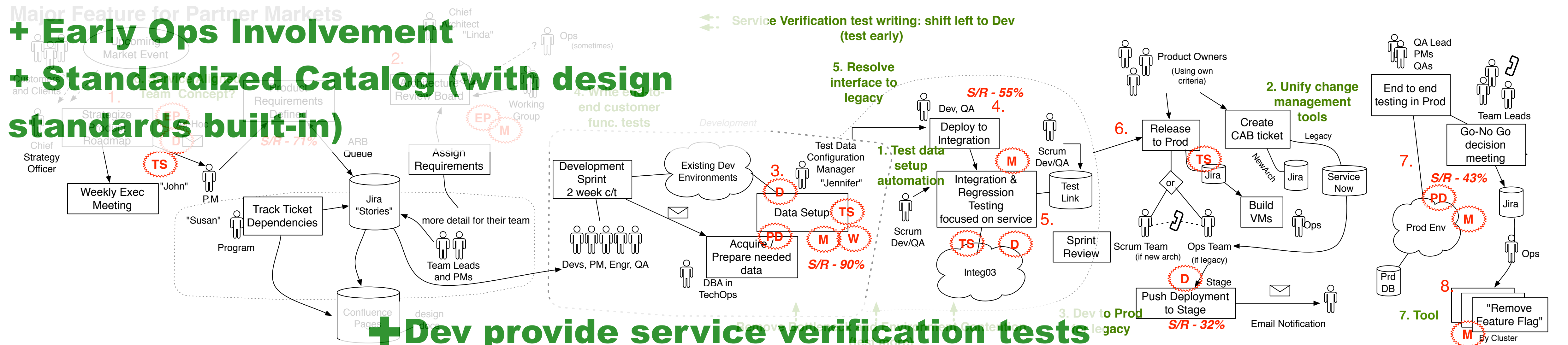
**+ Standardized Catalog (with design standards built-in)**



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+ Dev provide service verification tests

+ Ops provide environment verification tests (used by Dev and QA)

+ Service service test data setup (including mainframe)



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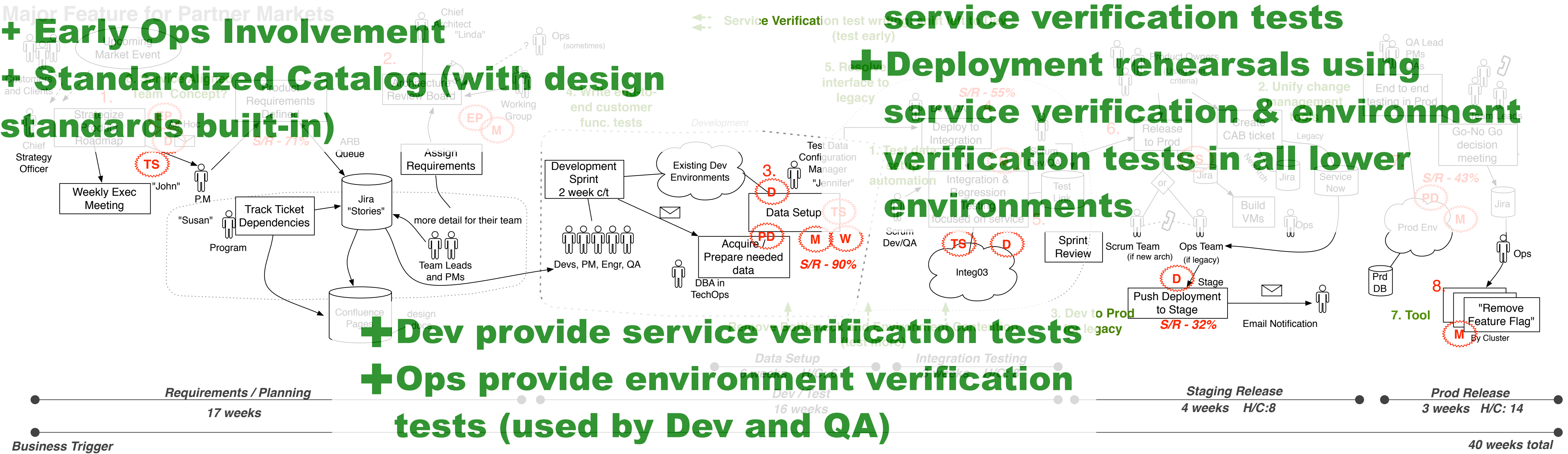
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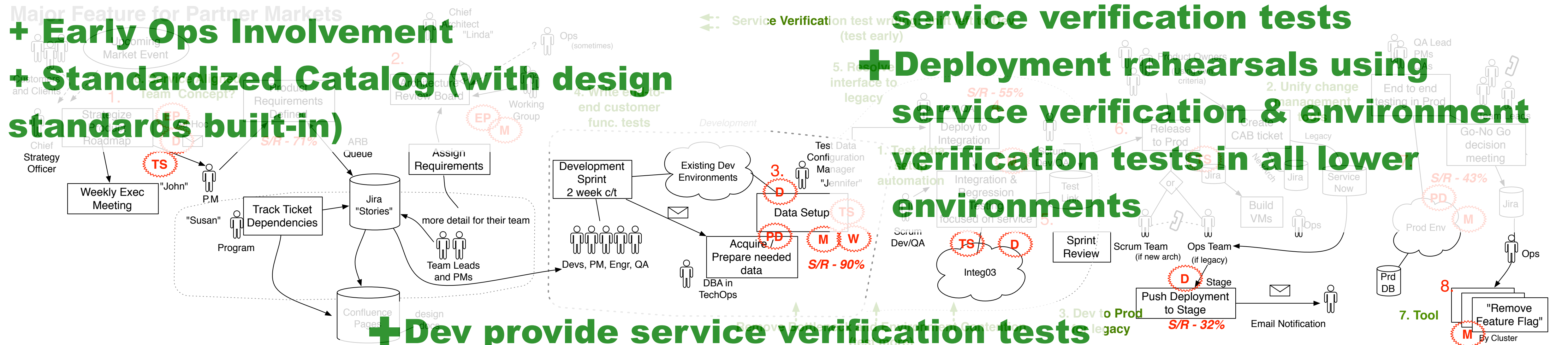


# Key: "What can we do next?" NOT "what is nirvana?"

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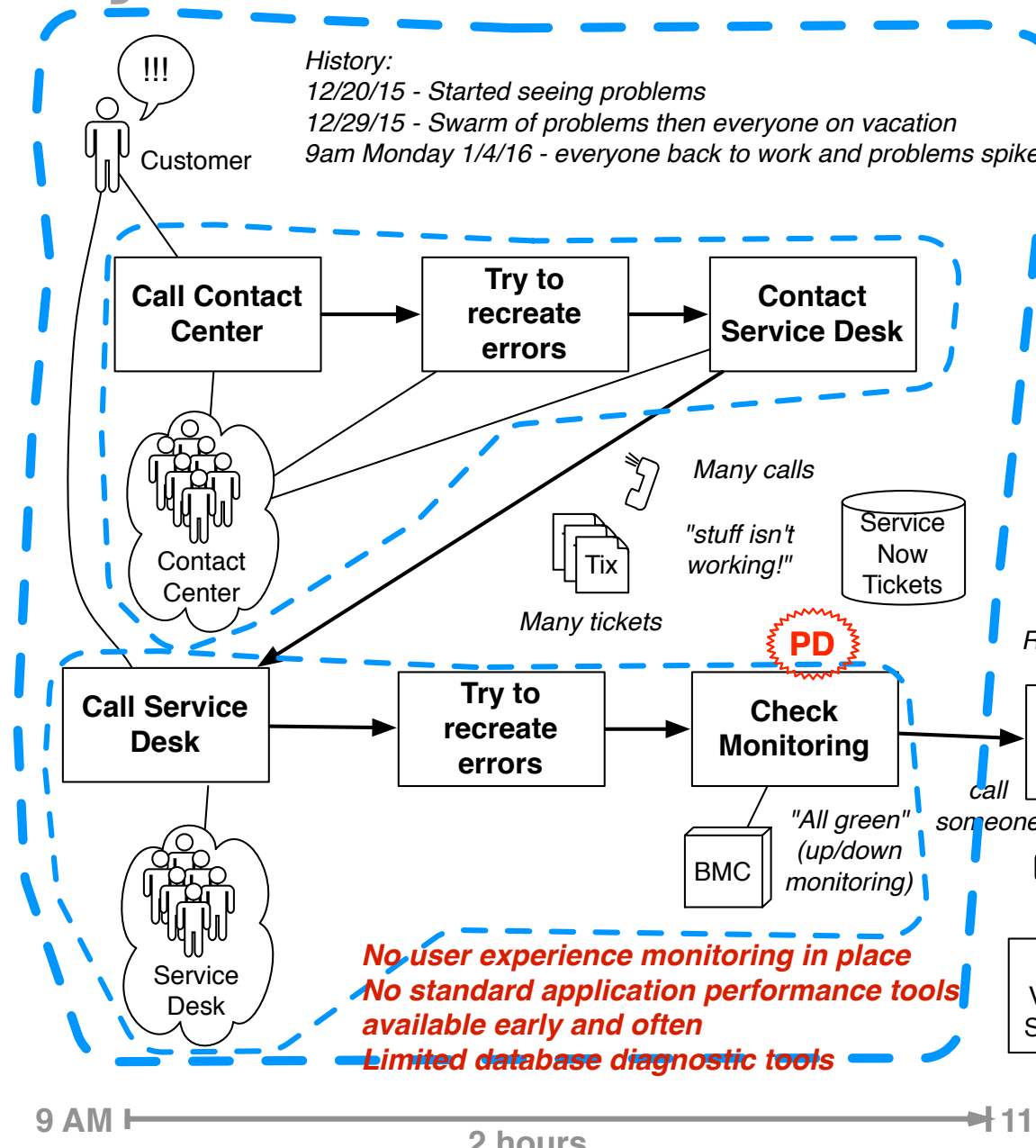
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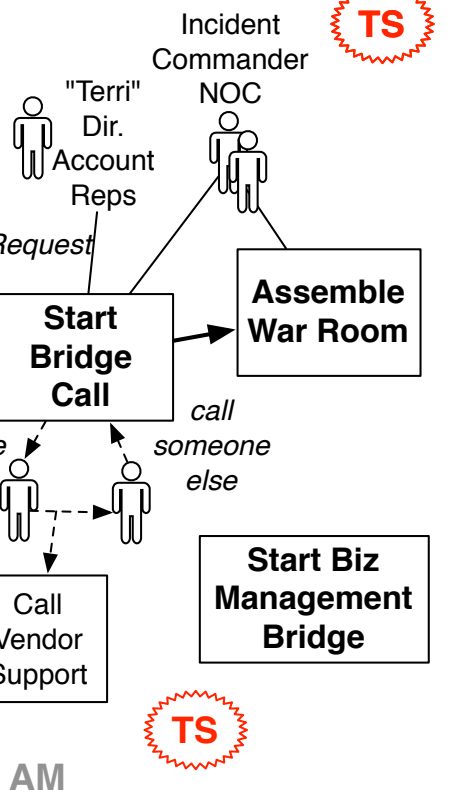


# "MyAccount Perf Incident"



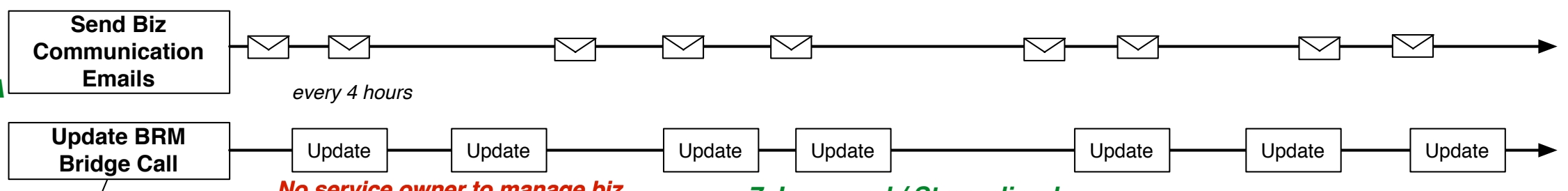
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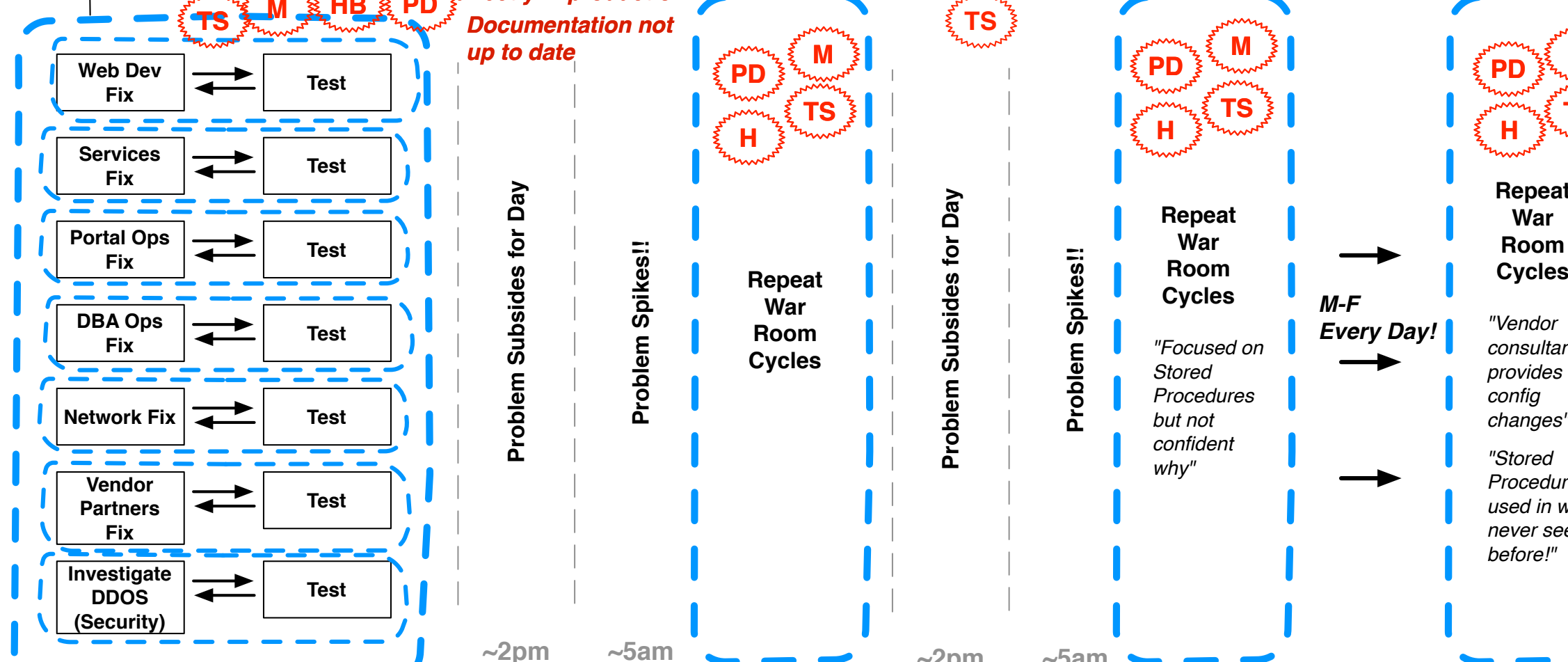


Lots of teams spending many cycles to "prove it wasn't them"

**6. Platform App Dev leading new deployment strategy to improve traceability and ease rollback**



No service owner to manage biz communication and determine if resolved  
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**TOTAL COST OF INCIDENT: \$1,012,000 ++**

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 Vendor provided "fix" is really just a workaround

**8. Follow through on resolution**

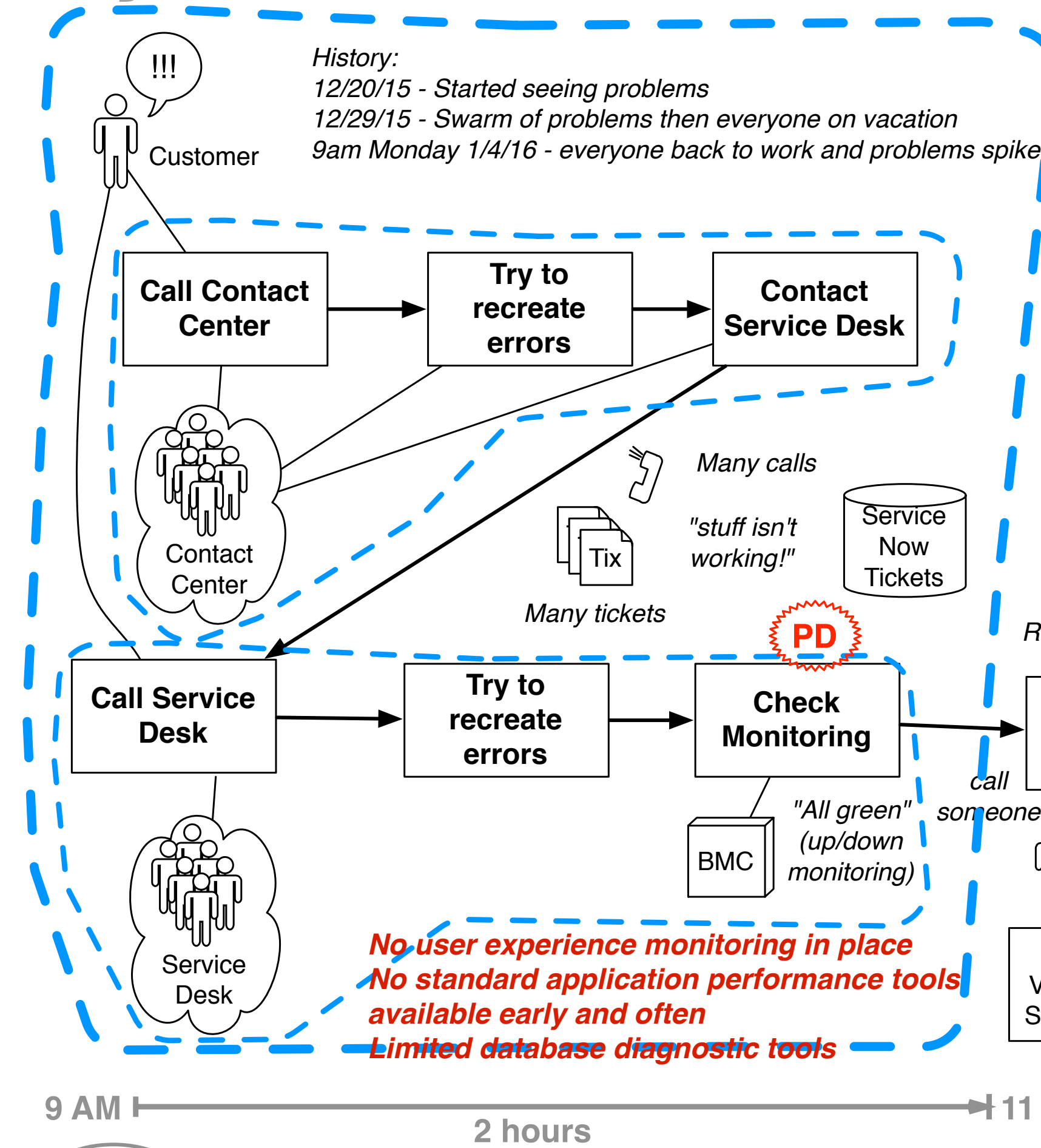
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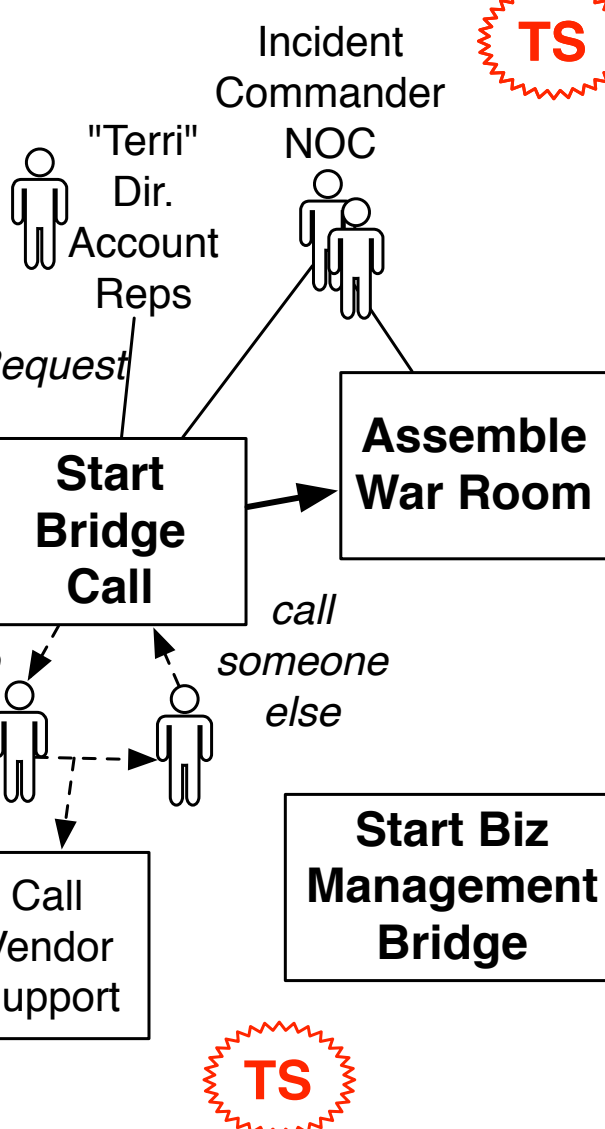
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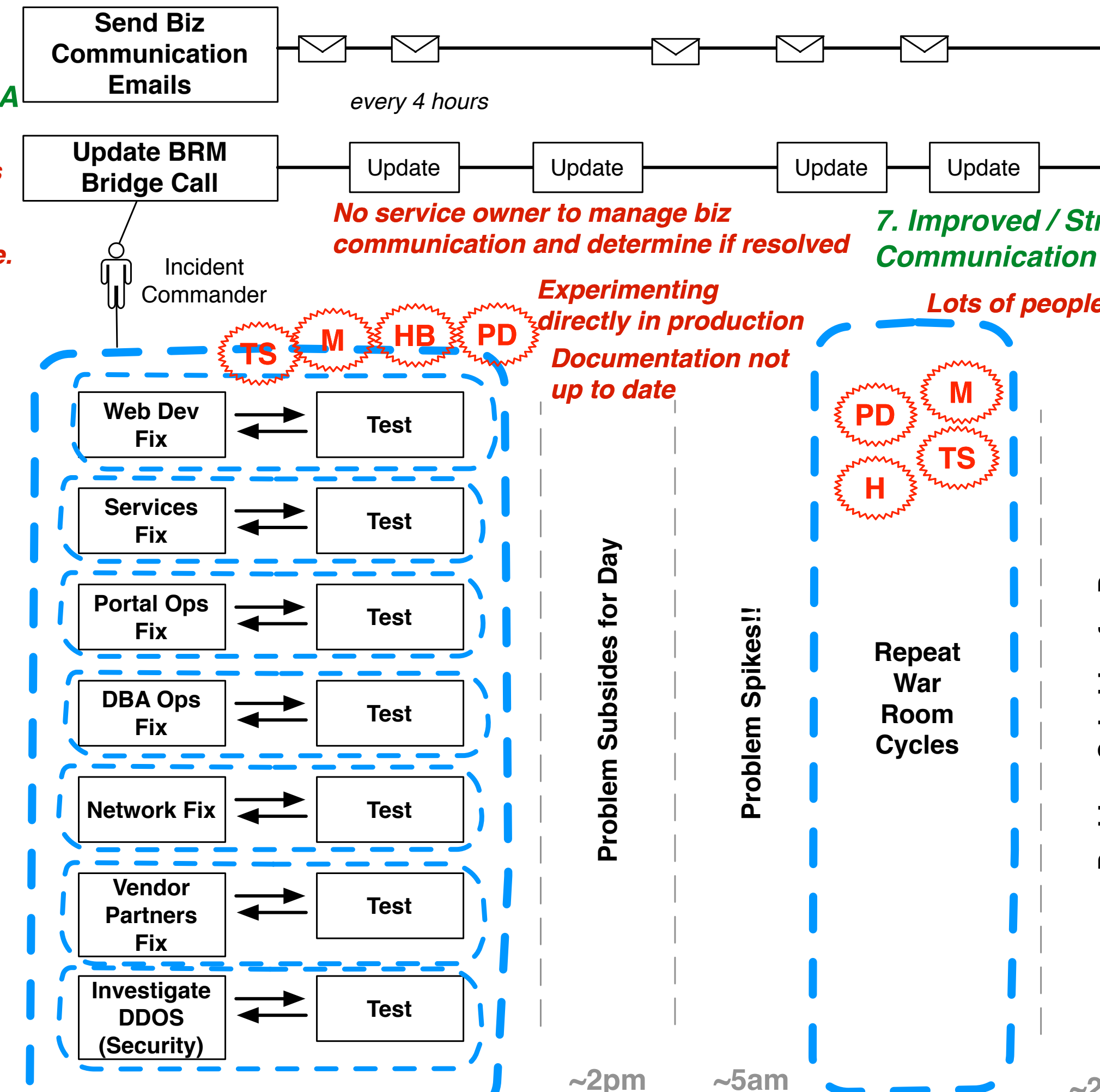
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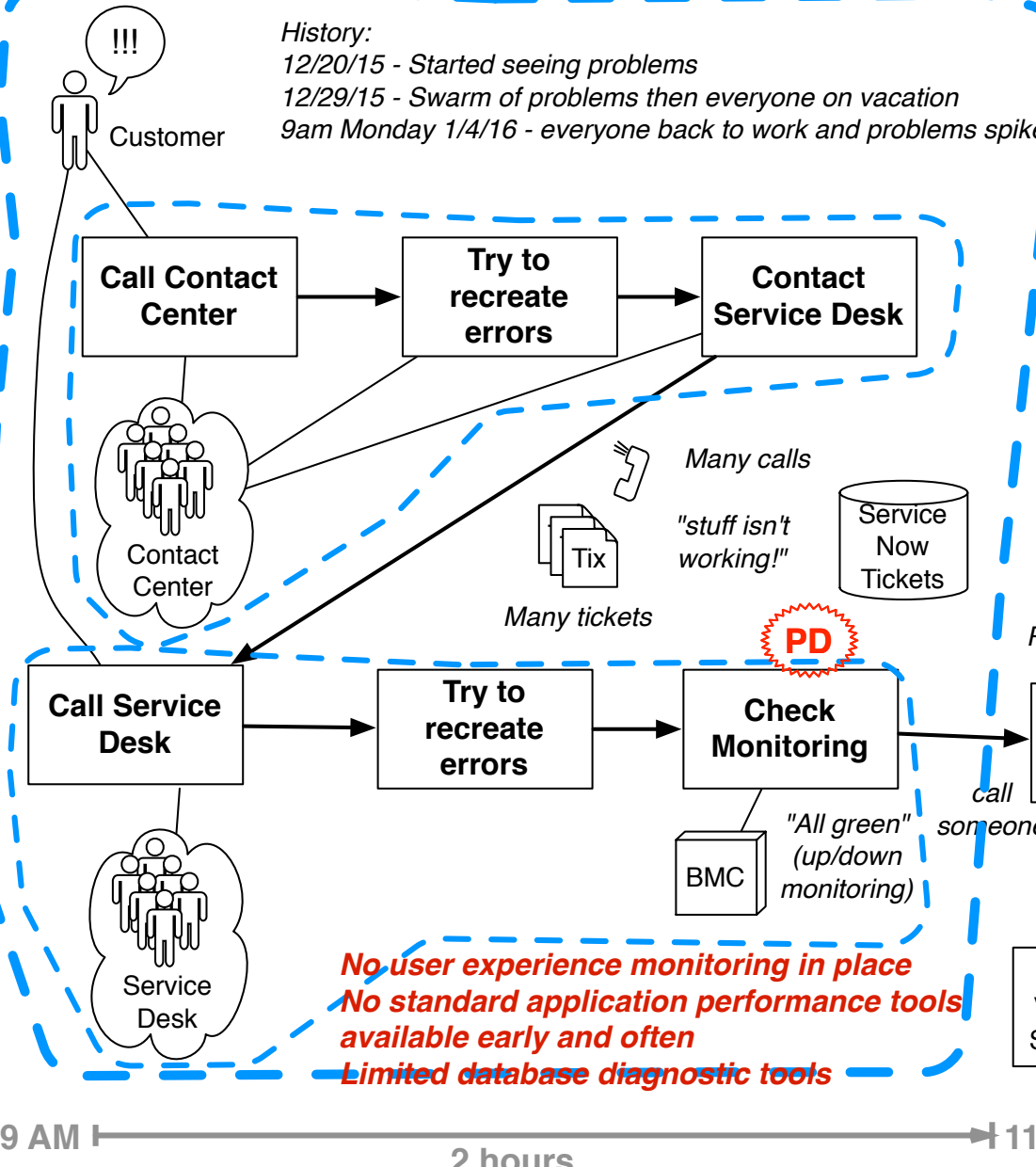
**1/6/16**



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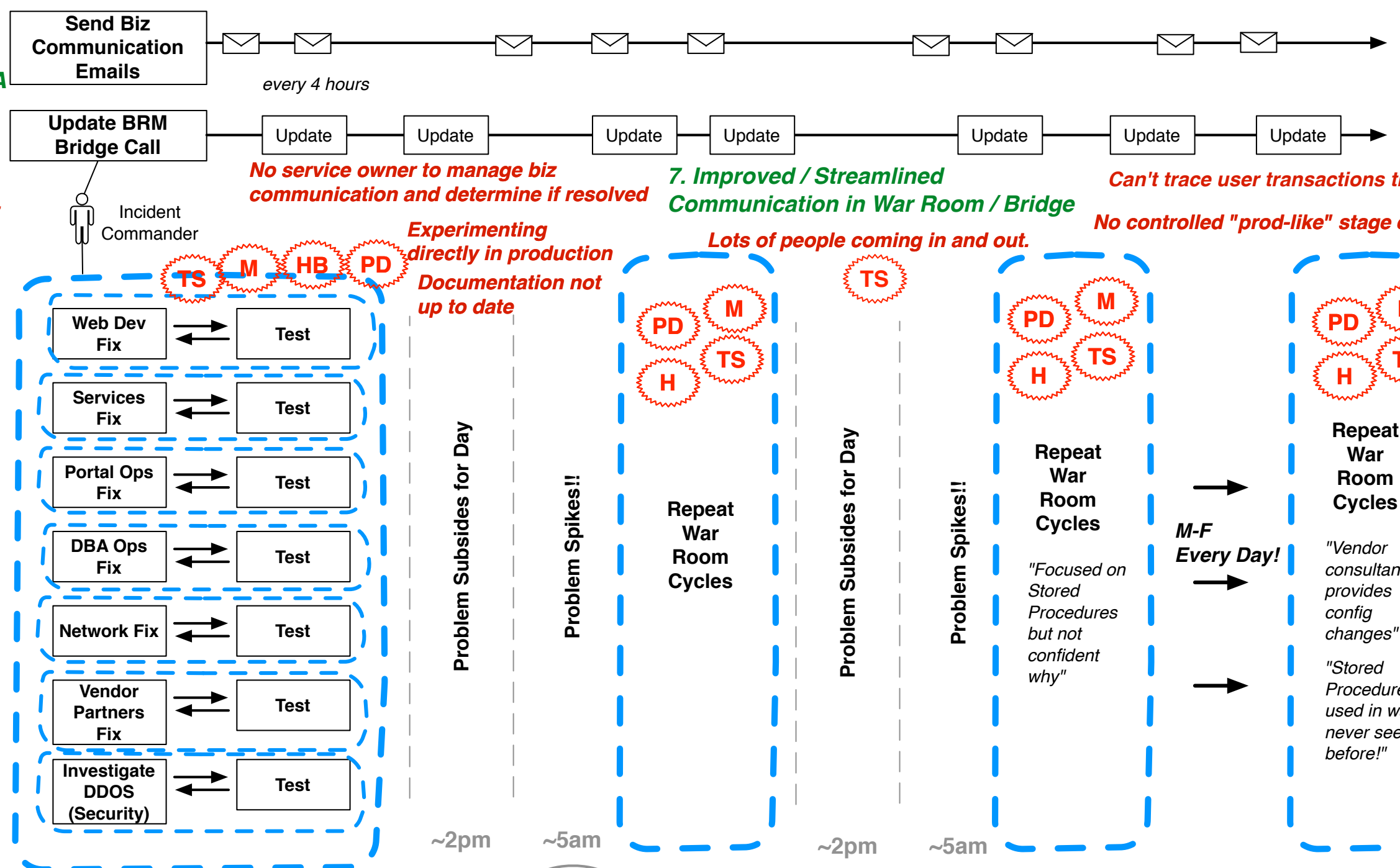
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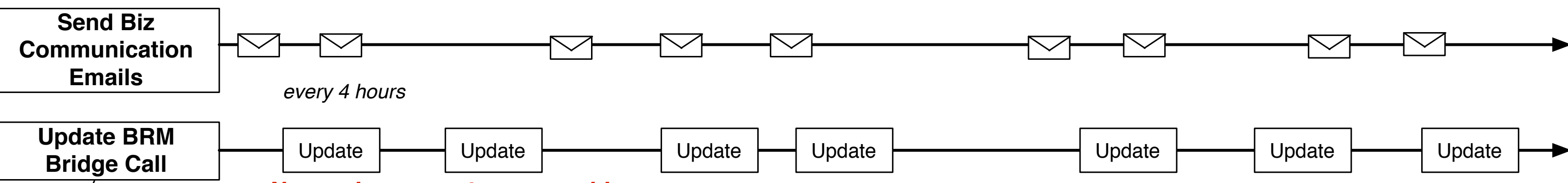
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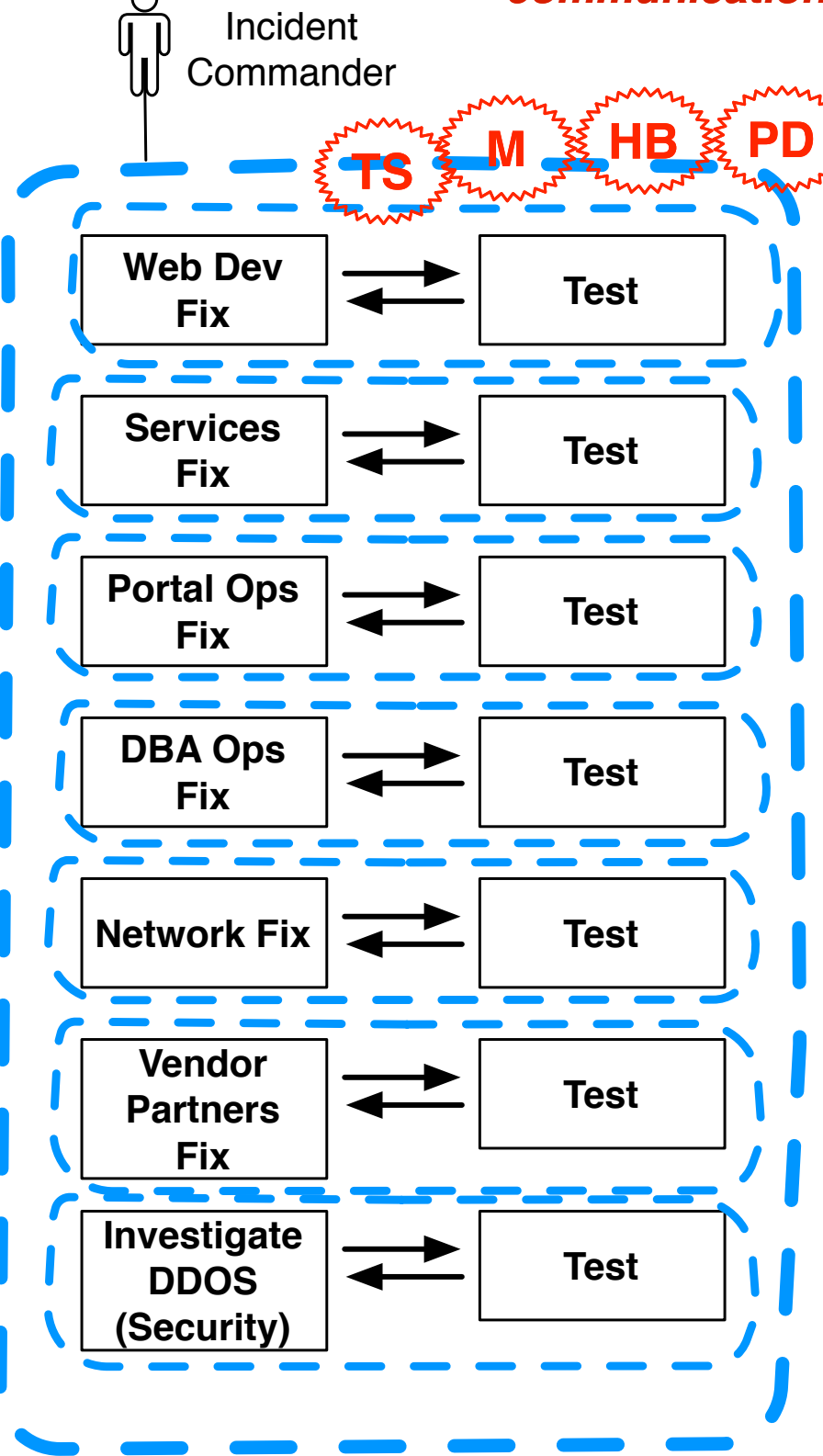
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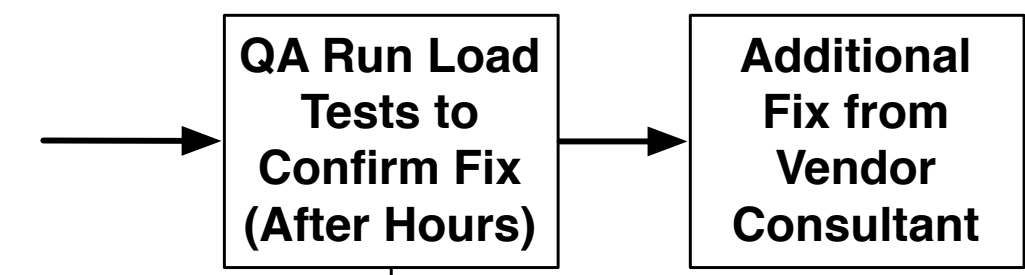
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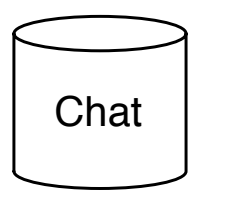
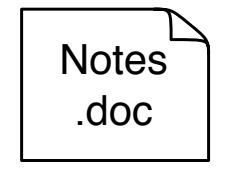
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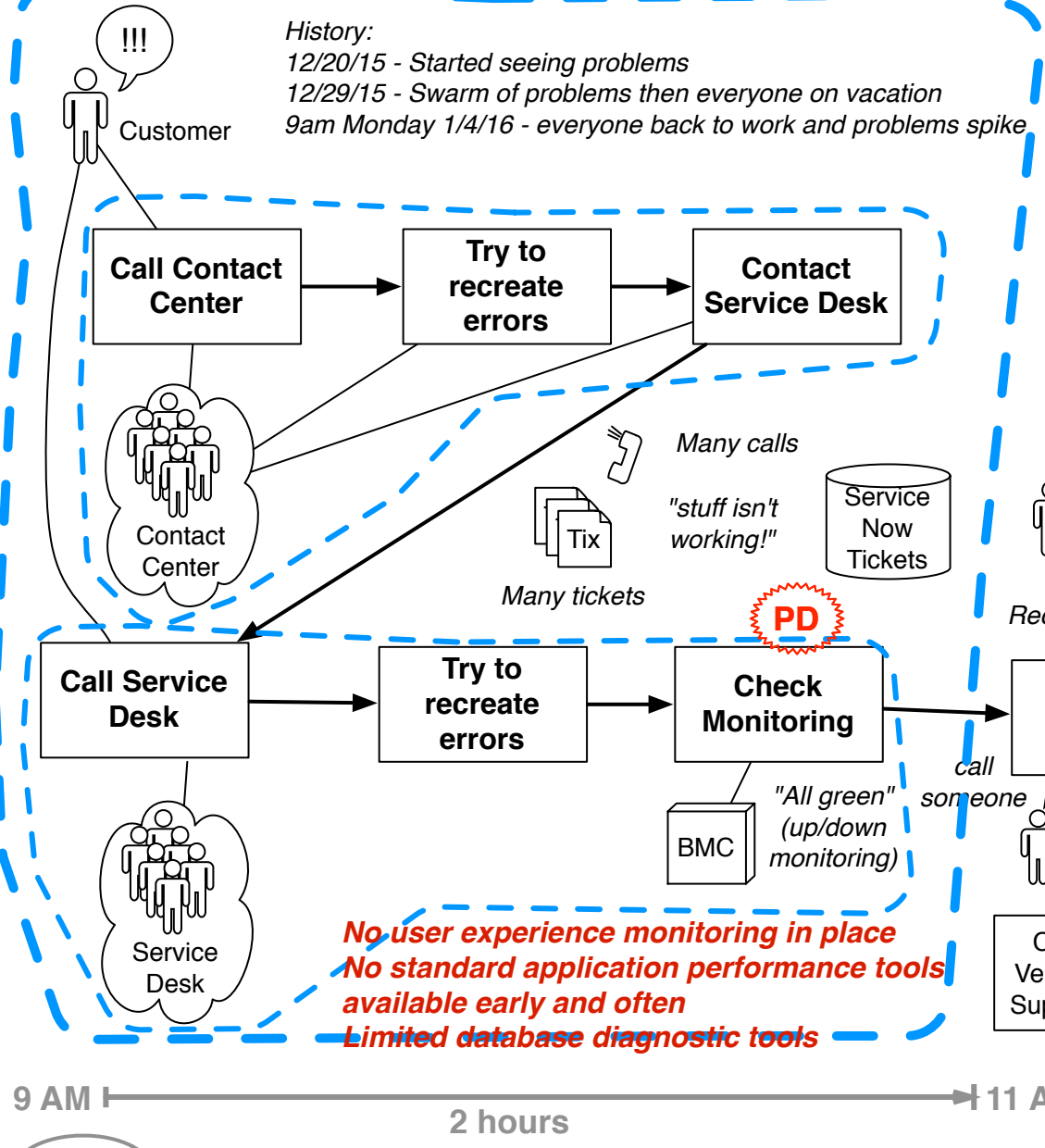
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1/13/16-1/15/16

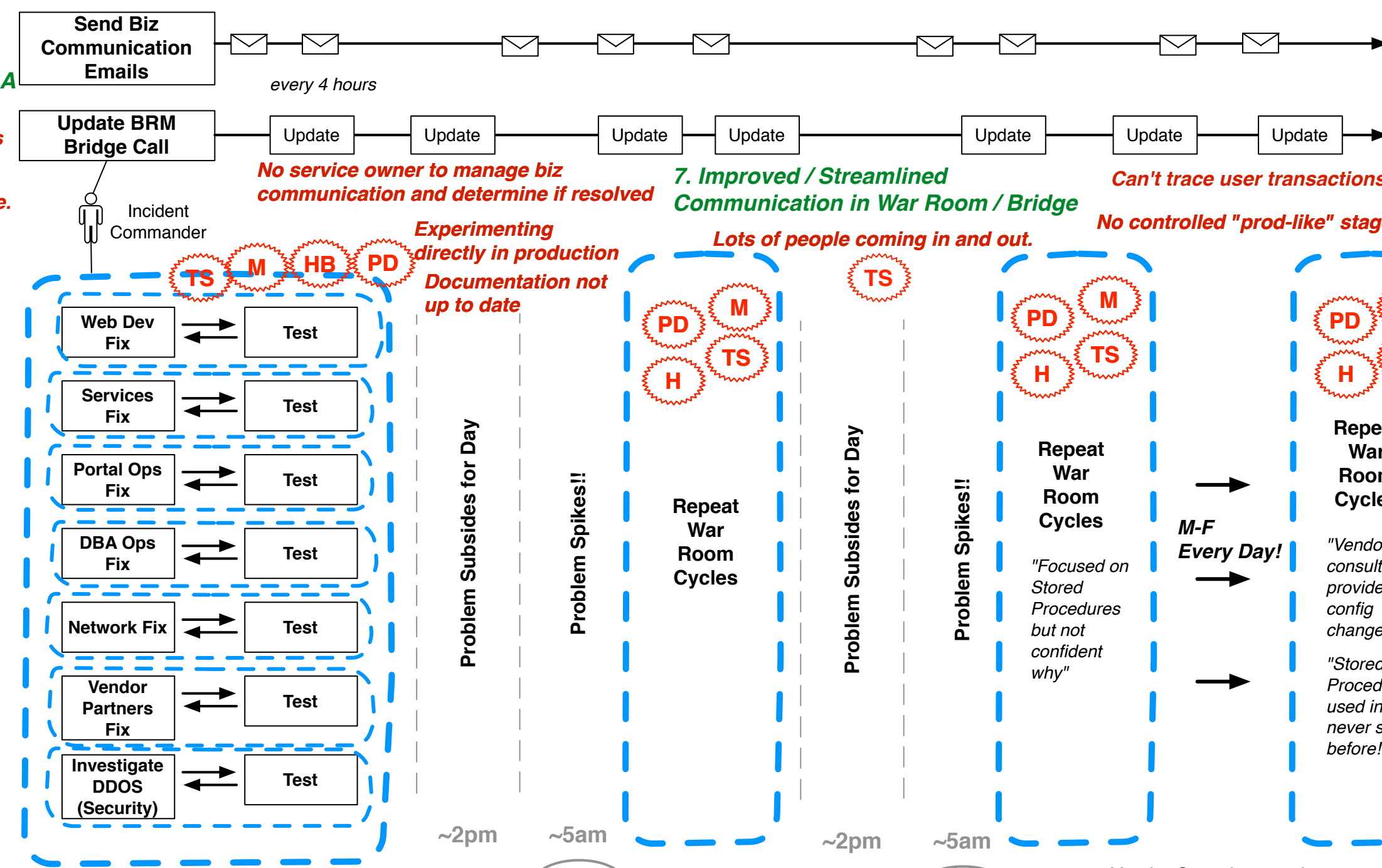
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"Scribes"

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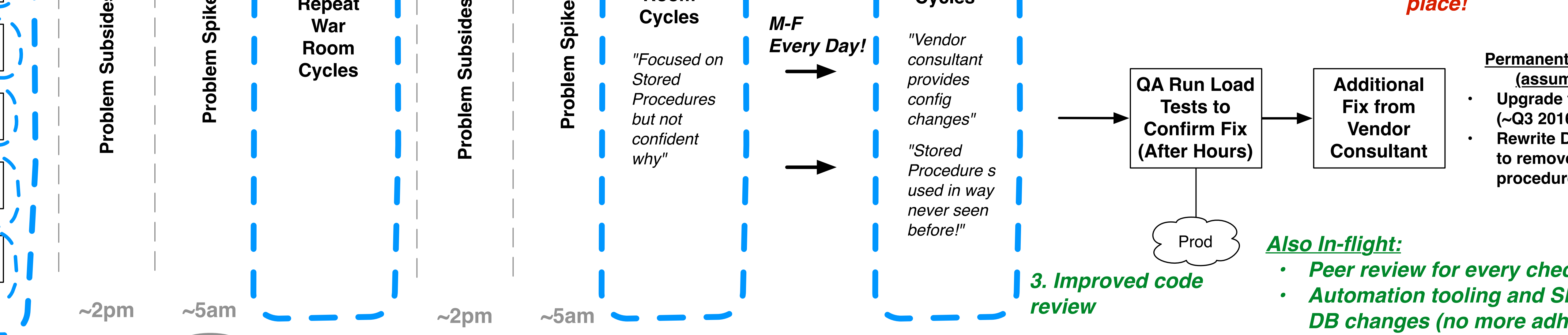
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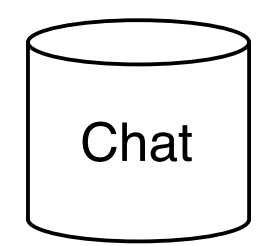
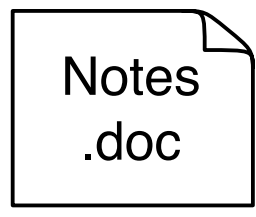
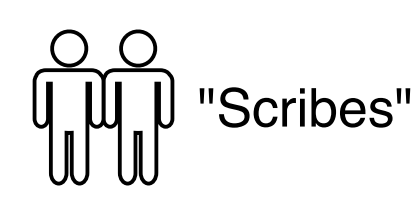
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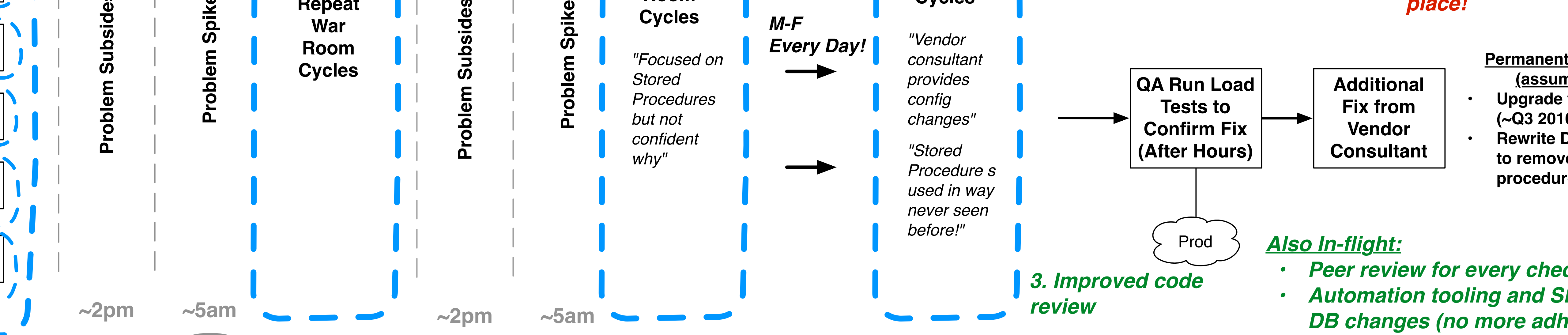
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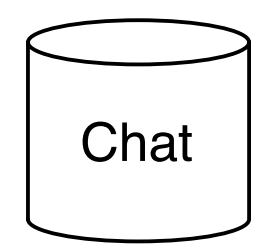
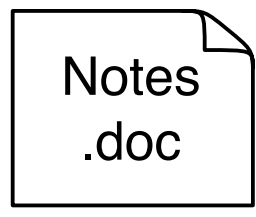
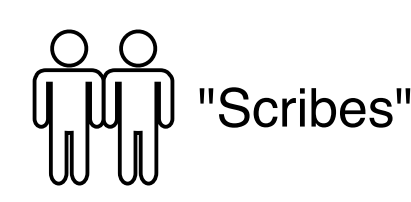
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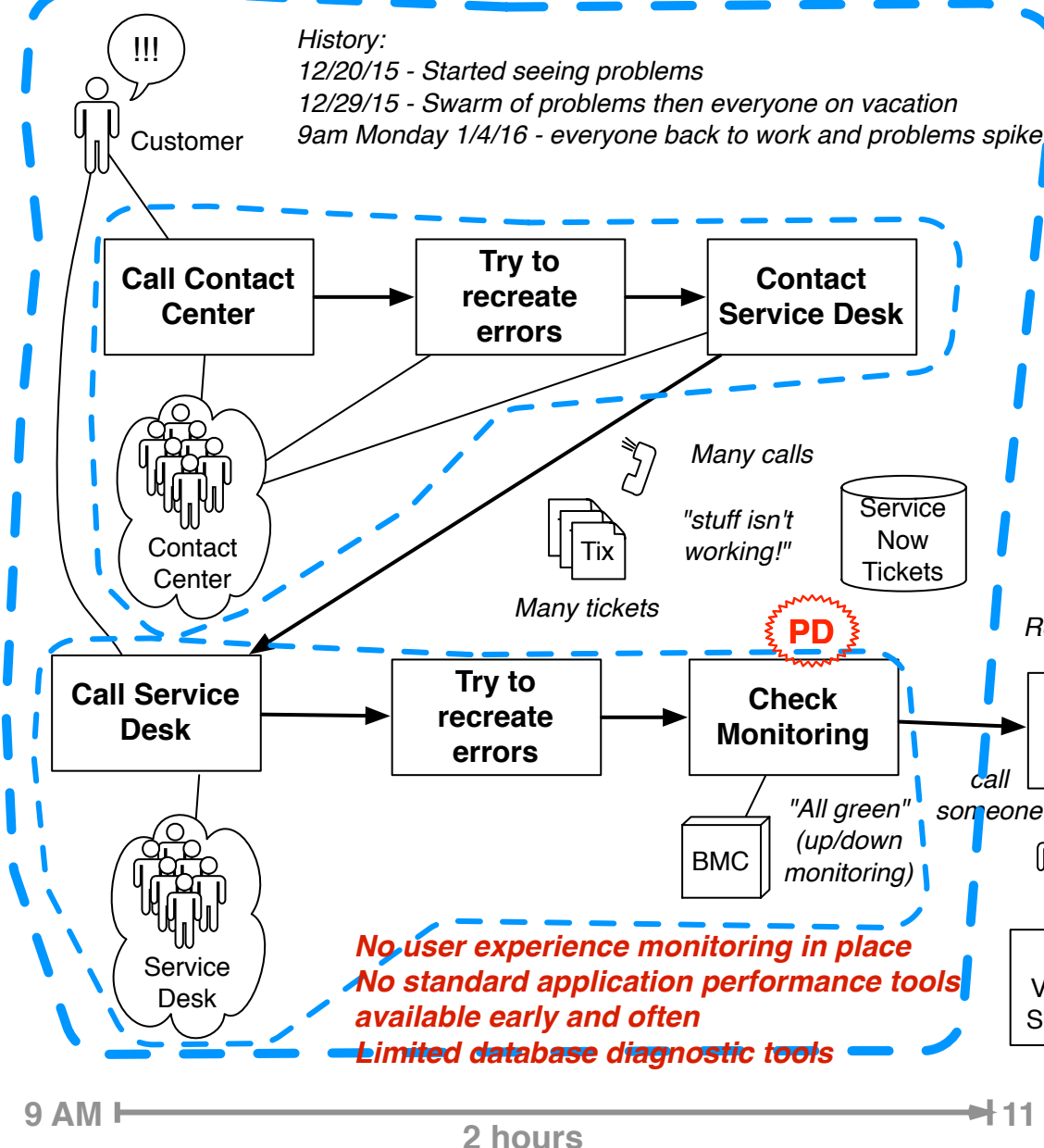
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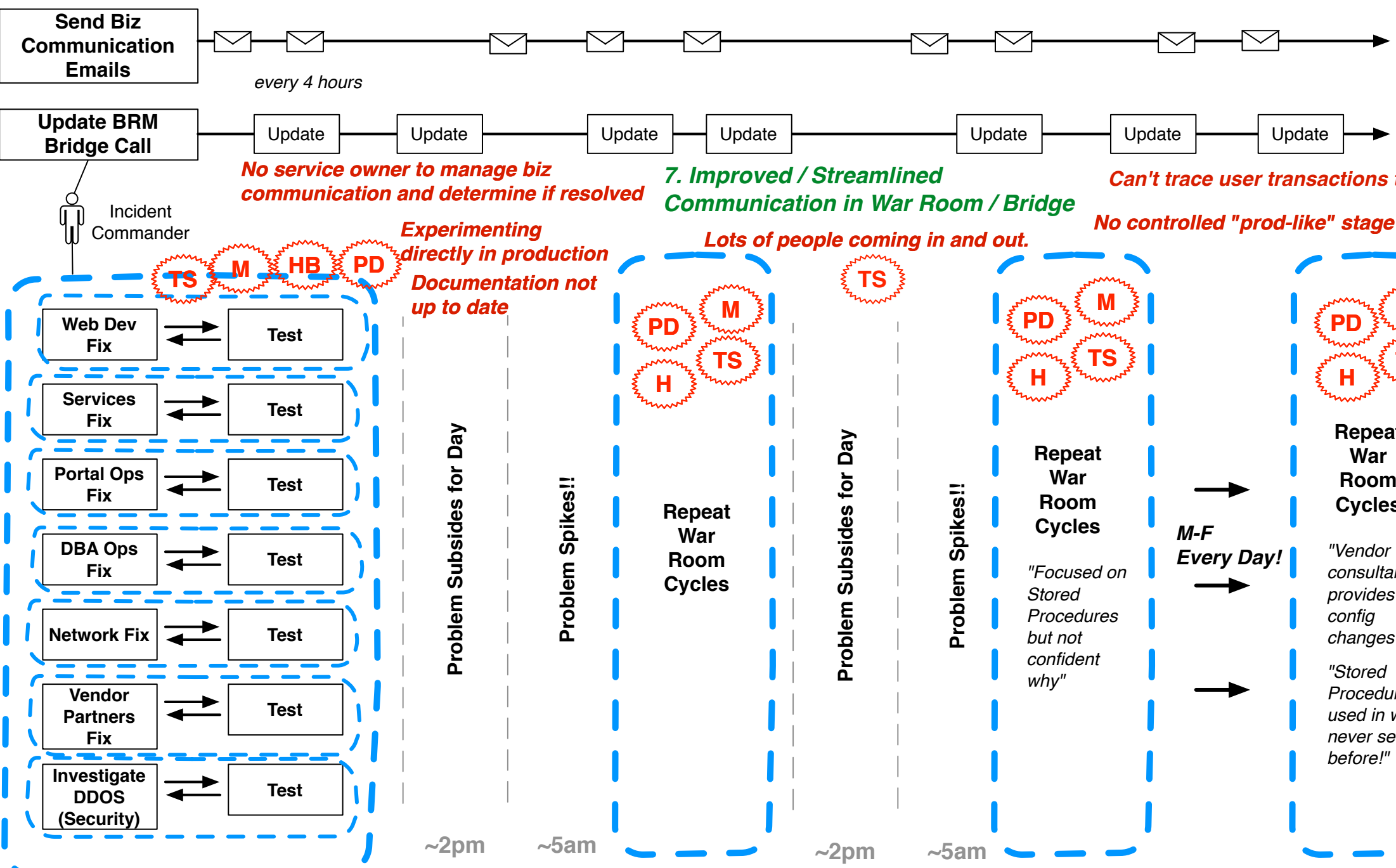
- Cost of impact/delay on other inflight projects:** Unknown ("feels large", estimated at 20% - 100%)
- Cost of impact/delay on compliance issues:** Unknown
- Cost of brand damage:** Unknown

**TOTAL COST OF INFLIGHT**  
**\$1,012,000 ++**

# "MyAccount Perf Incident"

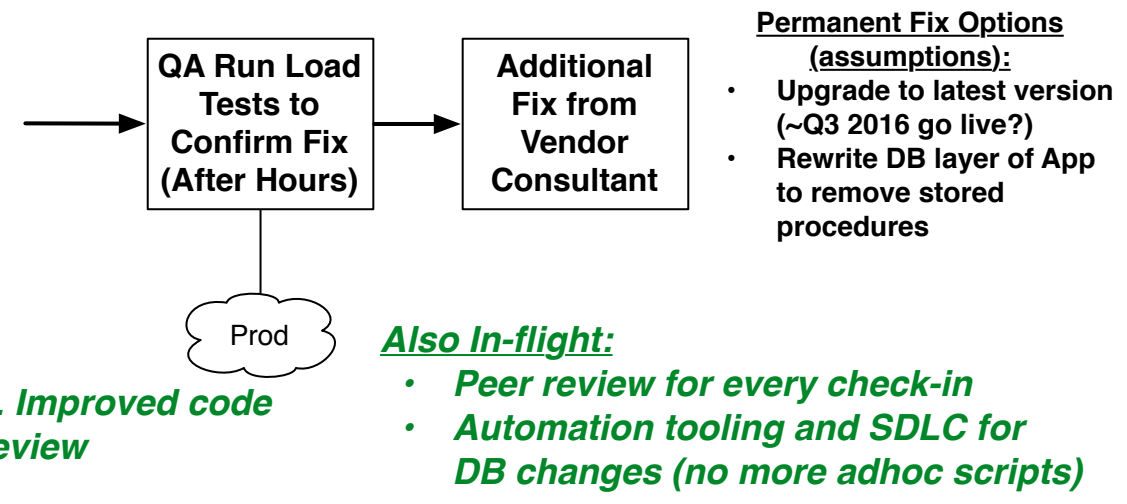


- 2. Improved vendor SLA management**  
 Vendor reps joining calls aren't correct people  
 Too much noise on bridge. Engineers can't focus. Open up side bridges because of difficulty of noise / task switching on main bridge
- 6. Platform App Dev leading new deployment strategy to improve traceability and ease rollback**  
 Lots of teams spending many cycles to "prove it wasn't them"



**War Room and Bridge Cost (direct labor):**  
 M-F: 35 h/c per day for 7 days = \$195,000  
 S,S: 6 h/c per day for 2 days = \$11,400  
 Total: \$206,400

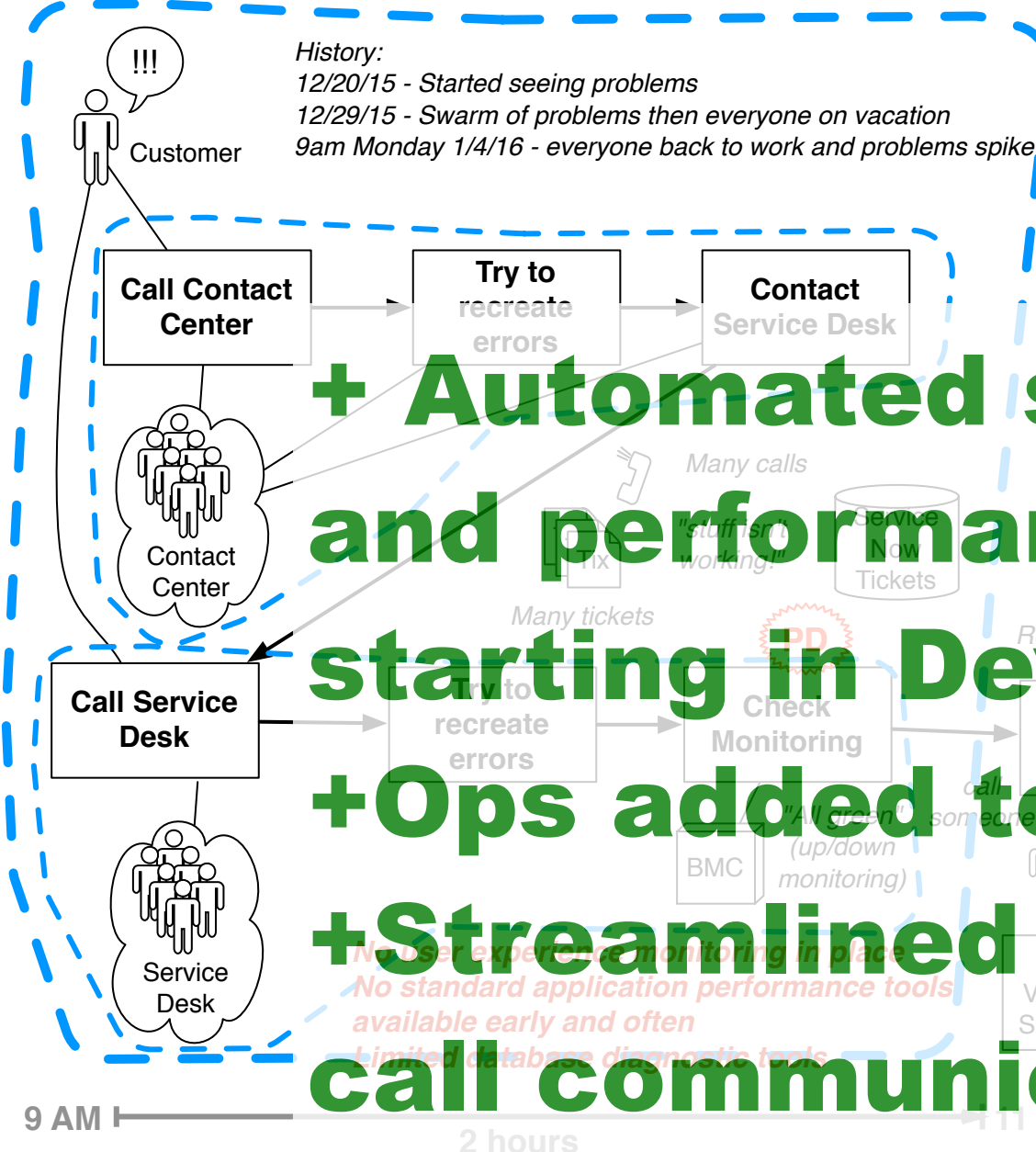
**Impact on Call Centers:**  
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**TOTAL COST OF INCIDENT:**  
 \$1,012,000 ++

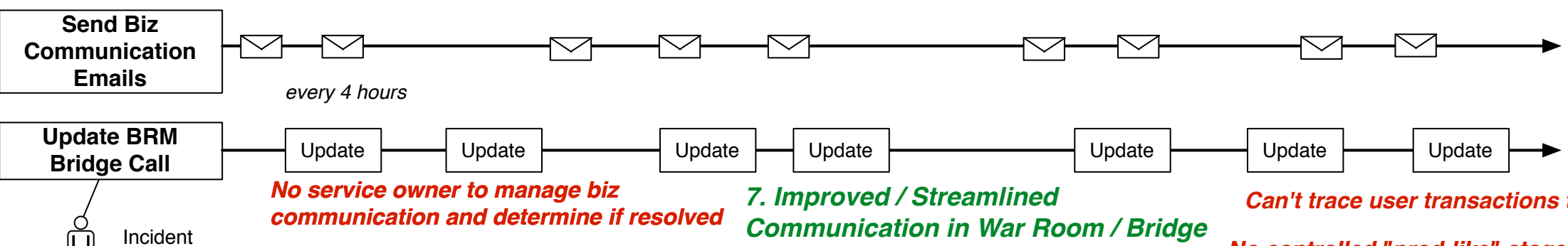
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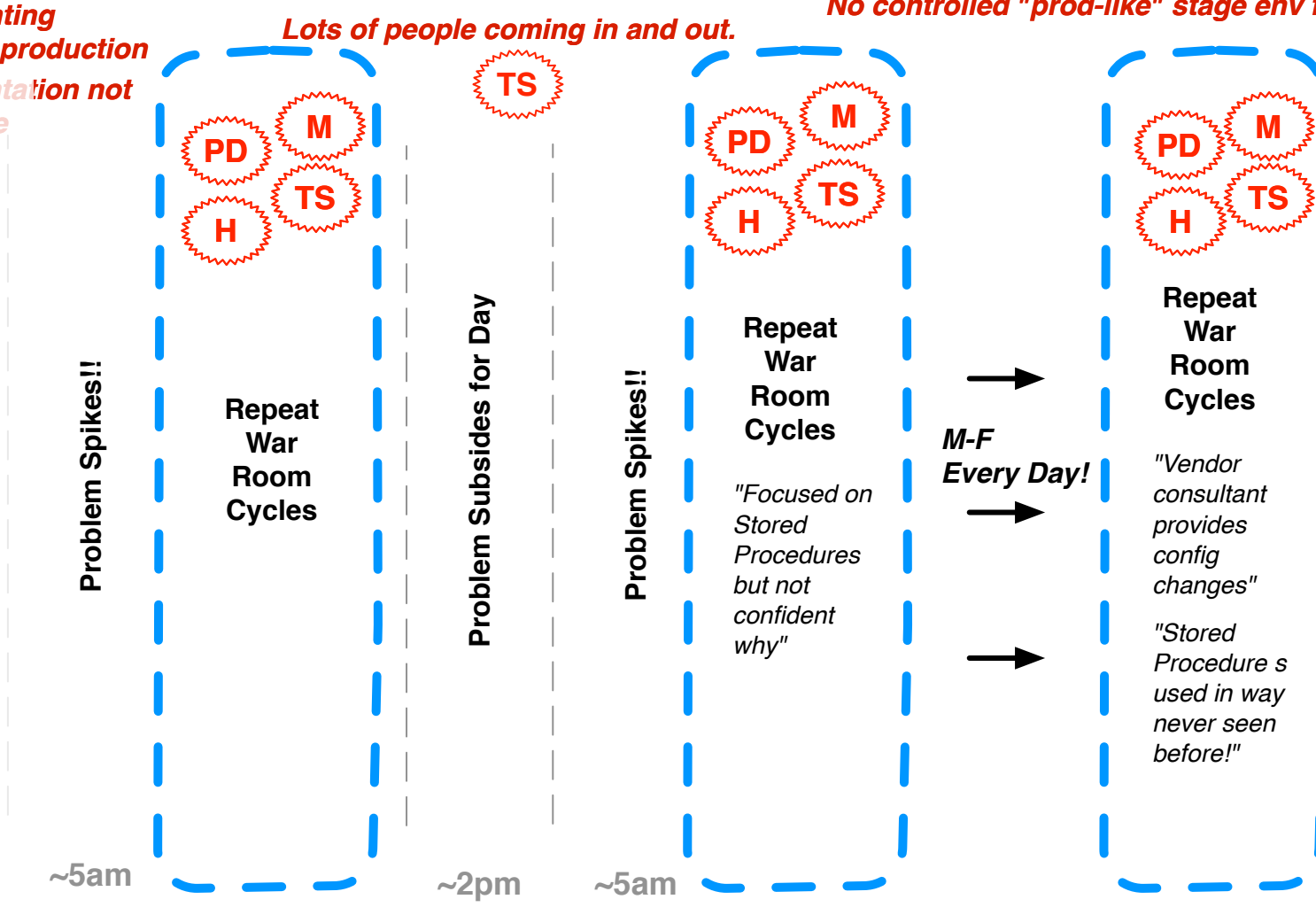


**2. Improved vendor SLA management**  
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 Too much noise on bridge. Engineers can't focus. Open up side bridges because of difficulty of noise / task switching on

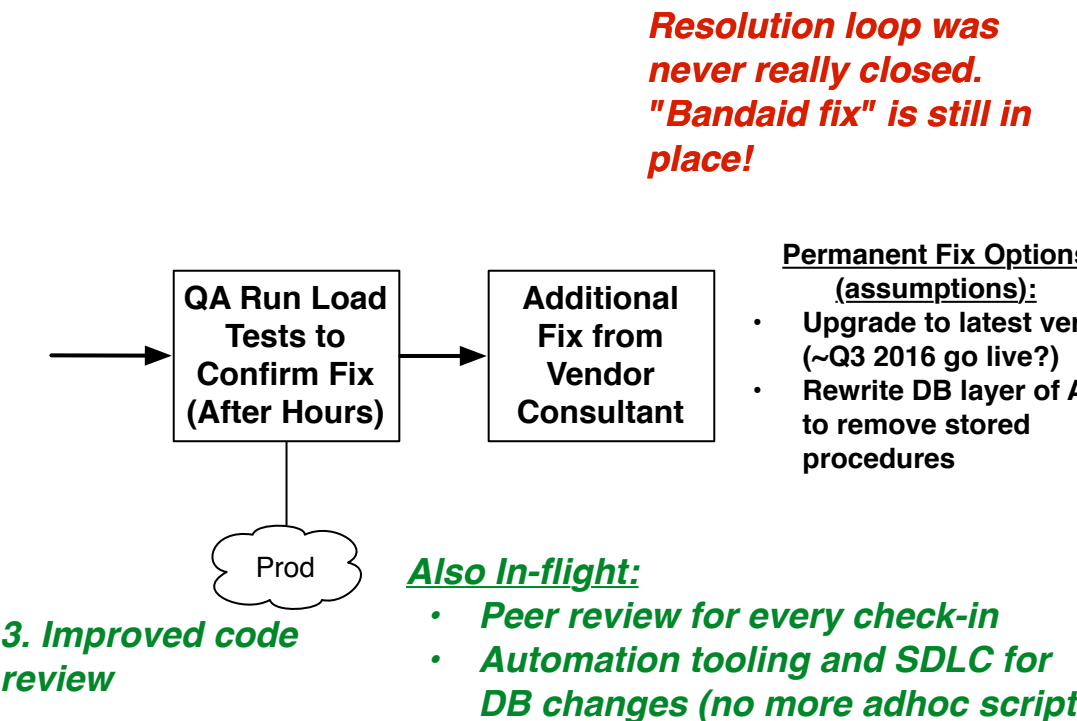
**+ Automated service verification and performance health checks starting in Dev**  
**+ Ops added to code peer reviews**  
**+ Streamlined war room and bridge call communication**



Experimenting directly in production  
 Documentation not up to date



**5. "Prod-Like" Pre-Prod environments (with load testing)**  
 Vendor provided "fix" is really just a workaround



**8. Follow through on resolution**  
 Resolution loop was never really closed. "Bandaid fix" is still in place!

**1. Service performance monitoring, error detection, and automated health checks starting Dev**

**6. Platform App Dev leading new deployment strategy to improve traceability and ease rollback**

Inability to rollback recent changes with any confidence ("probably impossible?"). "Fight forward" only.

**War Room and Bridge Cost (direct labor):**  
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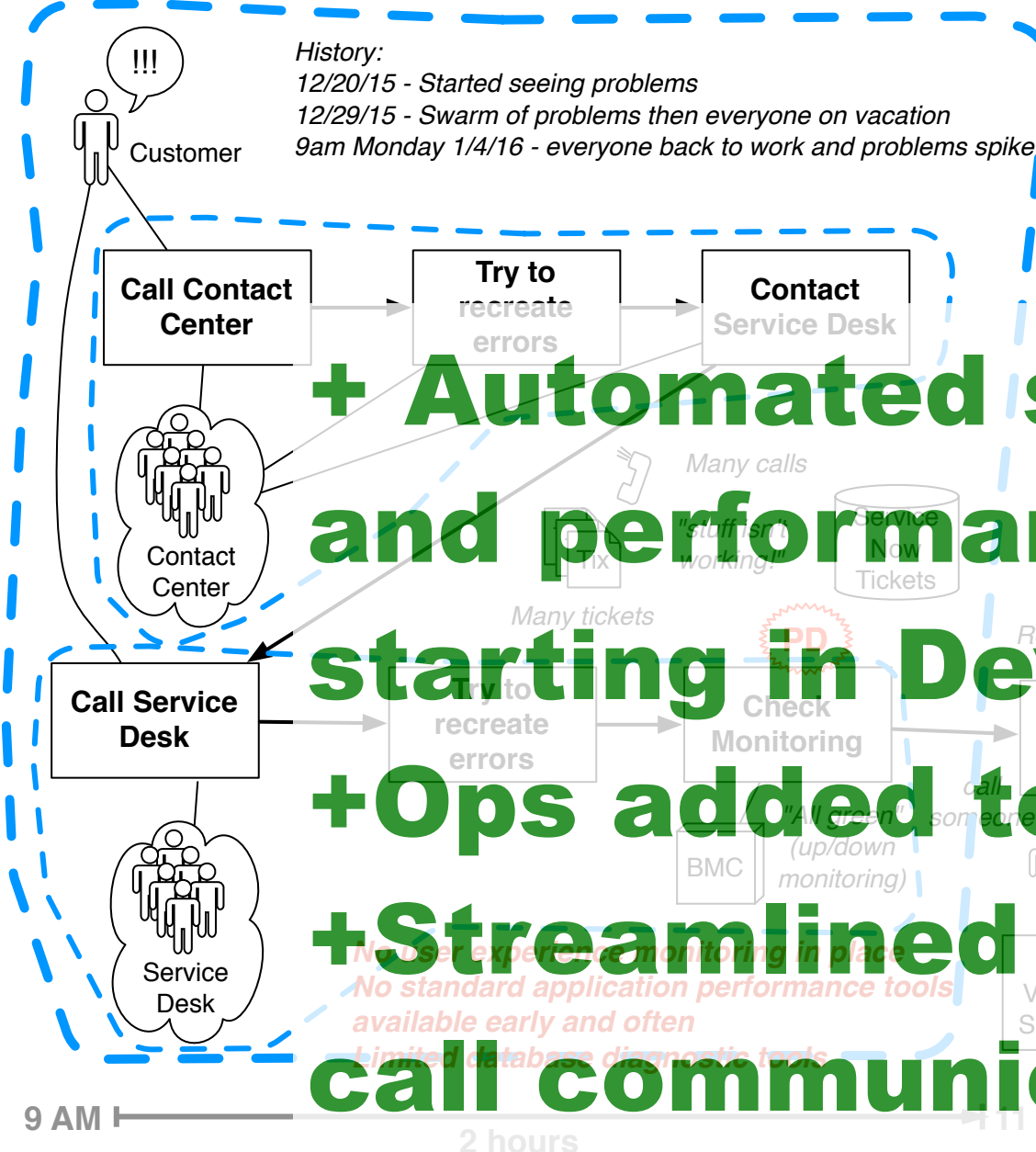
**TOTAL COST OF INCIDENT:**  
 \$1,012,000 ++

**Also In-flight:**  
 • Peer review for every check-in  
 • Automation tooling and SDLC for DB changes (no more adhoc scripts)

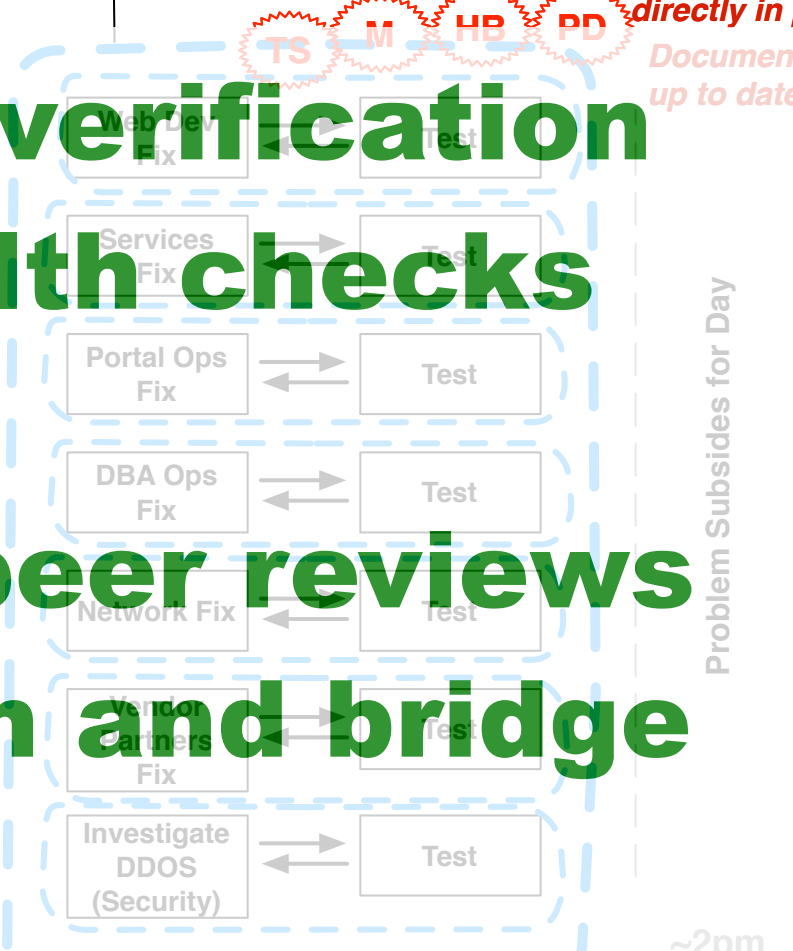
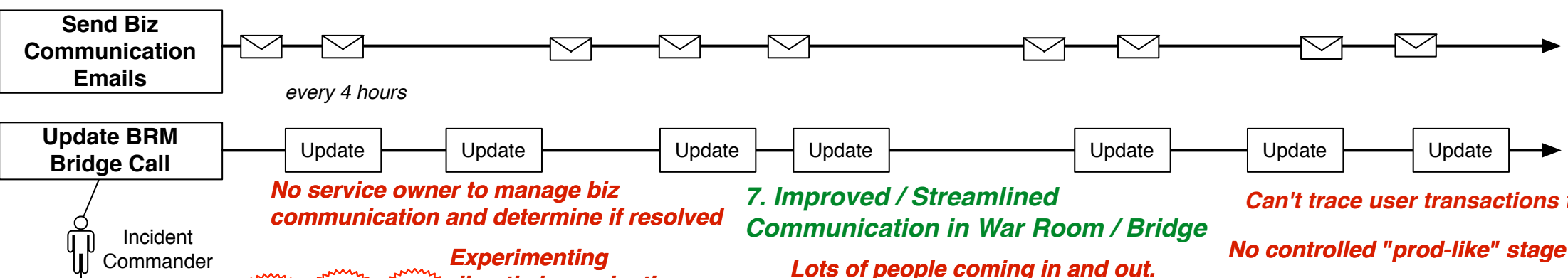
- Vendor Consultant onsite for 3 days
- QA tried to simulate load
- Tried adding capacity (3 app servers and web)
- Tried disabling



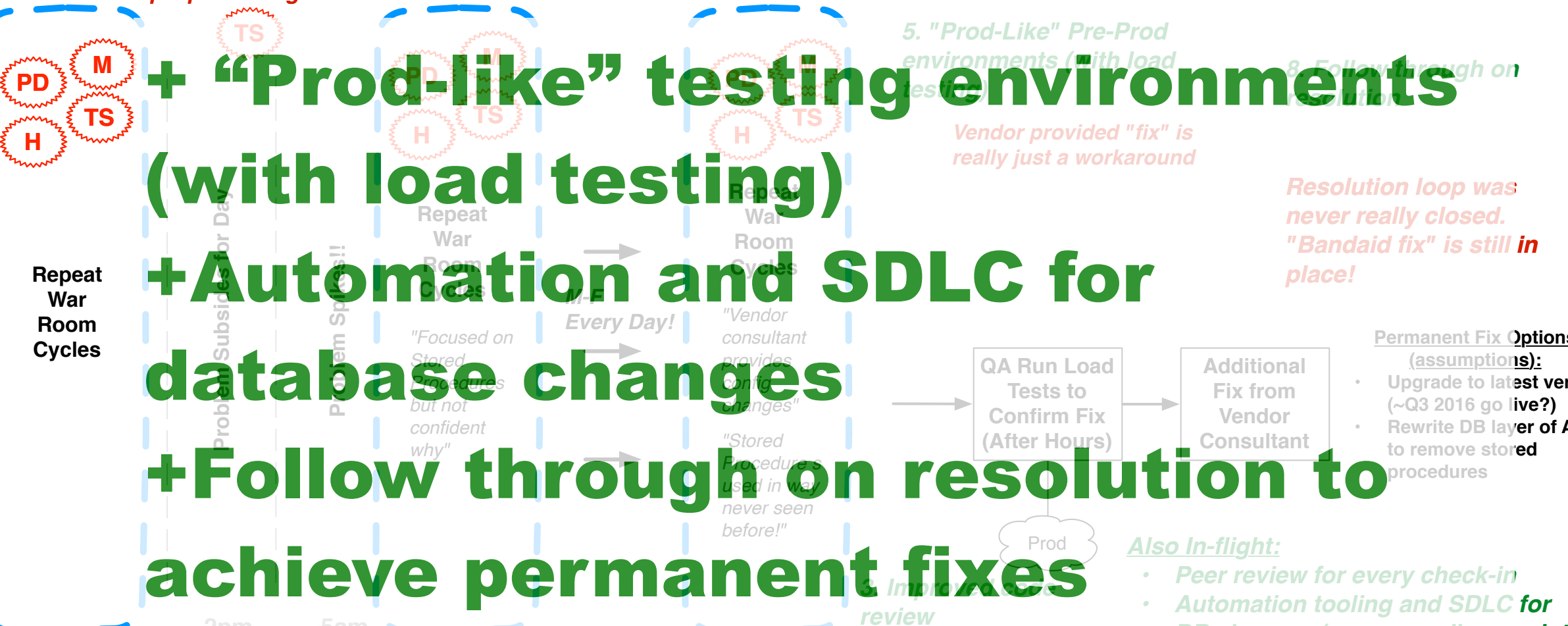
# "MyAccount Perf Incident"



**2. Improved vendor SLA management**  
 Vendor reps joining calls aren't correct people  
 Too much noise on bridge. Engineers can't focus. Open up side bridges because of difficulty of noise / task switching on



**7. Improved / Streamlined Communication in War Room / Bridge**  
 No service owner to manage biz communication and determine if resolved  
 Can't trace user transactions through the stack  
 No controlled "prod-like" stage env for troubleshooting



**+ Automated service verification and performance health checks starting in Dev**

**+ Ops added to code peer reviews**

**+ Streamlined war room and bridge call communication**

**+ "Prod-like" testing environments (with load testing)**

**+ Automation and SDLC for database changes**

**+ Follow through on resolution to achieve permanent fixes**

**1. Service performance monitoring, error detection, and automated health checks starting Dev**

**6. Platform App Dev leading new deployment strategy to improve traceability and ease rollback**

**Inability to rollback recent changes with any confidence ("probably impossible?"). "Fight forward" only.**

**War Room and Bridge Cost (direct labor):**  
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**TOTAL COST OF INCIDENT: \$1,012,000 ++**

- Permanent Fix Options (assumptions):**
- Upgrade to latest version (~Q3 2016 go live?)
  - Rewrite DB layer of App to remove stored procedures

- Also In-flight:**
- Peer review for every check-in
  - Automation tooling and SDLC for DB changes (no more adhoc scripts)

# Improvement Storyboards

Template

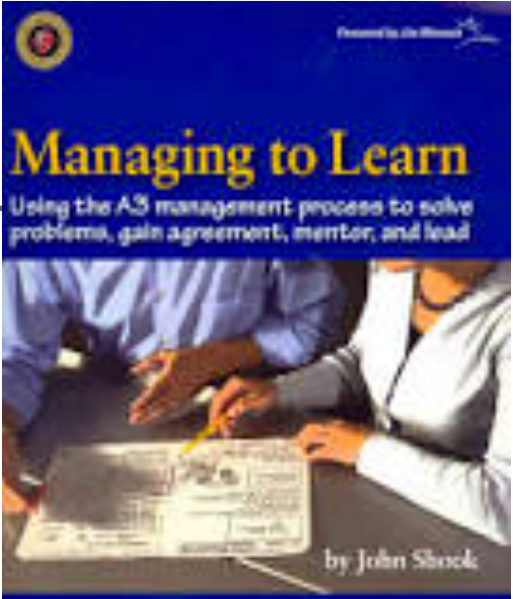
Process Name	Challenge/Key Pain
Target Condition	Work ToDo (Baby Steps)
Improvement Metrics	
Current Condition	Blockers

Example

<p><b>Process</b> GTM/LTM (Traffic manager configuration process)</p>	<p><b>Challenge/Key Pain</b> Changes are being introduced / tested in production the first time causing delays, rework, outages</p>
<p><b>Target Condition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GM/TLM functionality across all SDLC environments (capex request needed)</li> <li>• change window reduction for non-prod environments (turn those around instantaneously less than 13 days)</li> <li>• Provide read-only to all F5 consoles</li> <li>• Standardize GM pattern</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work ToDo (Baby Steps)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire the F5 hardware or software to support envs throughout SDLC</li> <li>• Make these changes L3 or 5 change requests</li> <li>• Write automation scripts</li> <li>• provide read only access to all environments... can include API access to facilitate automation script writing</li> <li>• Create design template with customer pattern</li> </ul>
<p><b>Improvement Metrics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Time (post-dev to prod)</li> <li>• Scrap Rate</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Current Condition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apps are not developed in production-like environments (not testing F5 behavior)</li> <li>• Ops teams cannot practice or learn</li> <li>• App teams have no visibility into constraints</li> <li>• No remediation capabilities for app support teams</li> <li>• No repeatable pattern for GM health activity</li> <li>• 80% S/R with 2-3 rework cycles</li> <li>• 50% cause outages</li> </ul>	<p><b>Blockers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Financial approval (Jennifer)</li> <li>◦ Segregation between environments (Mark)</li> <li>◦ Non-standard request types (Susan)</li> <li>◦ Two network teams with different rules (Mark)</li> </ul>

# Improvement Storyboards

Inspiration: A3 management process



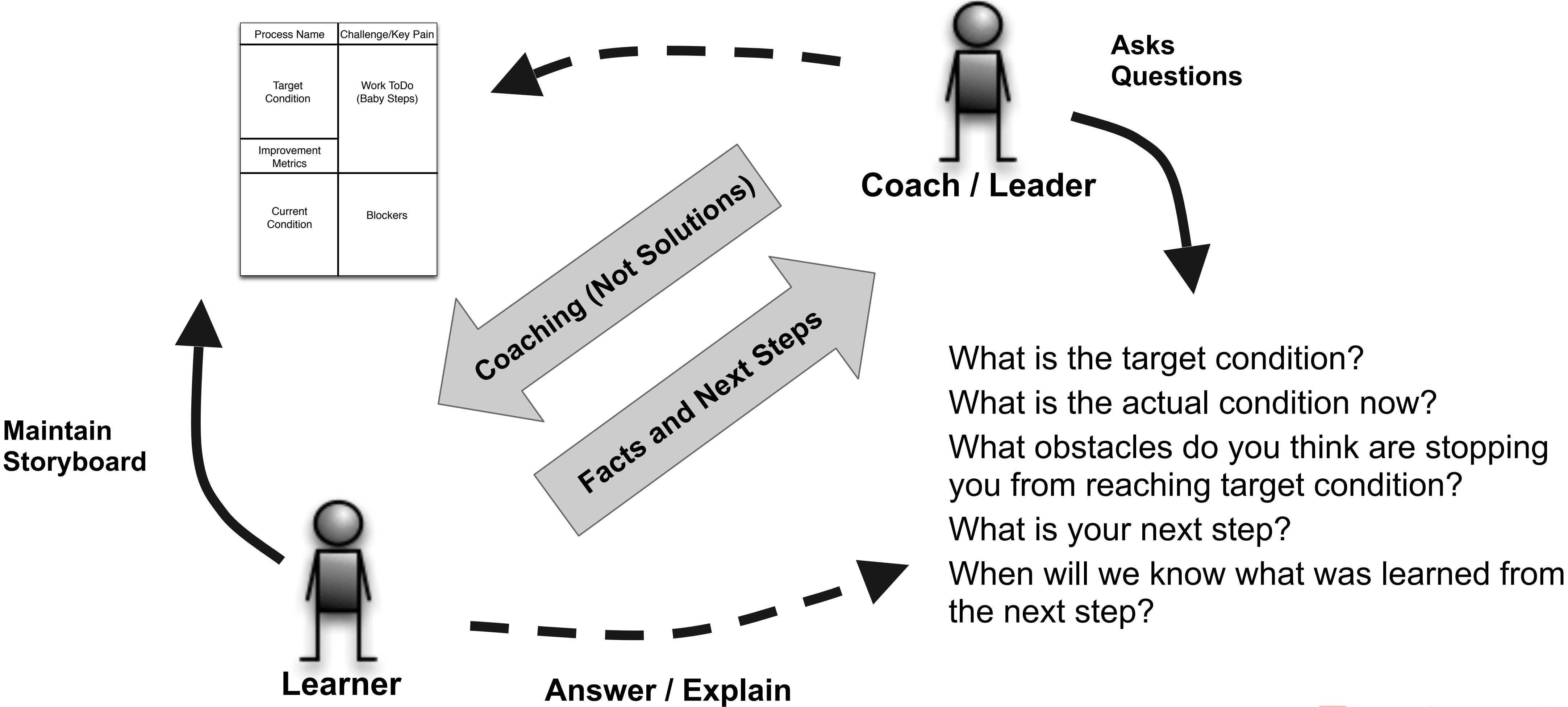
Template

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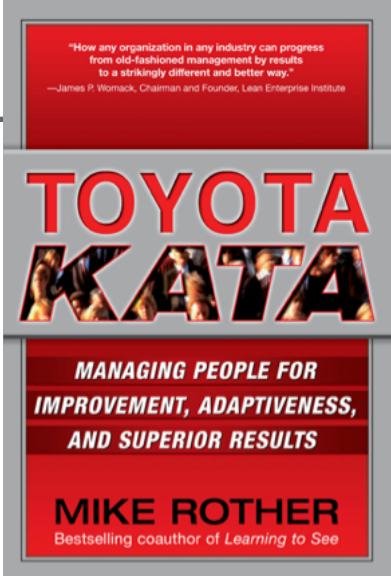
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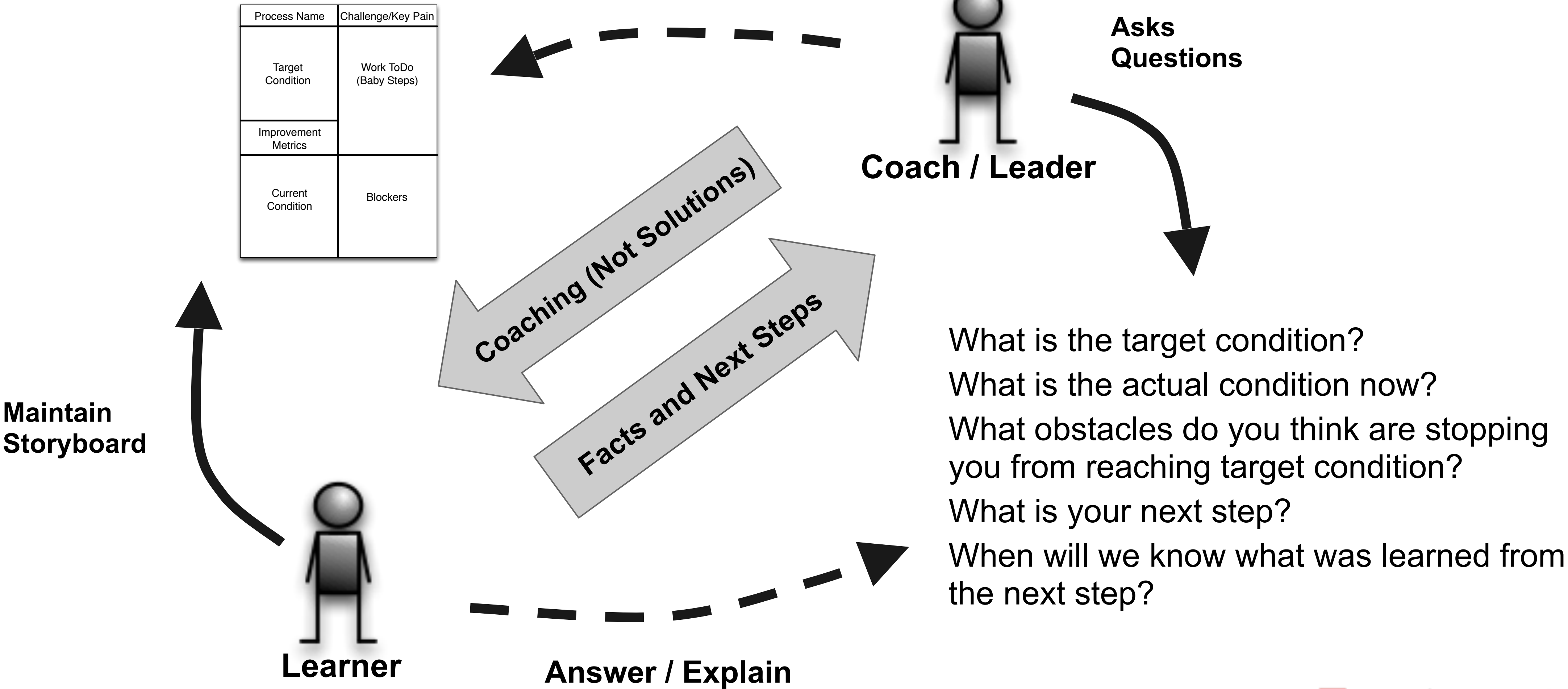
# Using Storyboards: Part “Sales”, Part Coaching



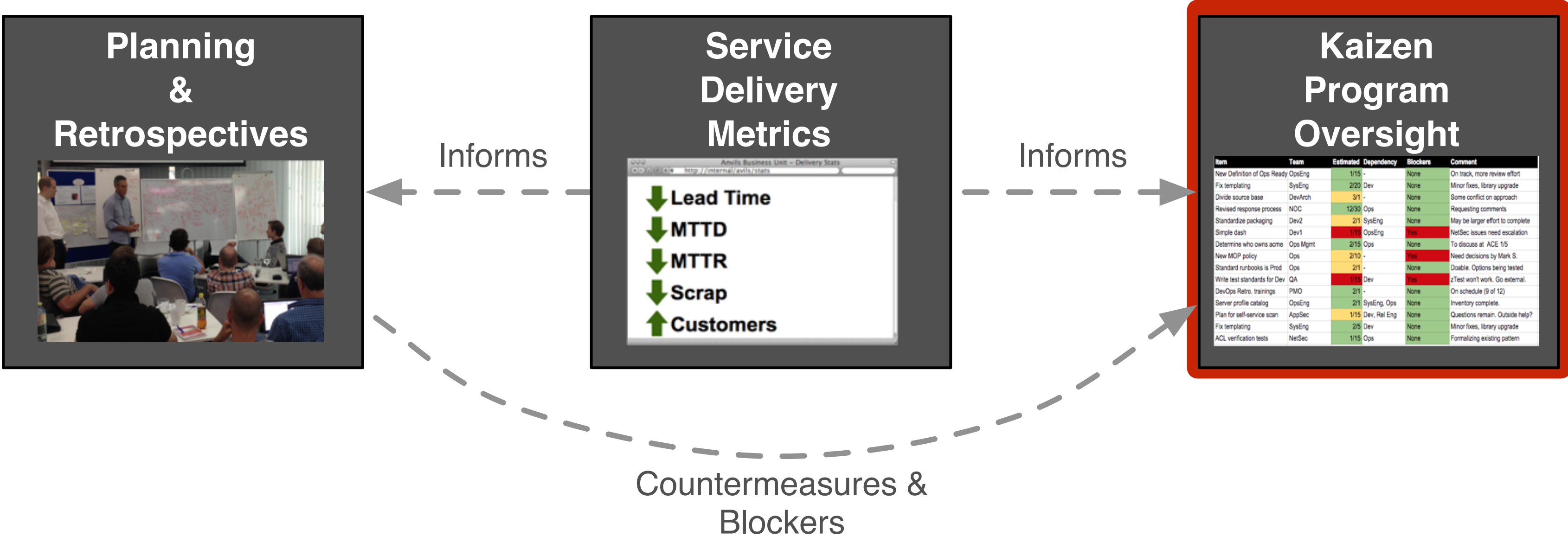
# Using Storyboards: Part “Sales”, Part Coaching



Inspiration: Toyota Kata



# Elements of a DevOps Kaizen Program



# **Kaizen Program Oversight**

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- 1. The will to make change happen**
- 2. The resources to make change happen**
- 3. Drive follow-through / clear obstacles**

# Kaizen Program Oversight

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- 1. The will to make change happen**
- 2. The resources to make change happen**
- 3. Drive follow-through / clear obstacles**

*This (and only this) is what the Kaizen Program Oversight Group does!*



# **Kaizen Program Oversight**

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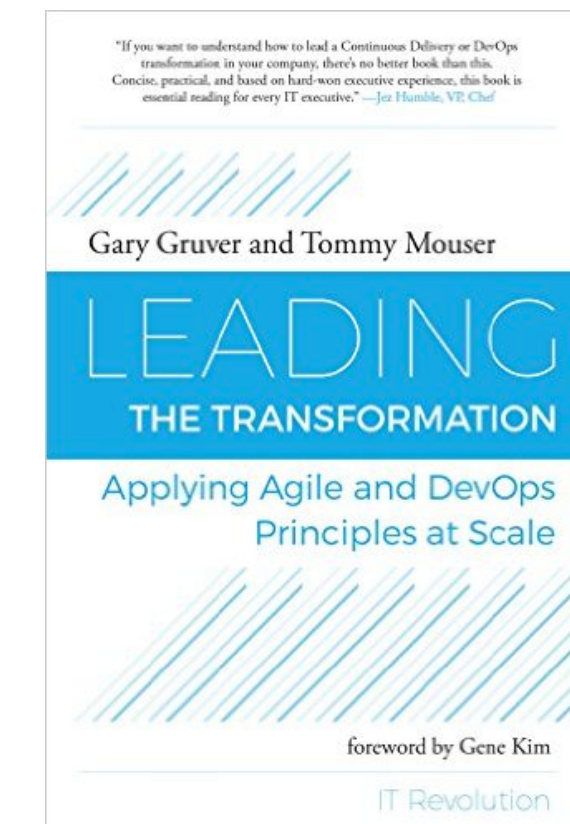
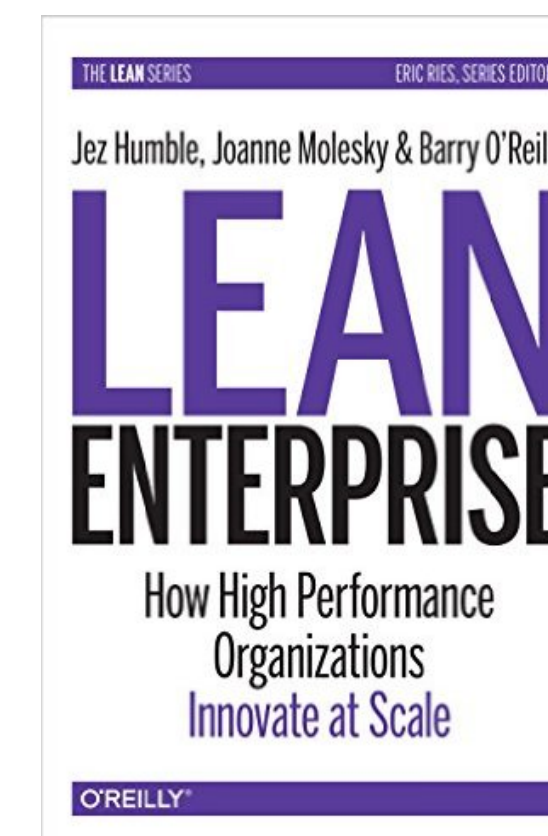
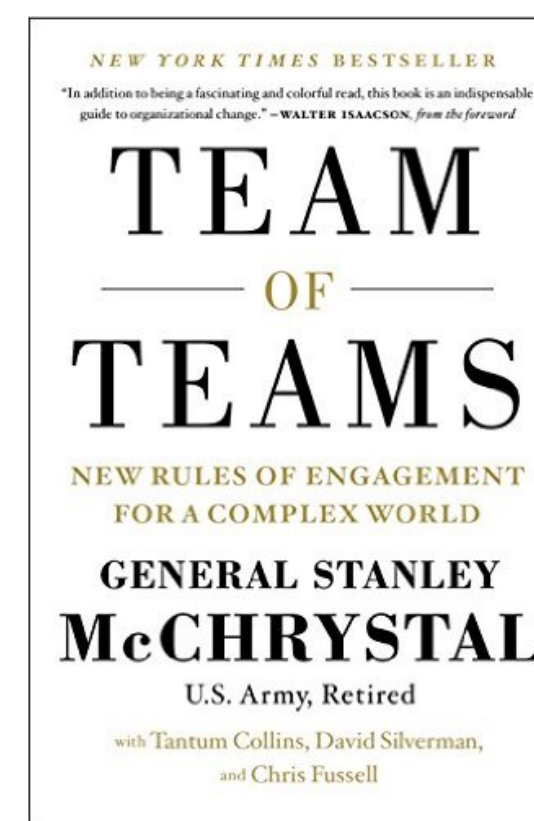
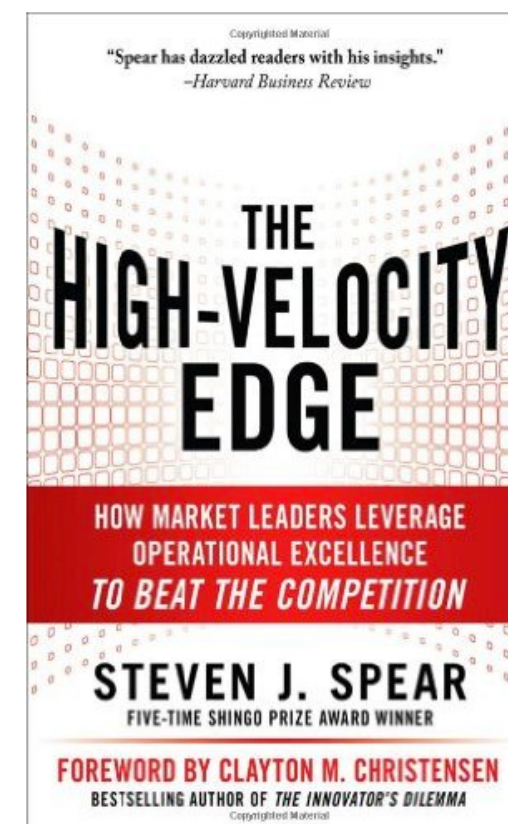
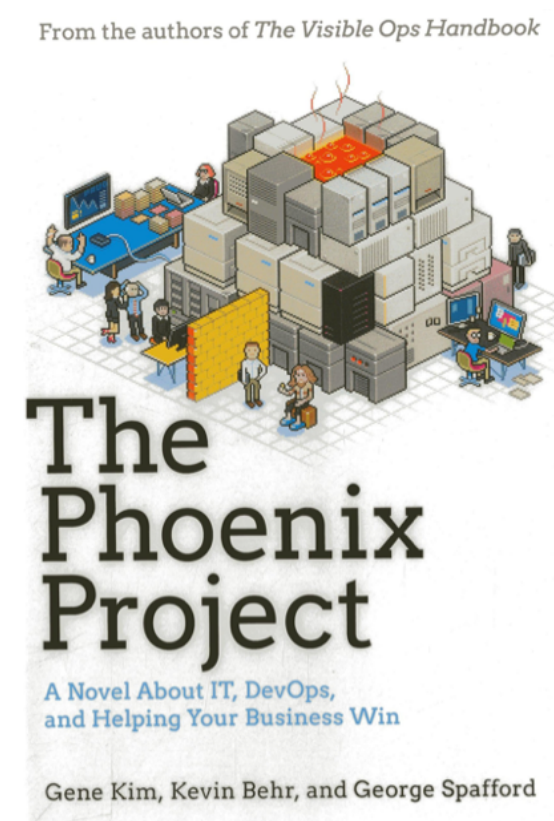
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# Kaizen Program Oversight

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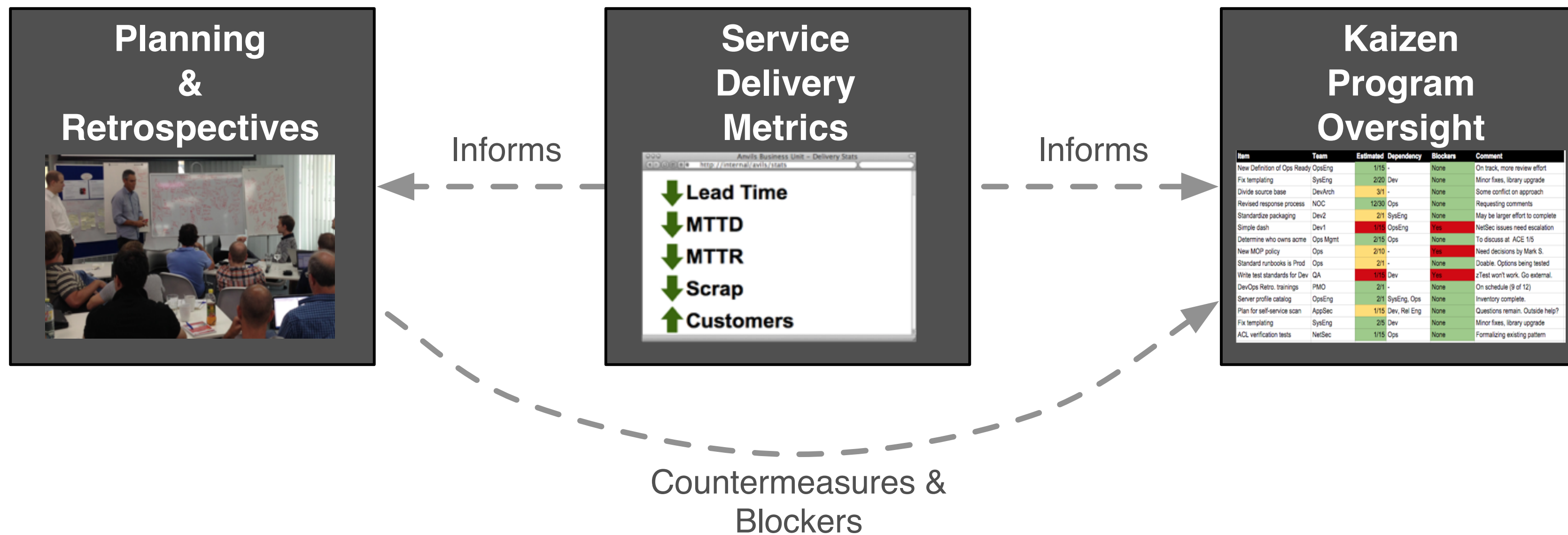
1. The will to make change happen
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Inspire Executives with:

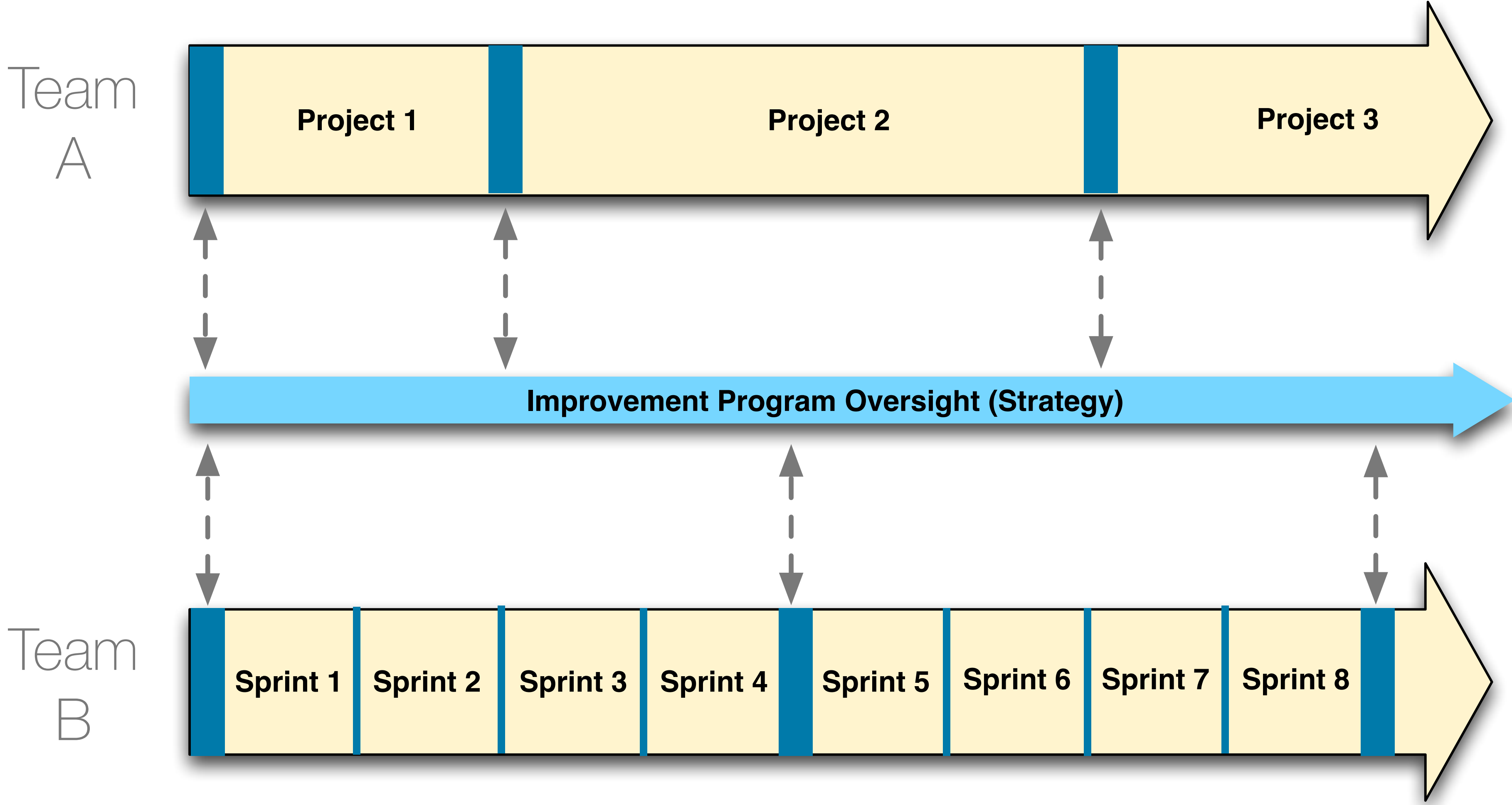


RUNDECK

# Elements of a DevOps Kaizen Program



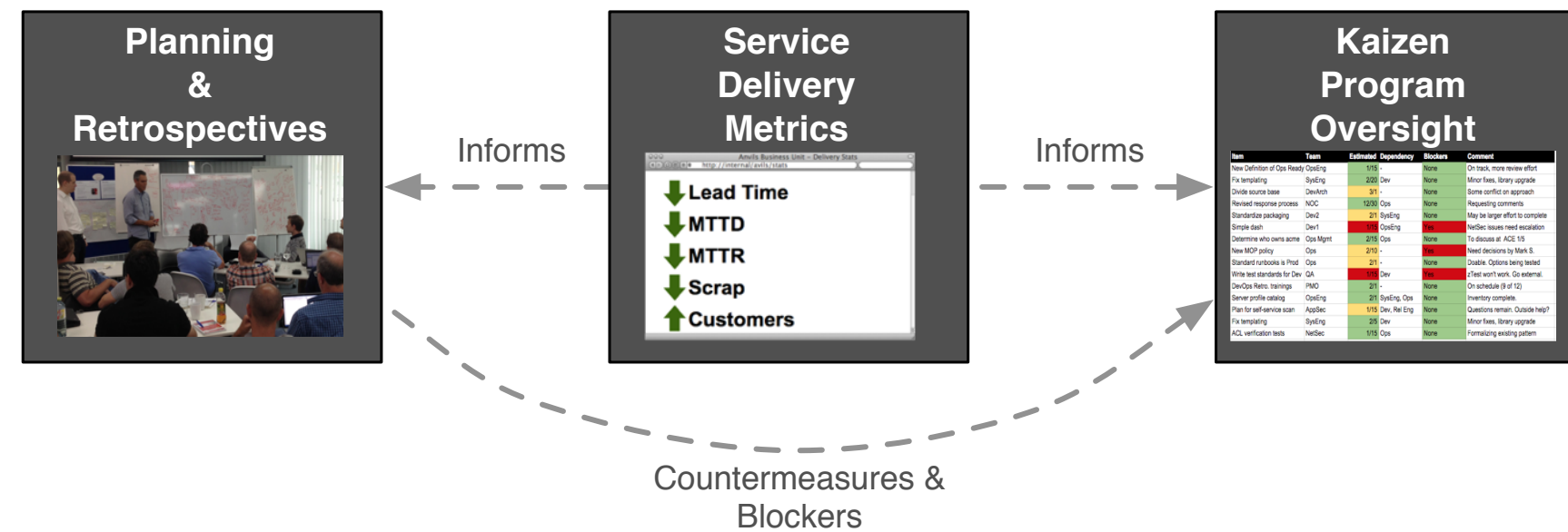
# DevOps Kaizen Program is an overlay for any delivery methodology



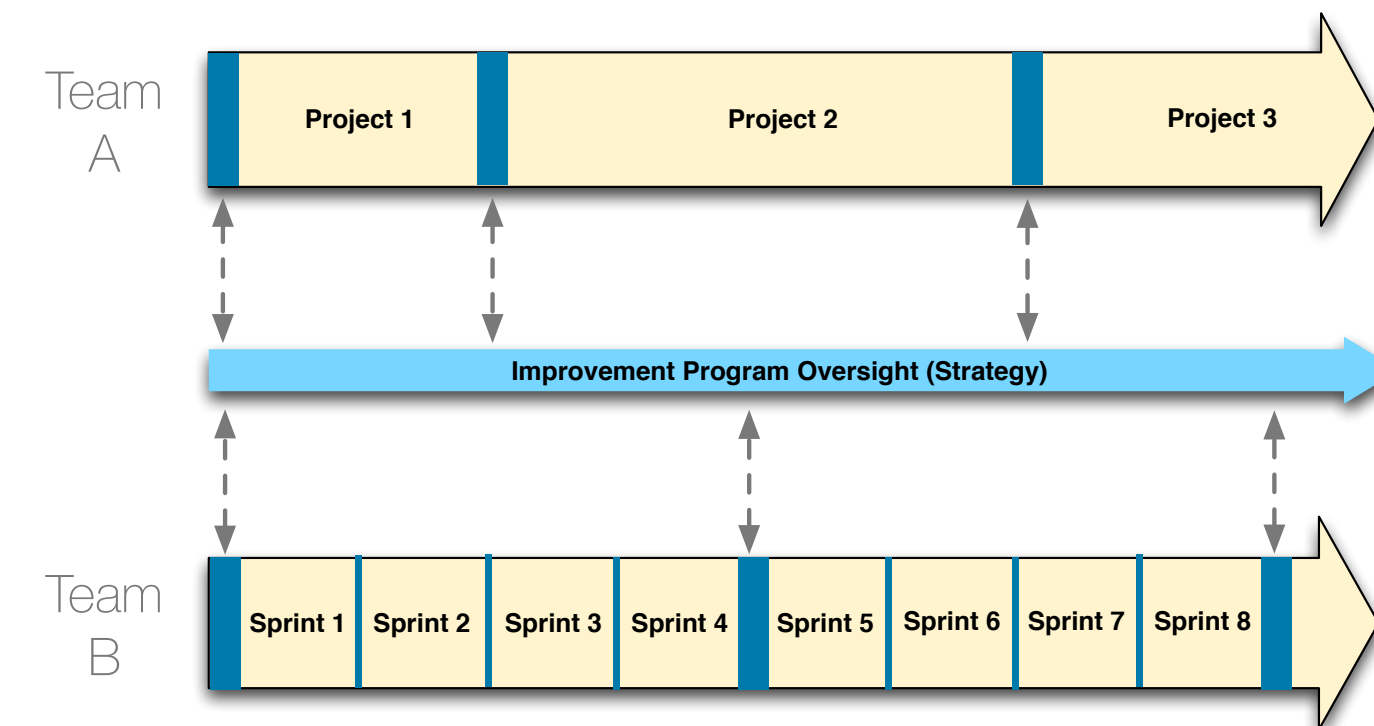
**■ Full Retrospective & Planning**      **■ Refresh Retrospective**

# DevOps Kaizen: *Let's Recap!*

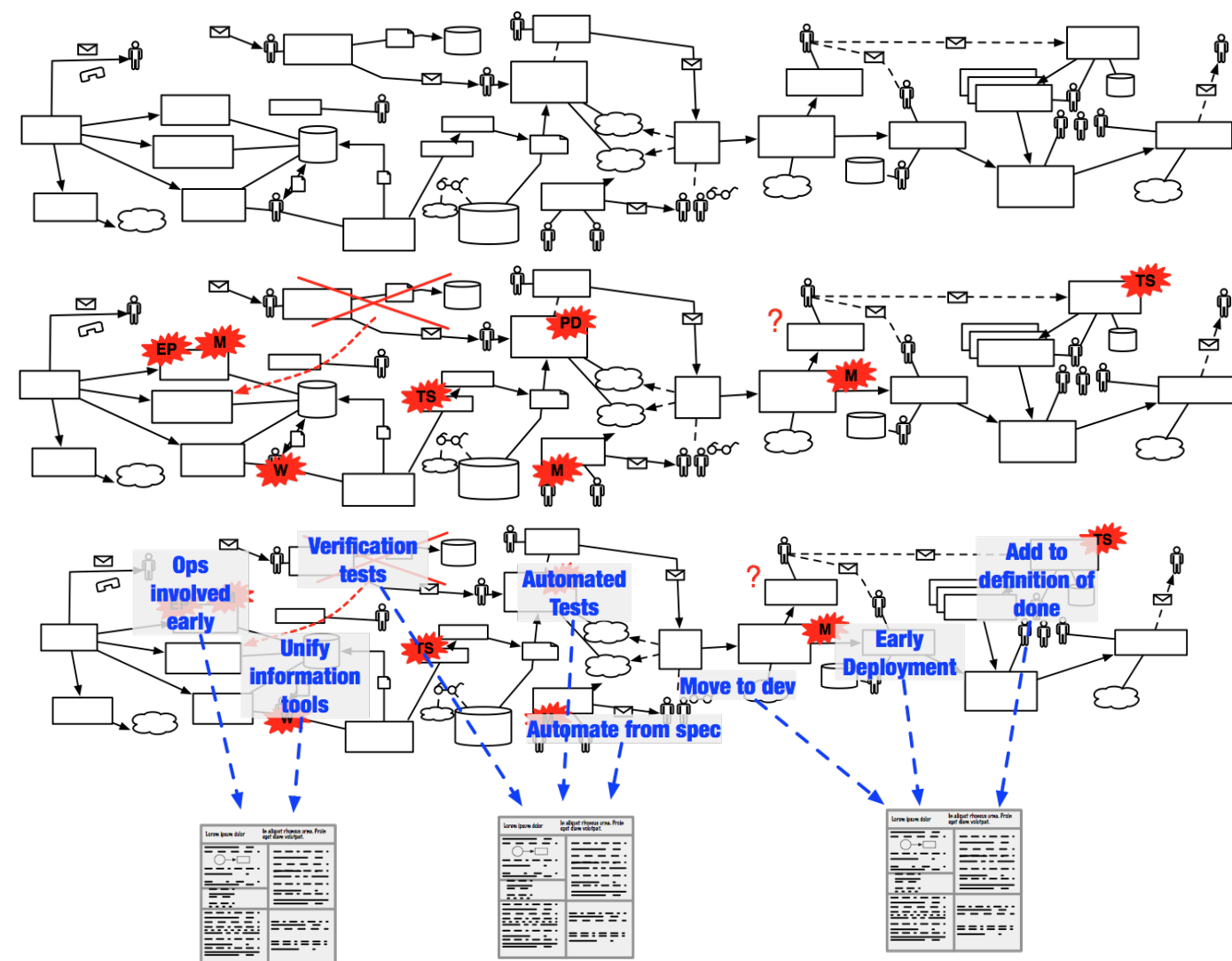
## Establish program elements



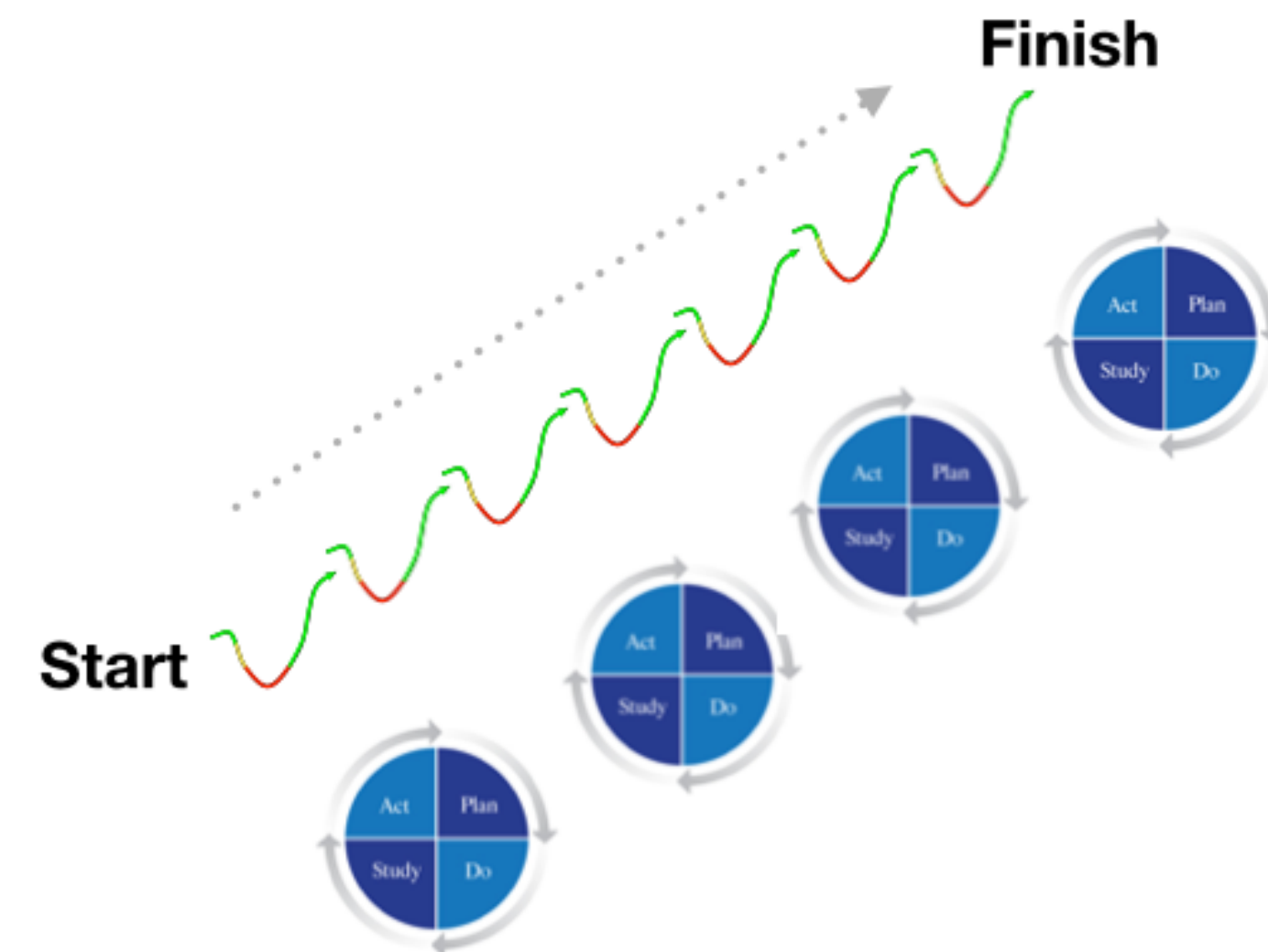
## Build into your operating model



## Make the work visible

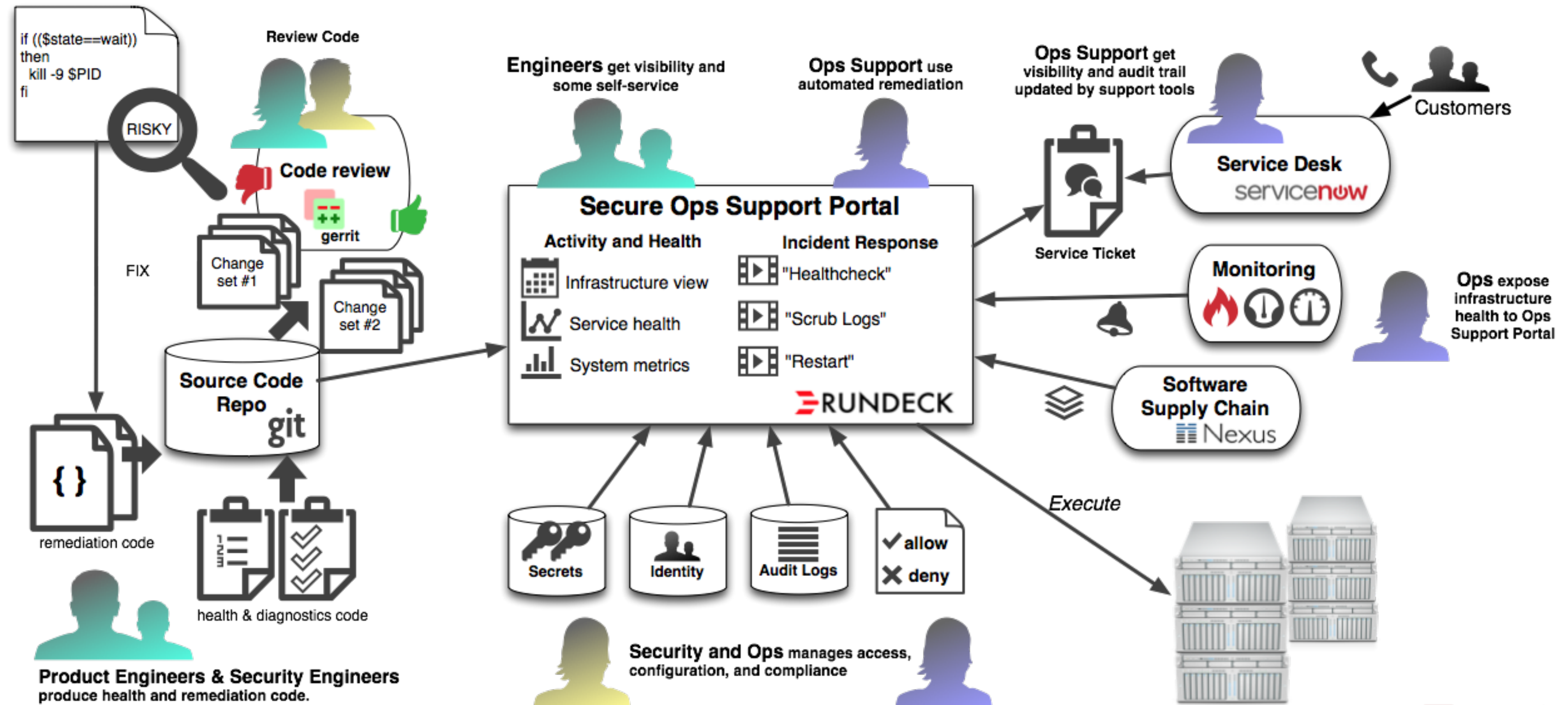


## Focus on Continuous Improvement



# Join me tomorrow! 10:15 in Victoria Suite

## Helping Ops Help You: Development's Role in Enabling Self-Service Operations



# Damon Edwards



 **@damonedwards**

 **damon@rundeck.com**