



Breaking Down Barriers Between Development and Operations

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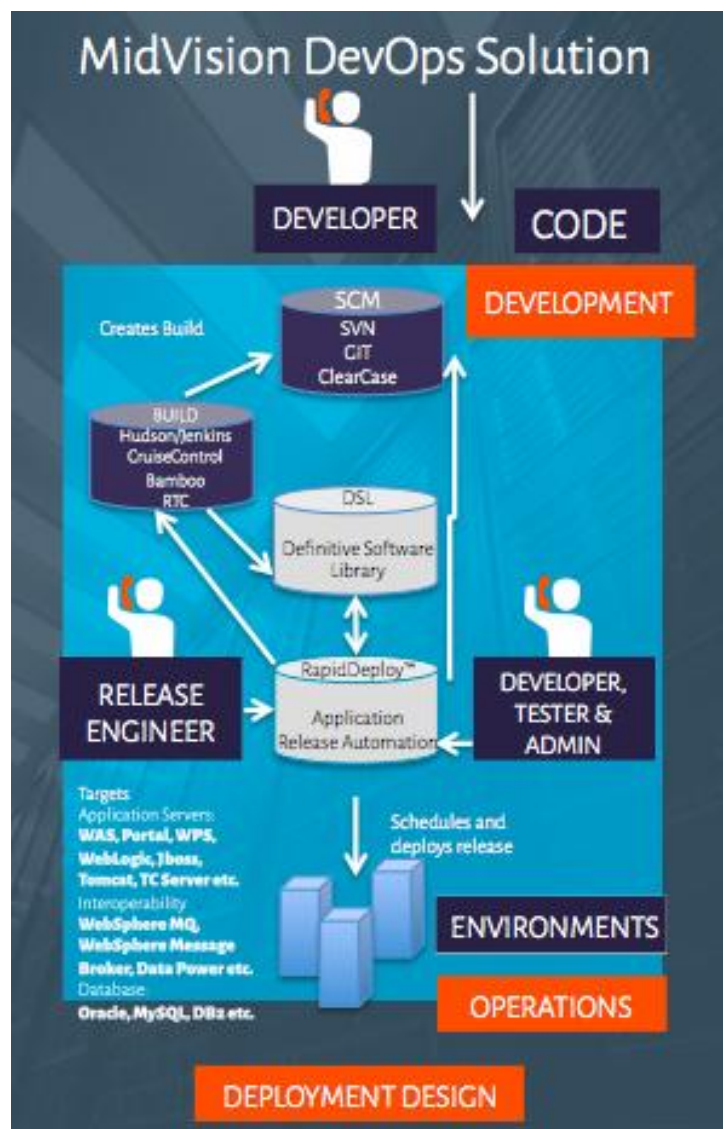
DevOps is the blending of tasks performed by a company's application development and systems operations teams.

Why is DevOps Important?

Technology does not stop getting smarter, data volumes keep growing faster, the world keeps shrinking and competition gets tougher.

The businesses that are winning today are the most agile, delivering more to their customers at ever increasing rates.

And it's technology that's behind that - and behind that, developers innovating more new applications than ever before, and operations teams managing more applications, increasingly complex environments and keeping all those plates spinning when downtime costs money.





Teams traditionally work in silos, the developers handing off their code when it's done, the system administrators taking the code and releasing it to the environments they manage can't work like that anymore. It's too slow. There are too many bottlenecks. There are too many mistakes made.

MidVision DevOps Solution

DevOps is about breaking down the barriers between Development and Operations and providing a consistent framework for managing IT from development through to production. RapidDeploy, the deployment automation engine from MidVision, can provide a standalone deployment automation capability or can be the heart of your DevOps solution.

Breaking Down the Barriers

It is often hard to break down the barriers and bridge the gap between Development and Operations, and relocating personnel can be a step in the right direction to help with the communication, but it is not a sustainable solution for many organisations. A better solution is for the different organisational units and teams to use unified tooling to consistently enforce the correct deployment of the middleware binaries on the right platform, patch them to the correct levels, configure them and deploy applications or project code into them. Having this level of consistency and shared tooling minimises deployment errors in different environments. The Ops team normally have more stringent procedures to deploy code into live and pre-production environments since their main focus is to not break the live application, whereas the development teams' main focus is to build change into the environment.

Therefore the tool needs to cater for an extra level of approval and assurance to deploy into live environments. The point is, if all the teams are using a shared tool to deploy and configure environments then there is less room for differences between environments and less room for configuration drift within the environments.





RapidDeploy provides the ability to:

- Install & patch
- Configure
- Deploy
- Maintain
- Business applications and their dependencies

Key components of the MidVision DevOps solution are:

- Consistent process to provision and manage environments from development to production
- Comprehensive release automation
- Testing release automation as well as code on the 'path to production'
- Integrated Release and Development tooling

DevOps is frequently described as a more collaborative and productive relationship between development teams and operations teams

DevOps Impact on Application Releases:

What Role Does Deployment Play in DevOps?

Introducing smaller changes more quickly

Adoption of agile development modals and the requirements for organisations to delivery business change more quickly, means each release has less change but occurs more often.

Increased release coordination

A common approach to application release methodology and tooling, along with better cooperation and collaboration, allows you to bridge the expertise and communications gap between development and operations.





Automation

Comprehensive deployment automation ensures repeatability of deployment tasks and reduces deployment errors.

Manufacturing approach

At MidVision we have applied a manufacturing approach to our Automation and DevOps solution. RapidDeploy™ provides re-usable building block for the majority of your automations needs – with the ability to easily extend where required.

Our approach focuses on creating a deployment model and templates that can be used to provision Application Servers, Messaging and Database environments in an efficient, consistent and repeatable way.

Using our approach we believe you can commoditise the components of your infrastructure, allowing you to manage and scale your environments as your organisations demand requires.

Infrastructure as a Service

Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) is one of the industry recognised approaches to the type of IT manufacturing promoted by MidVision. In short it provides for standard infrastructure types (WebSphere, Tomcat, MySql / Oracle, etc.) and allows your consumers to provision new infrastructure components at will, on demand as a service. The implementation of IaaS necessitates high levels of automation which we deliver using RapidDeploy.

Platform as a Service

Platform as a Service (PaaS) can really be seen as an extension to IaaS – but essentially allowing for the provision of multi-component ‘platforms’ that are delivered provisioned - with configuration and business applications installed.

IaaS = vanilla implementation of a target(s)

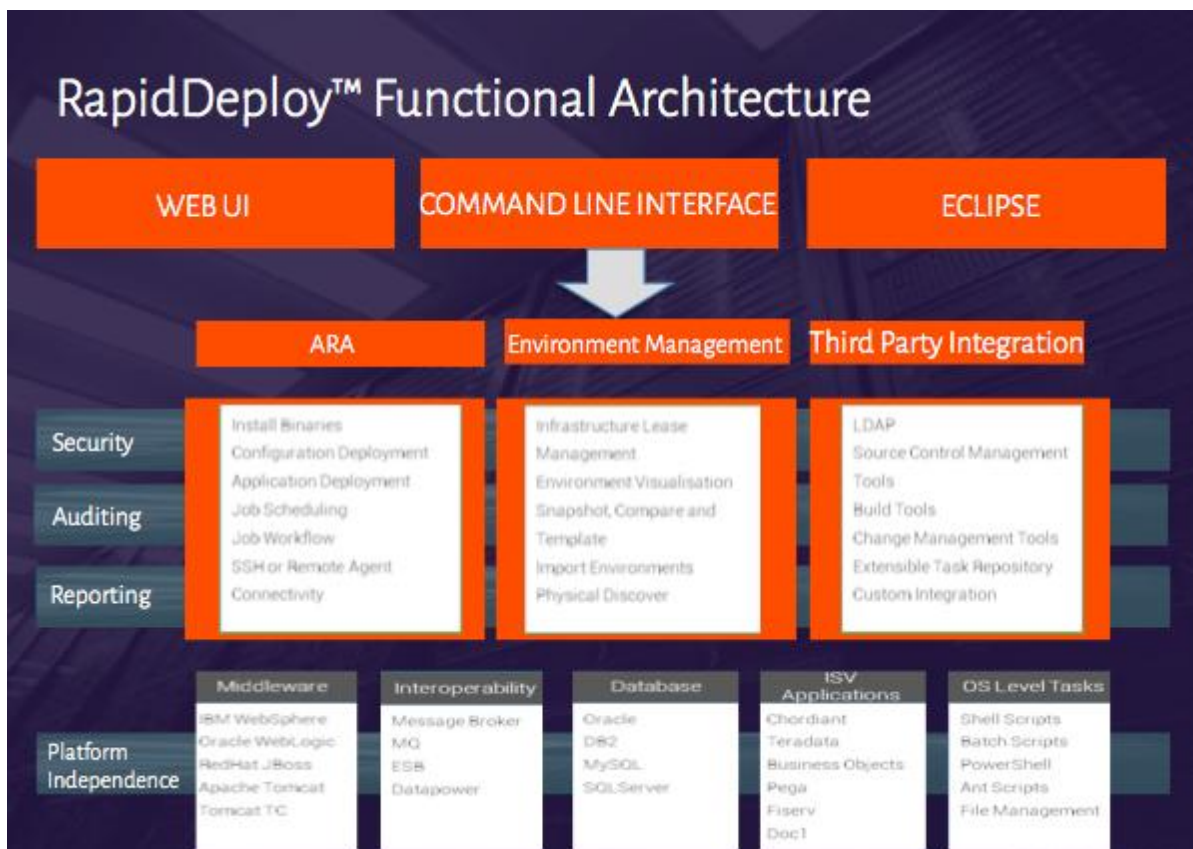
PaaS = implementation of a target + runtime configuration



Our Approach?

In short, we have taken the best practices from the development world and applied them to infrastructure management:

- Eclipse or web console used to create the configuration (Define)
- Configurations can be automatically written to source control (Record)
- A Build is generated (Build)
- Deploy application (Release)





About MidVision

MidVision is a specialist provider of DevOps enablement and application release automation software with a flexible range of 24/7 support, enablement and consulting services.

If you would like to know more about MidVision's solutions please contact your normal MidVision representative, our office on +44 20 7643 1621 or email us at customerfeedback@midvision.com.

Take the next step:

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