accelerated
strategies

STATE OF **SOFTWARE DELIVERY MANAGEMENT**
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE ABILITY TO effectively and efficiently deliver software is a prerequisite for business success today. Organizations leverage software to deliver not just core business value to users and customers, but also as a mechanism to disrupt markets, compete for new customers and develop new revenue streams.

The ability to deliver high-quality software in a timely and cost-effective manner is not, however, a competency for most organizations. Most struggle with lean and efficient Software Delivery Management (SDM), primarily because of the sheer size and complexity of applications and systems, developed by distributed teams, leveraging multiple technology stacks, across poorly integrated, but highly interdependent application delivery pipelines. This complexity impedes agility and results in a lack of visibility into the application delivery pipelines and the work being delivered by practitioners. This, in turn, results in organizational leadership making investments into software delivery without the insights they need to make data-driven decisions.

In order to understand the current state of SDM in the industry, Accelerated Strategies Group conducted a research study surveying software delivery practitioners, leaders, and executives across the industry. This report presents the findings of the research, and the inferences and recommendations Accelerated Strategies Group has concluded from the data gathered.

SDM is still a new approach. Its practices are still evolving and gaining traction. However, our findings from this research study make a strong case for increasing SDM adoption in organizations looking to enhance their ability to deliver software. SDM strategies address the key challenges we found most organizations struggling with, including their maturity, agility and their ability to react quickly to market changes and competitive pressures. SDM gives organizations the necessary tools to leverage software delivery to succeed with their own digital transformations.

The key challenges SDM can address and mitigate include, first and foremost, organizations' inability to properly quantify the impact of investments in software delivery. This results in businesses investing haphazardly, without a clear breakdown of where the investments were adding value, or where additional, targeted investments could fill gaps in their capabilities. ›››

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, CONTINUED

The second key area SDM can address is enhancing the ability of software delivery teams to communicate and collaborate as they deliver software. Even a decade after the DevOps movement highlighted the negative impact of functional and organizational silos in organizations, our research found that a majority of the organizations still have such silos;   silos severely impact the ability of practitioners and teams to collaborate and communicate at scale.

Finally, our research showed that SDM can provide end-to-end visibility into the value flow across application delivery pipelines and software supply chains. Teams, and in many cases, teams of teams of software development practitioners, collaborate to create and deliver software. These practitioners, their managers, and business leaders need visibility into the data and insights not just across their own projects' application delivery pipelines, but in most cases, across multiple pipelines and value streams, to better perform their jobs and to make data-driven decisions.

The root causes of these challenges range from organizational silos, to software tool sprawl, to a culture that does not foster communication and collaboration and free flow of data.

This report explores how SDM can help organizations more effectively and efficiently manage software delivery, and, based on the results of our research, provides evidence that adopting SDM strategies can help mitigate the challenges, and improve your organization's ability to deliver software in a lean and agile manner.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sanjeev Sharma is a co-founder and Principal Analyst at Accelerated Strategies Group. He focuses on DevOps, Application Modernization, DataOps, and Cloud Adoption.
Sanjeev is a practitioner by trade, and has served as Distinguished Engineer and CTO of DevOps Adoption at IBM and Field CTO at Delphix.
He is the author of two best-selling books – DevOps For Dummies, IBM Edition, and The DevOps Adoption Playbook. Sanjeev is a sought-after analyst, advisor and consultant who works with senior executives leading large scale transformations and speaks often at technology conferences and online events. He also writes a popular blog (*http://sdarchitect.blog*).

Sanjeev can be reached at: *sanjeev@accelst.com* or at *https://accelst.com/sanjeevsharma/*.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report, commissioned by CloudBees, is based on extensive research conducted by Accelerated Strategies Group to assess the current state of Software Delivery Management (SDM) and examine the impact of SDM adoption as a strategy. Accelerated Strategies Group fielded a survey and conducted one-on-one interviews with key industry leaders and experts to gather and further refine the data on which this report is based.

☛ **Download the full report at *https://accelst.com***

ABOUT ACCELERATED STRATEGIES GROUP

ACCELERATED STRATEGIES GROUP is out to democratize access to industry expertise and knowledge. Our expert analysts leverage their experience-based knowledge to deliver insightful, intelligent, and actionable information about digital transformation, DevOps, cloud-native and cybersecurity to IT and product organizations. Like open source software, we widely share our work products for free because we believe **Knowledge Wants To Be Free.**

Contact ASG at *info@accelst.com* and get more great research, reports, commentary, videos and more at *https://accelst.com*.