

Why security initiatives are doomed to fail

What you can do about it

@josharmi

Understanding how work flows is fundamental

You need to be constraint-aware

Agile doesn't scale across teams

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Developers are both the cause of and the solution to

all problems



Security is about **influence** not **execution**



Josh Armitage

Senior Engagement Partner @ Cognizant Servian

in https://www.linkedin.com/in/josh-armitage-b7825a41/

- 🍠 @josharmi
 - Worked with some of the world's biggest enterprises
 - Reader of books, drinker of wine, supposed knower of things
 - Built world-first serverless architectures on AWS
 - Has worked with everything from mainframes to machine learning
 - International speaker
 - O'Reilly author





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Quokka Incorporated

Trying to digitally transform

"Doing agile"

Security is working harder than ever



Based on painful real world experiences



Hitting keyboards or people

can only get you so far



Dual Speed IT





An average day in the life

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People > Process > Tools





Try to **tool** their way out of

a people problem

CSPM

Cloud Security Posture Management



~\$1 million per annum



1st year paid by security

Afterwards move to chargeback model



Controls

CSPM controls **increasing 5%** every month Violations **increasing 10%** month on month Average age of violation **increasing**



Security Posture

Eroding over time

We're finding problems faster than we can fix

Reactive over proactive approach



How Work Flows



Value Streams

From "Please" to "Thank You"

Can be owned by **one team**

Or **split** across them



Value Streams Metrics



Throughput is the units delivered per unit time => 1.6 stories per day

Lead Time is the time for a unit to be delivered => 3 days



An Organisation

is made of

Value Streams





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PRODUCT TEAM LESSONS FROM THE WORLD'S TOP TECH COMPANIES

> MARTY CAGAN Silicon Valley Product Group

> > HOW TO CREATE TECH

PRODUCTS

CUSTOMERS

LOVE

SECOND EDITION

PRODUCT LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM THE WORLD'S TOP TECH COMPANIES

MARTY CAGAN WITH CHRIS JONES Silicon Valley Product Group

EMPOWERED

ORDINARY PEOPLE, EXTRAORDINARY PRODUCTS

WILEY

WILEY

Security

isn't a product team





Security streams **feed** into product streams



Becoming Constraint-Aware



Theory of Constraints

In any system there is **exactly one** constraint

The constraint controls throughput

Investing away from the constraint is pure waste



More project managers

never

makes a project go quicker



1. Find the constraint

2. Optimise the constraint

3. Subordinate to the constraint

4. Elevate the constraint

5. Iterate



We want to keep the constraint **optimally** fed We never want to **starve** the constraint We never want to **overload** the constraint





Is a myth

Task switching and debating priorities are both wasteful

We want to **release work** as the constraint becomes **available**



The constraint is **outside** the security team

Work enters **sphere of influence**

Need to **understand** and **optimise**



Tameflow



1st



Theory of Constraints Applied to Knowledge-Work Management



2nd

Series Hyper-Productivity TameFlow The

Hyper-Productive Knowledge Work Performance

The TameFlow Approach and Its Application to Scrum and Kanban

Steve Tendon Wolfram Müller



3rd



Infrastructure Configuration Change





Infrastructure Configuration Change



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After 1 Week

2 Week Lead Time



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After 2 Weeks 2 Week Lead Time




After 3 Weeks



After 4 Weeks 2 Week Lead Time **Product Team 1** Security Team **Product Team 2 Security Team 3 Week Lead Time Product Team 3**

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After 5 Weeks



After 5 Weeks



Finding the Constraint

For a given backlog of work

The team with the longest queue in **time**



Infrastructure Configuration Change



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After 1 Week





After 2 Weeks





After 3 Weeks





After 4 Weeks





After 5 Weeks





After 5 Weeks

2 Week Lead Time



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After 12 weeks

Constraint Naive

Throughput: 3 Items

Lead Time: 4 Weeks

Constraint Aware

Throughput: 7 Items

Lead Time: 1.7 Weeks

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All we did was shape the work

around the constraint



Working **smarter** not **harder**



Security in an Agile World



Agile Planning





Professional Fortune Telling





WSJF Weighted Shortest Job First



Cost of Delay

Job Size



Value

Effort



WSJF in

Multi-Team Scenarios



Job Size



Constraint Unaware





Constraint Aware







Has job size

changed?



Effort is

impact at the constraint



The constraint is

outside the team



Maximising value

shaping the work to the system



Work Shape Dictates Constraint





What about story points?















Time

Chasing Predictability


You need a stable system









<= Less Like This

More Like This =>





<= Less Like This

More Like This =>



Actionable Agile Metrics

ActionableAgile[™]Press

Actionable Agile Metrics for Predictability

An Introduction



When Will It Be Done?

Lean-Agile Forecasting To Answer Your Customers' Most Important Question



Daniel S. Vacanti

ActionableAgile[™]Press

Actionable Agile Metrics for Predictability

Volume II: Advanced Topics



Daniel S. Vacanti



Daniel S. Vacanti



Value Stream

Mapping



The Addison-Wesley Signature Series

Continuous Delivery

Reliable Software Releases through Build Test, and Deployment Automation

Jez Humble David Farley



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Foreword by Martin Fowler

Continuous

Delivery

Protecting Capacity for Security



Security work gets constantly deprioritised



Flow Distribution





What one decision can I make

that prevents the **next one hundred**?



Benevolent

Dictatorship

Prioritisation

Feature Product Owner

Risk Security

Defect Customer

Debt Team

Hyperbolic Discounting



Hyperbolic Discounting Short-term gain for long-term pain



Feature Product Owner

Risk Security 20%

Defect Customer

Debt **Team 20%**

Feature Product Owner

First Risk Security 20%

Defect Customer First Debt Team

20%



Where Are We Now?



We've maximised the

system we have



1. Find the constraint

2. Optimise the constraint

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4. Elevate the constraint

5. Iterate

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Shift Left

Push Down

Move Empowerment



Shift Left

Push Down

Move Empowerment



Removes multi-team value streams



Removes multi-team value streams

Accountability for service belongs to product teams



Removes multi-team value streams

Accountability for service belongs to product teams

Empower security teams to make changes autonomously



Log4j in a single change



Removes multi-team value streams

Accountability for service belongs to product teams

Empower security teams to make changes **autonomously**

Requires world-leading development & operations

Understanding how work flows is fundamental

You need to be constraint-aware

Agile doesn't scale across teams







Agile Release Trains are just SAFe's version of the trolley problem

trolley problem



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