ThoughtWorks[®]

Continuous Delivery Addressing the Last Mile Agenda

★The problem
★Continuous Delivery and how it can help
★Making it a reality

ThoughtWorks*

The Cycle

- ★ New idea about how to improve "things"
- \star Testable hypothesis about the improvement
- ★ Quickly and safely make and deploy the change
- ★ Check whether the hypothesis holds
- 苯 Repeat

Continuous Delivery Objective

- ✗ Release any time at the push of a button
- ★ Deployments should be BORING!
 - Excitement of releases from features
- ***** Requires automating pretty much everything
 - Environments
 - Configurations
 - Build
 - Testing
 - Deployment



Environments

*****Script the provisioning of environments

★No "works of art"

Configuration Parameter Management

- **★** Use wisely and consistently
- ★Always check in to version control
- *****Identify by version and environment
- ★Understand version relationships between applications



★ Can always rebuild a complete system from version control automatically

Testing

- ★ All levels of testing should be automated to the extent possible
- ★ Early and often integration and performance
 testing
- ★Automated smoke and regression functional suites that provide production safety net

Deployment

- ★Not just automated builds but a build and deployment pipeline
- ★Automated promotion across environments (possibly controlled by manual approvals)
- ★ Movement of binaries after the first stage
- ★ Deploying to production not a ceremony because same process used all along

ThoughtWorks*

Continuous Delivery Benefits

*****Deployments are:

- Stress free
- Fast
- Drastic reduction in errors
- Not an "adventure"

*****Easier to debug production issues

• No "works of art"



Making it Happen

- ★ Testable hypothesis
 - The "why" of the features"
- ✗ Decreased risk and increased cycle time allows for more experimentation
- ★ Also requires code to be readily changed
 - Internal software quality
 - Evolutionary architecture
 - Architect and design for testability

