

Just Because You Can, Doesn't Mean You SHOULD!

Software Testing in a Micro-Service Architecture



1

BILL ROSKE



Principal Quality Engineer
Magenic Technologies, Inc.

Email: billros@magenic.com
Twitter: @wroske
Blog: <https://qdevangelist.wordpress.com/>
<https://magenic.com/thinking>



2

2

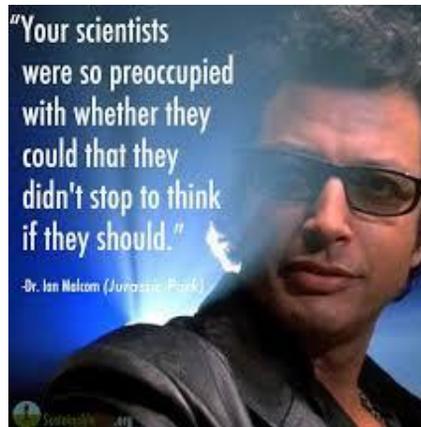
Intro

- » Anyone work at one of these?:
 - › Netflix
 - › Spotify
 - › Facebook
 - › Google
 - › Amazon
 - › Pandora
- » Industries?

- » How Risk-averse is your Industry? Company?

Micro Service Advantages

- » Speed of Build/Deploy
- » Separation of Responsibility
- » Lower Complexity
- » “Hot Interchange”
- » “State-less” – In Theory...
- » “Independent” – Sort of...
- » Enable Continuous Integration
 - › “Role in” a new version
 - › Change/Build/Deploy/Test



5

Micro Service Architecture



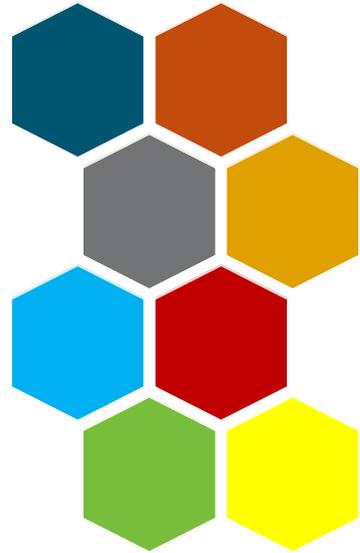
6

Chaos

» Continuous Integration (CI) Vs. Release Control

- › Every Check-in Causes a Build
- › Every Build is Deployed
- › Every Deployment is Tested

» What (How?) Do You Test?



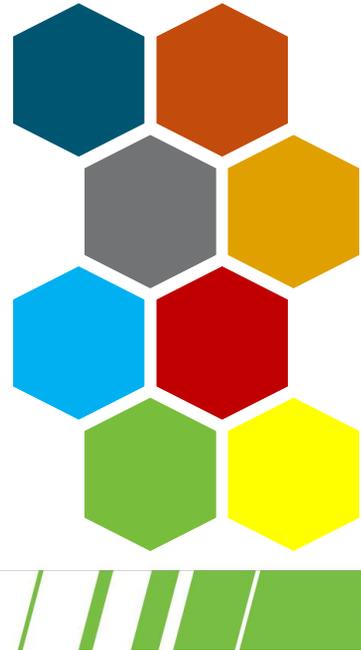
Netflix Service Map



Netflix Solution...

- » Every Service is “Independent”
 - › API Versioning
- » Deploy: Anyone, Any Time
- » Any (ALL) Code in a Service Can Go to Production
 - › One Branch
- » Feature Flags
 - › Limit which/if users get new capabilities
 - › Protects incomplete code
- » Experiments
 - › Try it out on a subset of users
 - › How does it perform
 - › How many complaints – Yes, even social media

THIS IS PRODUCTION!



Netflix Business Model == Yours?

- » Dave Hahn – Netflix
 - › Message:
 - “Netflix: cannot reach server, try again...”
 - OK or Cancel
 - › Alternative:
 - “Go outside and play”
 - SUNSHINE!
- » “Nobody ACTUALLY died... We Checked!”

Challenges for the Rest of Us!

- » Client Data Protection
- » Constant Change
- » Quality Reporting
 - › Root Cause Analysis
 - › Versioning
- » Discover/Audit
- » Features Flags
 - › Regression for Release
 - › “Unreleased” Features?

Solution

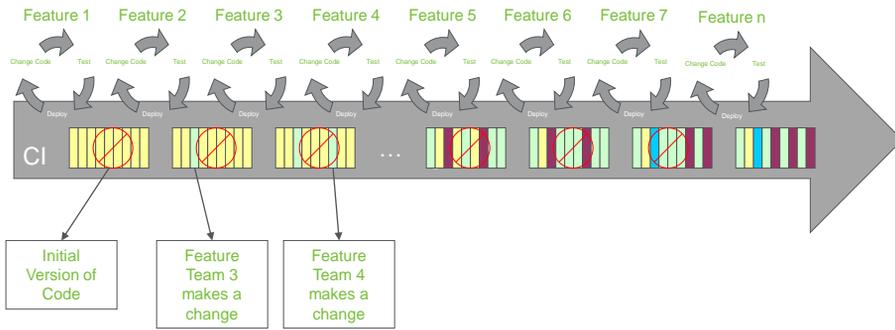
- » Feature Flags
- » Repositories and Branches
- » Create Release Sets
- » Utilize Environments

Feature Flags

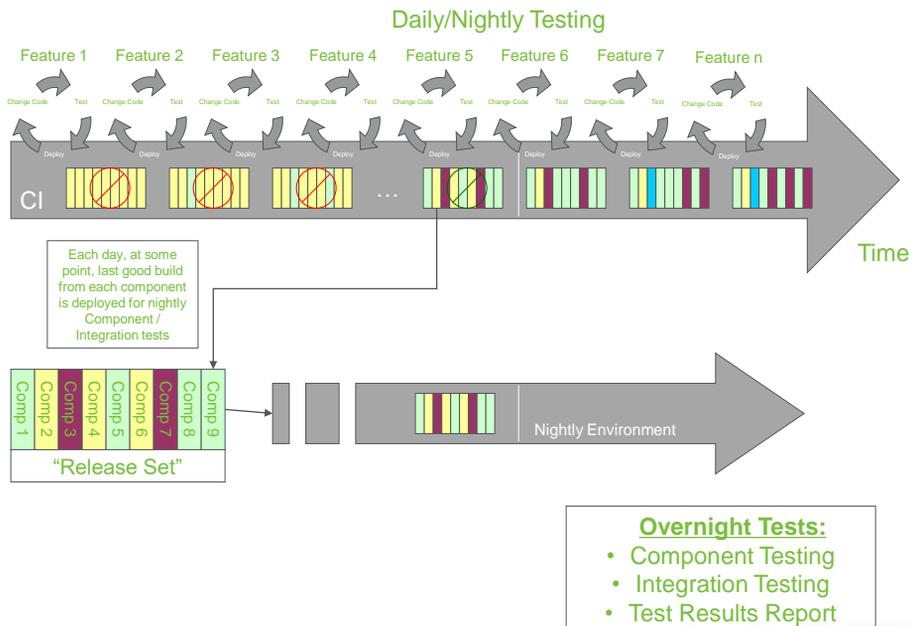
- » Any Code NOT intended for ALL PRODUCTION users
 - › Should be “behind” Feature Flag
 - › Default should be OFF for all users
- » Additive Features
 - › Will not affect existing scenarios or tests.
 - › Can be turned on for existing Test Users
- » Alternative Features
 - › Turn on ONLY for “Feature Test” users, NOT your regression users
- » Architectural Features
 - › Fundamental change that is NOT flag-able: new Angular Version...
 - › Plan Wisely!
 - › There is no Fallback

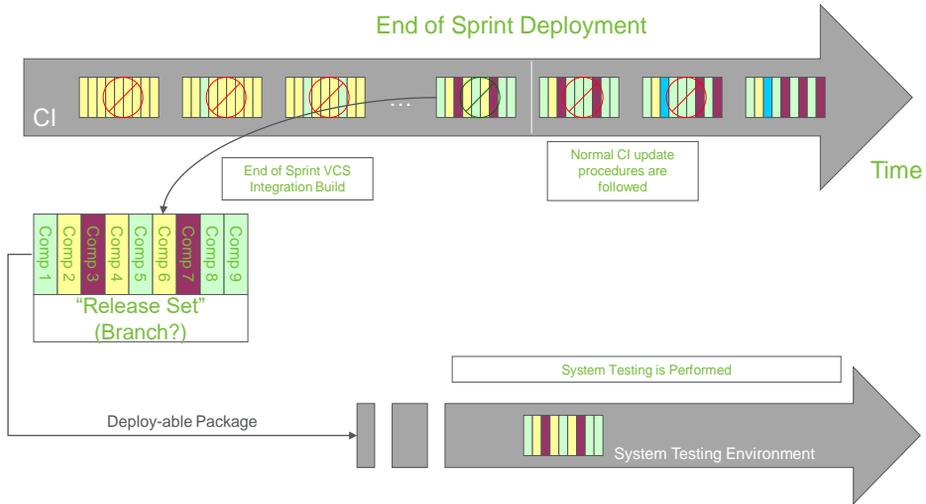
Repository and Branch Considerations

- » 2 Repository options
 - › All Services in same Repository
 - › Repository per service
- » Know and Leverage you Branching Strategy
 - › Git Flow
 - › Minimal Git Flow
 - › Release Branching
- » Keep Test Code in the Repository of the Software Under Test
 - › Your tests naturally match the Software Version Under Test



Multiple Feature Teams checking into same component codebase – Continuous Integration





Environments

- » Continuous Integration – “Dev”
 - › Every Build of Every Service
 - › Service Focused Testing
- » Test
 - › Daily Minimum
- » UAT/Performance/Stage
 - › End Of Sprint?
- » Production

Deploy Release Sets Only

Agility AND Quality in MicroService Architecture

- » Automation is Key – Test Often
- » DRY-Test: Different Env => Same Code, Different Tests
- » Plug into DevOps release pipelines
- » Repo's and Branches
- » Use Feature Flags
 - › Segregate Feature Regression from RC Regression
- » Define Release Sets
 - › Release Candidates
 - › Branch Strategy for Hot-Fixes
- » Define Once, Deploy Everywhere
- » Roll-Forward

Questions?

877.277.1044 / magenic.com // 22



THANK YOU

Magenic // Fast Forward