

Ways of Working

How different organisations function:

What works and what doesn't
(and how to get stuff done)

About Me

- High school drop out. 25+ years of software development and systems engineering.
- Worked in startups, small and large organisations, organisations in transition.
- Run a digital agency working with news and media companies, NGOs and governments.
- Technical Lead across teams at The Economist.



About You

Environments

- **Startups**
 - Early stage (bootstrapped/seed funding)
 - Funded
 - Transitional
- **Small and Medium**
- **Enterprise**
- **Academia / Research & Development**

Methodologies

- Waterfall
- Agile Spectrum
- Prototyping
- All, some or none of the above

Ways of Working

- How does your team or squad work?
- What are the expectations of people?
- Ensure there is a shared understanding.
- Document how you work.

Constant Re-evaluation

- Hold regular retrospectives.
- Check your ways of working still work for everyone.
- What is holding you back from delivering?
- How could you do things differently?

Move Fast

- Identify the quickest way to deliver value.
- Do something meaningful in one or two weeks.
- Don't build things you don't need yet.
- Get uncomfortable, look for new ways of doing things.

Be Counter Intuitive

- Allow everyone in a squad to start together.
- Don't deliver what you haven't committed to.
- Question external requirements and demands.
- Break your own rules when you need to.
- Put the needs of yourself and your squad first.

Thank you!

Q&A / Discussion

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