

Assessing the State of DevOps in Your Company: DataArt's Questionnaire

Following best practices in DevOps and software delivery is essential for every company, just like ramping up value stream and time-to-market is essential for every product. DevOps practices lie at the intersection of development, quality assurance, and IT operations and mainly concern the stages in software development lifecycle (SDLC), infrastructure that hosts the application, tasks automation, and alerting/monitoring.

Below you will find a set of questions that experts at DataArt use for auditing the state of DevOps practices on a new project. Feel free to use these as a starting point to assess your company's DevOps process.

Infrastructure-Specific Questions

- Where do you host your application: on-premises, in a cloud, or in a hybrid environment?
- Have you set up an Infrastructure as a Code (IaC) approach? If so, please specify.
- Have you set up a Configuration Management approach? If so, please specify.
- How many environments do you operate?
- What kind of networking and security systems have you set up?
 - VPNs
 - SSO
 - Active Directory
 - Other
- Have you configured a firewall? If yes, to which level (L4/L7)?
- Do you use load balancing?
- Do you have a DNS server?
- Who is responsible for issuing and maintaining SSL certificates at your company?
- Is your infrastructure highly available?

- Is it monitored accordingly with alerting setup?
- Did you perform performance tests before provisioning your infrastructure?
- Do you have any disaster recovery strategies in place for the infrastructure?
- Do you have budgets set up with costs optimization?
- Do you have thresholds set up with alerts?

Application-Specific Questions

- Is your application based on a monolithic or microservices architecture?
- Do you use containers and/or containers orchestrators (like AWS ECS)?
- What programming languages are used in your application?
- What platforms are used in your application?
 - Desktop
 - Web
 - Mobile
 - Other
- Have you set up a CI/CD process? If so, what tools did you use?
- What version control system (VCS) do you use? Which branching strategies are in use? What triggers the CI/CD process?
- Does your application require multi-region infrastructure?
- Have you set up an alerting and/or monitoring? What logging tools do you use?
- What release strategies does your company use?
- Do you have any disaster recovery strategies in place for the application?