

# SPEEDING UP SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT



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According to research from analyst Zeus Kerravala, the software development process can be 40 to 50 percent faster by consolidating development and infrastructure operations.

Zeus Kerravala, founder and principal analyst at ZK Research, says that IT operations have always been relatively inefficient.

The iterative, siloed approach to software development and infrastructure provisioning—where a second team can't start work until the first team is finished with their own tasks—introduces excessive human latency. Projects that should be completed in days often take months.

"When the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing, delays, errors, and setbacks are inevitable," Kerravala says.

"Our research shows that 90 percent of software-related IT projects are late, over budget, or cancelled altogether. It's time to think and act differently."

The burgeoning DevOps movement is a prime example of how IT groups are starting to behave differently. Bringing together software development and infrastructure operations in synchronous fashion, DevOps helps abolish traditional IT silos and streamline innovation. In fact, Kerravala's research reveals an opportunity to speed up software development activities by 40 to 50 percent or more.

## AUTOMATION TECHNOLOGIES

"One of the main goals of every CEO is a more agile, competitive business, but you can't have an agile business without agile IT," Kerravala says.

Newer automation and orchestration technologies can help push DevOps forward, he adds, fostering a more coordinated, efficient process. The new Cisco® Application Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI™), for example, is directly aligned with the DevOps movement.

"ACI flips traditional IT operations from a bottom-up approach to top-down approach, from a box-centered model to an application-centered model," Kerravala says.

"It is a very positive development and key component of DevOps enablement."

## DOWNLOAD THE RESEARCH PAPER

For a ZK Research paper on Cisco ACI, visit the [Cisco ACI resource page at UnleashingIT.com](http://www.unleashingit.com).

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