

Time to Transform – Modernizing Application Development in the DoD

MeriTalk, in partnership with Red Hat, explored application development modernization in the Department of Defense (DoD), where transformation timing is mission-critical.



Legacy Lethargy



Legacy software acquisition and development practices in the DoD do not provide the agility to deploy new software at the speed of operations.
– DoD CIO¹

Top challenges to Federal agile development:²



1 Lack of organizational commitment



2 Mistrust in iterative solutions



3 Lack of resources needed to transition



4 Agency practices, like procurement, are not designed with agile in mind

Time is Ticking



The DoD wants **95%** of new software initiatives to use modern software development methodologies by 2025³



I want **better software** in the hands of the warfighter, faster.
– Peter Ranks, DoD Deputy CIO for Information Enterprise⁴

The DoD's 2019 Reference Design outlines how to build software in the DevSecOps model, **“the industry best practice for rapid, secure software development”**¹

Benefits of DevSecOps:¹



Reduced mean time to production



Increased deployment frequency



Automation across the application lifecycle



Software updates and patching at “the speed of operations”

Clocking in Early Success



Agile delivers capabilities more rapidly, leading to at least **22 DoD major defense acquisition programs** using these development methods in 2020²

Through modern application development, the scrum team for **U.S. Air Force’s** fleet of F-22 Raptor fighter jets improved its ability to forecast for future sprints by

40%⁵

No Time to Lose

To accelerate application modernization across DoD:⁶



Identify primary modernization objective



Conduct deep analysis by scanning the environment to get insight into application workloads, where they reside, their present condition, and options for modernization



Build a high-level transformation strategy and modernization roadmap



Conduct a pilot migration



Adopt containers to accelerate application development and delivery

Red Hat provides DoD partners with the tools and training to transform development processes, speed delivery, and accelerate a culture of innovation.

To learn more, visit:
redhat.com/dod

¹DoD Enterprise DevSecOps Reference Design
²SCIENCE & TECH SPOTLIGHT: Agile Software Development
³DoD wants to overhaul its software development by 2025
⁴Cloud is Foundation to Unlocking Agile Software Development, DoD Says
⁵Lockheed Martin transforms development processes, speeds delivery
⁶First steps to modernize your applications