

by Chris Bergh, Eran Strod, and James Royster



# **Recipes for DataOps Success**

**The Complete Guide to an  
Enterprise DataOps Transformation**

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and James Royster**

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*The Complete Guide to an Enterprise DataOps Transformation*

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# Introduction

Business agility separates the leaders from the laggards. An agile business monitors the environment, quickly detects change, forms and executes plans and makes adjustments based on feedback. As data professionals, we see the foundational role that data and analytics play throughout this process. If analytics are bureaucratic and error-prone, people will naturally seek workarounds, resulting in diminished agility. Business agility depends upon analytics agility.

We are entering an era where analytics agility will be a key competitive differentiator for enterprises. Organizations bogged down by data errors and sluggish analytics team productivity will find themselves at a significant disadvantage. If companies want to be more agile, they must start with the data analytics team. Agile analytics can transform an enterprise from the inside.

When data and analytics are accurate, people learn to trust data. When a data team responds to requests immediately and on-demand, business stakeholders work more closely with the analytics team. When users and data professionals work closely together, it unlocks creativity spurred by insights that drive organizations toward new products and services, innovative marketing strategies and new markets.

DataOps is a data analytics methodology that serves as the vehicle for transformational change led by analytics. It emphasizes observability and meta-orchestration to produce error-free analytics that can be created and updated at lightning speed. DataOps is the secret sauce that can build market-leading analytics capabilities that will raise a company's business agility. We've written extensively about DataOps over the past years. If you are new to the topic, please see our first book, [“The DataOps Cookbook”](#) (over 12,000 downloads and counting) and the other resources listed in the Appendix section.

Many people ask us how to begin their DataOps journey. We used to answer that question by talking about the [“Seven Steps to Implement DataOps.”](#) Over time, we understood that some people were asking a broader question about using

DataOps to transform their enterprise. The problem statement was aiming at how a data professional can lead a DataOps initiative. How do you build support for DataOps? What is the best first project? How can you transfer DataOps from a single team to the greater enterprise? A data scientist excited about the potential benefits of DataOps may never have led an organizational change initiative.

Imagine if a person could time travel back to the 1980s and tried to evangelize Agile development. That person would face a lot of naysayers. “We’ve never done it that way.” “I don’t get how that benefits us.” “Your methods don’t align with how we allocate resources for projects.” From our perspective, we know that the Agile advocate is correct, but our intrepid time traveler would need a way to convince skeptics.

We hope this book will help you evangelize and lead a DataOps transformation at your organization. We’ve included all of the insight that we’ve gained from our own experiences coaching data analytics professionals on the best way to lead organizational change using DataOps. We hope that these materials will help you on your DataOps journey.

Our book’s title (“Recipes for DataOps Success”) refers to the orchestrated pipelines that drive DataOps. One of the DataKitchen Platform’s lesser-known features is how it helps data teams share development and operations “Recipes,” improving collaboration and promoting reuse throughout the organization. To have some fun with this metaphor, we asked our coworkers at DataKitchen (our data chefs) to share their favorite recipes with you. You’ll find these sprinkled throughout the book. Enjoy and bon appetit!