In today’s digital age, data is the potential powerhouse of every business. But despite a growing investment in data development projects and resources, three in four businesses are failing to extract real value for competitive advantage.*

That’s why First San Francisco Partners created the Data-Centric Development Life Cycle (DCLC), a new project development methodology that leverages the shift from process to information – and addresses the unique needs of data-centric development projects such as Data Warehouse, Data Lake, Master Data Management (MDM), BI/Analytics and Big Data.

THE DCLC Methodology

- Overcomes the challenges and limitations of a traditional Systems Development Life Cycle (SDLC) approach
- Emphasizes learning as much about the Source Data as quickly as possible
- Allows for iterative refinement of your project’s information requirements
- Increases efficiency driven by clarity for the project team to know what they have to do around data, and how the different roles work together
- Reduces risk of project delays and avoids rework by surfacing issues right at the start, rather than after outputs are built
- Ensures the right artifacts are created

Simplified Data-Centric Development Life Cycle (DCLC)

The Data-Centric Development Life Cycle is an iterative methodology that brings data problems and opportunities to the forefront before development begins — rather than during testing or after Production implementation.

* “Seizing the Information Advantage,” report from Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) and Iron Mountain, 2015
When you consider how unique data-centric projects are, it’s understandable why so many of them run into difficulties when the Systems Development Life Cycle approach is used. The Data-Centric Development Life Cycle is uniquely designed to overcome them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Systems Development Life Cycle (SDLC)</th>
<th>Data-Centric Development Life Cycle (DCLC)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oriented to automating an unautomated process</td>
<td>Oriented to getting value out of existing Production data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Users are able to articulate processes reasonably well for requirements</td>
<td>Users typically do not know the details of the Source Data, and may not even know where it is or if it exists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cycles of iteration are not easily accommodated</td>
<td>Cycles of iteration are recognized and accommodated to refine information requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Testing focuses on whether the functionality matches requirements</td>
<td>Testing focuses on data quality of Source Data and data produced by transformations, calculations, etc.</td>
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<td>No testing artifacts are carried over into Production</td>
<td>Data quality (DQ) rules developed in testing are put into Production for continuous DQ monitoring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge gained during the project is used only for development activities within the project</td>
<td>Knowledge gained during the project is part of what is delivered and is used later for developing reports after Production implementation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Only users who “own” the processes participate in the project</td>
<td>Users who provide the information requirements participate (e.g., Operations), but so too can stakeholders who wish to use the data in the future (e.g., data scientists)</td>
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Our DCLC Consulting Includes

- Readiness Assessment
- Training in the DCLC
- Process descriptions
- Roles/responsibility descriptions
- Artifact templates
- RACIs
- Project methodology audits
- Integration with metadata strategy and knowledge management strategy

Who Benefits From DCLC

Any enterprise with development projects for:

- Data Lakes
- Big Data
- BI/Analytics
- Master Data Management (MDM)
- Data Warehouses

IT, PMO and Data Governance units who need to standardize data-centric development methodology, e.g., to meet compliance needs.

Information is your business.
Making it actionable is ours.

Gregg Loos gregg@firstsanfranciscopartners.com | 888-612-9879 | firstsanfranciscopartners.com