Delivering Value While Behind Enemy Lines

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What Mare

Who Adaptive

Not product, nor enterprise, but consultants.



Who Me

Previously: developer, technical lead.

Now: helping our teams deliver.

Who Us

Senior consultants acting as technical architects, senior developers, team leads.

What

Delivering Value While Behind Enemy Lines



What

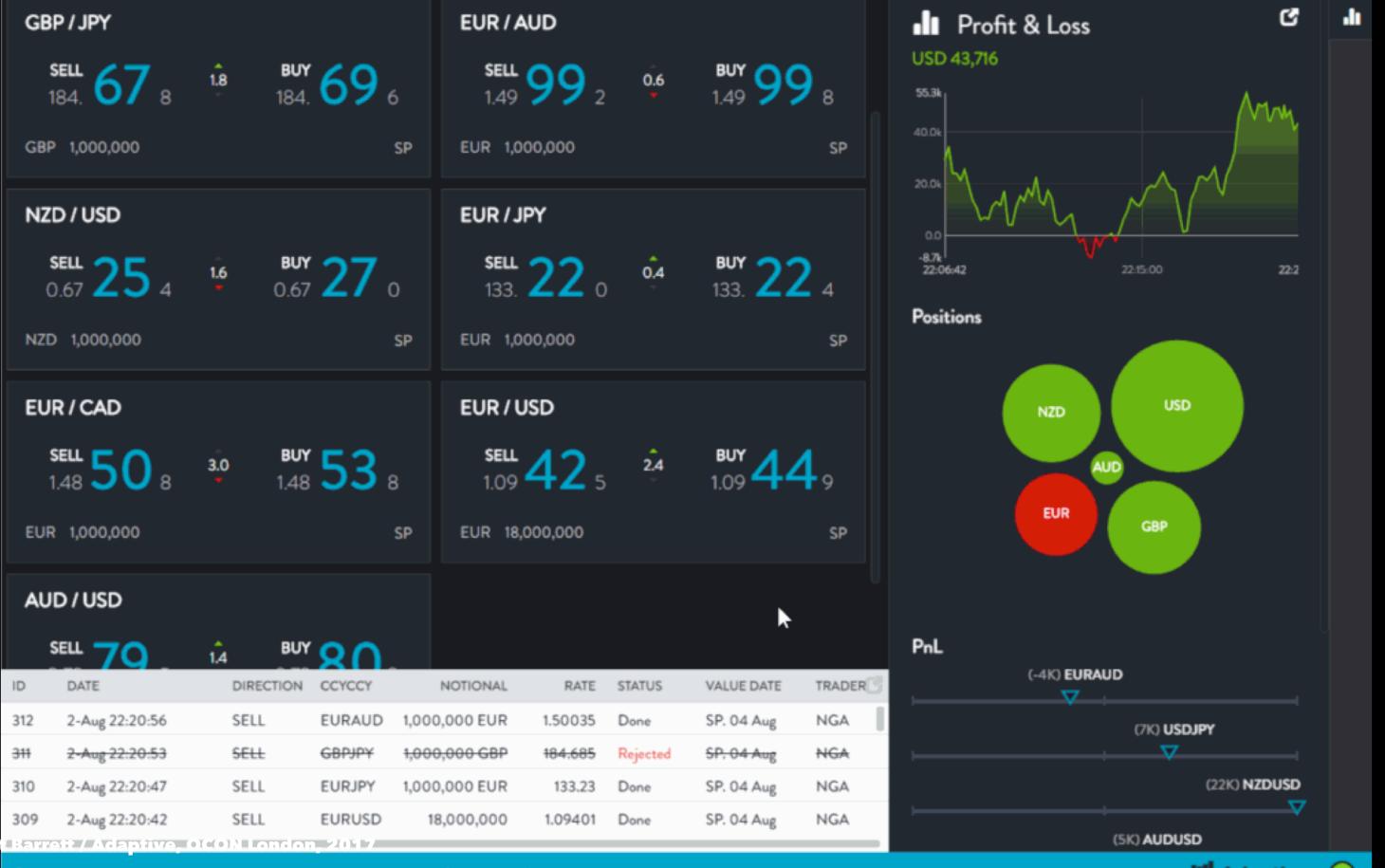
Not just development.

It (unfortunately) takes more than engineering to deliver value.



What Reactive Trader

Event driven, streaming, high frequency..



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Big investment banks, Small investment banks, FinTechs, Hedge funds..

Wide range of cultures.

Big organisation struggling to get something anything done.

Huge amount of inherited technology, infrastructure and practices.

Brought in by one of two groups, business or IT.

Lots of competing forces.

History v. Culture v. Incentives



Bad Signs

- Architectural review boards and project codes
- Simple things are hard
- Change control

Getting a project up and off the ground is different from staying in flight.

Agile (or any process) v. the organisation

Observe Orient Decide

Act

-- John Boyd



Introduce yourself to everyone and start building relationships, before you write a line of code.

Some people will be for you, some people will be against you, and some people just won't care.

Understand the big picture.

Cost v. Revenue

Change v. Stability

Time available to build trust is very short.

Demo something fast.

Use a fulcrum.

Give me a place to stand, and a lever long enough, and I will move the world.

—- Archimedes



Don't ask a question that you don't want to know the answer to.

The rules are there for those that cannot reason.





How Don't delay bad news. Matt Barrett / Adaptive, QCON London, 2017 27

Find allies, get them on side, and create a team.

Bring positive change to the environment.

Why

Easiest path is to go head down and code, ignoring everything else...

...but it has a multiplying effect on engineering value.

Why

Delivering real value takes more than just engineering...

..and successful delivery is its own reward!

Thank You.

Questions?

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