URL: https://stvp.stanford.edu/blog/videos/continuously-improve

Reedy talks about how eBay continuously improves. She gives examples from within eBay to illustrate how they execute improvement.

Transcript

The second point that I kind of wanted to talk about is we continuously improve.. I wanted to use an example.. I earlier this year was looking at the fact that in engineering, build times had gone so you code it and then you actually have to build it before you can actually test it.. Build times had gone from two hours to actually six hours and six hours plus.. When you have 200 engineers and you're doing about 1,400 builds a week that's a lot of inefficiency.. So I went to the team and said you guys, you've got to get this back down to two hours.. You don't know how over probably the past year have gone, but that's a huge four hours or four hours-plus and 200 developers, 1,400 builds is a lot of waste of time and effort.. We had one quarter, we said we got to get it down to two hours.. We got down to two hours not for every build but we figured out how to do it.. Then, in the next quarter, we actually productionalized it so that the majority of the builds happened within that two hours..

What I've said is now that's great, we got back to where we should have been, now let's get down to 30 minutes and 20 minutes.. So by the end of Q1, we will actually be down to 30-minute builds and when you think about the productivity to the engineering to the time-to-market benefits that that means to our business units and that is just one example.. We probably have about 15 examples right now of significant programs that we have in engineering actually to continually improve to do what we call continually raising the bar.. So, two examples of the way in which we run engineering at eBay...