



## **Consent Form “Developer Experience in Practice” Interview Study**

Approved by the University of Zurich’s ethics board (OEC IRB # 2025-054)

### **Principal Investigators**

Dr. André Meyer, Postdoc at the Department of Informatics, University of Zurich ([ameyer@ifi.uzh.ch](mailto:ameyer@ifi.uzh.ch))

Prof. Dr. Thomas Fritz, Professor at the Department of Informatics, University of Zurich ([fritz@ifi.uzh.ch](mailto:fritz@ifi.uzh.ch))

### **Collaborators**

Dr. Sarah d’Angelo, Staff Researcher at Google Research ([Sdangelo@google.com](mailto:Sdangelo@google.com))

Prof. Dr. Gail Murphy, Professor at the Department of Computer Science, University of British Columbia, Canada ([murphy@cs.ubc.ca](mailto:murphy@cs.ubc.ca))

Prof. Dr. Thomas Zimmermann, Chancellor’s Professor at UC Irvine, USA ([tzimmer@uci.edu](mailto:tzimmer@uci.edu))

### **Purpose**

In recent years, an increasing number of companies have started investing in Developer Experience (DX) initiatives, sometimes also referred to as Developer Productivity Engineering (DPE) or Developer Satisfaction Initiatives (DevSat), to improve developers’ ability to create software as well as the software they build. This interview study aims to better understand how such efforts are implemented, measured, and evaluated across organizations, including the challenges faced and (long-term) strategies.

### **Study Procedure**

The study consists of an interview that will last approximately 50 minutes. During the interview, we will discuss your company’s definition of and motivation for implementing DX, the key metrics that you are collecting and evaluating, the initiative’s impact, challenges and long-term strategies for improving DX at your company.

### **Known Benefits and Risks**

The main benefit from participating are an opportunity to reflect systematically on your companies DX practices, challenges and metrics. In addition, the interview study’s writeup, in the form of a scientific publication, will yield additional insights into other companies’ practices, analyzed from several perspectives including company size and maturity.

The main risk is the loss of time required to participate in the interview. We are mitigating the risk by allowing you to determine a suitable time for the interview. You are free to withdraw from participation at any point during the study, without the need to provide any reason.

### **Data Storage and Confidentiality**

With your explicit permission at the beginning of the interview, it will be audio recorded and will be transcribed using a professional transcription service.

All your responses, the interview transcript as well as all communication will be treated confidentially. Your contact information will be stored separately from the data and will never be associated with it after analyzing the data. After transcribing the interview, one researcher will manually review it to remove any mentions of the company, person or other PII. In any case, anonymized, non-identifiable data will not be kept for longer than three years, after which the researchers will permanently delete it.

All data collected during this study will be saved on the researchers’ password-protected devices. You will be identified by a pseudonym (e.g. P09) in any internal or academic research publication or presentation.



### Uses of the Study Data

The results of this study will potentially appear in both internal and external academic research presentations and publications, such as academic journals and conference proceedings. Whenever we will refer to our findings, we will ensure to publish only fully anonymized and fully de-identified information using pseudonyms (e.g. P09).

### Contact for Information about the Study

If you have any questions or desire further information with respect to the study, you may contact Dr. André Meyer ([ameyer@ifi.uzh.ch](mailto:ameyer@ifi.uzh.ch)) or Prof. Dr. Thomas Fritz ([fritz@ifi.uzh.ch](mailto:fritz@ifi.uzh.ch)).

### Consent for extended Data Uses

With your explicit consent, you can allow the researchers to **transcribe the audio recording** of the interview using a professional transcription service:

☐ Yes / ☐ No I allow the use of a transcription service to transcribe my interview.

### Consent for Study Participation

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are free to withdraw your participation at any point during the study, without needing to provide any reason. Any information you contribute up to your withdrawal will be retained and used in this study, unless you request otherwise.

With your signature on this form you confirm the following statements:

- I understand the goal and procedures of the study and the applicable conditions.
- I had the opportunity to ask questions. I understood the answers and accept them.
- I am at least 18 years old.
- I had enough time to make the decision to participate and I agree to the participation.

In no way does this waive your legal rights or release the investigators or involved institutions from their legal or professional responsibilities.

---

Participant name

---

Location, Date

---

Participant signature