

### Not The Shiny Object

Cathy Polinsky VP of Engineering /in/polinsky @CathySFDC How Can You Be Strategic In a Fast Moving World?



# How Do You Know When to Walk Away From a \$100K Deal?



# How Can You Avoid The Shiny Object Syndrome?





#### Salesforce.com's First V2M0M, 4/12/1999

#### Vision

Rapidly create a world-class Internet company/site for sales Force Automation.

#### Values

- 1. World-class organization
- 2. Time to market
- 3. Functional
- 4. Usability (Amazon quality)
- 5. Value-added partnerships

#### Methods

- 1. Hire the team
- 2. Finalize product specification and technical architecture
- 3. Rapidly develop the product specification to beta and production stages
- 4. Build partnerships with big e-commerce, content, and hosting companies
- 5. Build a launch plan
- 6. Develop exit strategy: IPO/acquisition

#### Obstacles

- 1. Developers
- 2. Product manager/business development person

#### Measures

- 1. Prototype is state-of-the-art
- 2. High-quality functional system
- 3. Partnerships are online and integrated
- 4. Salesforce.com is regarded as leader and visionary
- 5. We are all rich

#### Salesforce's First V2MOM

1999



# When We Write It Down, We Make It Happen









# What Do You Want?





# What Is Important?





# How Do You Get It?





# What Might Stand In Your Way?





### How Will You Know When You've Succeeded?



### **Creating Your Plan**





# Creating a Good Plan Takes Time



Involving the Team Creates a Better Plan as well as a Buy-In



# Start at the Top and Work Your Way Down



# Every Level and Every Individual of the Company



### **Creating Alignment**





# All Methods are Prioritized



### Every Plan is Published to the WHOLE Company for Transparency



### Each V2MOM Is Alignment With Its Parent's



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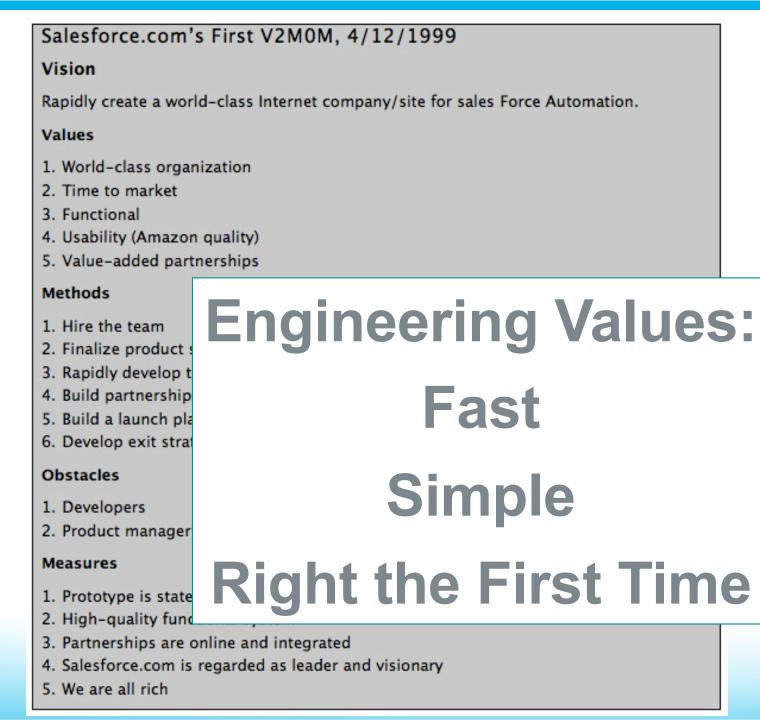
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### Peers Review Each Other's Plans and Raise Alignment Issues



# When We Write It Down, We Make It Happen



# Just As Important To Know What Not To Focus On



### Empowering Individuals





Clear Vision Empowers Team



Top-down Alignment Leads to Bottom-up Solutions



When vision and goals are clear, you empower the team to make their own decisions



"I don't know. You'll Figure It Out"



Strategic Plans for Engineers





### Prioritize Initiatives Not Stories



# Mix of Org Initiatives and Career Goals



### Prioritize Behaviors Important to Your Culture and Long term Success



**Customer Engagement Continuous Learning** Innovation **Knowledge Sharing** Foundation **Open Source** Recruiting



# You control your own time



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### **Checking In With Your Plan**





Set a Regular Cadence for Checking In With Your Plan



Update Metrics to Make Sure You Are On Track For Success



### Making a Strategic Plan Doesn't Mean You Can't Be Adaptive



Review the data. If plan no longer makes sense, change it!



### But... Make sure that \$100K deal isn't taking you away from your \$100M plan



### salesforce Thank you