Future Proof Your Technology

Learn Best Practices

Reduce Technical Debt

Elevate Your Team's Skills

MODERNIZING ENTERPRISE PLATFORMS AND TEAMS

At Improving, our software consultants and engineers strategize with clients to develop innovative solutions to modern business problems. We're passionate about bringing the latest in software solutions to clients so they can reduce their technical debt, improve development processes, and elevate internal staff capabilities. Innovative companies look to us for our expertise in:

- Microservices and APIs
- Real-Time Data Integration
- Cloud Native Platform Engineering
- Modern Front End and Mobile
- UX Research/UI Design
- Modern Data
- AI & ML

We're on the front lines of digital transformations, creating software solutions and building enterprise platforms for healthcare, retail, financial, and tech companies, from startups through Fortune 500s. Whether our clients need to update their user interface, improve data analytics through real-time data technology, or are investing in a modernization of their technology platform, our engineers are using the latest technologies and platform architectures to shape business ingenuity.

Many of our clients' projects benefit from partnerships with outside vendors. We know when to bring in the right solution providers—like Confluent, AWS, Google Cloud Platform, Snowflake, and Microsoft—and have strategic partnerships so we can offer the latest technology capabilities to our clients.

CONFLUENT

aws partner network
Advanced Consulting Partner

Google Cloud Partner

snowflake

Microsoft Gold Partner

WE CREATE SOFTWARE SYSTEMS THAT DRIVE INGENUITY

MICROSERVICES AND APIS
We migrate valuable data off of legacy applications, adopt a microservices architecture, and enable business to be more responsive and innovate faster.

CLOUD NATIVEPLATFORM ENGINEERING
We develop platform strategies that reduce operational costs and supercharge development pipelines resulting in resilient systems using the latest in cloud provider technologies.

REAL-TIME DATA INTEGRATION
We design and develop real-time data architectures, using highly scalable data stores and messaging technologies, to achieve faster response times or better inventory management for clients.

MODERN FRONT END AND MOBILE
We leverage progressive web and mobile languages to complete complex web applications and native mobile applications to improve conversions and optimize performance.

MODERN DATA
We conceptualize, design, and implement scalable and flexible modern data platforms that evolve with clients' changing data needs, ensuring data scientists have reliable, clean data for robust analysis and improved decision making.

UX RESEARCH/UI DESIGN
We leverage progressive web and mobile languages to complete complex web applications and native mobile applications to improve conversions and optimize performance.

Training & Coaching

Improving is a technology consulting services firm with deep roots in building trust. We do this by focusing on business value and involving our customer every step of the way. Not only do we do it, we teach others to do it.

OUR TRAINING COURSES

Our talented team of trainers provide Scrum certification and custom training solutions to hundreds of organizations each year. Here are some of our more popular courses. Find more at improving.com/training

WORKSHOPS

- Agile Leadership Workshop
- User Story Workshop
- Test-Driven Development
- Product/Customer Discovery Workshop

TEAMS

- Agile Scrum Immersion
- Team Dynamics
- Applying Professional Scrum/Kanban

DEVELOPMENT

- Acceptance & Test Driven Development
- DevOps Principles and Practicum
- AI/ML for Leaders or Programmers

CERTIFICATIONS

- Scrum.org Certification Classes
- ProKanban Certification Classes
- Scaled Agile Frameworks (SAFe) Certification Classes

TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS

35,000+
Students Trained

2,500+
Classes Delivered

97%
Recommend Us

In addition to training, our experts can come to your site to present on almost any topic or help assess and facilitate your current practices.

Improving is a full-service partner to our clients and the greater technology community, providing structured training, onsite coaching, expert consulting, and complete outsourcing capabilities.

COMMUNITY

Supporting our communities through user groups and conferences

TRAINING

Structured learning through training and workshops

COACHING

Applied learning through short-term mentoring and facilitation

CONSULTING

Working alongside your teams to support your long term initiatives

OUTSOURCING

Build an Improving team to deliver on your business goals.

LEARNING

DELIVERY

IMPROVING – TRUST IN ACTION

BEST PLACES TO WORK

Voted Best Place to Work for over 10 years!

Inc. BEST WORK-PLACES

TOP WORK PLACES

BEST EMPLOYERS IN OHIO

BPTW BEST PLACES TO WORK

Best Companies to Work for in Texas 2022

BEST PLACES TO WORK 2022 for LGBTQ Equality 100% CORPORATE EQUALITY INDEX

2023 5-STAR

17 OFFICE LOCATIONS

MODERN DIGITAL SERVICES

- Software Engineering
- Training & Coaching
- Consulting
- Outsourcing
- Community

Visit online at improving.com
Message us at findtrust@improving.com

Modern API Architectures

Microservices Best Practices

Domain - Driven Design

Level Up Client Teams

DESIGNING ARCHITECTURES TO ACCELERATE BUSINESS

Our team migrates valuable data off legacy applications, implements a microservices architecture, and enables businesses to be more responsive and innovative. And we train your team on the technologies we implement, leaving your team and your code ready for the future.

- We reduce time to market for new products and features
- We build high quality, scalable services
- We level up your technologists and empower them to continue innovating
- We move you toward a tailored technology set

From Fortune 500s to startups, we guide our clients to adopt a microservices approach to application architecture and development. We develop APIs and microservices and leverage domain-driven design. Our consultants develop highly available and resilient systems and integrate with the client's team to ensure knowledge transfer.

The API landscape is vast. Our Modern API team will help you find the right technologies for your business.

- JVM Expertise
- Golang, NodeJS, and other languages
- Modern API Frameworks
- Serverless Architectures
- GraphQL
- SQL and NoSQL Data Storage
- Docker

WE DELIVER MODERN ARCHITECTURES

Our Modern API team engineers microservices so enterprises can leverage real-time data capabilities and the flexibility that cloud deployments deliver.

BENEFITS OF MODERN APIS AND MICROSERVICES APPROACH

Legacy applications are costly, complex, and often contain business knowledge that has been developed over years. Improving helps clients replace legacy applications with a microservices-based architecture consisting of unique, independently deployable, small, modular services that serve well-defined business goals.

LEVERAGING MICROSERVICES USING DOMAIN-DRIVEN DESIGN

As clients move from a legacy system to a microservices architecture the use of domain-driven design using bounded contexts provides a framework to identify domains and subdomains that will drive the microservices development. Improving has refined this process at several of the largest companies in the world by leveraging domain-driven design to achieve project goals while using an approach and language that allows for, and encourages, direct communication with the business team.

CLIENT SUCCESSES

Foodsby is a Minneapolis-based food delivery startup cornering the untapped market of large suburban office buildings. They hired Improving to improve their web, iOS and Android applications on an accelerated timeline to deploy to AWS. Improving facilitated consensus building among internal stakeholders to build full Native iOS and Android mobile apps. Improving also built front-end and back-end web applications that carved out microservices so they could be hosted on AWS, which optimized scalability.

Optum engaged Improving to initiate the development of microservices. Their goal was to execute independently deployable services running as separate processes to provide business functionality. Improving developed well-defined standard protocols with a focus on automation, allowing Optum's teams to continuously deliver business functionality in small incremental chunks.

- Streaming Solution – Kafka
- Database – Cassandra
- Infrastructure/Cloud Provider – On premise

Nearshore Services

Expert Digital Talent

Nearshore Cost-Effectiveness

Enterprise-Class Delivery

DIGITAL INNOVATION TO ENABLE YOUR BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION

Improving Nearshore Services provides innovation centers in Mexico with more than 400 highly talented professionals.

Our combination of quality talent, lower costs, real-time collaboration, and close teaming proximity makes us an effective innovation partner to our clients.

We fuel digital innovation that enables companies to transform their business through a wide range of digital service offerings including design, product engineering, quality assurance, mobile, cloud, and artificial intelligence.

Customers benefit from our expertise

- Design
- Engineering
- Quality Assurance
- Mobile
- Cloud
- AI

Customers trust our service methodology

- Discovery
- Agile & Lean Development
- Design Architecture & Prototype
- Testing & Validation
- Continuous Support

For over a decade, Improving Nearshore has experienced year-over-year growth by developing strong partnerships with well-funded early stage and large transformation-driven businesses.

WHAT YOU GET

1 — Multi-disciplinary talent & teams	2 — Globally cost-competitive
10 — Agile processes + development & integration	3 — Support on complex digital initiatives
9 — Trade agreement between the US & Mexico (USMCA)	4 — Close proximity with Mexico
8 — Experience in multiple verticals	5 — Trained & certified talent in leading technologies
7 — Security infrastructure & industry best practices	6 — Access to great talent with leading industries & universities

" *Improving Nearshore is focused on delivering a long-term strategic relationship and they are a key business asset.*

VP Information Technology

nutrabolt

" *The talent and teams are highly capable and helped us grow our business for the last 4 years.*

Senior Director Engineering

CARBON BLACK

Platform Engineering on AWS

DevOps on AWS

Cloud Native Development

Landing Zone Approach

Cloud Best Practices

ACCELERATING SOFTWARE DELIVERY WITH AWS

Improving is an AWS Advanced Consulting Partner guiding clients who want to migrate their data to the AWS cloud. Our healthcare experience is unmatched in the industry, but our retail, financial and telematics experience has helped companies ranging from startups to Fortune 500s move their businesses to the cloud, and ahead of their competition.

- DevOps
- Microservices
- APIs
- Platform Engineering

Since the emergence of cloud technology, Improving has worked with clients to leverage the benefits associated with AWS. As an AWS Advanced Consulting Partner, we help clients migrate to AWS using 12-factor application development and cloud best practices.

As organizations evaluate, select, and migrate to a cloud environment it is imperative they work with a partner who can articulate best practices while educating team members to ensure long-term success. We help companies leverage AWS to accomplish a variety of goals from automation, speed, scalability, and cost reduction. Our AWS practice is outcome-focused and works with clients to achieve complex goals.

WE APPLY BEST PRACTICES TO AWS

Improving was an early adopter of cloud technologies and has helped many diverse clients deploy to AWS. Our consultants have been directly involved with the development and deployment of hundreds of applications for our clients, each leveraging AWS to save them millions of dollars. We have empowered our clients to achieve scalability and reliability by building cloud native applications leveraging microservices and API-first design.

12 FACTOR APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

Modern software is delivered as a service and cloud native applications leverage 12-factor application development methodology. Improving will bring this approach to your project to ensure continuous development, continuous deployment, and flexibility to enhance, change, and measure the performance of your application.

EMPOWERED APPLICATION TEAMS

We add value to client teams by increasing velocity and leveraging best practices. Client teams benefit from our extensive experience migrating applications to the cloud, and our engineers' ability to assimilate into client teams.

CLIENT SUCCESSES

Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) is a media company providing regional services to 46 radio stations across Minnesota. They collaborated with Improving to create a proof of concept to host their news, streaming music, and podcast sites in AWS.

Improving helped MPR build a Kubernetes cluster in EKS to allow applications to automatically scale based on workload and traffic. To host application data, they built a MySQL instance in RDS and an Elasticsearch instance in Elastic.co. Improving also assisted MPR in setting up the following supporting infrastructure:

- Identity Access Management
- Virtual Private Clouds (VPCs)
- Application Load Balancers (ALBs)
- CloudWatch (logging and dashboards)
- CloudFront
- Terraform (configuration and management)

As an Amazon Advanced Consulting Partner, Improving applied best practices while considering future growth, ensuring the project's long term success.

Platform Engineering on GCP

Migration to Google Cloud Platform

Cloud Best Practices

Empowered Application Teams

New Approach to Multi-Cloud Strategy

ACCELERATING SOFTWARE DELIVERY WITH GCP

Improving is an official Google Cloud Platform Service Partner. We're helping clients liberate data from legacy systems into Google's cloud. Implementing projects using GCP gives clients the advantage of best in class AI and MLcapabilities, and helps them to find patterns and opportunities for business growth.

- DevOps
- Microservices
- APIs
- Platform Engineering

Our Platform Engineering team is accelerating software delivery for clients that range from innovative startups to Fortune 500s. We move companies from legacy systems toward the next generation of platform and cloud technologies. And we train internal teams on the technologies we implement, leaving your team and your code ready for the future.

- We reduce time to market for new products and features
- We encourage shared responsibility for production systems
- We improve compliance and security

We develop highly available and resilient systems for our clients using the latest in cloud provider technologies. We leverage private, public or hybrid cloud deployment models to create robust systems that support clients' business goals while also reducing their IT costs.

WE APPLY BEST PRACTICES TO GCP DEPLOYMENTS

Improving has the technical expertise with the skill to navigate the cultural change required to adopt a DevOps mindset. Improving develops platform strategies that reduce operational costs and supercharge development pipelines. We develop highly available, loosely coupled, and resilient systems using the latest in cloud provider technologies.

INFRASTRUCTURE AUTOMATION

Continuously improve your infrastructure through collaboration, versioning, testing, and automating infrastructure changes with the latest in infrastructure-as-code tooling.

CLOUD COMPUTING

Expertise in architecting, developing, and integrating with Amazon Web Service Platform and Google Cloud Platform.

CONTINUOUS DELIVERY

Reduce costs, increase quality, and shorten time to market with expert help in source to deployment automation with technologies such as Gradle, WebPack, and Drone.

CONTAINER TECHNOLOGIES

Optimize your compute resources with expert help in implementing and migrating to container technologies such as Kubernetes.

CLIENT SUCCESSES

Healthcare startup Well Dot, Inc., uses leading-edge artificial intelligence and behavioral economics to help members achieve their best health. In the company's early stages, they engaged Improving to help them build their platform and apps following strict HIPAA compliance requirements. Improving provisioned the entire cloud infrastructure and set up services and application templates. Our platform engineering team configured the CI/CD pipeline and process for GCP leveraging HashiCorp and Terraform. GCP is used to ingest provider data and claims data via VPN into BigQuery. BigQuery is used to build AI models to create wellness tips and determine follow-up actions to promote improved health journeys for customers.

Platform Engineering

New Approach to Multi-Cloud Strategy

Modern Application Architectures

Cloud Best Practices

Empowered Application Teams

ACCELERATING SOFTWARE DELIVERY

Our Platform Engineering team is accelerating software delivery for clients that range from innovative startups to Fortune 500s. We move companies from legacy systems toward the next generation of platform and cloud technologies. And we train our clients' internal teams on the technologies we implement, leaving their teams and code ready for the future.

- We reduce time to market for new products and features
- We encourage shared responsibility for production systems
- We improve compliance and security

Innovative companies look to Improving to develop modern platform strategies that unlock legacy systems and unleash the power of cloud technology, real-time data, continuous delivery and automation.

We develop highly available and resilient systems for our clients using the latest in cloud provider technologies. We leverage private, public or hybrid cloud deployment models to create robust systems that support clients' business goals while also reducing their IT costs.

Improving is an AWS Advanced Consulting Partner with exceptional Well-Architected Review ratings, providing streamlined solutions with trusted security.

Improving is an official Google Cloud Platform Service Partner helping clients liberate data from legacy systems into Google's cloud.

WE DELIVER MODERN PLATFORM STRATEGIES

Improving has the technical expertise with the skill to navigate the cultural change required to adopt a DevOps mindset. Improving develops platform strategies that reduce operational costs and supercharge development pipelines. We develop highly available, loosely coupled, and resilient systems using the latest in cloud provider technologies.

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Continuously improve infrastructure through collaboration, versioning, testing, and automating infrastructure changes with the latest in infrastructure-as-code tooling.

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CLIENT SUCCESSES

BCBSMN needed to move off a legacy system and build a cloud platform to reduce time to market for internal products, scale operations quickly, and reduce long term total cost of ownership. Their goal was to decommission large portions of their on premise infrastructure and migrate their data to the cloud. They looked to Improving when they initiated the creation of an enterprise platform for all of their affiliates. By migrating their data to AWS, the organization's parent company—Stella—now has a pathway to create highly aligned, loosely coupled organizations within their enterprise.

Improving leveraged AWS to use native and third-party tools to simplify the automation and elasticity of the organization's infrastructure while adhering to usability, cost and security standards. Improving helped them define the cloud environment and evolve the scope while implementing the features that added the most value. Improving introduced them to Gitlab, Terraform, CI/CD, and infrastructure-as-code, and trained the internal development team on these technologies. The organization had a willingness to change and a good structure for cross-department collaboration so the process to adopt a DevOps mindset worked well for them.

Real-Time Data

Drive Innovation with Confluent Platform

Domain-Driven Design

Level Up Client Teams

ENGINEERING INSTANTANEOUS DATA RETRIEVAL

Our Real-Time Data team is engineering systems for clients to instantaneously retrieve and employ their data. And we train client teams on the technologies we implement, leaving them with better code and a workforce ready for the future.

- We have engineered real-time data systems for Fortune 500 companies
- We give startups initial expertise in leveraging real-time technologies
- We take pride in training client teams to become leaders of their development teams
- We have established partnerships with industry leaders

Whether you're a startup working smart from the get-go, or a multi-billion dollar company, we know how to get your business to real-time. And we'll bring your workforce up to speed on the real-time data technologies. Developers want to work with these technologies; improving developer morale and boosting recruiting prospects are benefits of developing real-time systems, and we help you get there quickly.

Improving is a Premier Consulting and SI Partner of Confluent. We have built strategic alliances to drive innovation with the Confluent Platform, both on prem and from the cloud, so that our clients can command this new era real-time data streaming with trusted and experienced advisors for implementation projects.

WE DELIVER REAL-TIME STREAMING STRATEGIES

Real-time strategies rely on stream processing, distributed databases, message brokers, and event logging solutions. We have expertise in many products including the leaders in these spaces:

- Kafka (including Kafka Connect and Kafka Streams)
- Kinesis
- Elasticsearch
- Cassandra
- MongoDB

- Snowflake
- DynamoDB
- CosmosDB
- ksqlDB
- Elastic Stack
- Sumo Logi

CLIENT SUCCESSES

PeopleNet, a Trimble company, had a large, monolithic application that was being decomposed into microservices to decouple from the user interface. This application leveraged sensors in each vehicle that provided a constant stream of real-time data. Improving helped them establish a scalable, responsive, cloud-based real-time streaming data solution to power their microservices.

- Streaming Solution – Kafka / Kafka Streams / Kafka Connect
- Database – Cassandra / Elasticsearch / S3
- Cloud Provider – Amazon

UX Research/UI Design

Seamless Design Hand-Off

Design Systems

Level Up Client Teams

CREATING BETTER USER EXPERIENCES

Our UX/UI team designs apps, websites and new product features to improve online experiences that result in improved performance and increased revenue for clients. We create design systems that speed up the development process and solidify corporate branding standards. And we train employees on the important steps to preserve and maintain the integrity of the design system.

- Our upfront UI/UX initiatives streamline the development process to avoid costly, late-stage mistakes
- Our UI/UX design experts work in concert with developers during design hand-off, ensuring clear communication and smooth transition from design to development
- Our UI/UX team delivers design systems that speed up the software delivery pipeline

UX Design
- Requirements
- User Flows
- Design Sprints
- Dev Hand Off

UX Audits
- Heuristic Evaluation
- Usability Testing
- Components and Styling
- Accessibility

Design Systems
- Transition Coaching
- Toolset Migration
- Asset Transfer
- DS Assembly & Management

UX Research
- UX Interviews
- Surveys
- Context Scenarios
- Personas

WE DELIVER POWERFUL DIGITAL EXPERIENCES

We create engaging websites, applications, interactive graphics and design systems. Our UI/UX team provides UX Design, UX Audits, UX Research, and creates Design Systems that improve user experiences with client brands.

- UX Design: Requirements, User Flows, Rapid High-Fidelity Prototyping, Dev Hand Off
- UX Audit: Heuristic Evaluation, Usability Testing, Components and Styling, Accessibility
- UX Research: UX Interviews, Surveys, Context Scenarios, Personas
- Design Systems: Transition Coaching, Toolset Migration, Asset Transfer, DS Assembly and Management!

WE ELEVATE OUR CLIENTS' INTERNAL TEAMS

We introduce teams to the magic of design systems, and we train employees on the important steps to preserve and maintain the integrity of the design system.

BENEFITS OF UX/UI TO THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- Utilizing customer data and feedback when designing business solutions, up-front UX/UI initiatives avoid potentially costly, late-stage, development changes
- Our UX/UI design experts work in concert with developers during design hand-off, ensuring clear communication and smooth transition from design to development
- UX design improves accessibility, conversion rates, and retention
    - o Intentional and strategic user experience raises conversion rates
    - o Every $1 invested in UX can result in an ROI of $2-$100
- Design Systems accelerate the development pipeline to get applications and features working faster by aligning design teams, design tools and libraries
- Improves WCAG 2.0 AA accessibility standards compliance!

CLIENT SUCCESSES

Kiewit is a Fortune 500 construction and engineering company with $9 billion in revenue and multiple offices nationwide. They engaged Improving to build a Design System for their entire organization. Improving created a design system that improves collaboration and drives company-wide adoption, enforcing a stronger Kiewit brand across multiple departments and office locations.

Web and Mobile

Native Mobile Expertise

Cross-Platform Solutions

Level Up Client Teams

EMPOWERING USERS THROUGH MODERN FRONT END EXPERIENCES

Our Web and Mobile team creates modern, accessible, user-focused frontend experiences. And we train clients' teams on the technologies we implement, leaving both the developers and the code ready for the future.

- We use modern technologies
- We share our extensive frontend expertise with your internal team
- We build dependable and performant frontend interfaces

Our team brings expertise on the best technologies and helps guide decisions based on reliable data and best practices. We leverage progressive web and mobile technology using a practical design approach to build complex web applications and native mobile applications.

With strong front end, back end, full stack, and mobile development resources, Improving will meet with your IT and business leaders and associated partners to understand the requirements, define an approach, and execute in an agile methodology, while training your employees to leverage best practices.

Ninety percent of our business is from repeat customers. We earn a client's trust by adding value throughout the project and consistently delivering on time and on budget. Success is defined on delivery of the application with the training and knowledge transfer to the customer.

We develop highly available and resilient systems for our clients using the latest in cloud provider technologies. We leverage private, public or hybrid cloud deployment models to create robust systems that support clients' business goals while also reducing their IT costs.

WE DELIVER MODERN FRONT END INTERFACES

Our Web and Mobile engineers are working on state-of-the-art projects for startups and Fortune 500s. We have a keen awareness of how unique users want to access our applications, whether they're on the go using mobile devices and native apps, or they're sitting at a desktop computer. Our expertise and approach to developing modern frontend interfaces for clients results in higher quality applications and expanded skill sets for clients' existing teams.

BENEFITS OF OUR APPROACH

Improving leverages the best and newest technologies and takes the extra step to educate our clients on the technology, ensuring long-term project success. With an immersive, knowledge sharing approach, our goal is to educate our clients while achieving the project goals.

12-FACTOR APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

Modern software is delivered as a service and cloud native applications leverage 12-factor application development methodology. Improving will bring this approach to your project to ensure continuous development, continuous deployment, and flexibility to enhance, change, and measure the performance of your application.

CLIENT SUCCESSES

Foodsby is a Minneapolis-based food delivery startup cornering the untapped market of large suburban office buildings. A $6 million investment in 2017 secured their plans to grow but they needed to update their web and mobile application platforms. They hired Improving to improve their web, iOS and Android applications on an accelerated timeline to deploy to AWS.

Foodsby engaged Improving to provide three different skill sets; front end, back end, and mobile, to help augment their existing team. It was critical that our resources provided thought leadership, technical architecture, full-stack and mobile development.

The solution leveraged the following Amazon Web Services:
- IoT Platform, EC2, S3, RDS, ElastiCache, SQS, Route53, ELB, VPC, VPN, Lambda, CloudFront, Container Registry, CloudFormation and Simple Email Service.

The solution leveraged the following open-source technologies:
- Spring Boot (microservice framework), Cassandra (distributed database), Apache Kafka (distributed messaging), ElasticSearch, RabbitMq (guaranteed messaging), Terraform (infrastructure as code), Consul (service discovery), ELK (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana) (operational logs), Jenkins (continuous integration), Artifactory (artifact repository), Packer (automated server image creation), Ansible (configuration management), Rancher (containers) and Docker.