9 Years of Failure
How crapcan racing made me a better SRE

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What is 24 Hours of Lemons
Similarities to SRE
Learnings
Team Management
Team is #1
Team cohesion is critical

Common goal + shared struggle + trust == team

5 Dysfunctions of a Team
Tools are #2
Feed your team
Team captain == do the boring stuff
Keep team happy
Incident management
Get out of the hole, don’t ask why you’re in it
No adjectives or evaluations
Surgeon model for fixing
Hypothesize, then test
Challenge your assumptions
Project management
Involuntary shipping
Willy’s Task

- Motor: √ 3
- Trans: ? 10
- Axle? 2
- Tunnel? 2
- Steering column? 2
- New brake rebuild 1
- Custom driveshaft? 1
- Motor mounts 0
- Radiator mount 1
- Tires/fit? 10
- Brake system 6
- E fuel cell mod 1
- Exhaust 2
- Axle/centershaft 3
- Guru lift conversion 2
- Cargo
- Front shock beams 6
- Throttle cable 0
- Trans mount 1

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NEED TO BUY

- Seat backstraps
- Harness
- Cage padding
- Don’t go
- Fix chassis
- Rent Car
- Party

29/11 = 10 + 20%

12
Works? Ship it
Building reliable systems
Reliability + predictability > speed
Observability is critical
Simpler is better
Stop touching working things
‘Hacks’ are permanent until they stop working

And that’s ok!
Wrap-up

- Team is #1, tools are #2
- Have a list and stick to it
- Focus on getting out of the hole
- Support your teammates
- Challenge your assumptions
- Reliability and predictability beat performance
- Remind yourself every day: Same Team!
Thank you

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