



The Next-Generation Digital Transformation Partner for Airlines



Case Study

QualiZeal's POD-to-PROD Framework Accelerates Cloud-Native Delivery for a Leading North American Airline



Overview

A leading North American low-cost airline wanted to modernize its engineering teams and the way it builds, tests, deploys, and operates critical airline applications. QualiZeal partnered with the airline to implement a scalable operating model with a POD-to-PROD framework involving high-caliber, cross-functional teams to own end-to-end application delivery while strengthening quality, accountability, and production readiness.

Direct Business Challenges

Challenge 1

Development and Quality Misalignment

Development teams and the Quality Management Office relied on separate processes, creating coordination gaps, delays, and inefficiencies in test readiness and release approvals.

Challenge 2

Dependencies Across Delivery Teams

Teams relied heavily on external functions for testing, approvals, and deployment, limiting ownership and creating bottlenecks throughout the application delivery lifecycle.

Challenge 3

Slow, Manual Release Cycles

Manual processes and limited automation increased deployment lead times. For instance, API code testing could take up to two days, delaying the path to production.

Challenge 4

Cloud-Modernization Complexity

The airline needed to transition legacy, on-premises applications toward a cloud-first model while improving team capability in modern cloud engineering practices.

Challenge 5

Limited Production Visibility

Testing and operational monitoring were not consistently embedded within the application lifecycle, reducing visibility into application quality, performance, and release readiness



QualiZeal's Solution

Strategic & Tactical Solutions

POD-to-PROD Operating Model

Established cross-functional engineering PODs with accountability across the complete application lifecycle—including development, test creation and execution, CI/CD management, performance engineering, deployment, and production support.

Cloud-First Application Modernization

Re-architected target applications for cloud-first deployment and strengthened team proficiency through focused training and enablement on cloud technologies.

Embedded Observability

Integrated dashboards, alerts, and monitoring components into the codebase, enabling observability capabilities to move with each application across environments.

Automated Quality Engineering

Embedded automated unit, API, integration, UI, and performance testing into CI/CD pipelines. Test results were fed directly into release decisions, replacing manual handoffs with faster, consistent quality gates.

Infrastructure and Release Automation

Enabled automated pipeline-driven deployment practices, environment provisioning, and release workflows to reduce repeatable manual effort and improve delivery consistency.

Scalable Adoption Model

Delivered the initial implementation in five two-week sprints and extended adoption through learning sessions that enabled additional teams to apply the POD-to-PROD model.

Value Delivered



Faster Time-to-Market

Implementing POD-to-PROD capability in five, two-week sprints enabled faster, more reliable releases.



Scalable Cloud-First Delivery

The reusable, repeatable framework enabled broader adoption across airline technology teams.



Faster API Test Execution

From 2 days to 2 minutes, replacing previously lengthy testing activity.



End-to-end Team Accountability

Engineering PODs gained greater control over builds, reduced external dependencies, and enabled faster decisions.

About QualiZeal

QualiZeal is a specialist engineering and digital transformation partner helping modern airlines build, modernize, and operate the technology that keeps aviation moving. With 1,200+ professionals and a global delivery model, we bring deep airline expertise across maintenance and TechOps, GroundOps, CrewOps, and digital experiences.

Building on our Quality Engineering DNA, we combine product engineering, data, AI, cybersecurity, and cloud to solve complex operational challenges—from modernizing mission-critical systems to turning maintenance data into intelligence and technical knowledge into AI-powered experiences. Through our POD-to-Prod delivery model, we bring engineering, quality, and AI together to move ideas into production and deliver reliable business outcomes.

QualiZeal is recognized by Gartner, Everest Group, Forrester, Frost & Sullivan, and NelsonHall. Trusted by 70+ global enterprise clients, we maintain a client NPS (cNPS) of 80+. Our accolades include the 2026 Gold Stevie® Award for Technology Excellence in AI-Powered Quality Engineering, the 2026 Gold Globee® Award for Artificial Intelligence Achievement of the Year, inclusion in the 2026 Inc. 5000 list of America's fastest-growing private companies, and recognition in the Deloitte Technology Fast 500™.



For more information, explore our
Airline Transformation capabilities.

