Release and Deployment Management

The objective of Release and Deployment Management is the planned implementation of changes in the IT infrastructure in Operate mode. A Release is the logical summary of all changes. A Deployment is the actual implementation of these changes. In the context of Release or Deployment, the current configuration of the IT-infrastructure is modified. Implementation of changes usually means that IT services will not available be for the duration of the **Deployment process**. Moreover, changing an executable configuration always carries the risk that unplanned effects can cause disruptions and limitations in availability. The Release and Deployment Management tasks shown in Figure 28, ensure that the risks of a disruption after the Deployment are kept as low as possible and the deployment schedule is not the cause for limitations or causes only minor limitations for the service recipients.

Figure 28: Release and Deployment Management

Verifying and concluding the Release

Create a Release / Deployment plan

Develop and compile the Release

Test the Release

Implementing the Release including Planning [Deployment]

Monitoring and reporting the Release-and-Deployment-Management results

For this purpose, a **Release and Deployment plan** is prepared to schedule and communicate the development and implementation of a Release. Typically, several changes are clubbed into one Release. Finally, the planned Release is implemented. In addition to the upgrade and maintenance of IT-components, all requisite documentation for the development and operation must prepared. The Release is tested after completion of the development tasks. Apart from the correct functioning of the Release, it is also checked if the rollback procedure for the Release can be carried out successfully. Detailed planning is done after the successful completion of the tests and the Release is implemented in the form of Deployment. Along with the modifications in software and hardware, all accompanying IT service management activities must be carried out. This includes, among other things, updating the CMDB and, if necessary, the service catalogue, carrying out change management processes and monitoring activities, and, if required, modifying the IT services contracts.