

Agile Panel Discussion

Professional Development
Days 2011

Agile Panel Discussion

▶ Definition:

- Agile software development is a group of software development methodologies based on iterative and incremental development, where requirements and solutions evolve through collaboration between self-organizing, cross-functional teams. It promotes adaptive planning, evolutionary development and delivery; time boxed iterative approach and encourages rapid and flexible response to change. It is a conceptual framework that promotes foreseen interactions throughout the development cycle. The *Agile Manifesto*^[1] introduced the term in 2001.

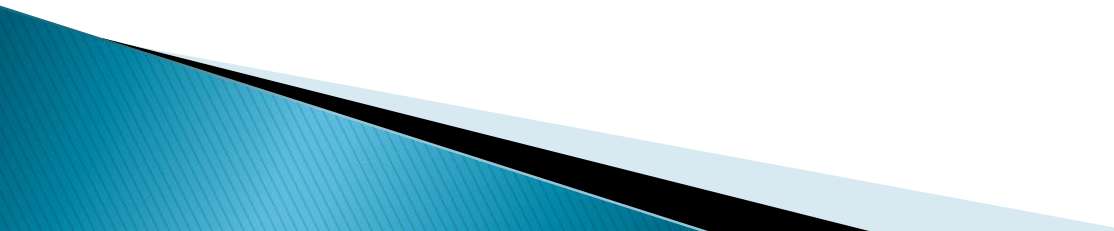


Agile Panel Discussion

▶ Panel Members:

- Calvin Mayfield
 - Agile technique and process experience on Enterprise level projects at Sprint (Rational Unified Process (RUP) and eXtreme Programming (XP) tools)
- Deb Denavs
 - Agile experience in multiple industries including medical, retail, manufacturing, telecom, and Government (Scrum, Spiral and eXtreme Programming)
- Mike Turner
 - Scrum Master and practicing Agile techniques in an Agile environment for 2 years – actively trains in-house Agile Methodology

Agile Panel Discussion

- ▶ Agile Adoption Phases:
 - New to Agile – Calvin
 - Agile / Waterfall – Deb
 - Agile Mature – Mike
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Agile Panel Discussion

- ▶ Agile Panel Project Team
 - Who is our Product Owner? Audience
 - How do we get requirements (questions)? Solicit questions from the attendees
 - Create Product Backlog – Requirements
 - Work Product Backlog prioritized for ‘Sprint’
 - Review Burn Down Chart
 - Retrospective Review

Agile Panel Discussion

Agile Panel Discussion Requirements Backlog

Agile/Scrum Familiarity	Agile Experience	Questions
Minimal exposure to Agile/SCRUM tools/terms	No, we are evaluating potential use of Agile at my company	When comparing Agile to other methodologies (such as waterfall), what cost savings do Agile projects typically realize? ...what about cost savings with ongoing support costs? Are there specific types of projects that are best for Agile? What should a Agile project, staffed using with on/offshore staff aug model for the build phase, be aware of with respect to risks? ...and/or what should the project do differently based on this staffing model?
Not really. Only at a concept level.	No	How do you recommend that someone get up to speed on the concepts? what are the lessons learned/best practices from organizations moving from a waterfall to an agile methodology? is agile successful only if implementing it in its 'true' sense, or are there variations/degrees of 'compliance' that might be just as effective?
Yes	Yes	How to on adoption. Value over traditional. Who's doing it
minimally	No	When is Agile useful vs. other methodologies? How do you keep the long term vision in mind?
Somewhat	Not specifically	1. There still appears to be a need for an underlying methodology to make Agile work, True? 2. Why the need for Agile in the first place? 3 How widespread is the use of Agile?
Introduction to Agile Project Mgmt at last year's PDD/	Not that I'm aware	Review what it is? How can I use it on my projects? How do others use it?
Yes, Scrum Master certified	Yes	1. What level of requirements gathering make up the backlog; high level, detailed...? No one has ever been able to address that and I believe it is a huge misconception. 2. How do you prevent against the never ending project?

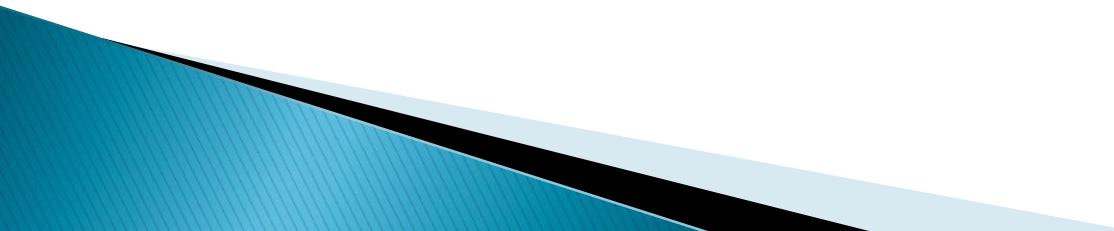
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- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - Describe the process that our project team went through to create the Project Backlog. c
 - What is Agile Software Development and what are the major tenants/components? D

Agile Panel Discussion

- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - What role does traditional requirements gathering play in Agile? What level of requirements gathering make up the backlog; high level, detailed...? M
 - How do you tie requirements into User Stories (the conversation) into the documentation between users and technical folks? C

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- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - What is the most effective way to build a project team using Agile software development and the impacts/risk of dedicated project resources versus shared project resources, off-shore resources, and geographic location of resources? _D
 - How do you share limited resources and ensure key stakeholders are brought in at the appropriate time? _M
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- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - How do you determine the level of development hours needed? c
 - How do you know when you are 'done'. How do you prevent feature creep or the never ending project? d

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- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - How often does rework occur? What steps do you take to build that into schedule? M
 - How do we plan, manage and measure Agile Projects? How does a Project Manager report status? c

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- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - How does the traditional Project Manager role adapt and change to move toward Agile Software Development? D
 - What are some of the advantages/disadvantages Agile methodologies has over traditional waterfall methodologies? M

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- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - Does the Agile methodology have cost savings associated with it compared to waterfall? Is there a cost savings for on-going support? C
 - Can the Agile methodology be used on all types of projects? What types of projects are best aligned to the Agile approach? D

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- ▶ Requirements Backlog:
 - What steps should an organization go through to determine if Agile development is right for them? M
 - What organization structure changes have you seen that need to be made to transition a typical matrix, waterfall methodology organization into an Agile development methodology organization? C

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▶ Requirements Backlog:

- What is the most critical thing to do to make the switch successful? D
- If you don't use the full methodology – what are some key Agile practices that could/should be used with any development methodology? M

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▶ Requirements Backlog:

- How widespread is the adoption of the Agile development methodology? Who is using it in the Kansas City area? c
- How do you create an Agile environment when doing maintenance, canned code projects or working with a 3rd party vendor? What do you do if 3rd party vendor is using the waterfall methodology? d

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▶ Requirements Backlog:

- How do you explain the benefits of testing using Agile compared to the one time testing of waterfall? Is full regression testing a must every time? M
- How do you get team members excited about collaboration and increase the sense of “team” ownership of stories for a team that has never done agile and where the most influential team members like to work in a silo? c

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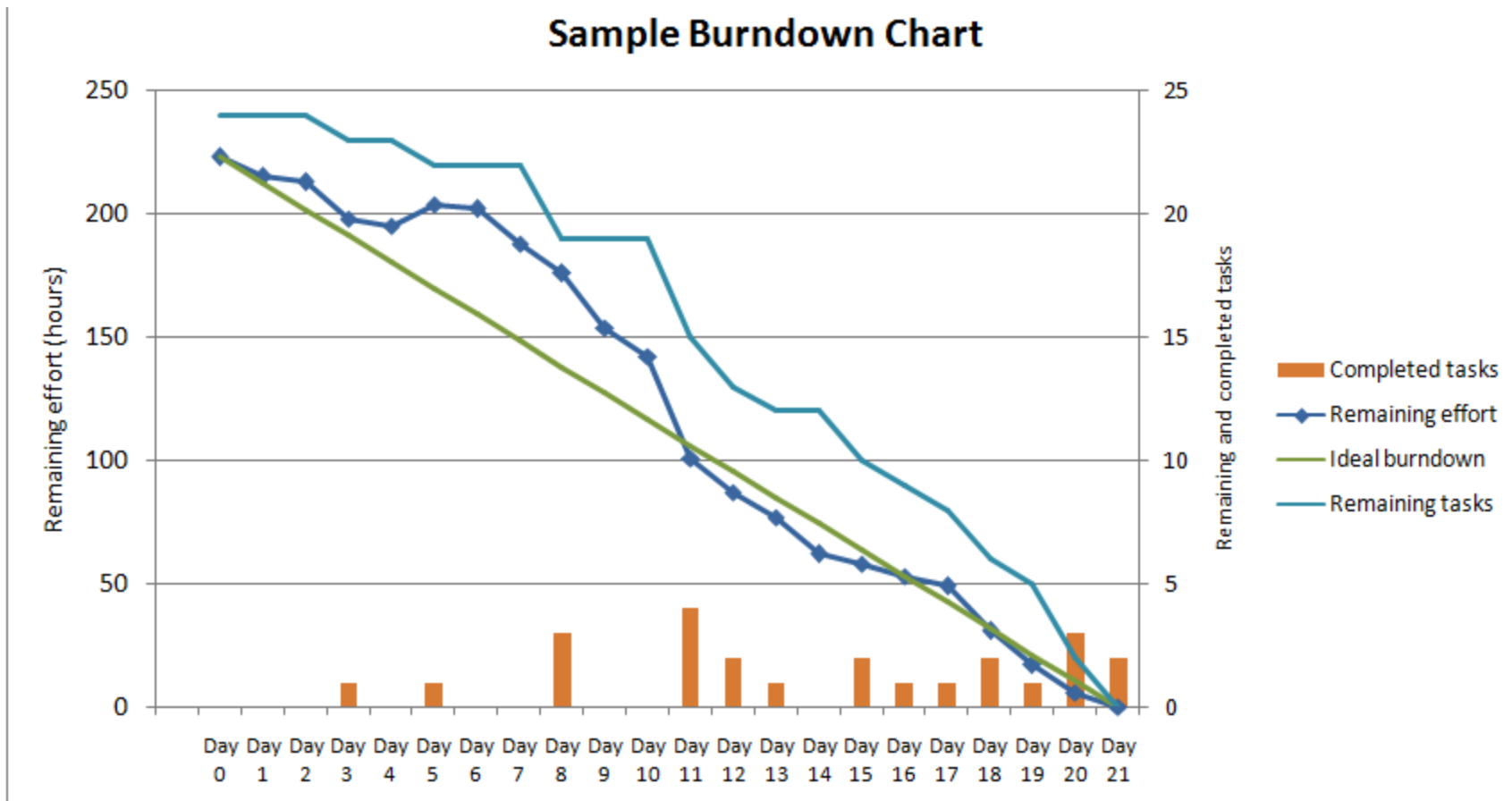
- How do you perform Agile development with a portfolio of many (~30) projects but with a limited amount of resources that work on more than one of them at a time? (i.e. they cannot be dedicated to one project team at a time?) D
- How do I effectively blend the concepts of Agile development with the project mgt concepts of PMI in general? M

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▶ Requirements Backlog:

- What are the best practices (processes and tools) that address Program Mgt using an agile approach? Specifically Release Planning, ScrumMaster coordination, and communication. c
- How do we educate and evolve upper mgt from traditional PM to Agile – self-managed teams, feature driven products? D

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Agile Panel Discussion

- ▶ Retrospective Meeting
 - What went well/what can we improve on?
 - We ran out of time for questions/answers
 - Multiple resources on the web
 - Agile/Scrum books/literature
 - Future Agile topics at PMI meetings