Flash Fill Puzzle

https://advancedsqlpuzzles.com

For this puzzle we will fill in missing values in a data set. This problem is often called a "flash fill" or a "data smear", and it's one of the toughest SQL puzzles to solve.

Honestly, this puzzle is so peculiar that I would just skip to looking at the solution and keep the code handy in case you are ever faced with this problem.

Dwain Camps has an excellent post about this problem here. I highly recommend reading this article.

This problem also highlights the use of "quirky updates" as a possible solution, which Dwain Camps mentions in his blog post above. A quirky update is an UPDATE statement that operates as a cursor. Quirky updates are specific to SQL Server and harkens back to Sybase and it's lack of window functions. Definitely do an internet search for "quirky updates" for more information. Its a weird unused alley way of SQL Server, and not always recommended.

Write an SQL statement to fill in the missing gaps.

Row Number	Workflow	Status
1	Alpha	Pass
2		Fail
3		Fail
4		Fail
5	Bravo	Pass
6		Fail
7		Fail
8		Pass
9		Pass
10	Charlie	Fail
11		Fail
12		Fail

Here is the expected output.

Row Number	Workflow	Status
1	Alpha	Pass
2	Alpha	Fail
3	Alpha	Fail
4	Alpha	Fail
5	Bravo	Pass
6	Bravo	Fail
7	Bravo	Fail
8	Bravo	Pass
9	Bravo	Pass
10	Charlie	Fail
11	Charlie	Fail
12	Charlie	Fail

To view the solution, please link to my GitHub repository.

Here is a link to my solution. Note this links to my GitHub repository.

GitHub - Flash Fill Puzzle

Happy coding!