**[6-2 Journal: Communication Practices and Project Management Tools](https://learn.snhu.edu/d2l/le/content/1347078/viewContent/24973606/View" \o "'6-2 Journal: Communication Practices and Project Management Tools' - Assignment)**

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When it comes to communication practices on scrum teams, I feel as though one practice in itself is not truly effective. For example, if the team only utilized an information radiator like Plainview Enterprise Agile Planning, the team would get a snapshot of where items are currently sitting in the process, what the barriers may be, and so on, but there is only so much detail that can be placed on the cards. I feel like adding a daily standup meeting in conjunction with the information radiator would be the best option because the team can discuss specific cards in more detail and get questions answered more effectively. In my current position at my company, we utilize both of these and it seems to make everything run smother. Our daily standup primarily consists of discussions on the critical issues that would interfere with product shipping, all other minor issues are listed on the information radiator, but are discussed outside of the daily standup meeting. To have an effective and efficient team, communication is key.

Throughout this course we have been working on a project for SNHU Travel. At the beginning of each section of the projects, there was a slideshow depicting a conversation between the product owner and the scrum team, or the product owner and the users. This was an effective communication for our projects because it provided key information about the project that helped the team move forward. Though they were brief interactions and in real life we would have probably had more back and forth communications ensuring that everyone on the team was on the same page, it was effective for our class projects.

Agile project-management tools such as Plainview Enterprise Agile Planning helps coordinate and increase efficiency within a team in many ways. I am more familiar with this tool since we utilize this in the factory I currently work for. One of the appealing features of this tool is that it is customizable. In our factory we have it set up to reflect each of the lanes on the factory floor to track progress of each job, we have a barriers section set up to display any current issues and have different color cards to depict the urgency of each barrier. Since this is customizable, for software developing teams we can set it up any way we want. We could have columns set up to show where current aspects of the job are currently and what parts still need to be completed. We could set up a column for issues that arise and have it automatically notify the people on the team that this issue regards, interferes with, or the people that would be able to help. We could utilize the columns that display the aspects that still need completed as a to do list and this will allow members to pick up tasks quickly after they complete their current tasks.