ENGN 2125 Assignment 10
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Deciding About Agile at Mighty Jaxx

Which of these Mighty Jaxx business functions do you think could benefit the most from implementing scrum/sprint methodologies?

In my opinion, the product development function will be absolutely one that they can benefit most from implementing scrum or sprint methodologies. Because in product development there are so many steps, including concept and design, research and development, manufacturing and distribution and logistics. Each of these stages will require a significant amount of time and effective collaboration without making too many mistakes. So, if they can implement the scrum method, it allows them to break down their projects into smaller, more manageable pieces and allows them to test and validate their assumptions and receive feedback from stakeholders at the early stage to avoid any waste of time and money. Therefore, it reduces the project risks by identifying and addressing any issues as soon as possible. To achieve this, many specific steps can be around. Having a log for the product, which prioritized a list of features and requirements for the product, the product manager and their team can use daily scrums to monitor progress and identify any obstacles or issues. After each task is done, they can demonstrate the product increment to stakeholders and receive feedback. With that feedback, future improvements can be further acquired.

According to research on the Kanban method, I think it may not be the best suit for this function, and it is more suited for continuous flow processes as against the Jaxx case, which is a more complex project and requires a more structured approach to planning and execution.

Which of these Mighty Jaxx business functions do you think could benefit the most from implementing kanban methodologies?

I would think the manufacturing process is the one that Might Jaxx business function can benefit most from because Kanban methodology involves managing and improving workflow, which can help manufacturers to have repetitive and continuous processes. Possible columns can be what to do, including the initial stage of the manufacturing process, where raw materials are gathered, and the initial production plan is created. Additionally, it can be something in progress or progressing among the production team who works in the assembly line, including production being ongoing and work-in-progress items being tracked. Also, the

quality control team in the station can check the product quality and any defects in this. After checked everything related to the product and shipping it to customers, it is necessary to check whether it is shipped on time and review what stages and times it is being delivered by the logistic team at the shipping station.

Scrum can suit product development, but not in this case because for manufacturing it is more suitable for project-based work with a defined scope and time frame. Continuous and repetitive tasks in the manufacturing process make Kanban more suitable for it.

Based on your knowledge of the many types of cognitive biases, select one that you think could be a problematic trap for Jackson's thinking.

Dear Jackson,

As you are thinking about moving Mighty Jaxx using an agile methodology, I wanted to emphasize some potential risks and traps about a potential cognitive bias that could affect your decision-making. Nowadays, it is very common to have some bias and one of the most likely biases can be confirmation bias which as you seek out information that confirms already existing beliefs and ignores information that contradicts them.

It is easy to focus solely on the advantages when using agile and ignore the potential disadvantages or risks. When doing the manufacturing process, you might previously think that agile is still a viable and effective method. Still, it neglects the other Kanban method, which can have a lot more benefits when progressing the manufacturing process. Because pre-existing beliefs might not always be the correct answer, listening to other opinions and quickly changing and being adept at new ideas should be something you may consider.

To not have a bias in this case, I would suggest that you may need better to accept a diverse range of perspectives and data points from team members who have experience with the agile implementation or some who have done this before. If you still do not believe, a more systematic test can be used to demonstrate the idea. Thank you!

Best Regards,
Eric Wu