Scrum Strategies

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Take priorities into account

In order to meet the clients demands one needs to take the priorities of the user stories in account while choosing assignments. For example, at the Lego exercise the project owner prioritized roads for the city above all else. Despite that, no one took it upon themselves to construct roads to the city. No one even consulted the project owner.

During yesterday's Lego exercise it became apparent that if you use scrum for a project you must always communicate with the project owner to find out the thoughts and needs of the customer. To make a customer happy you not only have to finish the tasks, the customer might also want them in a specific order.

Find the purpose

If the client has a very specific request, it's important to find the purpose of that request. The client may think they need a very specific thing, but in reality their wishes may come from an underlying need that can be solved in a better way.

During the lego exercise, we got to build a park that had the specification that it should include 28 trees. We had a very hard time building that many trees and fitting them into the park. If we would have asked Håkan why he wanted 28 trees he might have answered that he just wanted the park to look nice, and we could have proposed that 10 trees would be enough to achieve that. That would have saved os a lot of time and stress.

During the project we will implement this technique by communicate with the client and try to find all their underlying needs, and if needed come up with other solutions than what the client came up with themselves.

Clear Roles

To make our work-hours effective; we will divide (as far as possible) the workload amongst the people in our group. It is important that every person *clearly* knows his/her assignment, and how this assignment is to be joined to the project as a whole. It is our assumption that this will help us work effectively and avoid situations where people are working on the same thing, or the well known "Too many cooks spoil the broth" saying.

During the Lego exercise we divided the workload so that one or two people built the project and the rest gathered the necessary pieces; this made our work very effective.