Project Retrospective

This is a message from the AMOS team Octectors (Automatic Panelist Detection) for the next AMOS generation :)

We think that good team chemistry is really important for a successful project. We enhanced our team chemistry by doing team-building activities like having lunch together at the canteen and discussing the meaning of life. Also, we had an intense discussion about our team name which has led to a better team communication right at the beginning of the project.

A friendly environment is also needed so that everyone can come up with new ideas and ask questions.

Because resolving impediments is quite hard without talking about them, we recommend being honest if there is a problem.

The organization plays one of the biggest roles in a project of this size. Therefore updating the Kanban Board regularly for example is a good way to not lose the overview.

It doesn't suffice to have great technical skills. As this is a team project, it is crucial to have a well-established communication between group members. This applies in real-life to verbally discuss teamwork, programming, tasks, issues, etc. as well as online through group chats to organize meetings, share quick and useful information, etc. stand-up mails are also important to follow the progress of the team members and their plans and challenges. They should not be disregarded.

It is also of extreme importance to communicate well with the industry partner. First, you should understand their wishes and requirements then you can discuss on that basis how and which of their requirements can be achieved and in which time frame. You also have to be very honest with them when it comes to expectations and results. Communication is key to establishing a good project.

Peer review is important to make sure everyone is doing the right job and no one is destroying the project.

Since Issue descriptions can be understood sometimes in more than one way, make sure to understand the task and ask your teammates if anything is unclear. It is also important to keep track of the project plan/vision to not miss it! Therefore it must be written down cleanly.

When having the sprint meeting, we were not so familiar with some concepts (e.g. Bill of materials, etc.). In this case, it is really helpful to check out the lecture content again to clarify them.

Although each team member agreed on the team contract, in which all the award and penalty policies are listed, it was not that strictly kept during the project.

There might be situations in the project in which someone has technical or organizational questions. In these situations, it is really important to ask for help, so the person does not need to unnecessarily spend time on these issues.

Also, make sure that everyone is motivated and contributes to the project.

Scrum really helped us to structure the project and get everything done in time. The team is really satisfied with the project we delivered:) Further help can be found here. Have fun and don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.