Project Retrospective

Project 5 : RTDIP Chat Configuration

Dear Future AMOS Teams,

These lines are dedicated to all of you stepping into AMOS projects with the intent to provide insight into the strenghts to leverage, the challenges encountered and the ways you could avoid them in your own project journey.

Our project start was a bit overwhelming, especially with an unclear vision about the client's needs and the way they could be translated into actionable tickets that add direct value to the product. Due to this confusion, some research tasks were performed until the mid of the project, which could have oriented us towards the right path and saved us valuable time if planned earlier. Additionally, certain tasks of high importance were intentioned during the last third of the project, which was not in our favour in terms of time needed to perfom, test and improve them.

Furthermore, in tandem with the departure of two developers, our time management during the team meetings was inefficient. To overcome this challenging situation, the team made the decision to schedule a weekly between the Products Owners and the Software Developers, which took place before the team meeting. This additional catch-up significantly helped us perform better during the team meeting as it provided the members with more time and openess to elaborate on their tasks, explain the problems faced during the previous sprint and the way these problems can affect the planning of the next one. Consequently, the members were able to adapt quickly to the challenges, formed an idea about the next tasks and were updated about the sprint's goals. Given the remarkable overall improvement in the team performance after starting the PO:SD meetings, we believe that their initiaition at the project's outset could have anticipated many problems and elevated the tasks quality.

Another positive point to highlight is keeping the industry partner into the loop of the technical challenges and the product progress, which allowed us to get prompt feedback, accelerate the solution developement and eventually receive positive feedback from the customer. Despite the challenges mentioned, the results of our product were surprisingly good, and the features implemented exceeded the customer's expectations, crediting the team's determination to succeed and active engagement throughout the process.

Key takeaways from the RTDIPChat team include the necessity of a thorough understanding of requirements from the start, strategic planning prior to execution, and early task completion to allow developers to review them. Communication's pivotal role in team projects was underscored – especially among the developers. Moreover, it is believed that further explanation of each role's tasks from the project's onset could have cleared the communication within the team and foster realistic expectations from each member.

For future teams, we recommend a team building activity in the beginning of the project to boost the atmosphere within the team and establish psychological safety between the members and the Scrum Master. Also, as rising tensions are normal when working with as many individuals, escalating minor issues promptly to the SM is advocated to prevent negative build-up. Finally, the insights we gained on the captivating technologies employed and the satisfaction of our client regarding the final product are much appreciated.

Your Team RTDIP Chat