The Key Benefits of Scrum

- Quicker release of useable product to users and customers.
- Higher quality.
- Higher productivity.
- Lower costs.
- Greater ability to incorporate changes as they occur.
- Better employee morale.
- Better user satisfaction.
- Being able to complete complex projects that previously could not be done.

Why Scrum Works

- With Scrum work is done by the development team **simultaneously** rather than **sequentially**. Programmers code "on the fly" and do not wait until all questions are answered and everything is crystal clear before they start to program. Everything is flexible and changeable during the life of the project and even after. The same is true of testing code which is constantly done and not just at the end after all coding has been completed.
- With Scrum there is **adaptability**. Changes can be supported and integrated into a project currently in progress. Under Scrum the scope of the project (what is to be done) is variable but time and cost are constant. This is a major difference with the traditional approach where the scope is constant (no changes allowed, or if they are, reluctantly) but time and cost are variable.
- With Scrum, tasks are prioritized by **order of importance** and this usually means that tasks to be completed first will probably affect return on investment the most. By releasing "done" chunks of prioritized work in a sprint, portions of your product is on the market faster than in traditional projects where completed work is released in total at the end of the project.
- With Scrum the **development team** is key. The members, usually five to nine people, interface closely and have the motto "all for one and one for all". Their main goal in a given sprint is to complete as soon as possible useable segments of prioritized work that will have business value. Helping out where needed doing any job, the team as a whole is responsible for what is required. In Scrum pair programming is encouraged; the idea being two heads are better than one. This results in faster coding completion time with better quality.
- Because a Scrum team does not have a boss to tell them what to do and when they identify more with the project as their own. This helps **boost their morale**. They also have a Scrum Master, who mentors and protects them from outside negative

pressure. Also because of techniques like pair programming, their rate of increased knowledge is greater than it would be if they coded alone. For all of these reasons morale and job satisfaction is higher.

- With projects run using the Agile/Scrum approach, there also is greater **customer/user satisfaction**. A key reason for this is that the users are getting useable portions of completed product quicker. They can then try out what they received and report back their findings. This is a critical factor in the overall success of the project. Certain previously submitted requests may no longer be required in which case unnecessary work will be saved and the overall project can be brought in sooner than originally scheduled. Or, the user may find changes are needed to his or her original request for work to be done. If this occurs there should be no problem as Scrum is designed for adaptability and to incorporate change expeditiously.

Manifesto for Agile Software Development

- Individuals and interactions over processes and tools
- Working software over comprehensive documentation
- Customer collaboration over contract negotiation
- Responding to change over following a plan