

Included in agile development is a series of methodologies for software development. Although many of these principles have been around for a few years, many have still not adopted agile development practices. Many known ones include XP, Scrum, Crystal, DSDM, FDD etc. All of these methodologies use iteration and rely on “continuous feedback” as it pertains to the success of a software system. This includes a continuous cycle of planning, testing, integration, and evolutions of projects and software. A main goal of agile development implementation is to allow users to collaborate and promote effective decision-making. These agile development methodologies integrate many different consumer, management, and engineering practices in an effort to assist various teams in implementing software systems. With this, agile development encourages collaboration between the development team and various stakeholders.

According to Liang in our textbook, the software development life cycle is a “multistage process that includes requirements, specification, analysis, design, implementation, testing, deployment, and maintenance.” Testing is essential to ensure that code meets the requirements and is properly debugged, deployment includes the installation and making software available for use, and maintenance includes updating and improving the software product.

Agile development involves more people horizontally in the organization, whereas the software development life cycle focuses solely on the duties of the software team. Agile development poses some glaring positives for the developer and overall business. With the notion that a greater collaboration can exist between developers and other members of the business, agile development attempts to promote effectiveness and eliminate confusion and frustration over the software. From the developers perspective, this may be a little more interactive than what is traditionally expected, however it is for the best. It is essential that the software team is communicating effectively with the aspects of the business it serves.

References:

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"What is Agile Software Development?" *Agile Alliance*. N.p., 07 Nov. 2016. Web. 26 Jan. 2017. <<https://www.agilealliance.org/agile101/>>.