

AGILE EXPLORERS

Exploring Agility in the Enterprise

Scaled Agile Framework

Last FY, the SAFe training was conducted on Version 2.5. After adopting feedback from the practicing community, V3.0 was released. A 5-minute [video](#) from [Lean Samurai](#) covers the basics with more details at [Scaled Agile](#). Here are a few to get started:

PSI → PI

Potentially Shippable Increment (PSI) is now [Program Increment \(PI\)](#). This change eliminates confusion since the completion of any user story could potentially result in something being 'shipped' to the customer.

HIP → IP

The Hardening, Innovation and Planning (HIP) sprint is now just [Innovation and Planning \(IP\)](#). It was found that the 'hardening' component of the sprint was frequently a dumping ground for all the functionality that didn't quite get finished. Call it perhaps lack of discipline from the community – but its gone now.



Report from the Field *by Tim Shults*

One of the best things that came out of our deep dive into Scaled Agile Framework for OSD, in my opinion, was the increased communication and collaboration across the different teams.

One example is the OSD Captains and Coaches Roundtable. It was created as a open meeting for OSD C and D level Engineers and Subject Matter Experts to meet and share ideas.

Our goals for the Roundtable:

- Share any pertinent architectural technologies, recommendations, or messages to communicate to our teams.
- Learn about what is going on with the other teams and how they have solved common problems.
- Maintain open communication and foster a good collegial environment between the Team Leads and Specialists (the Captains and Coaches).
- Do not meet just to have a meeting. If there are not specific agenda items or topics to discuss, the meeting will be canceled until there is something specific to discuss. (continued...)

Below are some of the benefits that we have already experienced:

- Getting feedback about our Source Code Management and Build/Deployment Automation efforts within the Software Architecture team.
- Insure that if a team is having problems we can help brainstorm a possible solution or share how we have dealt with similar issues.
- The members of the round table drive the topics to be discussed.

As with any effort that spans across a large group of people, we have had some difficulties:

- Coming to a consensus within such a large body of people can be difficult to manage.
- Insuring all the members are engaged and active within the discussion. This is especially true since our organization has teams in both Chattanooga, Muscle Shoals and Knoxville.
- Making the topics engaging and timely that benefit most if not all of the teams within OSD.

While this effort is by no means perfect, I am optimistic about the results of our teamwork and how it has improved our communication and chemistry across the organization.



The Agile, Continuous Delivery and DevOps Transformation Summit 2014

This conference was held October 21-23 and luckily the majority of the presentations have been made available on YouTube.

Two of the presentations stood out by their titles and both are relevant to our immediate challenges. Please take a look and share with the [Yammer Agile Explorers Group](#) any others that you find interesting.

DevOps and Lean in a Legacy Environment discusses 10 techniques how CSG International has become more predictably with delivering value to their customers.

Transforming to a Culture of Continuous Improvement - Also a good presentation that touches on the importance of having a culture of learning and understanding your value stream. Additionally at 20:50, keys to their success are specifically discussed: People, Value, Learning Culture, Persistence, Evolving Leadership.

Agile Explorer Library - Latest Additions

