

Quiz 11: Scaled Agile Framework

Due Apr 20 at 10pm**Points** 50**Questions** 11**Time Limit** None

Instructions

You **may** use the slides from the lecture and other sources to answer these questions. Please be sure to cite any references but be sure to answer the following questions in your own words. Do NOT simply cut and paste the information from the slides. You will receive a score of 0 if you copy the prose from the slides.

Attempt History

	Attempt	Time	Score
LATEST	Attempt 1	417 minutes	5 out of 50 *

* Some questions not yet graded

Score for this quiz: **5** out of 50 *

Submitted Apr 20 at 11:53pm

This attempt took 417 minutes.

Question 1

Not yet graded / 5 pts

Describe the Portfolio Level in the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe).

Your Answer:

Portfolio Level:

This level is basically used for long term planning. This level mainly consists of a portfolio manager whose is responsible to manage enterprise investments and resources.

The themes are further redefined as epics in this level. These epics are broke into features, stories, and tasks later on in different levels. Also, backlogs of prioritized epics describing strategic intent are formed.

Basically this level helps in resource investment vision and overall architecture of one or many products.

The portfolio level of SAFe is the executive level of the company. The portfolio management is in charge of creating and following the vision for the future of the company. They create an investment theme which categorizes the different investment goals of the company or area of the company. The themes are what create a vision for the company, and the portfolio level then creates epics which will help make the vision a reality.

Question 2

Not yet graded / 5 pts

Describe Scrum of Scrums. What problem does it attempt to solve? How is it different from SAFe?

Your Answer:

Scrum of Scrums:

It is a technique in which larger groups are divided into small Agile teams and each team contains 5-9 people.

Scrum of Scrums is a technique which attempts to solve the team synchronization which is used in daily stand - up meetings in which multiple teams are involved. These teams solves the limitations of scrum as scrum is generally for small teams so it cannot do planning for enterprise-size organizations.

Scrum of scrums deals with small and cross-functional teams whereas SAFe deals with multi-geography teams . Also, a Scrum of scrums follows short term planning whereas SAFe follows long term planning.

Since scrum is very intent on the fact that planning should only happen for short iterations, it does not scale well for enterprise sized companies which need to know where to invest, and have a vision for the future to keep their sales up and stakeholders happy. Scrum of scrums attempts to solve this by having "parent" scrum teams in charge of several other scrum teams, and then a parent scrum team in charge of all the scrum teams. This is different from SAFe since scrum of scrums does not allow for long periods of planning, as it stays very textbook agile to the top of the pyramid of scrum teams, while SAFe follow this in the project level, but allows for more planning and abstraction in the program and portfolio level.

Question 3

Not yet graded / 5 pts

Compare and contrast epics and features

Your Answer:

Epics are themes which identify key value propositions . Epics contains multiple features. Portfolio manager defines Epic in the portfolio level and a backlog is created describing strategic content on the basis of these epics.

Product manager define features which is a bunch of user stories. Features are defined at the program level where the large system is managed .

Comparing features and epics: Firstly themes are redefined into epics and epics are redefined into **features**.

Epics are defined by the portfolio manager, are made up of many features, and are used for long term planning.

Features are defined by the Product Managers and consist of many user stories.

Question 4

Not yet graded / 5 pts

Describe the Program Level in the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe).

Your Answer:

In Program level, Release management and Product managers are responsible for the work at this level. The management team tests the product before releasing. Management team coordinates the work with all the agile teams and understands how the workflow should be

Each release usually take 2-4 months for completion. Product managers are responsible for the overall vision. Prioritization of release backlog is done and it contains all the features which are required and haven't been delivered yet.

It requires all the non-functional functionalities to be specified like scalability, security, reliability etc.

The program level in SAFe is the middle manager level. They are made up of the release management, product managers, system team and release management team. System level testing and release evaluation happens during this phase, as every 2-4 months a sprint ends with a releasable product. They coordinate work of Agile Teams in the project level and understand how the work should evolve over time.

Question 5**Not yet graded / 5 pts**

What is Architectural Runway? Why is it needed?

Your Answer:

Architectural Runway is a combination of existing code, methods necessary to support the future implementation and redesign. It is a span of all the 3 levels- Portfolio, Program and Project.

Architectural Design is needed to maintain the velocity of project, keep the track of the timeline. It is needed because it provides ability to create new features.

Failure to maintain architectural runway may lead to, missed release dates due to large-scale refactoring, slowed velocity, and inability to create new features. A system with architectural runway has existing or planned infrastructure sufficient to allow incorporation of current and near term requirements without excessive refactoring.

Question 6**Not yet graded / 5 pts**

Describe the scaling problem that SAFe attempts to solve. Why is it a problem?

Your Answer:

Scaling problems that SAFe attempts to solve are:

1. Forming larger teams, this teams need to be given proper development timeline or it may cause a problem while integrating larger codes.

2. Planning for the long term or big projects. Design should be ready before execution starts. Big projects needs the proper planning and it requires a perfect timeline to carry out the project.

3. The product owner is hard to define in a large project. Product owner may mismatch with the deadlines and timelines. It may cause delay because of product owner.

Scrum has limitations for larger projects such as the fact that there are small teams, not much up front planning, and a single product owner. This is a problem, since a large company needs a direction for investors, and other stakeholders to be happy.

Question 7

5 / 5 pts

According to Leffingwell, how long is a committed department/enterprise likely to need to learn how to use basic agile practices?

- ☐ 6-12 weeks
- ☐ 3-6 months
- ☒ 6-12 months
- ☐ Everyone already knows agile methods

Correct!

Question 8

Not yet graded / 5 pts

What are Investment Themes? Why are they needed?

Your Answer:

Investment themes is used for a large company to make a decision on how to assign financial and other resources. It includes existing offerings, new offerings, futures which is a requirement of investment in the present but will not contribute toward revenue until future, and sunset which is end support for existing products and services.

Investment themes are needed because they help in defining epics in the portfolio backlog and provides a vision for resource investment. These themes are needed to allocate different resources among the team.

These themes drive the vision for all product teams and new epics are derived from this decision. The derivation of these decisions is the responsibility of those who have fiduciary responsibilities to their stakeholders. It includes existing offerings (enhancements, support and maintenance), new offerings, futures –require investment now, but will not contribute toward revenue until later, sunset –end support for existing products and services. Themes are how the enterprise allocates financial and other resources.

Question 9

Not yet graded / 5 pts

What is the purpose of a "hardening" iteration?

Your Answer:

The hardening iteration is used to stabilize the product which is under development. At this stage, the team focuses on the part of code which is already built. It stops building the new features. Then-after the product is tested and reviewed for any flaws in the product which need to be corrected.

The main purpose is to stabilize the product after combining all parts of the code. Then Performance is measured and stress testing is carried out.

Resolving technical debt is the primary reason that a hardening iteration is included in the Big Picture model. It resolve integration problems, and any other problems that occurred during a sprint to get a release out.

Question 10**Not yet graded / 5 pts**

Describe the Project Level in the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe).

Your Answer:

Project level in the Scaled Agile Framework:

It is a agile team consisting of 5- 9 people who define, implement and test the user stories. Project Level is organized over a small component or feature. In this level, it mainly includes the product owner, scrum/agile manager, developers.

In this level, the iterations follow standard time-boxed intervals and in each release it consists of 4 - 5 development iterations/sprints, one "hardening" iteration, and a fully shippable increment every 90 days or so.

The project level of SAFe is made up of agile teams, formed around a certain set of user stories or features. These flexible teams are around 3-10 people, made up of developers, testers, architects, a scrum master, and a product owner. The teams work to develop, test, and release a working product incrementally every 2-4 weeks.

Question 11**0 / 0 pts**

“I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination. I further pledge that I have not copied any material from a book, article, the Internet or any other source except where I have expressly cited the source.”

Correct!

☒ True

☐ False

Quiz Score: **5** out of 50