

Agile IT – What's Working in Industry

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- Coveros helps organizations accelerate the delivery of secure, reliable software



Lesson #1: Adopt “little a” Agile

- Agile software development is a set of principles, not a methodology
- Adopt those practices that improve your development / IT process instead of trying to adopt everything
- Common practices that are adopted
 - Daily huddles
 - Sprints
 - User stories (detailed close to Sprints)
 - Continuous integration
 - User Acceptance Testing

Lesson #2: Moving to Agile Means “big c” Change

- Many of the challenges in move to agile are cultural
- Don't underestimate the amount of work necessary for the organization to operate differently based upon agile principles
- Common struggles include:
 - Development and test working effectively together
 - Viewing software as the measure of progress
 - Adopting to a different view on documentation
 - Not boiling the ocean when defining requirements
 - Whole team ownership of quality

Lesson #3: The Power of Agile Testing

- Agile has a strong emphasis on testing ... as it should
 - Test driven-development / unit testing
 - Tests defined as part of requirements
 - Test automation infrastructure to support continuous testing
 - Testing as an integral part of builds
 - Testing of non-functional requirements during development process
- The focus on identifying defects closest to where they are introduced is critical to quality
- The incremental creation of a strong regression testing capability frees testing up to perform higher value testing

Lesson #4: Approaches like SCRUM Apply Anywhere

- SCRUM or Kanban is NOT tied to software development projects
- The core components of SCRUM / Kanban can be applied to any program, project, organization, business
 - Backlog of prioritized, scoped items
 - Daily huddles to keep on point and focused
 - Continuous re-planning as things change
 - Reductions in Work in Progress (WIP)

Lesson #5: Acquisition Hurdles can be Overcome

- Common acquisition hurdles often heard include:
 - Organization / agency wants proposals to respond to a fixed set of existing requirements / specifications
 - Organization / agency wants specific paper deliverables / reviews at specific times during development process
 - Organization / agency doesn't believe regulators will approve the software if agile is used
- How we have overcome these issues
 - Initial backlog with defined NO COST change order process
 - Interim paper deliverables or Sprint User Acceptance Testing to satisfy review requirements
 - Understand WHAT regulator wants to see and WHEN they want to see it

Thank You

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