

Power UP

Agile Implications for Resource Management

September 14, 2017



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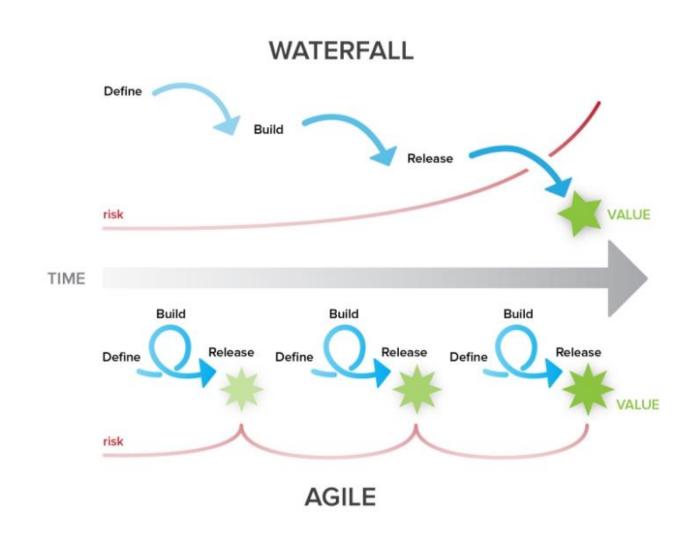
What is Agile?

- It is a set of values and principles through which solutions to evolve through the collaborative effort of selforganizing cross functional teams
- Agile itself is an umbrella term for various agile methods that have been defined over the years
- Scrum (most popular), Kanban, Lean, XP, Crystal, DSDM...



What is Agile?

The objective of the approach is getting to the same end point: business value, but the path to getting there is different.



What Makes it Different?

- Product vs. Project
- Projects structured as a series of smaller iterations/sprints
- Resource allocations may be different
- Shorter, more dynamic planning cycle
- Black box work environment

An agile approach to delivery employs less rigorous planning, which provides resource managers with less insight and predictability around staff allocation and productivity.

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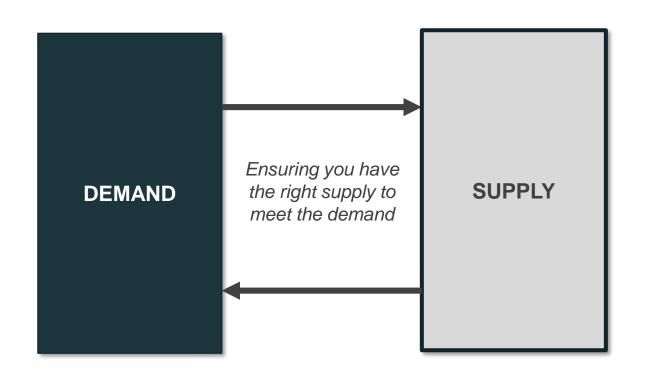
Predictable and
Effective Resource
Management Requires
Robust Process
Support

Right Person, Right Place, Right Time!

Focus on RM Fundamentals

✓ Know your Supply

✓ Know your Demand



Do not let Supply dictate the Demand

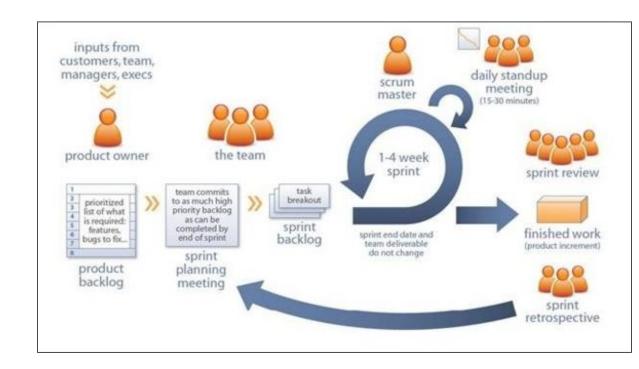
Know your Supply

- Have a normalized, manageable set of roles and roles names
- A functioning and well-maintained skills database
- RM alignment and mapping: ensure you have proper RM coverage for every team

Maintain resource transparency

Know your Demand

- The solution (product) is the thing
- A project may serve many masters (customers, business owners)
- Forecasting more difficult. The objective is "directionally correct".



Remember, these are still Projects

Staffing Assignments

- Once you are open to defining demand differently, assignments are more manageable
- Govern that assignments hold and reduce switching
- Stability will support better capacity planning by role, skill or function



Conclusion

- Agile delivery methods are here to stay, and are expanding into other project based work
- While agile delivery does pose challenges for effective RM, it is doable
- Don't let delivery change the fundamentals of resource management



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