

Who said Release Planning is not Agile?





Let's Experiment – SAFe Release Planning?

“ *There is no magic in SAFe ... except maybe for Release Planning.*

—Authors



A person is shown from the side, aiming a bow at a target in the background. The target is a circular bullseye on a wooden post. The scene is outdoors on a grassy field. A semi-transparent red circle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing a list of five points.

1. Clarify the Release **context**

2. Understand the **big picture**

3. **Availability** and **focus** of all

4. Reveal **dependencies** early

5. **Honoring** people time



Tip: Have a Product Management partner



Tip: Predefine the Release Planning timeline



Pages / ... / Release 3.1

3.1 Release Timeline

Created by Ido Miran, last modified on Jun 04, 2015

Sprint#	Dates			Deliverables			
	Start date	End Date	E2E Test Finish	Committed Drop?	Customers	Content	Comments
1	15-Jun-15	6-Jul-15	27-Jul-15				
2	6-Jul-15	27-Jul-15	17-Aug-15				
3	27-Jul-15	17-Aug-15	7-Sep-15				
4	17-Aug-15	7-Sep-15	28-Sep-15				
5	7-Sep-15	28-Sep-15	19-Oct-15				Rosh Hashana + Kippur
6	28-Sep-15	19-Oct-15	N/A				Sukkot
7	9-Oct-15	9-Nov-15	N/A				
DR4	15-Nov-15						

Tip: Share the Release timeline & Milestones ASAP



The image shows two men from behind, looking at a large physical board covered with numerous green sticky notes. The board is organized into sections with orange headers. The man on the right is pointing at a sticky note. The background features faint illustrations of a car, a gas pump, and a television.

Tip: Visualize the Release content on a Physical Board

Seamless Upgrade for Node & CMBS

Analytics Monitoring & SLA on Physical/Virtual

HA for node & CMBS

Node HW Options

Information

Change Monitoring & RCA

Network Health & RCA

Alert Configuration

Network Health & RCA

Network Health & RCA

Network Health & RCA

Network Health & RCA

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Day 1

09:00 -
09:30

Kick off
Setting expectation
Agenda

All

Squad breakout
Release planning

All

12:00-12:30

Squad
check-in
S,C,M

Mng
checkin
S,C,M

12:00

14:00

17:00

Open Issues
Review

S,C,M

2.3- Planning Workshop

Day 2

1000-1100

Dev & Quality
guidelines

All

Squad breakout
Release planning

All

Squad
check-in

Mng
check-in

17:00

Draft Plan
Review

S,C,M

Plan Refinement

2.3
context

Day 3

Squad
digest update

Goal

13:30

Release Plan
Review

SquadS locations



Tip: Be dynamic about the agenda

Day 1 Plan

9:00-
10:30

3.1 planning workshop
kick-off

- ▶ Business context By Product
- ▶ Opening words about the day by R&D

10:30
-
16:00

Squad Breakouts for
Release Planning

1 2 3 4

- ▶ Squads develop draft plans
- ▶ Managers circulate
- ▶ Progress & focus check-in twice

16:00-
17:00

Review Draft Plan



- ▶ Squad leads & PO present draft plans

17:00-
17:30

Management Review &
Problem Solving



- ▶ Discussing open issues, challenges, risks, and impediments



Tip: Use Team Breakouts for detailed Planning

Check-in 1

- ① Are squad objectives clear?
- ② Did you start 1st sprint planning?
- ③ Have you started to map dependencies?
- ④ Have you started to identify Risks?
- ⑤ Have you considered spikes/poc/research?

the needs to be done!

- ⑥ Are you blocked on anything?

- ⑦ Can you update dependencies?

Tip: Use Mid day Check-ins to Focus & Collaborate



Resolved

Install OOV
HA F2E?
OS PaaS?
outside enough
Amelia

NOY

zones: AWS
by which
squad? boy

what's next?
today's
tomorrow

Most modeling
for container
can work-
self implemented
David & ANT

Storage: Multi-
Platform
From AWS to
GCP

SPRITE needs David
insight team member

Issues / Dependencies / Risks

Securing
internal
API
Mosh

Securing
external
API
Mosh

Disinfect
API to
avoid/flush
Mosh

Release cycle
planned to
start only
at SPRITE
Mosh

Upgrade
to 2.2.1
production from 2.1
Yossi

UI & IaaS
members
for Nole
Mosh

API: API
Mosh

Owned



Upgrade (w/old)
delay

More resource
for
Networking
team

Ronen

Support
all zds

CB

Performance
targets based
on the 2017
Deployments

Upgrade to
2.1.1
feedback from
the field

API for
Monitoring
Alerts

Jude Spans

David of Ronen

Auto Scale
into teal?

CAPIO-AVIV

Accepted

Mitigated

IaaS
has OS
mode
and
OS mode
and
OS mode

manual
install

Action Items

Tip: Use a Risk Board For Visualizing and Solving Risks early

- Jira

- Release planning board

2.3 Risks

DO NOT DELETE
Open issues

פרויקט הלקוחות (C1 K)

	To-do	In progress	Done
Node Radek		<p>Upgrade (node) design Ronen</p> <p>Node Issues Action David & Ronen</p> <p>Solid Fire Ronen</p>	<p>UI & Infra members for Node Ronen</p> <p>Upgrade to 2.2.1 feedback from the field Ronen</p> <p>Upgrade to 2.2.1 provision from API Yossi</p>
Network Ronen			<p>Merge TOR Merge topology Merge API Eyal</p>
Business Alon			<p>Auto Scale Is it real? David & Alon</p> <p>Surge Design Alon & David</p> <p>Red Hat Patch Anti-Malware Alon</p>
Users Lior			<p>Mobile app David & Alon</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p>
Feature Moshe			<p>Mobile app David & Alon</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p>
Sprite Alon			<p>Mobile app David & Alon</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p> <p>Mobile UI Ronen</p>
PM	<p>fusionIO Ronen</p> <p>API for turning Alerts Ronen</p> <p>Stories without APIs Ronen</p> <p>Yellowish UI David</p>	<p>Finish Analysis David Alon</p>	<p>Do we need Network members on SPIRIT Kris</p> <p>Analysis HAT in risk Kris</p> <p>SPIRIT HAT in risk Kris</p>

Tip: Continue experimenting



Tip: invite all to the Plan Review

Azriely

Release
Planning Workshop
2 days

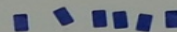
Honoring your
time and attention

Availability
and focus of
all relevant people

Understand
Squad part in
the big picture

Reveal
Dependencies and
Risk early

Very Good



Could be
Better



Tip: Collect (early) Feedback

Total waste
of time



other
Feedback



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checkin
S.C.M

17:00

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Review

S.C.M

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Day 2

10:00-11:00

Dev & Quality
guidelines

All

Squad breakout
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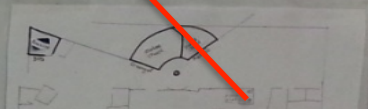
Day 3

Squad
digest update

Goal

13:30
Release Plan
Review

Squads locations



Tip: One Focused day can be enough

Was it worth it?

"The version started on time with REAL Sprint 1, all teams knew what is their plan for the sprint and release, we had a meaningful Sprint1 demo"
The event is elevating energies, engaging and aligning the team"

Tip: Management buy-in is crucial

Itai Mendelsohn VP of R&D



WHAT'S THE SECRET?

Why does McDonald's® food taste so good?
Because we make it the way you would.
With 100% pure beef, white juicy chicken
breast meat and farm fresh produce.

i'm lovin' it™



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FLOUR

Take away

- ✓ Have a **Product Management** partner
- ✓ Predefine the Release **Planning timeline**
- ✓ Share the **Release timeline** & Milestones ASAP
- ✓ Visualize the **Release content** on a Physical Board
- ✓ Be dynamic about the **agenda**
- ✓ Use **Team Breakouts** for detailed Planning
- ✓ Use Mid day **Check-ins** to Focus and Collaborate
- ✓ Use a **Risk Board** for visualizing and solving risks early
- ✓ Continue **experimenting**
- ✓ **Invite all** to the Plan review
- ✓ Collect (early) **Feedback**
- ✓ One **Focused** day can be enough
- ✓ **Management** buy-in is crucial





