

Pelephone IT – Case Study

Agile Israel 2012



Agenda

- Why am I here?
- What made us go Agile?
- Why was it so difficult?
- What have we done????
- What's next?
- What do we recommend you to do/not to do?



Why am I here?

- Hopefully help other Enterprise IT organizations advance to agile methodologies
 - Learn from our mistakes
 - Hear what worked for us

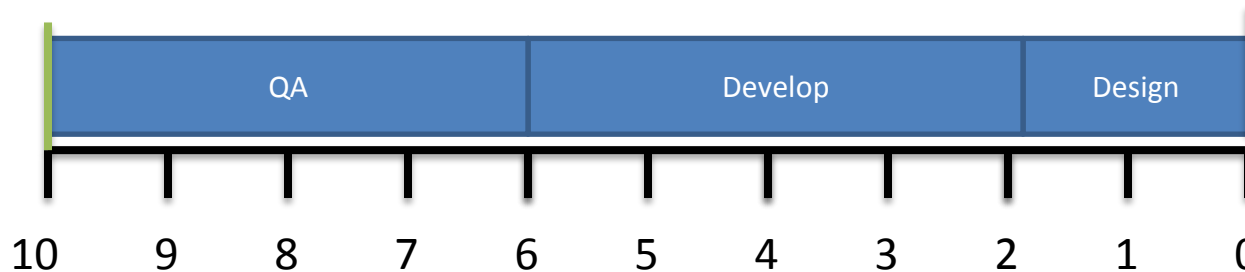
- Convince the skeptic that Agile/Kanban is possible and even recommended for Enterprise IT organizations



What made us go Agile?

“After so many good years... why change?”

- Time to market - 10 months!!!



- Things become irrelevant (usually when we finish coding...)
- Regulation
- Business people always complaining no matter what we do...



What made us go Agile?

- Changes = Big frustration (also for us 😊)
- Everybody blaming everybody for bad quality and for not delivering working software on time
- We are not sure what , but something is not working!



Why was it so difficult?

- Change is never easy
- Legacy systems
- Legacy people
- Internal political issues

50 Reasons Not To Change



Why was it so difficult?

- Lack of knowledge and experience
- We have a monopoly over IT in Pelephone (no competitors)
- Maintenance of production by the dev teams



What have we done????

- First – Learn and Exercise

- Kanban workshop for managers

- Introduction to Agile

- 2 days workshop for dev leaders with Agile Sparks

(Yuval Y.)



- Second - Decide



What have we done??

Jump into the cold water... together...



What have we done

- Dev helps QA to clear backlog
- Production every 1 month
- Assemble heterogeneous teams
- Learn as we go...



What have we done

Some basic principles :

- Sticky notes
- Ceremonies
 - Team daily meetings
- Managing WIP limit
- Decomposition to stories



What have we done

Immediate challenges

- Too big/long :
 - Daily meetings
 - Teams
 - Stories
- Not enough retrospectives
- QA are not pleased with getting software almost all the time instead of one shot as before
- Hierarchical TL's job description becomes vague



What have we done

Immediate improvements

- Teams are eager to succeed
- People work together (No one to blame)
- Everybody is involved right from the beginning
- Mean TTM shortened to 4 weeks!!



What have we done

Immediate improvements

- Business gets working software in small chunks and likes it
- Business start to think more Agile
- We are TOO FAST!!??

“Can you hold this for a week? We didn’t finish training”

“You are saying YES more then before”

“We feel that we are together in this”



Recommendations

- This is not a “one shot” change. Making mistakes is part of the learning. Make sure you learn from them
- Business have to prepare for minor (hopefully) delays in first period and agree to this
- People will complain at first. Embrace them but don't let them feel that you are afraid as much as they are 😊. Things will improve!
- Managers should be part of the process



Questions?

