

AGILE

Agile is the ability to create and respond to change. It is a way of dealing with, and ultimately succeeding in, an uncertain and turbulent environment.

Agile methods for software development evolved as a response to the changing dynamics of the software industry in the 1990s. The broader concept of agility emerges from the four values and 12 principles expressed within the Manifesto for Agile Software Development. Agility within software development is underpinned by these concepts to rapidly create, embrace and learn from change while contributing to perceived customer value.

THE 12 PRINCIPLES

1. Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through the early and continuous delivery of valuable software.
2. Deliver working software frequently, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference for the shorter timescale.
3. Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage.
4. Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project.
5. Build projects around motivated individuals. Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done.
6. The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is face-to-face conversation.
7. Working software is the primary measure of progress.
8. Agile processes promote sustainable development. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely.
9. Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility.
10. Simplicity--the art of maximizing the amount of work not done-- is essential.
11. The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from self-organizing teams.
12. At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behaviour accordingly.

The advantages of Agile include Speed to market, flexibility, managing risks, cost control, process quality, right product, and transparency.

Agile processes are not just adaptive. Being adaptive is often emphasized when discussing agile organizations, but adaptivity alone would lead to a lack of direction and strategy. Agile organizations and teams need to be adaptive within a controlled, managed, and interactive framework, so that in adapting to change, they can realistically negotiate priorities and resources with all stakeholders.

Agile works because it supports the process of software development in four key areas:

1. Empirical process -
2. Daily visibility
3. Socialization of information
4. Rapid feedback cycles.

Scrum

Scrum is one of the methods in agile, in that the user stories are often captured using index cards on storyboards, which let people see what others are doing and help management track progress and plan.

Want to learn more, please send us mail: training@man2succeed.com