Lean / Agile Programming in a Mainframe World



by: Zamir Gonzalez z Tools and Transformation Team

Agenda

- Lean and Agile what's behind the hype
- Lean & Agile Defined
- Before: Waterfall
- After: Agile
- **Transformation:**
 - How we made it work
 - Lessons learned
- Tooling that made it possible
 - Rational Team Concert





Geographic Barriers: poor communication, language, culture and time differences, process gaps resulting in errors and rework, high degree of friction across teams **Organizational Barriers**: lack of meaningful stakeholder input, poor line of

business oversight, weak project governance, missed opportunities to leverage domain expertise

Infrastructure Barriers: incompatible tools and repositories, unreliable access to common artifacts, lengthy project and team on-boarding, brittle and inflexible tooling integrations



Collaborate in Context: enable team transparency, build team cohesion, automate hand-offs

Right-size governance: automate workflows through dynamic processes, automate data collection, real time reporting and alerts

Day one productivity: dynamic provisioning of projects and teams, real-time release/iteration planning and workload balancing, unify teams

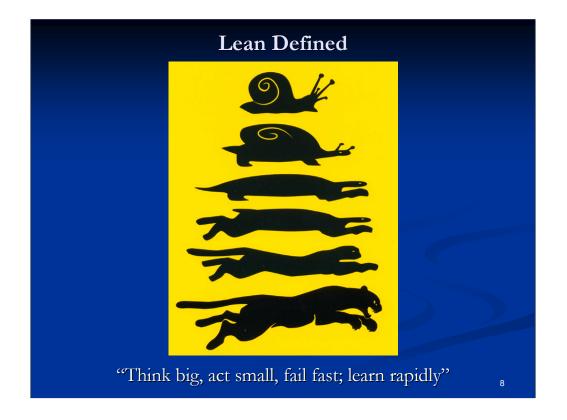
Lean & Agile – Process Perspective

- Users seldom know exactly what they want
- Many details that can only be discovered well into implementation
- We can master only so much complexity
- External forces lead to changes in requirements

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Lean Principles:

Eliminate waste: Everything not adding value to the customer is considered to be waste. This includes: unnecessary code and functionality, delay in the software development process, unclear requirements, bureaucracy, slow internal communication.

Amplify learning: scrums, short sprints allowing testing and feedback to come quickly, reflections session at end of sprint for group lessons learned

Decide as late as possible: use options-based approach for delaying decisions as much as possible until they can be made based on facts and not on uncertain assumptions and predictions. The more complex a system is, the more capacity for change should be built into it, thus enabling the delay of important and crucial commitments. The iterative approach promotes this principle – the ability to adapt to changes and correct mistakes, which might be very costly if discovered after the release of the system.

Deliver as fast as possible: -- just in time production ideology utilizing scrums and sprints

Empower the team -- developers should be given access to customer; the team leader should provide support and help in difficult situations, as well as make sure that skepticism does not ruin the team's spirit.

Build Integrity in -- The complete and automated building process should be accompanied by a complete and automated suite of developer and customer tests, having the same versioning, synchronization and semantics as the current state of the System. At the end the integrity should be verified with thorough testing, thus ensuring the System does what the customer expects it to.

See the whole



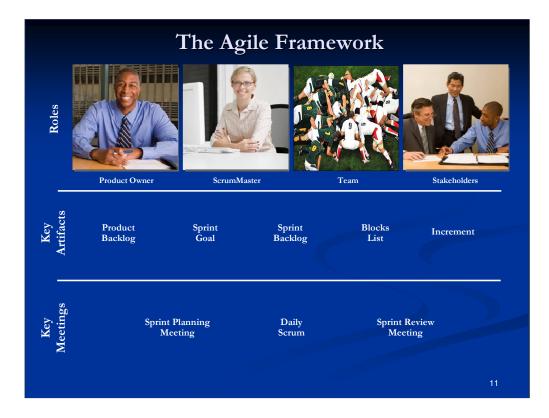
Agile Defined



"Uses continuous stakeholder feedback to deliver high-quality, consumable code through user stories and a series of short, iterations."

Core principles

"fits just right" process continuous testing and validation consistent team collaboration rapid response to change ongoing customer involvement Frequent delivery of working software



At Start of Iteration

Development Process to be used (One Page)

Current Candidate List

At Start of Coding

List of Prioritized Selected Use Cases / Features to be delivered this iteration

Latest Architecture / Model Design Docs (not maintained : Frozen point in time. NOT auditable) At End of Iteration

Demo

Delivered Code

Test Cases

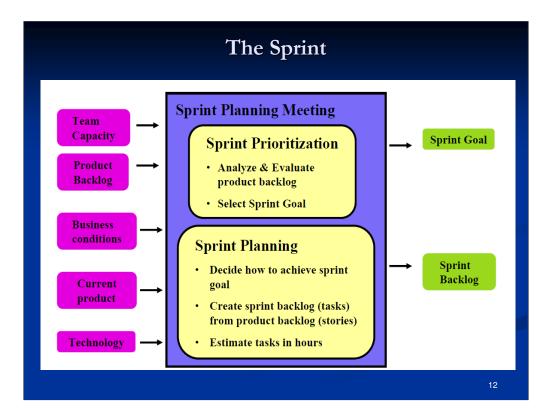
Reflection / Status

List of Use Cases / Features actually delivered (complete and tested) Use Cases / Features not delivered (input to reflection)

Revised Development Process for next iteration

Product Backlog:

- A list of all desired work on the project
- Ideally expressed such that each item has value to the stakeholders
- Prioritized by the Product Owner
- Reprioritized at the start of each Sprint



Agile Elements

- User Story
- Epic
- Story Points
- Planning Poker

Roles:

Allows the team to think of the product in terms of solving needs of real people Identifies a type of user engaged in reaching some goals w/ your product Provides the team insight into what the person is engaged in doing – although not necessa

Goals:

Needs to represent the user's goal

Should not be the technical solution

Should not be focused on advantages to the programmers developing the product

Business Value:

Allows the benefits to the customer to be apparent Provides insight so stories can be intelligently prioritized



They are relative to the points of your other User Stories There is no sense of time in the measure

Establish 1 as a very simple effort, 5 as average, etc.

The team collaborates to size each user story

Accuracy is improved with history

A way to help teams to estimate User Story Points

•Each player has a Planning Poker deck

•Each deck consists of 13 cards: ?, 0, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 20, 40, 100, and inf

Every User Story is estimated

•Points should include all the work to complete the story within the sprint

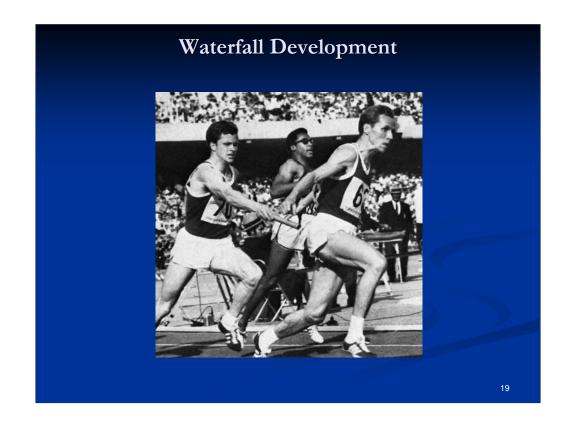
•No matter what your role is, your card should take into account all required work

•Players place their cards simultaneously

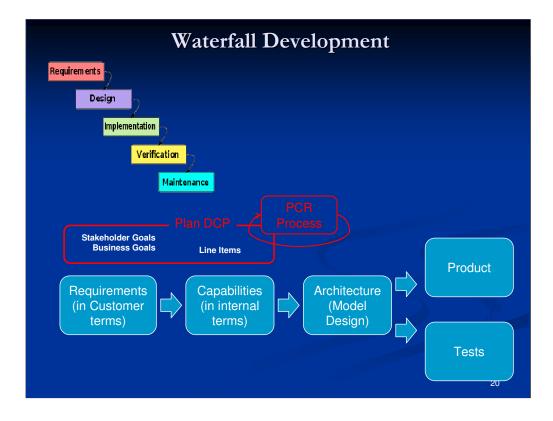
•Players who play a higher or lower value explains why, and whole team play

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Waterfall is very much like a relay race with one fixed phases and sub teams waiting for traditional handoffs before they can begin.



- IPD: Integrated Process Development
- PCR: Process Change Request
- DCP: Decision Checkpoint

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zOS Process: Service Stream

6 Service: APAR

Emerging from Level 2 Service working with the customer, a software bug has been diagnosed and an APAR has been opened.

6 Service II: PTF

Emerging from Level 3 Service (Development & Function Test), the bug has been fixed in the form of a PTF, installable by any affected customer.

Customer: A follow-on request

The customer enjoys the new functionality, but always wants more. The process repeats...

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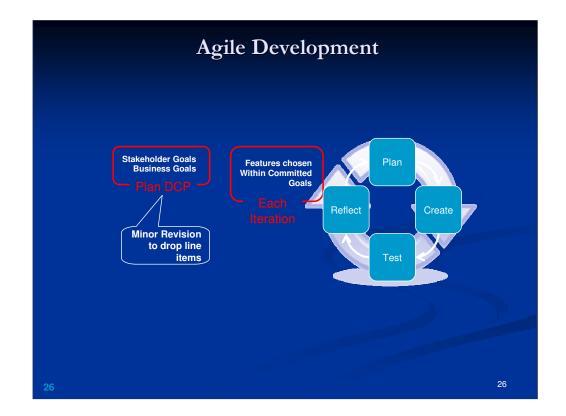
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zOS Agile Teams

Some development teams are fully lean and agile

- Leveraging strategic tools for team workflow
- Working for greatest impact, within a short sprint
- Delivering code rapidly
- Consumable code every two six weeks





IPD: Integrated Process Development PCR: Process Change Request

Benefits

- Improved understanding by entire team
- Increased team communication (local & remote)
- Improved usability due to stakeholder feedback
- Earlier removal of defects or design flaws
- Quick fix turn around
- Improved test efficiency (no lulls, less overlap)
- Better task tracking
- More effective/timely publication reviews



Earlier removal of defects as a result of parallel efforts:

- solution provided to testers within days

-in waterfall, would have been found months later, with formal defect process taking weeks

Increased team communication as a result of planning poker and smaller user stories

- improved understanding by entire team
- allows for better planning
- increases morale

Source of Efficiency Gains

- Scrums
- Parallel Development, Function Test & ID
- User Stories & Tasks



Scrums

increased and improved communications

continually re-focuses work activities and priorities

Parallel Development and Function Test

FVT test cases available and executed during Unit Test

Shift-left of discovery of errors, closer to when code was developed not having to write up all defects

Function testers influencing code development

actively participating in design and code inspections

pointing out defects before code is written

User Stories & Tasks

rebalancing tasks among team enhanced

apportioning time over the effort -- spreading out the overtime

pieces of a line item can be deferred



Predictable pace

•Overtime peaks are distributed more evenly

•Far easier to plan/estimate smaller bits of work

Design churn minimized

Real "consumables" available earlier

•Earlier feedback from System Test, Level 2, exploiters, etc.

Voorstellen:

-wie ben je

-Wat doe je

-Waar zit je

-Wat hoop je / verwacht je

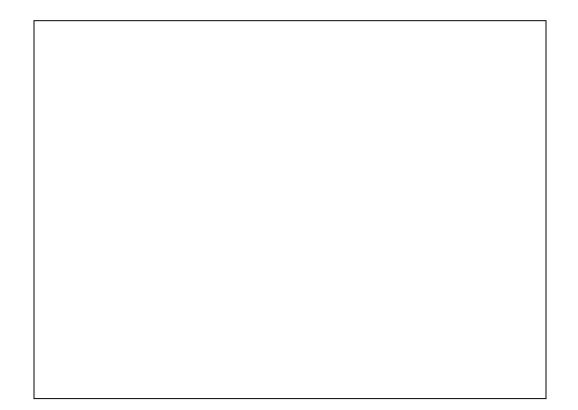
Huisregels:

-Interactie!

-Open minded

-Pauze om 19.30u

-Toetsing o.b.v. attitude en inzicht





Burn Down charts give visibility into a project's progress. They show the progress made against predictions, and open the door to discussions about how best to proceed, including the difficult discussions about whether to cut scope or extend the schedule.

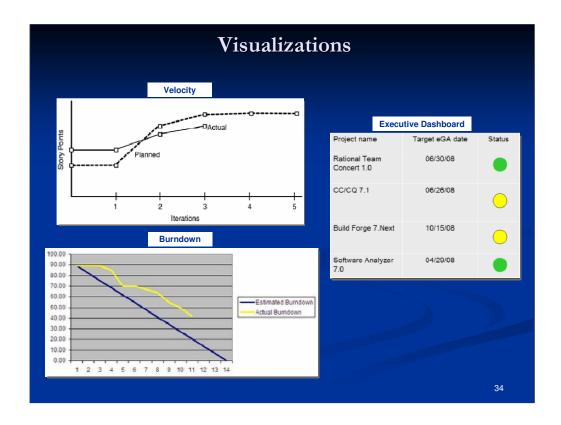
Velocity: How much work you did in your previous iteration. It's usually measured in Story Points.

Tech Debt: The underlying cause of the inability to develop new features due to a defect burden

Working Software Remember one of the major guiding principles of Agile is: Working software Over comprehensive documentation. Attributes of working software include: (but not limited to)

Tested, stable, concrete (no sev1 or sev2), demoable to customers

Taken together, these iteration metrics and their trend over time provide an ongoing indicator of the team's real progress.



Here are some of the more common Agile metrics

Velocity Chart: A velocity chart shows the sum of estimates of the work delivered across all iterations. Typically velocity will stabilize through the life of a project unless the project team make-up varies widely or the length of the iteration changes. As such, velocity can be used for future planning purposes.

Iteration Burndown: Task progress provides a very telling measure of overall iteration progress and has the potential (though it often does not) to remain at a constant rate throughout an iteration. The Burndown Chart shows a trended view of task progress and is the most common measure of iteration progress.

Executive Dashboard: This sample shows a typical summary of project status for the Rational brand.

Shown is the CC/CQ/RTC/BF project schedules:

The idea here is the quick visual assessment. Ie. Red = Risk

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Agile and z/OS weren't a perfect match

- Continuous integration
- A "shippable increment" every 2-4 weeks
- Small teams with interchangeable skills
- Deferred commitment and variable content
- Stakeholder feedback on a sprint basis
- **Rapid reaction to changing requirements**
- More frequent smaller releases
- User stories instead of line items



Struggles

- Having a cohesive team that commits as a single team
- Getting staffing in synch
- Multiple consumables: Metrics
- Accurate sizings and sustainable pace
- Typical agile and tooling learning curves



Cohesive team:

- -- breaking down silos
- -- dealing with disparate tools and processes
- -- dealing with politics of different management chains

Getting Staffing in synch

-- How many testers per developer? What is the right sprint load for "done done done"

Multiple consumables

- -- some things being done agile, some waterfall,
- -- metrics and reporting requirements disparate

Sizings and pace:

-- what is the real pace/team velocity a team can sustain taking into account, meetings, etc that take place in a day? 6hrs?

-- how to correctly play planning poker by all team members, translation of points to measures of time

Prudently Agile - did what made sense

- Establish team view of agile
- Find ways to eliminate waste
- Identify different types of stakeholders
- Formalize the concept of "stretch" functions
- Improve estimation and planning
- Foster a "whole team" approach
- Continuously refine processes



A lean approach to unit test

A single set of testcases assists with two test tasks (FVT & UT)

Defect recording not required for UT bugs

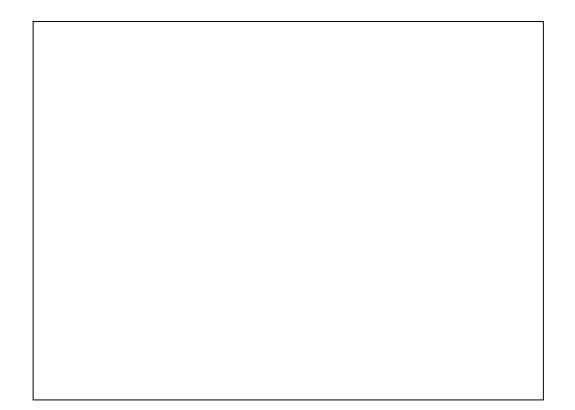
Either Testers write all testcases, dev executes during UT or dev can help create testcases

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{FVT}}$ (Function Test) works in parallel with design and development

Variations/Test Definition included with design materials

Testcases developed in synch with code and executed as part of UT





Sprints are still defined at a team level usually revolving around a single development team and **Design:** as per Lean/Agile tenants try to delay decision making: degree of design details and ove **Whole Team:** current definition of "whole team" function test and development and/or information Definition of done will vary but must be defined by the whole team at Sprint planning meeting to ϵ



Discipline representatives: Development, Function Test, System Test, Level 2, & ID represented Scrum team

Scrum team members have tasks to do within the sprint

Development & Function Test at a minimum

How to Create Product backlogs

Write product backlog items with different levels of detail:

- Fine grained for items about to be worked on
- Coarse grained for items further in the future





Independent: dependencies lead to problems estimating and prioritizing.

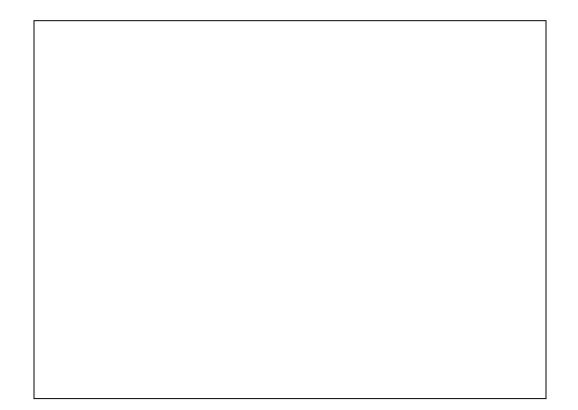
Negotiable: stories are not contracts, leave or imply some flexibility

Valuable: to users or customers, not developers. Rewrite developer stories to reflect value to users or customers

Estimatable: because plans are based on user stories, need to be able to estimate them

Sized Appropriately: small enough to complete in one sprint

Testable: testable so that you have a easy what of knowing when finished. Done or not done



Factors Impacting Success



- Team size
- Team workload
- Strong management buy-in/leadership
- Team skill
- Tooling support
- Willingness for Process modifications
- Initial education on Agile and Tooling
- Determine new metrics

Lessons learned

- Different teams need different types of Leadership all need prioritization
- Change is hard
 - Need time, training to master new skills
 - Build your credibility

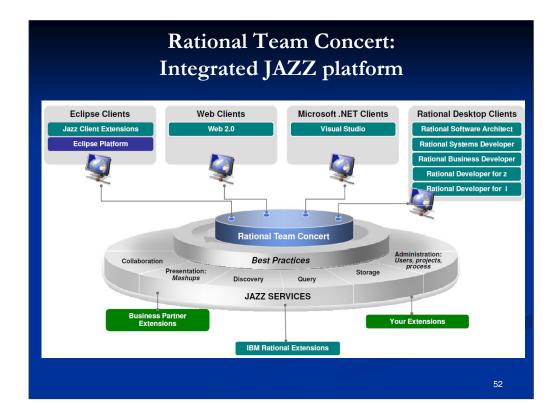


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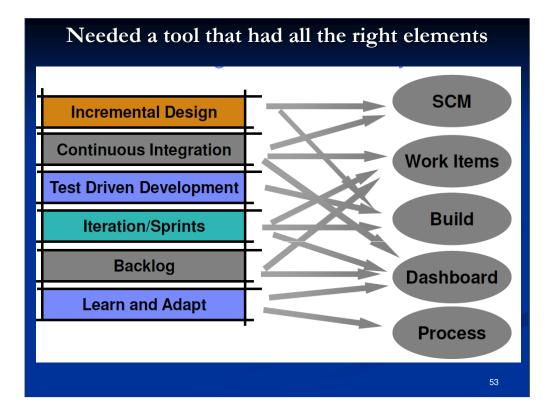
• Tooling that made it possible

Rational Team Concert



RTC built on the Jazz Platform is open and extensible

RTC provides integrated end to end support of any development process RTC provides both planning and automated status to keep teams on track RTC provides unique, in context, collaboration among software developers You can adopt RTC in an incremental way using your existing artifacts



Rational Team Concert: A Closer Look

Agile Planning

Integrated release/iteration planning Effort estimation & progress tracking taskboards Out of the box agile process templates

Real time metrics and reports

Project milestone tracking and status

Customizable web based dashboards

Project Transparency

Build

set traceability

and private builds

Build definitions for team

Local or remote build servers

Supports Ant and command

Integration with Build Forge

SCM

- Integrated stream management
- Component level baselines
- Server-based sandboxes Identifies component in streams and available baselines
- ClearCase bridge, connector
- and conversations View and share query results Support for approvals and discussions

Defects, enhancements

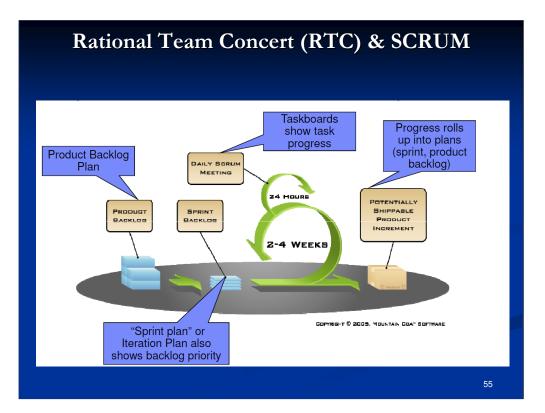
Work Items

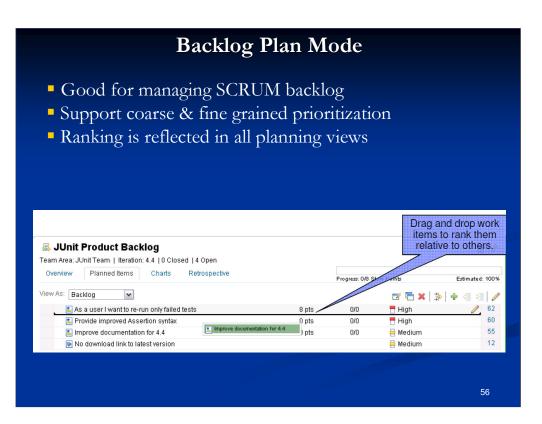
- Query editor interface ClearQuest bridge, connector

Jazz Team Server

- Single structure for project related artifacts World-class team on-boarding / offboarding including team membership, sub-teams and
- project inheritance Role-based operational control for flexible definition of process and capabilities
- Team advisor for defining / refining "rules" and enabling continuous improvement Process enactment and enforcement
- In-context collaboration enables team members to communicate in context of their work

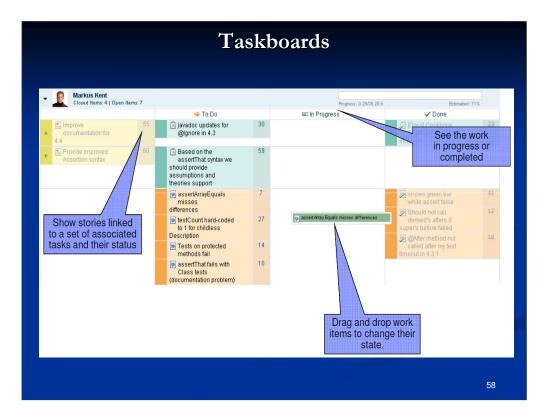
line tools

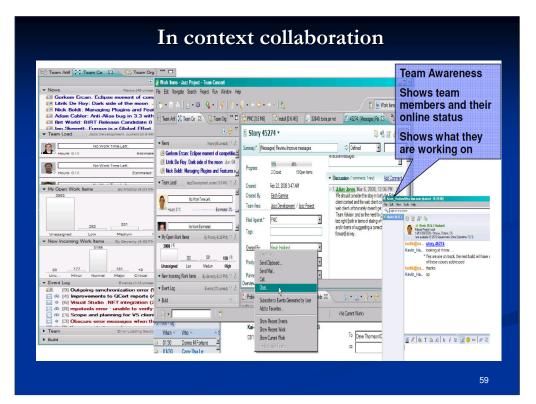


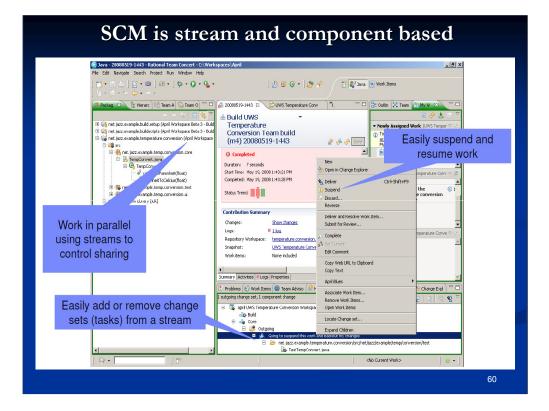


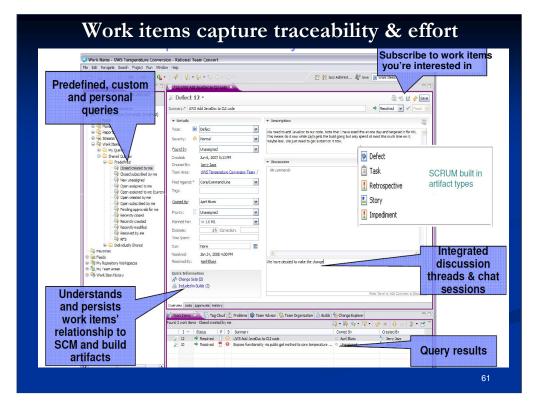
Iteration "Sprint" Planning

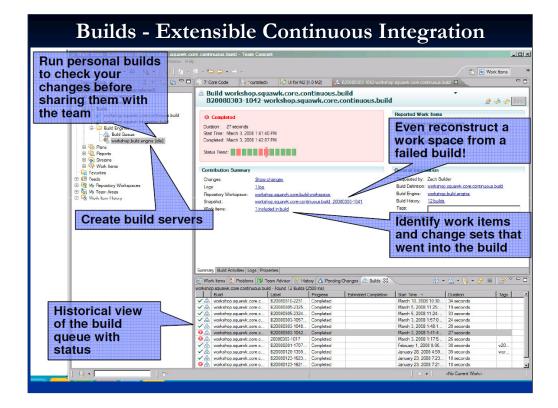
UWS Temperature Conversion M1 Plan [1.0 M1] × UWS Temperature Conversion M1 Plan ▼ Team Area: UWS Temperature Conversion Team Iteration: 1.0 M1 (12/1/07 - 6/2)	Understand how well you are progressing against your targets in real-time 0/00) Scored Score
April Blues	Group by
Closed items: 1 Open items: 1	Progress: 1 / 17 -15 h Estimated: 100% (0 2 days Unassigned 9 Owner
Derek Holt	Sort By
Closed items: 0 Open items: 2	Progress: 0 / 8 -7 h Estimated: 100% Priority
UWS Define permissions	4 hours Unassigned 5
Jerry Jazz Closed items: 1 Open items: 1	Progress: 0 / 4 -3 h Estimated: 100% Progress
UWS Define team members	4 hours Unassigned 6
Zach Builder Closed items: 2 Open items: 2	Progress: 25 / 37 -10 h Estimated: 100% Estimated: 100%
UWS Create the core temperature conversion package	③ 1 day Unassigned 7 ✓ Resolved items
UWS Define iterations/milestones	4 hours Unassigned 3 More Filters
Zara Intern Closed items: 0 Open items: 2	Progress: 0 / 17 -16 h Estimated: 100%
UWS Add JavaDoc to core temperature conversion JUnit tests	1 hour Unassigned 11 Related Work Items
UWS Create the core temperature conversion package JUnit tests	2 days Unassigned 8 Unplanned Closed Items
Qosed items: 1 Open item	Progress: 8 / 9 h Est 00% Next Plans
Expose functionality Plan and execute on iterations while Overview Planned Items Cha	on code

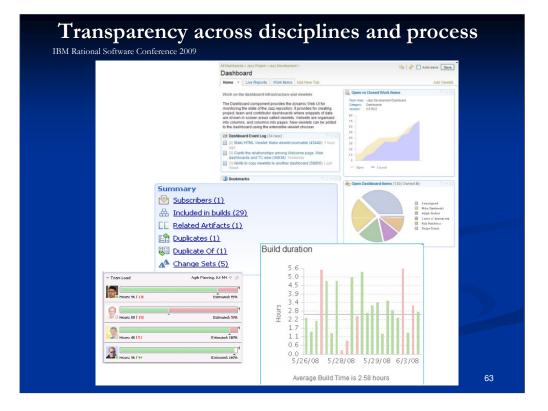


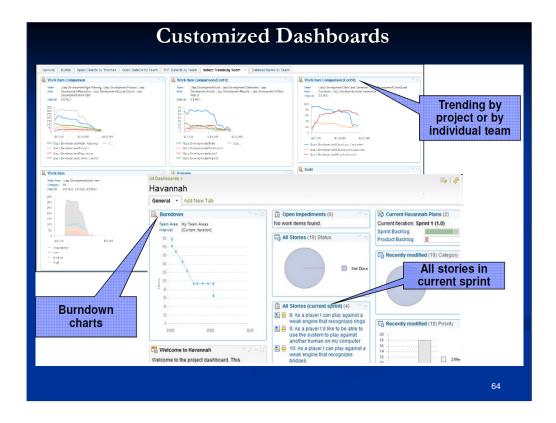














Useful Resources

- Rational Team Concert (downloads, demos, info) http://jazz.net/projects/rational-team-concert/
- Agile Development 01.ibm.com/software/rational/agile/

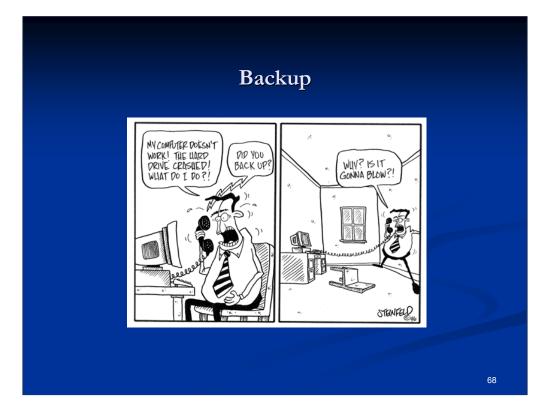
http://www-

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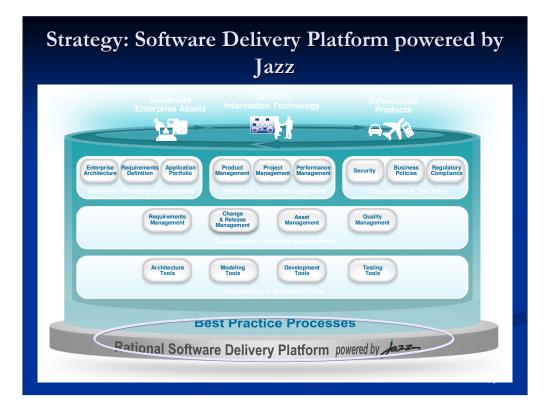
Agility @, Scale: Strategies https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/ambler/entry/disc iplined_agile_delivery?lang=en ¹¹ There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long-term risks and costs of comfortable inaction.

- John F. Kennedy

As quoted by May, 2007.



Jazz Platform Overview



The Software Delivery Platform – requirements for success

Learn from industry mistakes

- Assume integration around a repository
- Design a data model for software engineering for the repository
- Provide some sort of framework for tools to integrate around repository

Take advantage of the Internet

- Amazingly scalable and extensible
- Integrates information on a massive scale
- Collaboration on unprecedented scale

Make it open and extensible

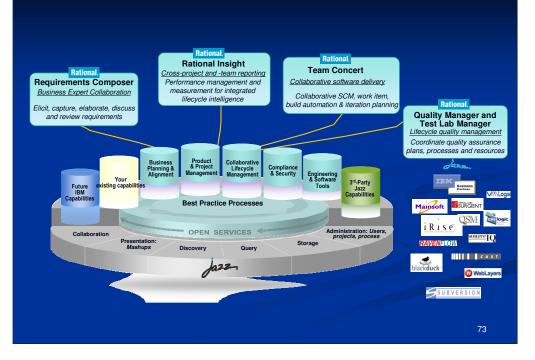
- Data specified independently of tools
- Tools (multiple) access data through HTTP/APP
- Search and query through "structured indexes", independent



Be for collaboration tools what Visual Studio and Eclipse are for the desktop



First wave of products built on Jazz technology





Jazz Based Product Suite



Rational Team Concert

IBM Rational Team Concert is a team-aware software development platform that integrates work item tracking, builds, source control, and agile planning. Rational Team Concert interoperates with other products by providing Visual Studio integration and connectors for ClearCase and ClearQuest.

Rational Team Concert for System z

Rational Team Concert for System z provides distributed users with all of the capabilities of Rational Team Concert hosted on the robust System z platform.

Rational Change Management Express

IBM Rational Change Management Express exposes a subset of IBM Rational Team Concert to provide a robust collection of change management features, including work item tracking, process awareness and customization, team awareness, and project health viewing through team reports and Web dashboards.

Rational Quality Manager and Rational Test Lab Manager



Rational Quality Manager is a centralized test management environment that helps increase the efficiency and quality of software delivery through test planning, workflow control, tracking and traceability, and metrics reporting. Rational Test Lab Manager, an extended component of Rational Quality Manager, helps to improve the efficiency of the test lab environment and optimize its utilization, cutting workload and saving on test infrastructure.

Jazz Based Product Suite



Rational Requirements Composer

IBM Rational Requirements Composer provides a platform for collaborative requirements definition that enables business analysts, client stakeholders and software development teams to elicit, capture, elaborate, discuss, review, and validate requirements using a variety of requirements definition techniques and collaboration capabilities.

Rational Project Conductor



IBM Rational Project Conductor is a project and resource management system optimized for software and systems delivery. It enables project and program managers to plan, schedule, and staff projects, with the right resources working on the right tasks. It provides management with control and visibility over project status and progress, and serves as the central repository for project and program data.

Rational Build Forge

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IBM Rational Build Forge is a process execution framework that automates, orchestrates, manages, and tracks all the processes through each handoff within the software development lifecycle to create an automated software factory. Rational Build Forge integrates into your current environment and supports major development languages, scripts, tools, and platforms, allowing you to preserve your existing investments while adding valuable automation, acceleration, notification, and scheduling capabilities.