Agile: Adopting a New Methodology at Harvard Business School

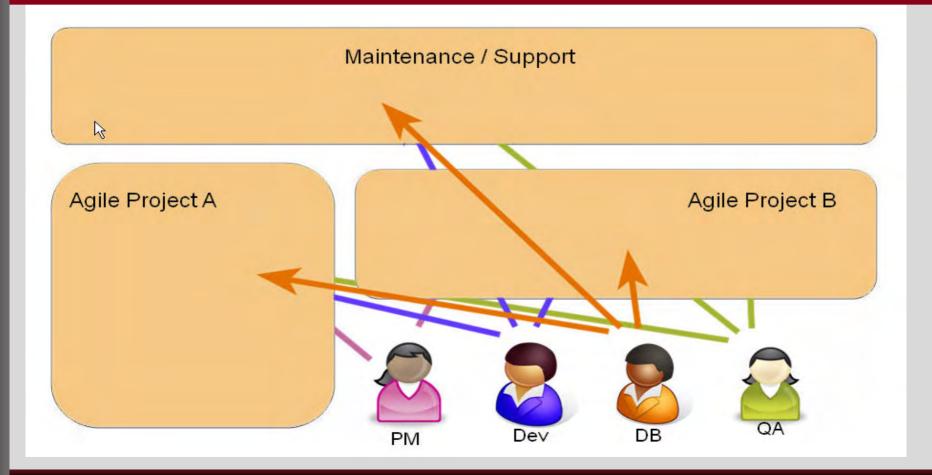


Software Quality Group Meeting, Wednesday, Feb 13, 2008 Susan Borges – Manager, HBS Applications Services Group Jennifer Gilmore – Database Engineer, DB Services & Info. Security Sarah Edrie – Director, Quality Engineering

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Individuals and Interactions Over Process and Tools

From Shared Resources



To Dedicated Teams

Agile Team Red Agile Team Green Agile Team Blue **Agile Team Purple** Dev QA Dev PM PM Dev Dev QA DB DB PM Dev Dev QA Dev DB Dev QA DB PM Projects Projects Projects Projects & & Maintenance Maintenance Maintenance Maintenance

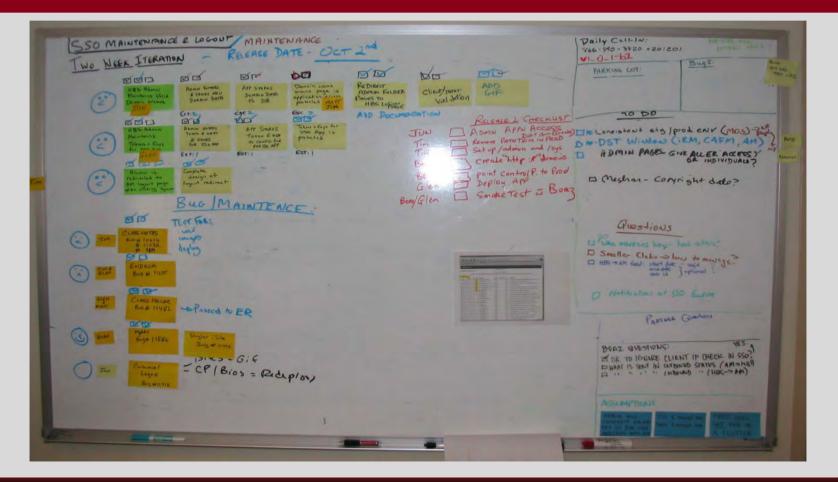
Interactions are Key

Now that we aren't "borrowing" resources from other teams, we're much more self-sufficient. The ability to have all of our resources at our disposal is key. If we "borrow" we borrow from our own time and our own priorities and everyone understands and embraces the results.



Working Software Over Comprehensive Documentation

Working Software = Value



P1 Support Issues Corralled

| Year | Number of Priority 1 Issues |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 2005 | 26 |
| 2006 | 19 |
| 2007 | 1 |

Don't Forget Support

In the past, the first thing to go would have been admin interfaces. This increased support ten fold. Now that we are all one big team, the importance of every aspect of an application is taken into account, including support!



Customer Collaboration Over Contract Negotiation

Partners



Collaboration



Partnerships are Important

We treat our customers like partners in the process because they have as much to do with the success of the application as we do. Really this is an alliance, we wouldn't be able to work well without each other's direct input.

Responding to Change Over Following a Plan

Embracing Change



Ready for Uncertainty



Priority Partnering

A measurement of our success in adopting Agile was evident when our partners came up with a last minute change, wrote a story, and started reprioritizing other stories themselves without prompting from anyone in IT! The important feature may have been forgotten in the old Waterfall method, until the final release of the product. This would have meant costly rework and a delay of the next project. Instead, the change worked into the schedule almost seamlessly.