

IBM Rational Software Conference 2009 Teaming Strategies for Agile Quality Management

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Agile Method Requires Discipline

With Agile implementation comes a new way of working that requires disciplined collaboration.

In order for teams to be effective and efficient in collaborating and communicating using an Agile development methodology, a variety of approaches are used.





Agile Collaboration Essentials for Quality Management

Establish good relationships

Teams are built from people from many IBM products and projects:

- Learn who your product's team members are
- Establish accessible repositories for all team members to use
- Learn what other products your product will integrate with and who to contact on each team



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Learn who your product's team members are

- Create email /distribution lists
- Know where team members are located and
- be sensitive to time-zone differences

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 Create accessible repositories for change management and test tracking for all team members to use- our team uses Rational Team Concert (RTC) and Rational Quality Manager (RQM).



Agile Collaboration Essentials for Quality Management

Participation is key to staying informed

- Project level meetings (managers and team leads)
- Iteration meetings
- Scrum meetings
- Work product reviews (Test Plans, Test Cases, Product Assessment Reports)
- Customer meetings and Beta programs
- Cross-functional team meetings
- Lessons learned session



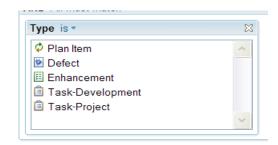




How do Rational Team Concert (RTC) and Rational Quality Manager (RQM) assist Agile?

Looking for iteration deliverables information?

- Queries and reports can be created to list iteration deliverables for both products.
 - RQM provides test asset organization, control and reporting features with many product integrations.
 - RTC provides traceability through work item assignments, ownership of work items, identifying related work items as well as parent and child work items.
 - -RTC tracks several types of work items:







Collaboration 101

Establish relationships

- New definition of "the team": Developers, QE, UA (Doc), UX, Graphics, Install, Build
- Iteration deliverables meeting
- Cross functional team meetings (CFT)

Drive focus on customer business solutions

- Use cases from requirements drive development feature deliverables
- Customer based scenario test cases
- Role based scenario implementation of test cases (C/ALM)
- Test gap analysis of customer APARs to improve test coverage in scenarios

Address Quality

- Issue tracking and closure
- Work item subscription, email notification
- Requirements traceability to test cases (ReqPro)
- The sooner we can test it, the sooner we can provide feedback to developers



The Team's Agile

Change in how everyone does things

- A customer team defines the requirements for each iteration
- Developers estimate in a massive iteration planning meeting and volunteer for tasks they wish to do
- 2 week iterations for testing delivered features picking up new builds when major defects are fixed to validate
- Iteration end date does NOT move
- All features seen in the user interface (UI) work all the way though to the back end datastore





Moments of fear and doubt

- 2 week iterations!! No one can do that
- What kind of tests can we run and when?
- Fine, I will do what I am told
- This will never work! We have no structure
- This does not look disciplined looks like a free for all
- But we need 6 more weeks to explore the infrastructure
- How can we do system verification testing (SVT) test for each iteration?



Rational Quality Manager project begins

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Plan items for QM 1.01

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¢	12070	IN-LI-19: Common C/ALM UI Elements		⇒ Committed	=	\odot	Last Week
¢	12620	Tivoli integration: TPM, TADDM, SRM		C Closed	=	0	Wednesday, Apr 8
¢	12437	Build Forge 7.1.1 Adoption		C Closed	=	0	Wednesday, Apr 8
¢	12551	Closer parity with CQTM, RMT and RTM		⇒ Committed	=	0	Tuesday, Apr 7
¢	12621	Support staf/stax integration		Closed	=	0	Friday, Apr 3
¢	11817	Changes for migrating UI to Jazz 2.0 M2		Closed	=	0	Monday, Mar 23

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Test Plans and Test Cases in RQM

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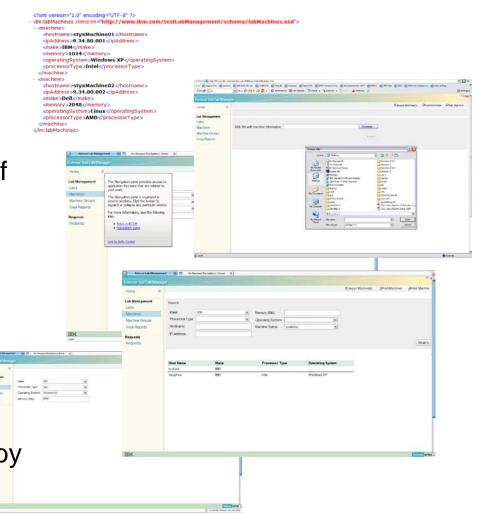


How the first two weeks went

From no code at all, to...

- Import xml file to populate database with machines
- Search for machines based off of any machine attribute
- Show a list of machines in a search results table
- Provide Context Sensitive Help
- Select a machine to
 see its details- missed del date by 6 hrs

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What worked?

- Code containment within iterations
- Strong collaboration
- Cohesive problem solving: focus on the "now"
- Documentation for features was delivered
- Individual contributions were recognized and valued
- Install is a critical part of our product efforts
- SVT participation early in development cycle to provide feedback sooner





How System Verification Test Fits into Agile:

Run on Milestone builds

N Iterations = 1 Milestone

Aka I1 + I2 + I3 = M1, I4 + I5 + 16 = M2

This allows for planning and test case development during a time when

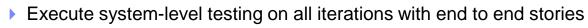
- delivered code is available to see running
- some code is in progress and can be seen on a developer's machine
- the features intended to be delivered can be seen on storyboards or in plan items.



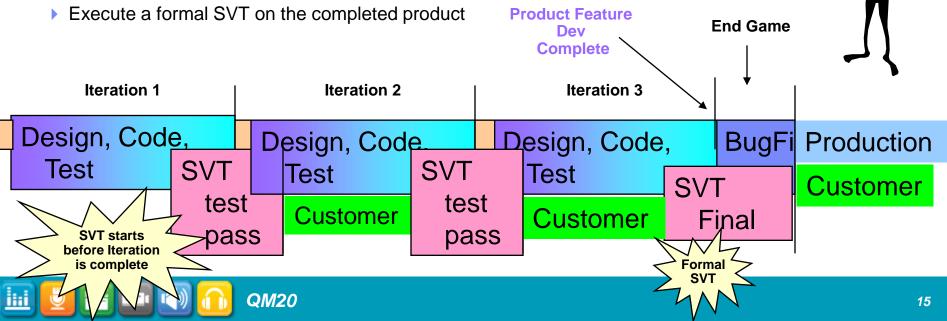
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Agile SVT approach

Basic concepts



- Testing may overlap development activities (either on current or next iteration) especially for performance and reliability runs
- Focus on functional capability, usability, consumability, basic performance, and regression testing. While writing testcases using iterations, open defects. Be an early tester in a pair environment – even during prep activities.
- Track successes, failures, defect status, and issues during the iteration test pass
- Provide SVT feedback to development prior to all code deliveries to actual Customers
 - Defects
 - Assessment reports







What does the SVT Schedule look like?

Key Project Milestones	Plan	Outlook / Actual	Completion / Comments
Plan DCP approval	03/10/09	03/10/09 A	Complete
SVT Test Plan Approval	03/20/09	04/09/09 A	Complete
Milestone Test Entry - M2/M3D1	03/23/09	03/23/09 A	Complete
Milestone Test Exit - M2/M3D1	04/17/09	04/17/09 A	Complete. 95% attempted, 88% completed.
Milestone Prep Test Entry – M3	04/20/09	04/20/09 A	Complete
Milestone Prep Test Exit – M3	04/24/09	04/24/09 A	Complete
Milestone Test Entry – M3	04/27/09		Green
Milestone Test Exit – M3	05/08/09		Green
SVT Prep Start	04/20/09	04/20/09 A	Complete
SVT Prep End	05/11/09		Green
Final DCUT	05/04/09		Green



The Team

Issues

- People find it hard to let go of original team members and to let new people in
- Lack of bonding
- Hard to see the BIG picture of how all of the team fits together
- How do we know the customer will want this

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Solutions

- ▶ No more "teams" 1 team, areas have contributors
- Test deliverables are reviewed by many contributors
- Experience/Assessment reports are generated by test team for all to review their evaluation of the product's health
- People volunteer for comfort zones and people test out new areas and team mates mentor
- Celebrations during a lessons learned meeting to discuss what went well and what to improve
- Formation and participation in customer meetings and beta programs with real customers providing guidance







Accomplishments

- People are happy choosing what to work on and learning new things
- SVT has figured out the rhythm in the schedule for test development and execution
- Communication between Customer Team and the rest of the team is now on track storyboards make a difference!!

We are grateful for our awesome install team!





Take this home

- Short Iterations based off of estimates done by the team result in code delivered and tested that is consumable
- Complete and detailed storyboards completed before the iteration drives success

 Customer focus on requirements avoids rework and redirection later on





And this....

- The Team is comprised of Development, QE, Documentation, User Experience, Graphics, Install...
- QE loves being involved early and the product is delivered to SVT with higher quality when QE can influence the design of features
- SVT testing early eases test burden
 - Creates building blocks for suites and formal SVT entry...reuse test artifacts for regression testing (ROI)
- Celebrate your successes and acknowledge everyone's contributions











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