

driven software

Software Development, as an industry, is in crisis.

The Problem

Business has lost faith. Worldwide, most organisations running software intensive projects do not meet their schedules, experience higher than expected maintenance costs and fail to deliver expected business value and ROI.

Failure has become normal. More than one-quarter of all software and services projects are cancelled before completion.

Inappropriate Methodology. Project delivery methods that rely on complete upfront analysis, design and specification use techniques that are derived from the construction industry and traditional project management. They simply *do not work* when applied to software development projects within the unpredictable, dynamic environment of modern business.

The Cause

The Answer

There is a better way. Implementing proven empirically based agile frameworks such as SCRUM, Extreme Programming and Lean have a proven and vastly superior ability to allow organisations to focus on adding business valuable to systems swiftly, reliably and incrementally. They empower teams to respond to change decisively, and encourage both business and technical people to unite towards a common goal.

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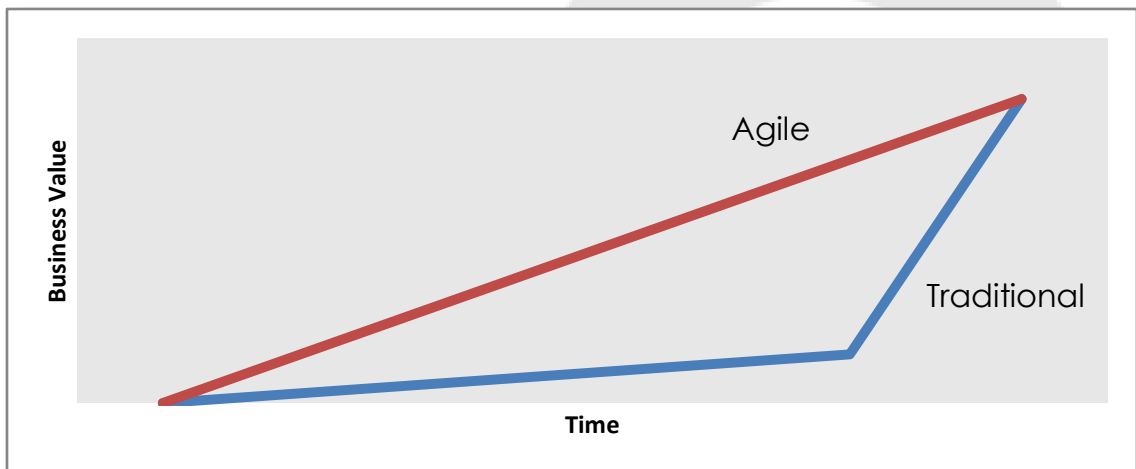
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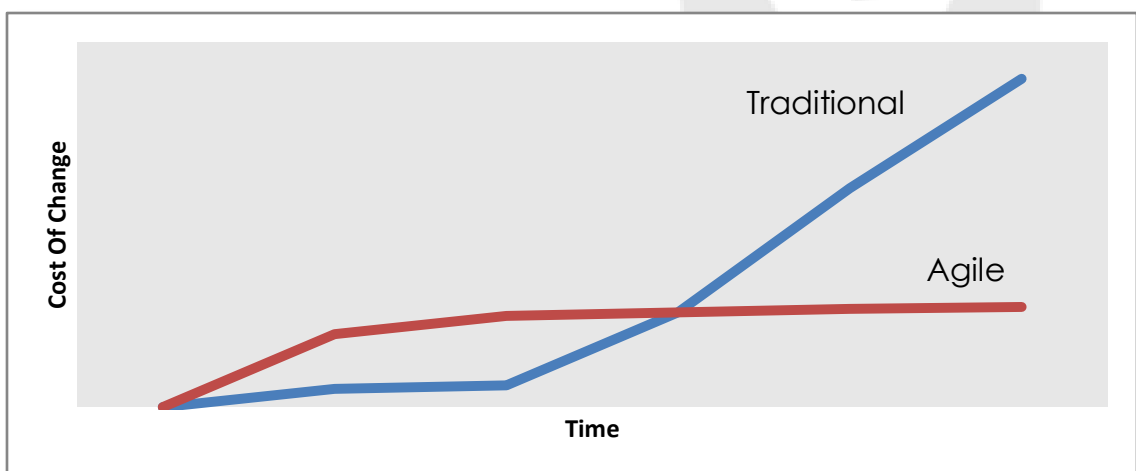
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These are 2 key benefits of using an Agile approach over traditional methods...

✦ **Faster return on investment.** In an agile project, business value is provided almost immediately, instead of at the end of the project:



✦ **Lower cost of change.** In an agile project, change is seen as a natural and beneficial part of the process, instead of resisted at all cost:



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These are 5 common challenges teams encounter...

- ✘ **Delivery issues.** Releasing new versions of the application is a time consuming and arduous process that gets harder with every release
- ✘ **Quality issues.** QA testing consistently turns up serious bugs which results in multiple rework cycles
- ✘ **Rework issues.** Requirements seem very hard to lock down, resulting in waste from frequent rework and unused features being added
- ✘ **Regression issues.** It is very hard to add features to the existing code base, and doing so often results in unintended side effects
- ✘ **No end in sight.** The team has no comprehensive product roadmap, day to day work has become a death march, and team motivation is a challenge

We can turn this around, and give you the tools you need to...

- ✘ **Deliver Fast,** companies that compete on the basis of speed have a big cost advantage, deliver superior quality, and are more attuned to their customers' needs
- ✘ **Build Quality In,** mistake proof your code with automated tests and executable specifications
- ✘ **Create Knowledge,** predictable performance is driven by feedback, not guessing the future and calling it a plan
- ✘ **Eliminate the waste,** using processes that can deliver just those 20% of features that give 80% of the value
- ✘ **Improve the System,** by focusing on the entire value stream, and delivering a complete product, not just software

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Our Approach...

We provide a **no obligations** assessment of your needs. From there, we tailor our approach to suit your specific requirements.

As an example, an engagement in which we introduce agile practices into an existing team typically follows this 3 phased pattern -

- 1. Define goals.** Meet with business to form a common understanding and vision of the desired direction and outcomes of the engagement.
- 2. Alignment.** Explain the background, fundamental values and principles of Agile thinking. Obtain stakeholder buy-in through education, collaboration and the forming of a shared understanding of what is required for success. A two day Product Backlog workshop then guides the team to formalise their vision for the product. The features that are to be delivered are clearly defined and prioritised so that business knows what to expect, and when.
- 3. Implementation.** A dedicated Driven Software resource is assigned to assist the team for the first three iterations of the project (iteration length is project specific, but typically 2 weeks). This time is for working closely with the team and ensuring that they are empowered to succeed. During these initial iterations, technical workshops are run to address areas in which the team may need additional assistance.

Engaged, empowered people provide the most sustainable competitive advantage. We believe the key to a successful outcome is to help you create the space and show them the tools with which to make this possible.

Visit our website for more information.

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