

# Agile Project Management

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# UKADGE: A Classic Project

- BRUF: Big Requirements Up Front
- Serial approach
- Heavyweight process
- Long time frame
- Fixed, well-known technology



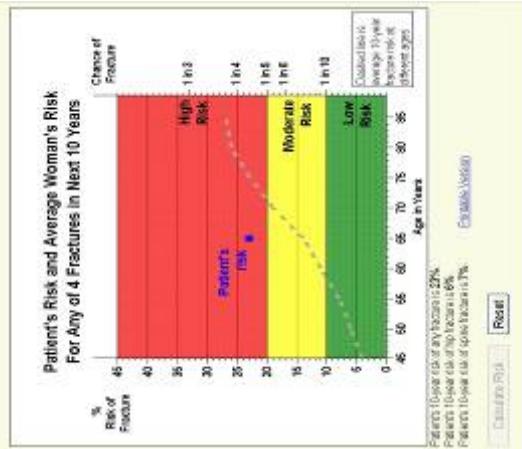
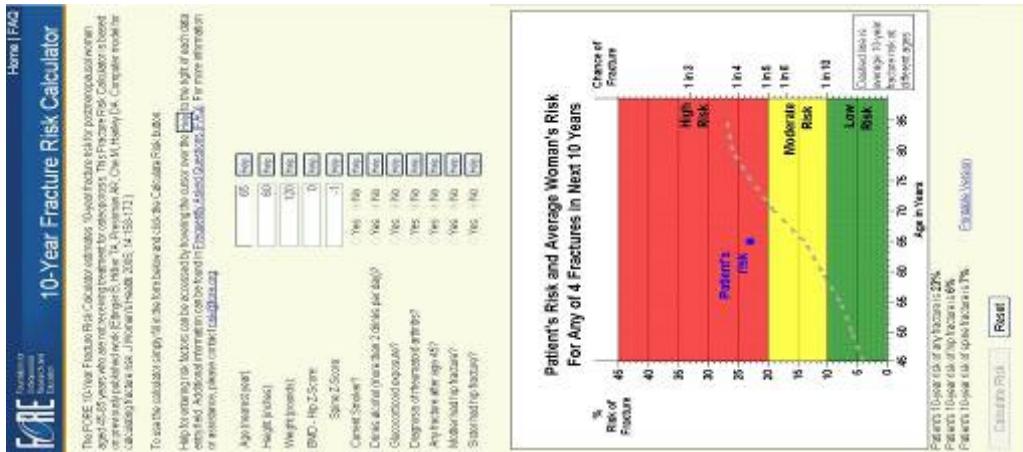
UKADGE radar console,  
RAF Boulmer  
From Subterranea Britanica,  
<http://www.subbrit.org.uk>

# Fracture Risk Calculator: An Agile Project

■ Uncertain initial requirements

■ Learn as you go  
Iterative approach  
Lightweight process

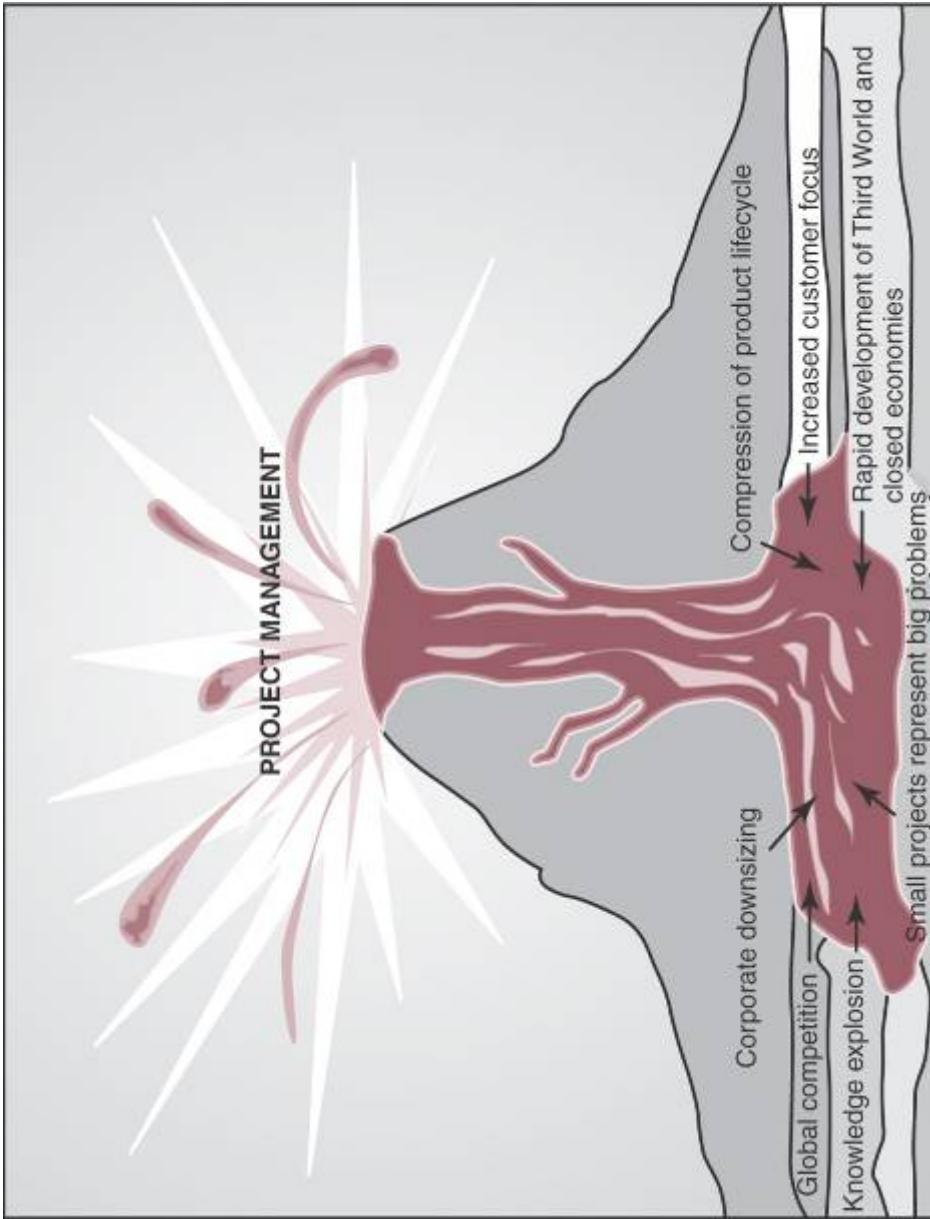
■ Short time frame  
Moving-target technologies



# Agenda

- Challenges to Classic Project Management
- What is Agile Project Management?
  - Scrum
  - Sprints
  - Backlogs and Burndown Charts
  - Daily Stand-Up Meetings
  - Management Responsibilities
  - Agile Success Stories
  - When is Agile Appropriate?
  - Resources
  - Q&A

# Challenges to Classic Project Management



From *Project Management: The Managerial Process* by Clifford F. Gray & Erik W. Larson, 2nd Ed. (McGraw-Hill, 2003), Figure 1-2.

# Evolution of Software Development

- Undisciplined Approach
  - “Build and fix”, “Cowboy Programming”
  - Depends on “genius” developers
  - Little or no documentation
  - Unpredictable and often brittle results

- Engineering Approach
  - Tightly structured and controlled
  - Single pass “Waterfall” methodology
  - “Big Design Up Front” (BDUF)
  - Heavyweight documentation
  - Slow and inflexible

- Agile Approach
  - Iterative (multiple passes)
  - Overlapping phases
  - Lightweight documentation
  - “Learn as you go”
  - Highly responsive to change

# Agile Software Development: Values

- **Individuals and interactions** over processes and tools
- **Working software** over comprehensive documentation
- **Customer collaboration** over contract negotiation
- **Responding to change** over following a plan

Source: *Manifesto for Agile Software Development*, <http://www.agilemanifesto.org/>

# Agile Software Development: Principles

- Satisfy the customer
- Welcome changing requirements
- Deliver working software frequently
- Business people and developers work together
- Support and trust motivated people
- Convey information through face-to-face conversations
- Measure progress by working software
- Maintain a sustainable pace
- Pay attention to technical excellence and good design
- Simplicity is essential
- Use self-organizing teams
- Adjust behavior at regular intervals

Source: *Principles behind the Agile Manifesto*, <http://www.agilemanifesto.org/principles.html/>

# Scrum: An Agile Methodology



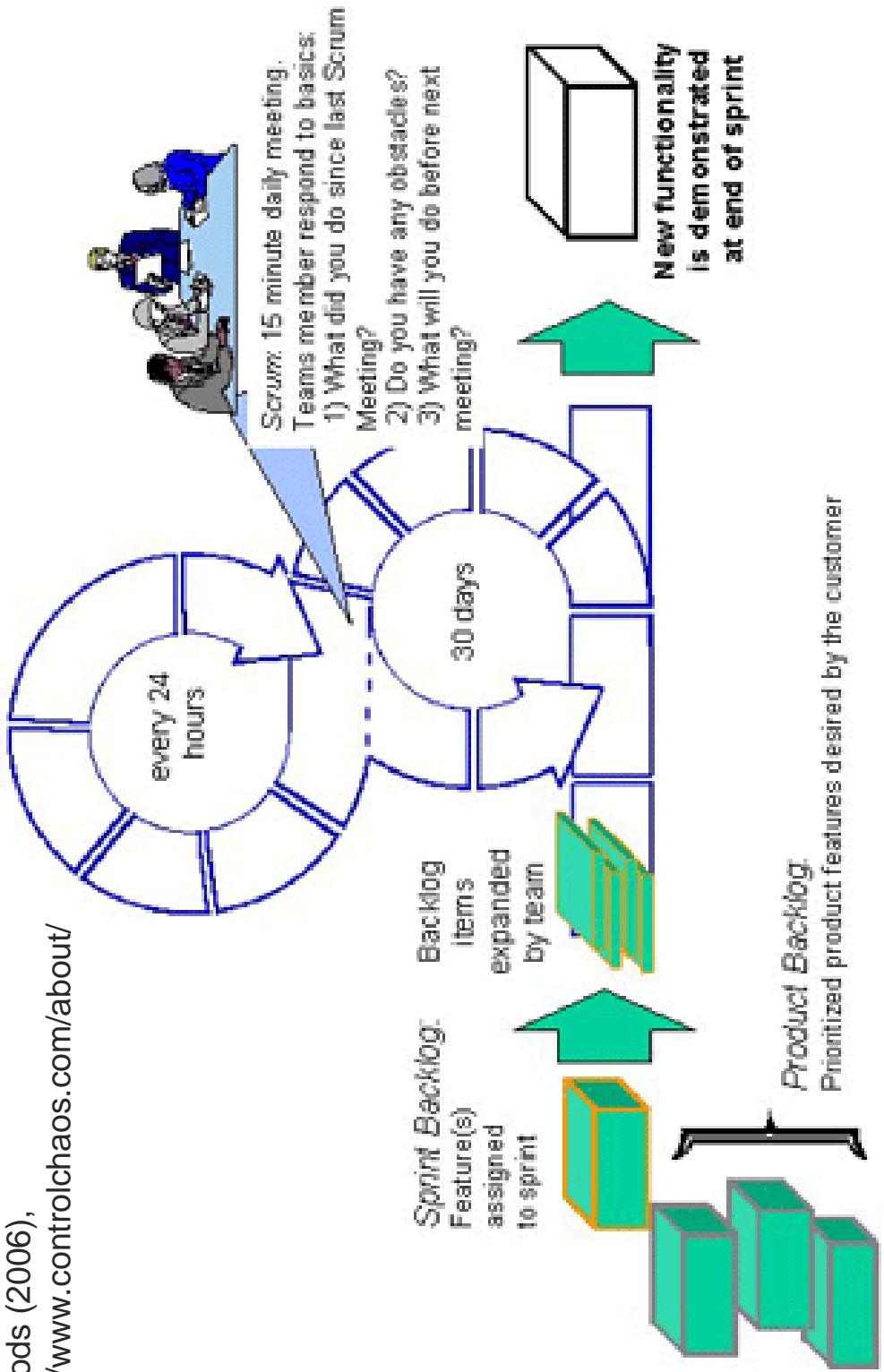
## Definitions of Scrum

- A play in Rugby in which the two sets of forwards mass together around the ball and, with their heads down, struggle to gain possession of the ball. (*TheFreeDictionary.com*)
- An iterative, incremental process for developing any product or managing any work. It produces a potentially shippable set of functionality at the end of every iteration. (*ControlChaos.com*)

Photo by Alan Harris. From [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Rugby\\_union\\_scrummage.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Rugby_union_scrummage.jpg).  
Used under terms of the GNU Free Documentation License Version 1.2 or later.

# Scrum Process Overview

Source: Advanced Development Methods (2006),  
<http://www.controlchaos.com/about/>



# The Scrum Team and Scrum Master

- The Scrum Team
  - Typically small (5-10 people)
    - Use multiple interlocking teams for larger projects
    - Cross-functional
    - Self-organizing
    - Full-time
    - Membership only changes between sprints
- The Scrum Master
  - Project Manager or Team Leader
    - Interface between the team and upper management
    - Ensures that team follows Scrum practices and values
    - Facilitates Daily Stand-Up Meetings
    - Manages and maintains Product Backlog, Sprint Backlog and Burndown Chart
    - Protects the team
    - Removes impediments

# Sprints

- Product is created through a series of cycles called *sprints*

- 30 days is a typical sprint duration

- Sprint has an overall theme or goal
  - Sprint Planning Meeting

- Moves tasks from Product Backlog to Sprint Backlog

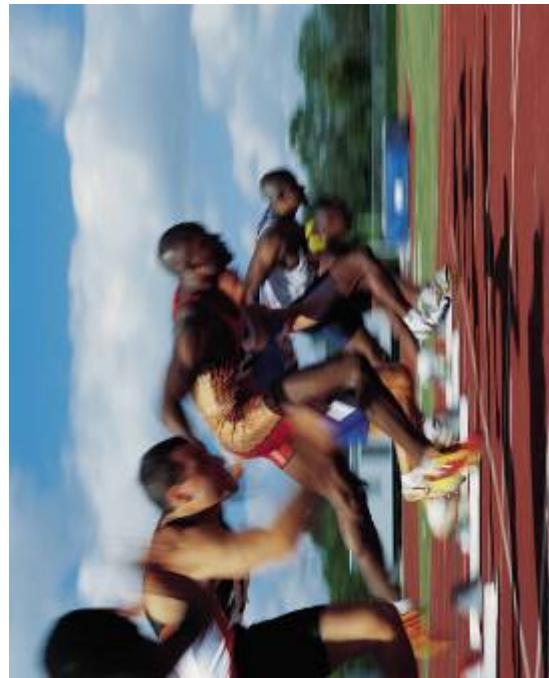
- Multiple project activities overlap during a sprint

- No changes to requirements are allowed during the sprint

- Daily Stand-Up Meetings keep the sprint on-track

- Must show customer something that works at the end

- Informal
  - No PowerPoint
  - Max 2 hours prep time



# Product Backlog

A	B	C	D	E
Priority	Item #	Description	Estimate By	
1	High	1 Locate Contract Vendors and Address 2 Create Food Vendor Table 3 Create Supply Vendor Table 4 Create Log in Id Table 5 Create location form	40 SL 5 JB 5 JB 5 JB 15 JB/MW	
2	Medium	6 Create Security Folder 7 Creat Log In Id page 8 Create Alerts and Error Messages 9 Integrate mapping from Yahoo	8 MW 10 MW 15 KV 25 RB	
3	Low	10 Test login page 11 Test Alerts and Error Messages 12 Test Vendor Address	3 MW 5 KV 5 SL	
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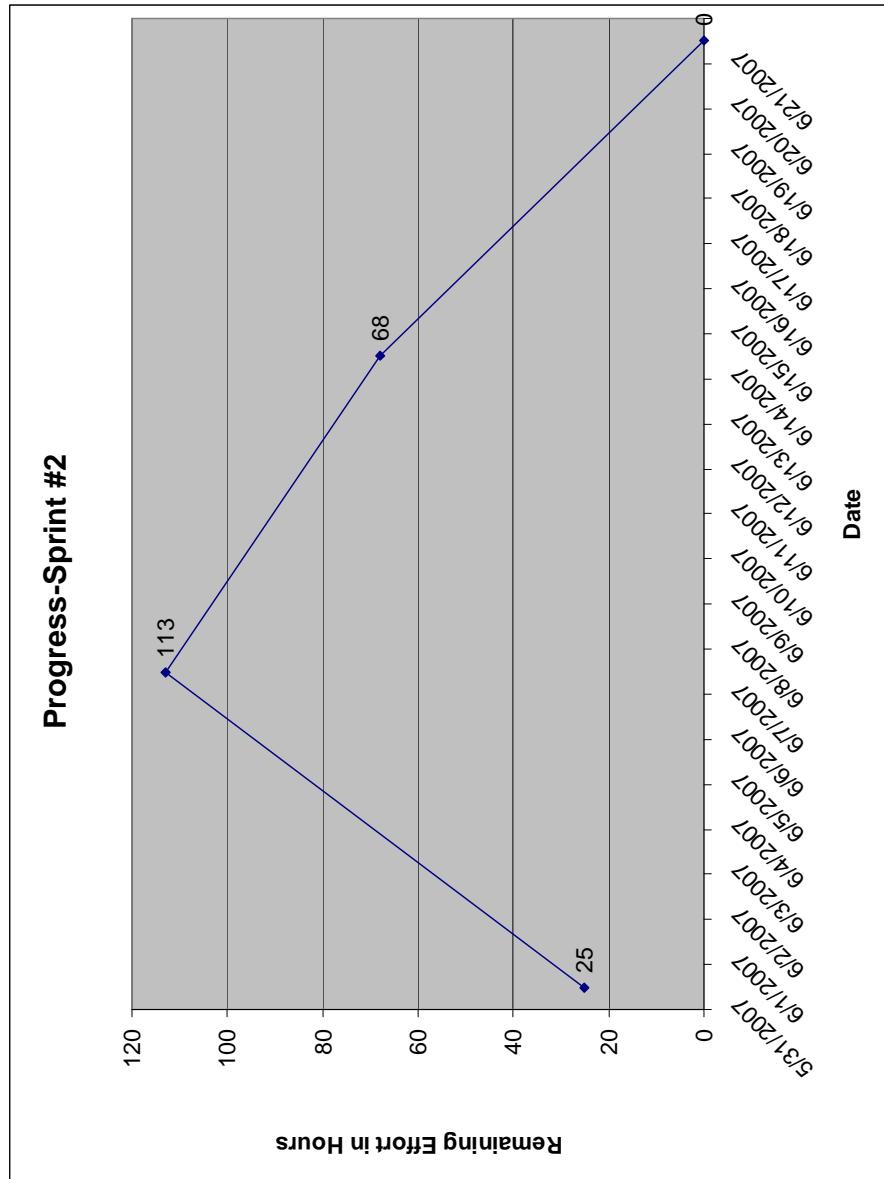
From a BIS-440 Student Project at DeVry Long Beach, Spring 2006 (students Ron Buencamino, Jarrod Bugayong, Sandra Lopez, Kia Vang, Martha Wolfe)

# Sprint Backlog

1 Days left in sprint:	2	3 Who	Description	4 Total Estimated Hours:	5 C	6 D	7 E	8 F
				21	14	7	0	6/21/2007
				25	113	68	0	6/21/2007
				25	10	5	0	6/14/2007
				25	5	3	0	6/7/2007
				20	20	5	0	5/31/2007
				0	10	10	0	
				0	10	5	0	
				0	10	3	0	
				0	15	5	0	
				0	5	5	0	
				0	15	15	0	
				0	10	10	0	
				0	15	10	0	
				15				

From a BIS-440 Student Project at DeVry Long Beach, Spring 2006 (students Ron Buencamino, Jarrod Bugayong, Sandra Lopez, Kia Vang, Martha Wolfe)

# Burndown Chart



From a BIS-440 Student Project at DeVry Long Beach, Spring 2006 (students Ron Buencamino, Jarrod Bugayong, Sandra Lopez, Kia Vang, Martha Wolfe)

# Daily Stand-Up Meeting

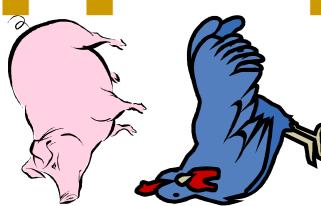
- Typically 15 minutes long
- Stand-up

*Not for problem solving*  
Pigs (working team members) and  
chickens (others) attend

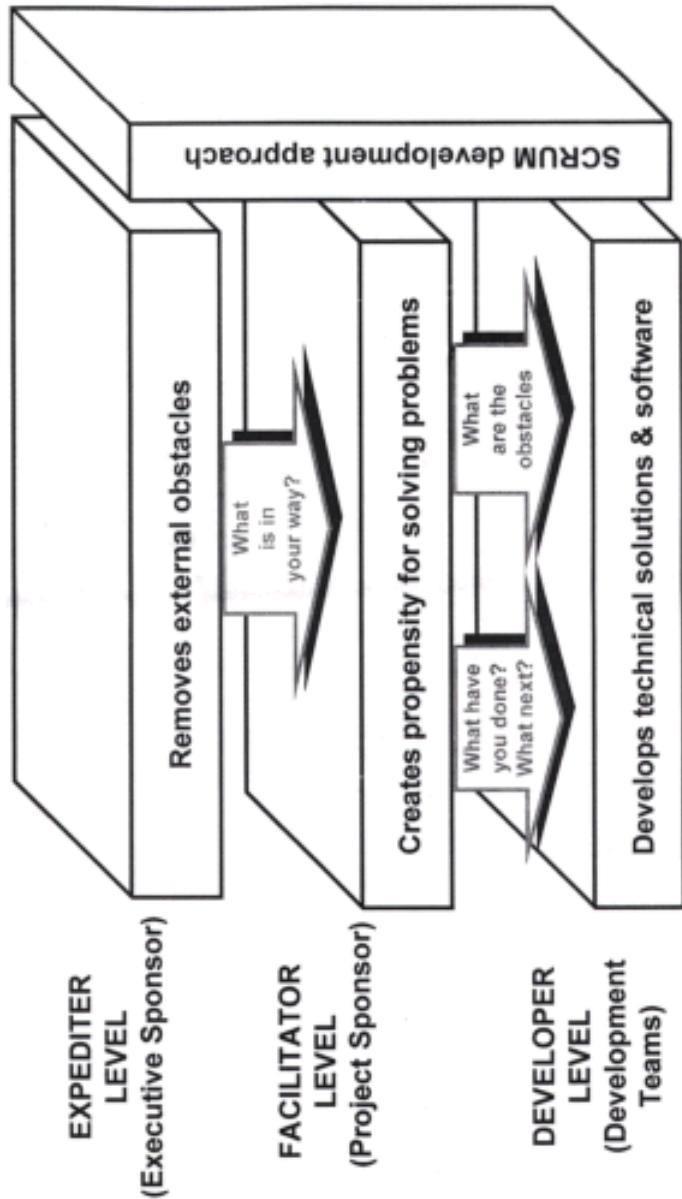
- Only pigs can speak

Each team member answers 3  
questions:

- What did you do since the last  
meeting?
- What will you do today?
- What impediments (obstacles) are  
holding you back?



# Scrum Management Responsibilities



- Listen to the team
- Step in and problem-solve when needed
- Keep the team working (fast decisions)
- Remove impediments
  - Scrum Master escalates impediment to upper management if needed

Graphic from ADP, <http://www.controlchaos.com/about/management.php>

# Agile Success Stories

- Sabre Air-Travel Reservation System Modernization
  - \$125 million non-agile effort failed
  - Agile effort succeeded, accommodated major technology changes
  - Source: "Big IT: Doomed" by Frank Hayes (*ComputerWorld*, June 7, 2004)
- Verizon
  - Uses agile methods in its Global Delivery Model for worldwide distributed software development
  - Source: "Agile Project Management of Non-Collocated Teams" by Harsha Srivatsa, Ganapathi M Kumar and Scott Presley (white paper published on TechRepublic.com)

# When is Agile Appropriate?

## Go Agile When...

- Customer can accept delivery in "chunks"
- Requirements are uncertain, changing
- Technology or other factors are uncertain, changing
- High degree of visibility needed
- Need to build relationship with frequent, shared success

## Probably not when...

- Customer requires extensive formal documentation
- Customer or management culture will not accept loss of tight control within a sprint
- Adversarial or strict contractual relationship with customer
- Both timing and content of deliverables are locked in
- Large projects and teams not easily divided into discrete sub-projects



# Resources

- Web Sites
  - Agile Alliance <<http://www.agilealliance.org/>>
  - Advanced Development Methods (ADM) Scrum Site <<http://www.controlchaos.com/>>
  - Agile Project Leadership Network <<http://www.apln.org/>>
  - Mountain Goat Software Scrum Site <<http://www.mountaingoatsoftware.com/scrum/>>
- Articles
  - "The Scrum Software Development Process for Small Teams" by Linda Rising & Norman S. Janoff (*IEEE Software*, July/August 2000)  
<<http://members.cox.net/rising1/Articles/IEEEScrum.pdf>>
  - "It's Not Just Standing Up: Patterns of Daily Stand-Up Meetings" by Jason Yip  
<<http://www.martinfowler.com/articles/itsNotJustStandingUp.html>>
  - "Managers Manage" by Scott Ambler (Dr. Dobb's Portal, September 10, 2002)  
<<http://www.ddj.com/dept/architect/184414912>>
- Books
  - *Agile Project Management: Creating Innovative Products* by Jim Highsmith (Addison-Wesley, 2004)
  - *Agile Project Management with Scrum* by Ken Schwaber (Microsoft Press, 2004)
  - *Managing Agile Projects* by Sanjiv Augustine (Prentice Hall, 2005)
  - *Agile Project Management: How to Succeed in the Face of Changing Project Requirements* by Gary Chin (AMACOM, 2003)

# Q&A

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For a copy of this presentation, visit <http://www.RussellWalker.com/agilepm>