

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP CHARTER

SIG Name: Agile IT Special Interest Group

Steering Committee: Brad Bella, ORBIS Corporation
Terri Rundell, Northwestern Mutual
Renee Vogt, American Family Insurance
Shawn Belling, UW-Madison

Facilitator: Cavinda Caldera, IT Practice Director, UWEBC

SIG Objectives:

The Agile IT Special Interest Group offers a forum for those individuals leading Agile teams within UWEBC member companies to interact, share opinions and expertise, and leverage each other's experiences. The SIG will address a variety of topics and issues pertinent to the successful deployment and operation of Agile methodologies and practices within IT teams. The objective of the SIG is to serve as an educational and professional resource and support platform and network for Agile team leads, coaches, and product owners with experience of running Agile teams. The SIG will allow participants to glean validated operational paradigms, ideas and best practices from other member companies and adopt them to their own Agile environments.

Benefits:

- Participation in a trusted peer-to-peer network of Agile IT leaders and specialists.
- Access to a forum for professional development and learning about Agile methodology, issues and best practices to optimize team efficiency, productivity and sustainable goal attainment.
- Identify opportunities to further enhance and tweak Agile methods and structures within IT environments.
- Validation of Agile strategies, methodologies, technologies and best practices through knowledge exchange with other participants in the Agile IT Special Interest Group.

Intended Participants:

- Companies: Companies with active Agile teams in the IT space.
- Roles: Directors, managers, team leads and coaches with direct operational responsibility for Agile teams, product owners and senior practitioners with at least 3 years of experience working in Agile settings.

Number of Meetings, Length, and Frequency:

Four quarterly meetings will be held, after which time consideration will be given to extending the group's charter. Meetings will be full-day events (9:00AM – 3:00PM) with a limited number of presentations from Subject Matter Experts, case studies from member organizations and a significant portion of time allocated for group, panel and breakout group discussions. Networking with peers and guest coaches will also be encouraged.

Meeting Location(s)

Meetings will be at UW-Madison and/or member-company campuses.

Output/Deliverable

- TBD for each meeting; possibly white paper(s) summarizing Agile IT issues, solutions and best practices as they pertain to topics addressed and discussed within the SIG.
- Contact information for Agile SIG members

Meeting Discussion Topics (proposed):

1. Agile organizational change
2. Management issues with Agile teams
3. Budgeting for Agile projects
4. Developing product owners
5. Scaling Agile, including Scalable Agile Framework (SAFe) guidelines
6. Managing a portfolio of Agile and non-Agile projects
7. Backlog developing and grooming
8. Resourcing Agile projects when team members cannot be dedicated to one team
9. Integrated (continuous) testing and release
10. Doubling project throughput and reliability
11. Getting started with Agile and managing expectations
12. Training and managing technical-debt in Agile teams
13. Measurements and metrics around Agile teams
14. Managing innovation with Agile
15. Hybrid, blended approaches with Agile, Lean, and traditional waterfall
16. Decomposing user stories
17. Managing user experience with an Agile delivery

Potential Consortium Members to Engage in the SIG:

- American Family Insurance
- Ariens Company
- Brady Corporation
- Church Mutual Insurance
- Colony Brands
- Cree
- CUNA Mutual Group
- Fiskars
- Foot Locker
- Greenheck Fan Corporation
- Harley-Davidson
- Imperial Supplies
- Kohl's Department Stores
- Lands' End
- Madison Gas & Electric
- Miller Electric Mfg. Co.
- Northwestern Mutual
- ORBIS Corporation
- Plexus
- Sargento Foods
- Schneider
- Skyline Technologies
- Springs Window Fashions
- TDS
- University of Wisconsin Foundation
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- WEA Trust
- Wisconsin Alumni Association
- Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce
- WPS Health Insurance