

# Application Methodologies

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- 17 people in the group
- 12 of them are technical
  - 1 of these is the application architect
- 3 are business analysts/testers/PMs
- 1 is the webmaster/analysts/PM
- 1 is the line manager (me)
- We support over 100 custom applications
- Desktop applications in C#
- Mobile web applications in HTML5, jQuery

## Applications Support Group

- We do some Agile stuff
  - It is iterative
  - We deliver working code at key junctures
  - The requirements emerge
  - We refactor if the requirements affect design
  - We hold daily stand-ups
  - Technical team is co-located
  - Teams organize themselves

**We call it Agile-ish**

- We don't do some stuff
  - People are not dedicated to one thing at a time
  - Range of customer engagement
  - Should do more reflecting/retrospectives
  - We should hold people accountable for what "done" is
  - We still refer to project managers and tech leads
  - We should be better at breaking tasks down to 8 hours or less

**We call it Agile-ish**

- All the literature assumes that people are good communicators – we aren't
  - They don't express obstacles or impediments
  - They don't always ask questions
  - They don't check on design issues before writing code
  - They don't acknowledge or express struggles
  - They are too careful at retrospectives
  - Requirements aren't always clear
  - Priorities aren't always clear

**Current challenges**

- Customers like to change priorities
- Customers often express solutions as requirements (sometimes the BAs do that too)

**Current challenges**

- Unit and integration tests
- User acceptance testing
- Continuous integration
- Automated builds
- Reusable code – design patterns, templates, services, business objects
- Simplifying code
- We talk about application architecture a lot

**Disciplined development**