From User Research to Product Backlog

Hands-on Experience in Applying Design Thinking in SAP's Lean and Agile Environment

Dr. Tobias Hildenbrand (SAP CPO Cross-Dev Lean Center) & Johannes Meyer (Design Thinking Team), XP Days, Karlsruhe, 17 November 2011



The "Personas" you will face for the next 58 minutes...



Johannes, 28

"Growing up is the one thing I refuse to try out"

- Design thinking coach
- Development consultant
- Creativity facilitator

Singing in a rock band



Tobias, 33, married

"Imagine your whole life is just a sitcom"

- Dev consultant, lean/agile coach
- Continuous improvement expert
- Requirements engineering

Baseball & cooking

- 1. How Can Design Thinking Complement Lean Software Product Development?
- 2. What is Design Thinking in the First Place?
- 3. How Can Both Thinking Schools be Combined and Applied in Practice?
- 4. Conclusions
- Questions & Answers...

SAP's "Lean Way"

How Can Design Thinking Complement Lean Software Product Development?







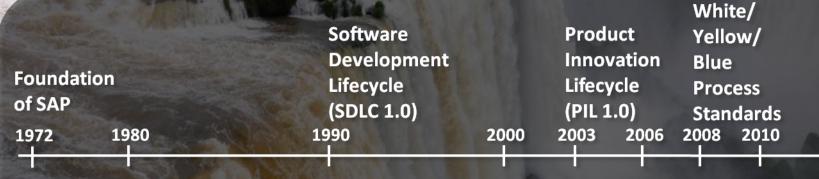


Some "Fast Facts" on SAP's Products









Project-based development together with customers and "developer-consultants"

Solution
Development
Lifecycle
(SDLC 2.0)

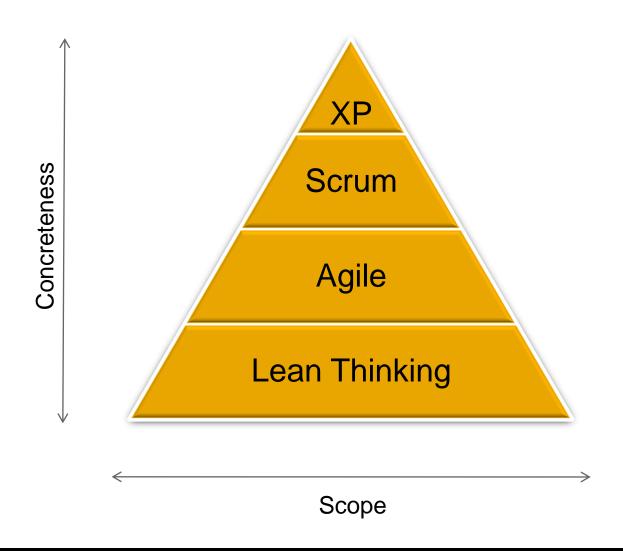
Product Innovation Lifecycle (PIL 2.0) LEAN / Agile Software Product Development

Motivation – Scaling Requires Changes to the Processes

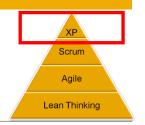
More employees did not help us to come back into economies scale...



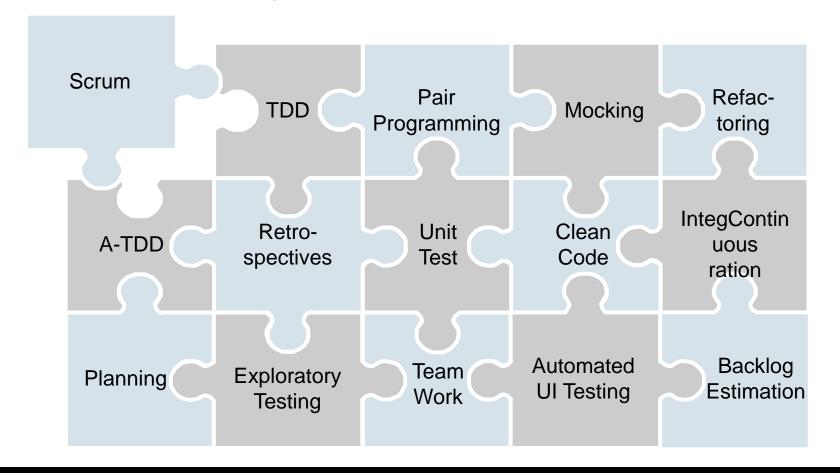
Approach: From Lean Thinking to XP Practices...



Agile Software Engineering Practices from XP

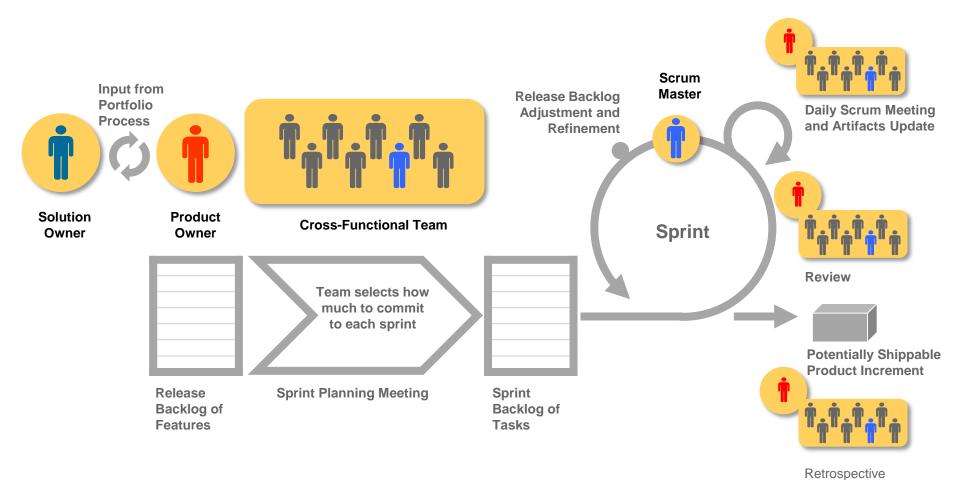


"However, concrete software engineering techniques are among the key success factors in agile software projects" (Chow and Cao, 2008).



On the Team Level, We Apply Standard Scrum





Agile Manifesto (source: agilemanifesto.org)



We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it. Through this work we have come to value:

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

That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

SAP's Lean Thinking House



Maximize Customer Value and Speed

Respect for People

Product Development Flow

- 1. Take an Economic View
- 2. Actively Manage Queues
- 3. Exploit Variability
- 4. Reduce Batch Size
- 5. Apply WIP Constraints
- Control Flow: Cadence and Synchronization
- 7. Apply Fast Feedback
- 8. Decentralize Control

Continuous Improvement

LEAN Leadership

Adjusted and derived from Derived from (c): Toyota Production System (2004), Larman and Vodde (2009), Dean Leffingwell, Agile software requirements (2011)

SAP's Lean Approach – Key Principles





Optimize the release plan priorities in collaboration with the control iteration

Continuously Improve –

retrospective after each iteration

Adjusted from: http://www.crisp.se/henrik.kniberg/Kanban-vs-Scrum.pdf

SAP's Lean Approach in a Nutshell



Instead of a large group spending a long time building a big thing,

we have small teams spending a short time building small things.

...while integrating regularly to see the whole.

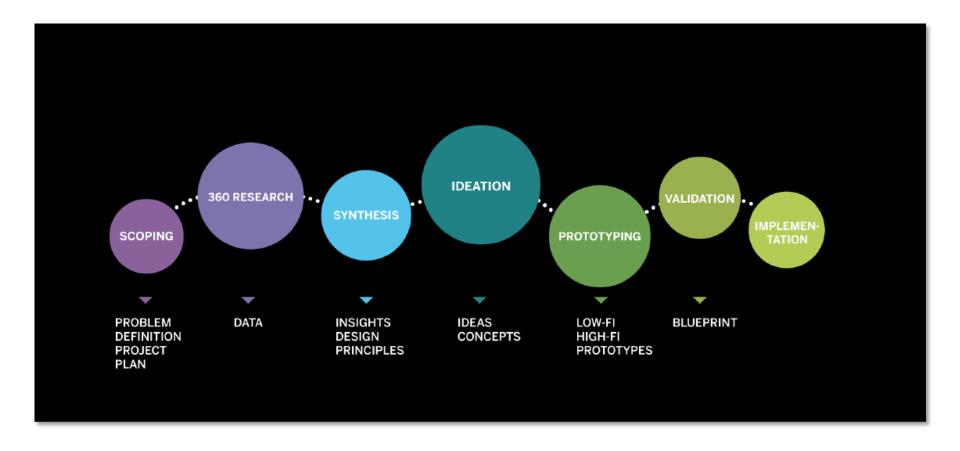
Here comes Design Thinking

What is Design Thinking in the First Place?

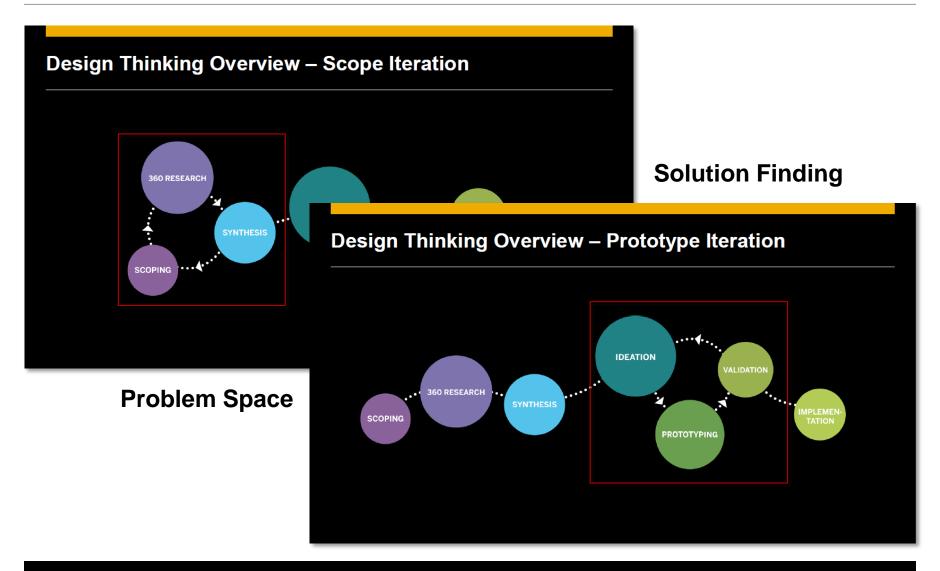




Design Thinking Follows a Basic Process



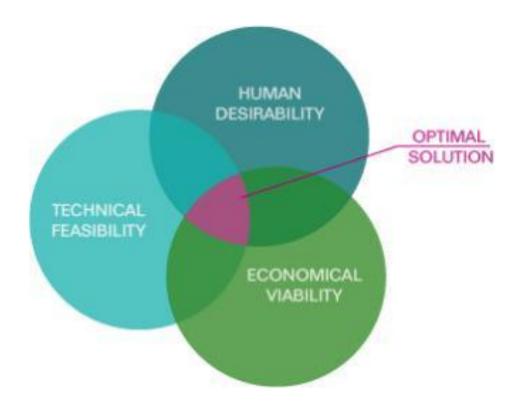
Iterations



It's NOT just a Process

Bringing together a good approach, with the right people, in the right environment.

Design Thinking Value Proposition



Design Thinking and Lean Can Complement Each Other

Lean Thinking - Focus on Time-to-Market and Speed

Design Thinking – Focus on Customer Value and Desire

(Lean + Design) * Thinking = STOP TO THINK!

Lean Thinking

- Stop to find out which development processes induce direct value
- Stop to eliminate waste
- Stop to continuously improve...

Design Thinking

- Stop to observe the customer
- Stop to develop empathy
- Stop to ideate and restart...



SAP's Sailing Program

How Can Both Thinking Schools be Combined and Applied in Practice?





Design Challenge and Methodological Approach

Challenge: How might we provide software for sailors and coaches that helps them to perform better and win at the Olympic Games 2012?

First Goal: Develop product vision and backlog for sailor and coach solution based on user research conducted at home and at actual venue (Kiel)

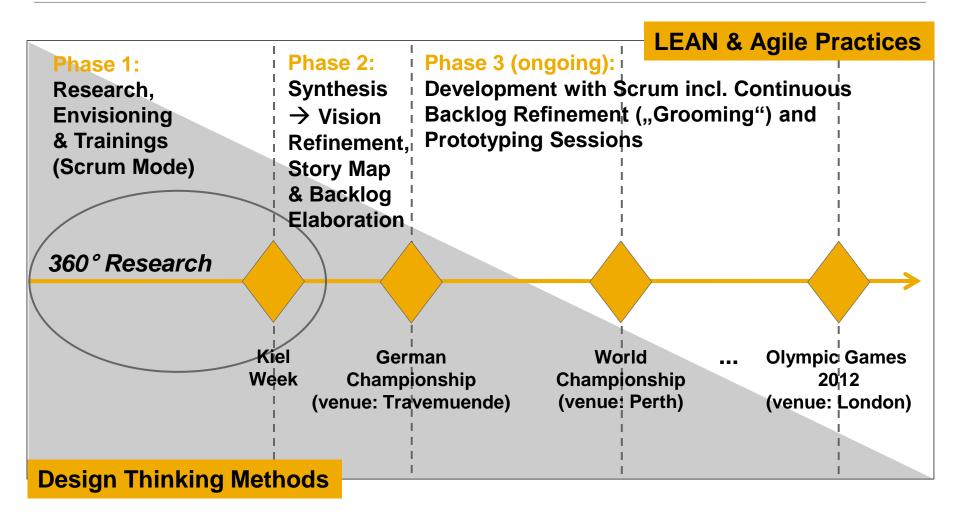
Method: Design Thinking plus Lean and agile software development practices at SAP

Team:

TIP Innovation Center development team, UX and mobile experts, chief dev architect, mentors for Design Thinking, LEAN, and agile methods (us)



Our approach combines design thinking and lean/agile...



Our Goal: Conduct 360° User Research and Understand...

Some Facts & Figures...

- 15 **interviews** with various sailors, coaches, and other experts
- Observation of race preparation at venue site
- Immersion by actual sailing
- Study of article and books
- Sailing simulation games
- Scanning of existing sailing content on web sites

• ...

Post-Kiel Workshop



Synthesis – "Story Telling"

Resona Product Vision

Resona Product Vision

Resona Profit

P

Goal: capture and channel experience, empathy, and spirit from user research at Kiel Week in order to develop product vision, personas, and first prototypes

Approach: actual statement on "post-its"

Post-race Analysis

of the Winning
boat

Robert, Bayerischer Landestrainer, Johannes

Sharing of information

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We would **not** share this information internationally, but among
us. Those who give should also get.

Michael, 470 Trainer, Daniel&Frederik&Johannes

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Results of Post-Kiel Workshop



- We had a clear product vision and backlog – aligned with customer
- The team decided on a working model (Scrum, 3-week sprints, etc.)
- Story mapping helps us to see the whole and continuously refine it
- Personas keep us focussed on the users and facilitate communication within the team
- Paper prototypes and other cheap artifacts enable fast feedback from customers and colleagues

Feedback from the Sail Better Team (Quotes)

"We had no clue at the beginning and were ready to develop after Kiel..." (SM) "What? We only do design thinking at the beginning – let's do it each sprint!" (Dev)

"Our story map helped me to communicate with our customers" (PO)

"Having the team write the user stories based on Design Thinking was a tremendous boost!" (PO) "What the team built goes way beyond our own thinking and will improve our preparation for the Olympic Games 2012." (STG)

Conclusions and Roadmap



"Design Thinking and Lean Development helped us creating and delivering products that customers love"

- Both "thinking schools" go hand in hand
- Design Thinking rather focuses on building the right products, i.e. generating desire on the customers' side
- Lean Thinking, including agile practices, tells us how to build the product right, i.e. how to achieve speed at scale
- Sail Better shipped a first version of the software for the German sailing championships in Travemuende (Sept 2011)
- Upcoming events: World Championships & Olympic Games





Thank You – Any Questions?

Contact information

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Attribution and Sources (all last visited 16.11.2011)

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