Scrum.org Unveils Framework for Organizations to Manage Scrum Implementations, Increase Agility, and Gain a Competitive Advantage
News
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The Continuous Improvement Framework (CIF™) helps organizations using Scrum manage their investment in becoming more agile,providing an effective way to continuously improve and gain a competitive advantage

Scrum.org and Scrum co-creator, Ken Schwaber, today unveiled the Continuous Improvement Framework (CIF™) at the Microsoft-sponsored, ALM Summit 3 in Redmond. The CIF was created to help organizations respond to opportunities and challenges and to understand their return on investment in Scrum. CIF enables organizations to gauge their level of agility on a continuous basis and understand how effectively the value of their products is being managed. Through the use of designed metrics, it helps organizations identify and apply practices that will yield the greatest increase in quality, maximum ROI, and competitive advantage.

“Many organizations have experienced benefits from Scrum in their development teams, CIF is for those organizations that want to seriously take advantage of Scrum to gain a competitive advantage in their marketplace,” says Ken Schwaber. “CIF is unique in that it is a framework, not a prescriptive methodology. It doesn’t fully define practices, tools, and the flow of product development, instead it provides suggested practices and processes that an organization customizes, applies, and manages for continuous improvement. CIF is progressive, applied with inspection of improvement and continuous adaptation,” he continues.

CIF consists of two interacting processes: product development and continuous improvement. Product development consists of product, program, release, and development functions. The Continuous Improvement Framework captures metrics from these functions, measuring productivity, value, and quality. Trends are identified. Patterns of improvements generated, new practices and changes are analyzed. Practices and processes that will most improve product development are selected. During a Sprint, these are turned into new, improved, product development functions. The cycle then repeats: measure, inspect, select, and change.

The Agile movement continues to hold out the promise of greater productivity, quality, value, and return for an organization’s software investment. Organizations may have recently started, want to start, or been actively engaged in obtaining these benefits using agile software development processes and they would like to know how to measure and improve. Over the last twenty years, Scrum.org has been engaged by numerous organizations. They have also wanted to become more agile. Scrum.org has trained, coached, and guided them as they improved, progressively becoming more effective and agile.

Whether organizations are already on the path to agility, or contemplating starting, the CIF provides a path to manage the effort with maximum benefit and payback for an organization’s investment while controlling their underlying risk. Get more information on CIF on http://www.scrum.org/CIF/