

QSM Associates and Pillar Technology Partner To Help Transition to Agile **Press Release**

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QSM Associates and Pillar Technology announced a partnership designed to deliver Agile software solutions, and benchmark time to market, speed to value and the quality of results. Under the agreement, believed to be unique in the software industry, Pillar will provide Agile enablement to enterprises, and QSM Associates will perform benchmarking services that are drawn from the software industry's largest and most complete database of project statistics.

Pillar Technology, developer of enterprise software solutions and consulting services, uses Agile to develop software solutions at a productivity and quality rate that can be up to 10x better than the industry norms. Long before the Agile Manifesto, Pillar was built on a foundation that focused on Iterative and Incremental approaches, value focused delivery, and technical excellence.

QSM Associates provides the SLIM suite of software benchmarking and estimation tools. For more than 20 years, QSM has been researching software productivity and quality, including 10 years in the Agile environment. Using the QSM SLIM Database, comprising more than 10,000 completed software projects, QSM Associates delivers the most thorough and accurate project forecasts.

Through its proven process of structured interviews, expert observation, and assessment using SLIM, Pillar clients have produced some of the most impressive results in an ongoing study of Agile programming practices in central Ohio. The study goes beyond anecdotal claims by providing the Columbus Agile community with valuable, verified information on patterns of defect rates and time to market. It was during this study, conducted by QSM Associates, that the two companies recognized the value that collaboration could bring to customers.

"Converting to Agile can be a transformative commitment, and companies need proof that it works. Analyzing our projects with SLIM demonstrated that Agile works for us, but you don't need to take our word for it," said Angelo Mazzocco, Pillar Technology president.

"We're teaming-up with QSM Associates because their independent database of software development projects is like a Kelly Blue Book. QSM Associates provides a credible source based on reality, not speculation or hyperbole."

About Pillar Technology

Pillar Technology develops limitless Agile solutions at The Forge, a software studio that sparks breakthroughs with a "no holds barred" philosophy. As an incubator for thought leadership, The Forge allows rapid development of innovative software products and applications, serving as a resource for solving problems and achieving business goals through value focus, improved quality, and reduced waste. At the Forge, Pillar Technology's plan-driven development allows a balance between the seeming "extremes" of vision and action, energy and focus, resulting in a catalyst for business brilliance.

About QSM Associates

QSM Associates, Inc. measures, plans, estimates and control software projects for businesses and organizations. It offers the SLIM (Software Lifecycle Management) Suite of tools, so managers can benchmark and forecast Agile, waterfall, in-house, offshore/multi-shore or ERP/package implementation projects. SLIM contains statistics from a worldwide database of more than 10,000 completed projects, enabling productivity benchmarking on the desktop.