

## SAFe Methodics

### Agile approach in practice

You will be excited by our solutions.

The SAFe methodics (Scaled Agile Framework for Enterprises) introduces an applied Agile approach on the level of the whole company, such as the SAFe application on IT product development. We have been using the SAFe methodics in GEM System since 2019.



# IN PRACTICE, WE USE THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS SAFE METHODICS ON THREE BASIC LEVELS:

#### 1 Portfolio level

The members of this level are the Enterprise architect, Business Portfolio Manager, IT Portfolio Manager, as well as the individual Epic Owners. The members set together the main direction and goal of the company which should be implemented in the IT work and the related business. They also define high-level requirements, the so-called Epics. The Epics are either new applications or new functions of a large extent which affect the user's behaviour, his "customer journey". This is often implemented across several teams and for a longer time span (months, even years). These Epics are planned via the so-called high/level roadmap which creates new options for an agile management and enables an efficient project management for the future.



#### 2 Program level

The typical team members are the Product Manager, Release Train Engineer, System Architect, as well as the Business owners of partial systems and applications. This level defines the so-called Features - specific requirements and functions are delivered from the Epics on a higher level. These Features are planned for individual PI periods, during which they are processed on the team level and delivered in a PI form (program increment).



The Program Increment (PI) is a time field in which the Agile Release Train (ART) creates an increment level in the form of a working/testing software and systems. The PIs usually run for 8-12 weeks. The PI is a strong time field for the creation and verification of the whole increment level of the system, verification of the level and quick feedback.



The members are constituted from individual developing teams which plan the so-called User stories for individual PI periods. The User stories are partial steps for a gradual growth of the business level up to the fulfilment of individual Features which are defined in the previous level. The individual User stories should be realizable within one sprint – each PI period has several of them. In our projects, the most common sprints run for 6 weeks within one PI period.







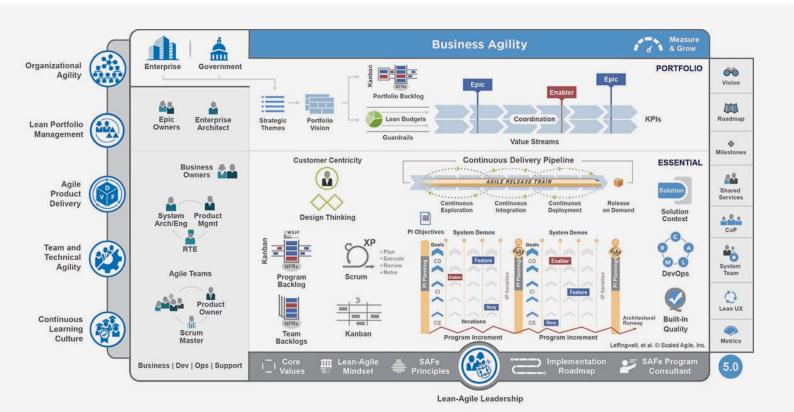






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#### MOST COMMON RULES OF AGILELY MANAGED PROJECTS

One PI period runs for 3 months and it consists it mostly from 6 sprints. Before each PI period, the PI planning takes place. It is a two-day event attended by most members of all levels - management, developers, analysts, stakeholders, support teams, as well as the rollout team. During the PI planning event, the members present results of individual teams and products from the previous PI period. The next step is the introduction of new goals for the next PI period. A plan is created for individual teams/applications for the new PI period. It is done in a form of PI objectives and individual Features, and their User stories designed for individual sprints.

Responsible people in their respective roles create the plan on the Portfolio and the Program levels. They also use the Deliver teams in order to specify projections, the break-up of individual Features of the User stories, and a rough design for the schedule. Yet, the final break-up, estimates and plan are the result of the whole PI planning based on the discussion with the management, evaluation of priorities, legislative boundaries, and of requirements on individual markets in case of global projects. The preparation means to coordinate the work of individual teams. Their tasks are interdependent in order to unify the preparation work.









