

# Functional Safety, Automotive SPICE® and Agile Methodology

Automotive SPIN Italia

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# Agenda

- Kugler Maag Cie company profile
- Introductory considerations regarding “Agile” methods
  - Why use agile methods? – motivation
  - Our understanding of Agile methods
  - Challenges in automotive regarding the use of Agile methods
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- Best Practices – our experience in automotive
  - Using best practices to apply “Agile” principles and ASPICE and functional safety requirements
  - Some examples from the field
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- Summary

## About the author: Markus Mueller

- Married with 2 children
- Director Operations at Kugler Maag Cie
- Over 15 years of experience in industry and research projects
- Assisting medium-size companies as well as international corporations, primarily in the automotive industry
- PMI Project Management Professional
- Very experienced trainer, moderator, and management coach
- Speaker at conferences and co-author of books



### Qualification & Experience

- intacs™-certified Principal Assessor and trainer, intacs™ Advisory Board member, who
  - conducted more than 40 assessments, many of them for OEMs
  - trained more than 150 ISO/IEC 15504 provisional assessors from leading car manufactures (OEMs) and suppliers
  - advised OEM representatives on the development of Automotive SPICE®
- Project leader of several change and improvement projects based on ISO/IEC 15504 and CMM/CMMI®
- Providing consultancy, coaching, and active support in several ECU development projects in automotive
- E.g. project leader for the implementation of a project control office (PCO) in the electronics development of a major car manufacturer, which today controls more than 100 ECU development projects



# KUGLER MAAG CIE is a service company with recognized expertise in process improvement

## Facts

- Founded in 2004, today a team of more than 50 recognized experts
- Specialized on process improvement
- Expertise in CMMI®, ISO 15504/SPICE, Automotive SPICE®, IEC 61508/functional safety, project /quality /requirements management, change management, ...

## Industries

- Automotive industry,
- Financial services, ICT,
- Health, telecommunications, and transportation

## Customers

- Global players, culturally diverse, operating in
  - Europe incl. Italy
  - North America and
  - Asia

## Partners & Networks



\*Helping to put best practices into actual practice™

# Introductory considerations regarding “agile“ methods

# Why use agile methods? – Motivation

- **Customer requirements are often changing** during the development cycle of a project – or, even more common, customers don't know their requirements at the start of development, as they are frequently developed in the course of the project
- Companies often complain that the **development cycle is too slow and not flexible enough** - they need innovative products with functionality within weeks
- The development process requires several “**non value added**” process steps and work products (from the perspective of the development team)
- Agile methods are focused on handling these challenges by
  - adapting the development process to continuously changing requirements
  - stabilizing the development process to be able to develop software under these conditions
  - introducing the high productivity of small teams with extensive expertise
    - being quick and economical
    - focusing on added value (i.e. developing only what is required by internal and external customers)

# The seven “agile“ principles

## 1. Eliminate waste:

- Waste is everything that does not add value to a product, value as perceived by the customer.

## 2. Amplify learning:

- Development is an exercise in discovery, while production is an exercise in reducing variations. For this reason a lean approach to development results in practices that are quite different from lean production practices.

## 3. Decide as late as possible:

- Development practices that provide for late decision making are effective in domains that involve uncertainty.

## 4. Deliver as fast as possible:

- In development the discovery cycle is critical for learning: Design, implement, feedback, improve. The shorter these cycles are, the more can be learned.

# The seven “agile” principles

## 5. Empower the team:

- Because decisions are made late and execution is fast, it is not possible for a central authority to orchestrate the activities of the workers.

## 6. Build in integrity:

- Software with integrity has a coherent architecture, scores high on usability and fitness for purpose, and is maintainable, adaptable and extensible.

## 7. See the whole:

- The common good suffers, if people attend first to their own specialized interests. When individuals or organizations are measured by their specialized contribution rather than overall performance, sub-optimization is likely the result.



# Our understanding of agile methods

- We at Kugler Maag Cie understand “Agile methods” as a generic term for different software development models such as Scrum, extreme programming, etc
- We are noticing that the term is increasingly used for a new way of thinking about project management as opposed to traditional, forward-planning project management.
- “Agile” means that the management and control of projects is performed in a flexible and dynamic way. “Agile” emphasises on the positive aspects of less hierarchical leadership.
- An essential attribute of agile methods are highly networked, self-reliant, interdisciplinary teams. Also a change from defined to adaptive development processes.
- We are mainly working with Scrum, but also with KANBAN.

# Challenges in automotive regarding the use of agile methods

## ECU development in automotive

- requires mature products of high quality, with a long lifetime and a guarantee
- requires fulfilment of “traditional” development standards like ISO 26262, Automotive SPICE, ISO/TS 16949, OEM-specific standards, ...
- requires a high degree of product documentation
- must consider that the development team of an ECU is part of a huge intercompany team that is developing a car (hundreds of companies, thousands of engineers)

## Agile methods (e.g. SCRUM) do usually not support

- architectural design
- integration and test on a system level
  - SCRUM is focusing on software development
  - No/only few statements regarding hardware-software integration or system test
  - No/only few statements regarding planning of required infrastructure like HIL, etc.
- an independent quality assurance role
- a complete product documentation
  - Product documentation is perceived as non value added

# Disclaimer - before we continue

- Our recommendations are based on our practical experience in automotive
  - We have to consider the existing standards and requirements
  - We do not recommend a purely Agile approach, but to integrate Agile elements into existing and proven development cycles, and to take advantage of both worlds
- Some Agile elements have already proved their worth in automotive for years
  - Incremental development in general
    - Delivery of increments/samples and validation of these at the supplier and the customer side; incorporating the return flow of results into the next increment
  - Rough overall release planning, detailed planning only for the next increment
  - Requirements are not fixed at the start, but developed and clarified during development
- “Agile” fans will say that this is a boring approach, not considering the pure “Agile” principles ... - and they will be right ... - But we do have to consider the automotive conditions ...!

# Best Practices – our experience in automotive

# Using best practices to apply “Sgile” principles **and** ASPICE and Functional Safety requirements

- Project organisation above the sprint teams
- Integrate sprints into the car development cycle
- Define the architecture before the sprints in such a way, that the sprint backlogs can be derived
- Standards for processes, methods, guidelines, tools, and documentation
- Independent integration and system tests (outside the sprints)
- Additional “best practices”, e.g.
  - High degree of automation, e.g. automated testing and continuous builds
  - Attend and guide the cultural change of the organisation from a “classical” forward planning organisation to a more agile organisation

## Customer references:

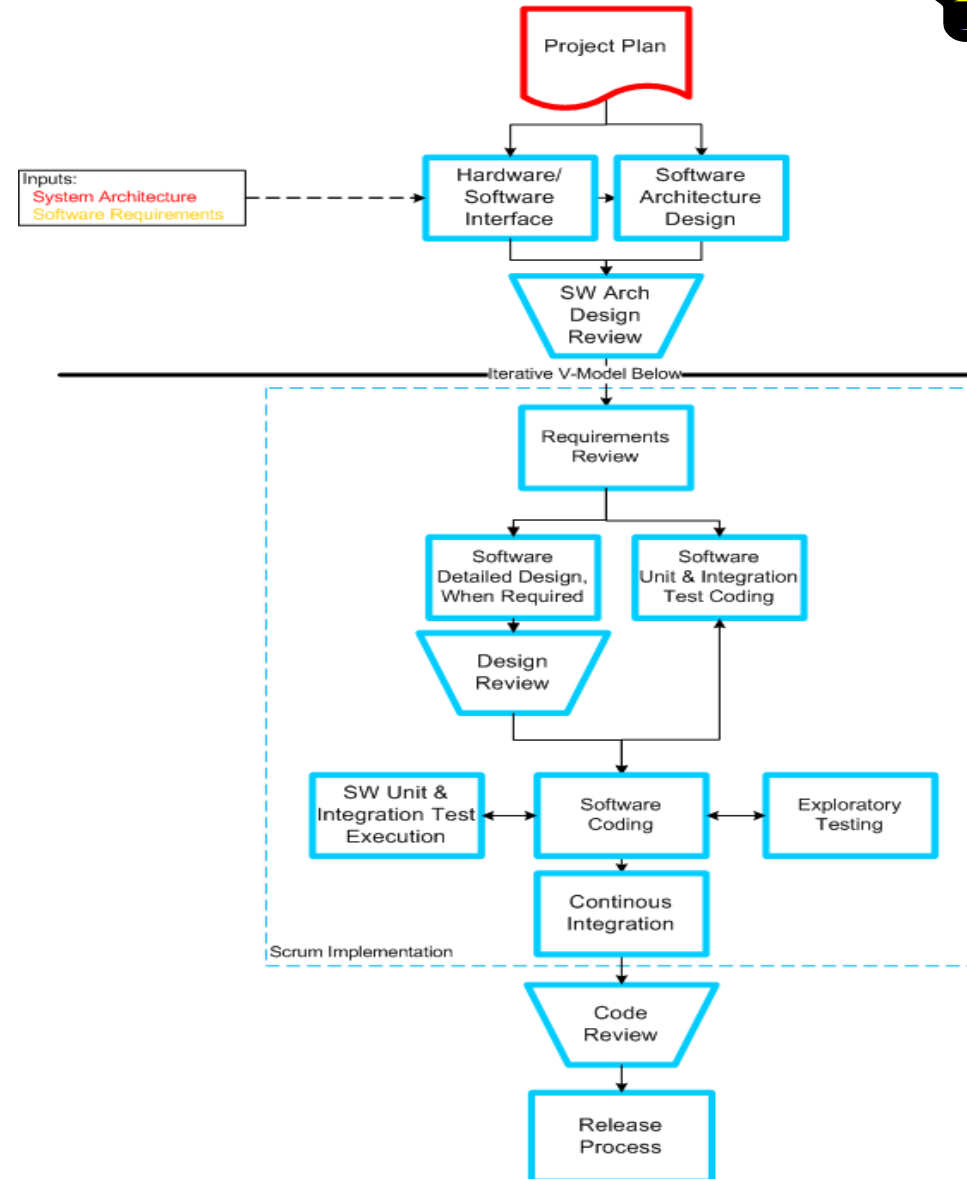
- Nero, Daimler TSS , Landis & Gyr, GENTEX, AWTCE, Magna



# Practical example

## Integrate agile methods into the development cycle

- Integration of scrum-based process steps into the SW development process

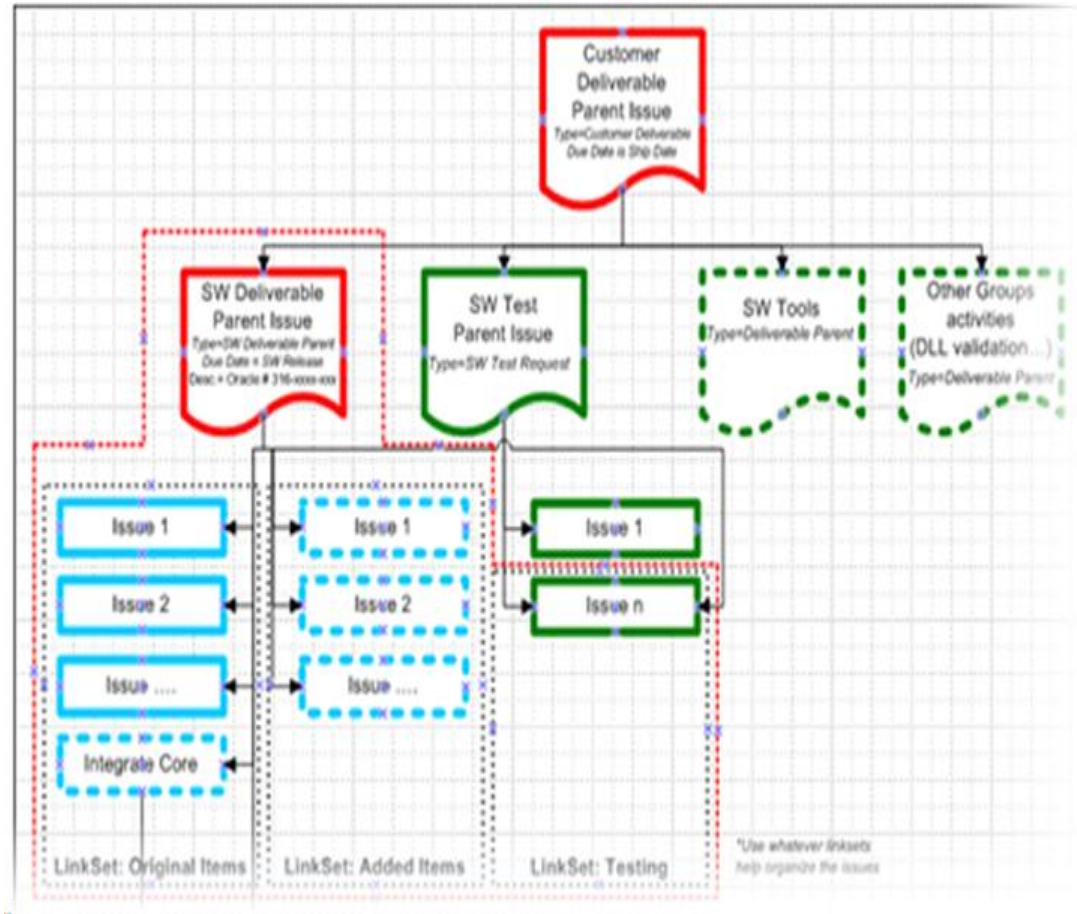




# Practical example

## Definition of Deliverables

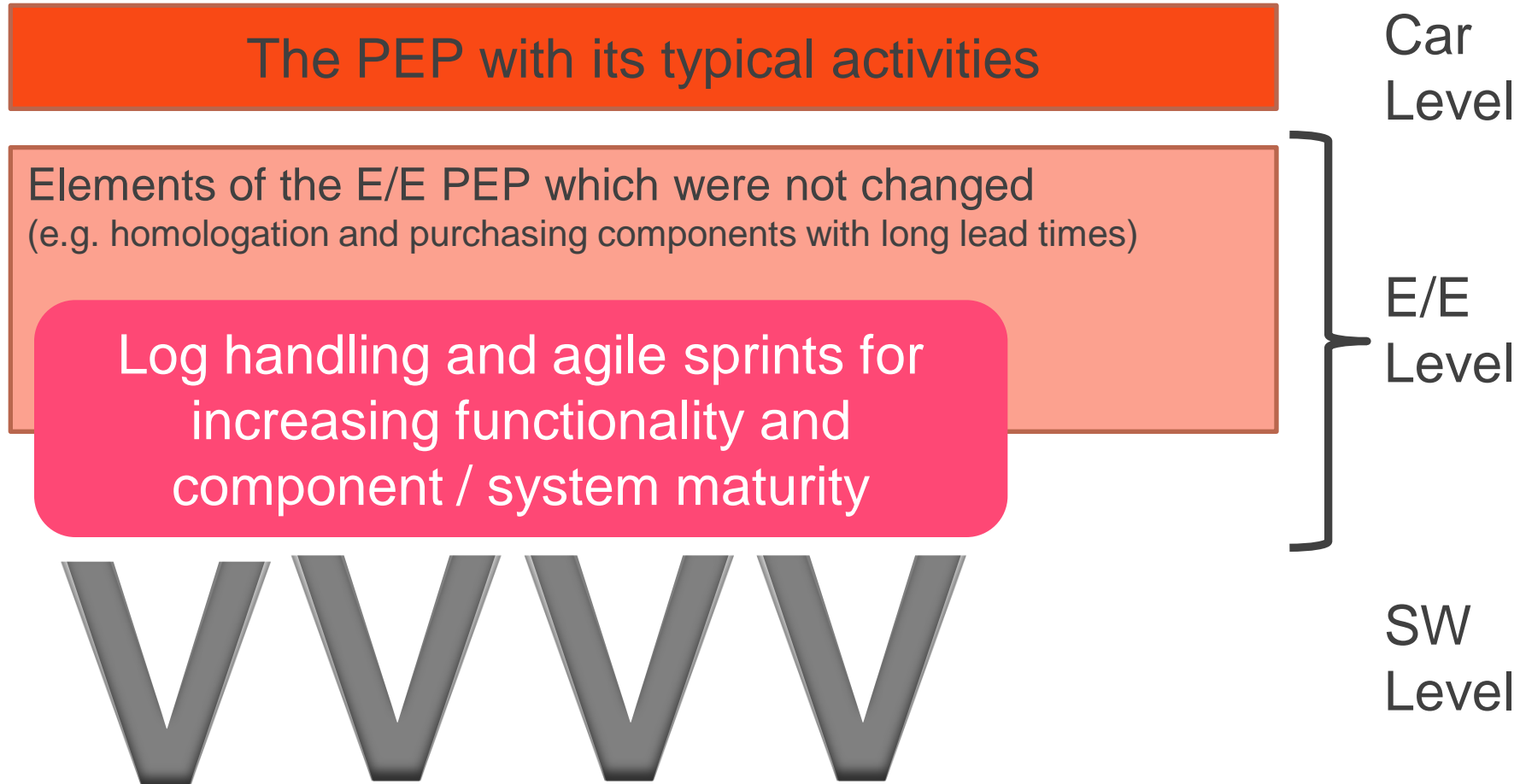
- Refining customer deliverables into atomic issues for sprints



# Kugler Maag Cie project experience



- Agile E/E PEP (Electrical / Electronic Product Engineering Process)





# Kugler Maag Cie project experience

## - A.SPICE level 3 and Agile



**Organization: Automotive Supplier**

- **Goal:**

- To support the customer in implementing A.SPICE requirements in an agile development environment

- **Approach:**

Principles for implementing A.SPICE

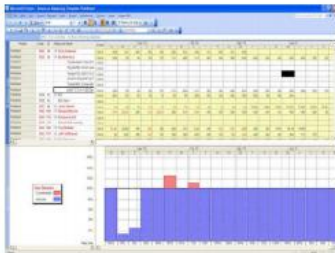
- A “compelling reason” to change
- Do less, but do it well from the start
- Core Process Improvement Group with the authority to:
  - design and implement the process
  - invest in tools
  - set expectations for staff
  - communicate to management

- **Results:**

- Target A.SPICE capability levels achieved
- A.SPICE implemented in a useful way
- High degree of automation

# Project Planning & Management

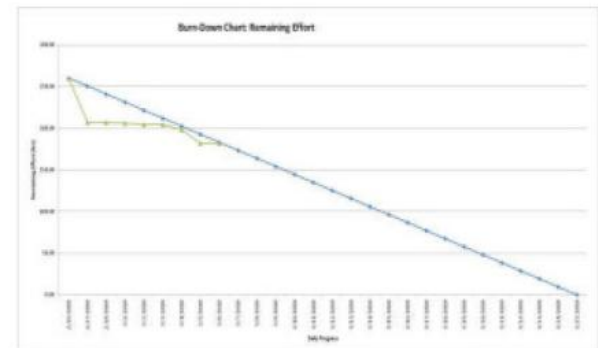
- V-model combined with SCRUM & Sprints
- Project Planning & Scheduling
  - MS Project Gantt in Server for Macro
  - Detailed planning in issue tracking tool using parent/children relationships
- Burn down charts for progress to plan



Resource assignment with MS Project Server with weekly resource leveling meetings



Daily SCRUM meetings



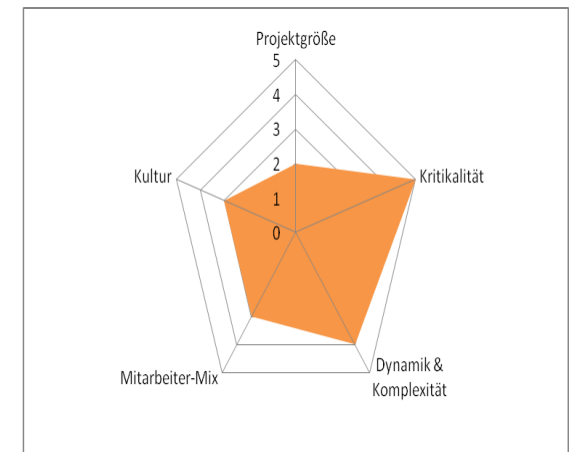
Focus on Delivery On Time with Burn Down charts

# Potential analysis to estimate cost and benefit

- To align and balance Agile and traditional forward planning we propose a **Quick Check Agile Development**.
- This cost and benefit analysis (duration approx. 2 days) to introduce Agile methods into the existing development organisations identifies
  - what the potential and the risks are
  - what the consequences are for management, organisation and processes
  - what needs to be changed
- Result is a detailed analysis with concrete improvement suggestions to integrate Agile methods into the development organisation

Analyse risks and opportunities in the following dimensions:

1. **Employees** - Know-how and experience, ...
2. **Dynamics and complexity** - of your products, stability, and requirement change rates, ...
3. Organisation and **project culture**  
team motivation, degree of freedom re. solutions, team stability, ...
4. **Project size** - team size, duration, project and product types, ...
5. Product functionality and **criticality**  
Stability of design, security and safety of products, ...



# Summary

- Agile methods help to handle the development of innovative products involving
  - frequent customer requirement changes during the development cycle
  - high-productivity small teams with extensive expertise focusing on added value
- Agile methods like SCRUM usually do not support some essentials, which are required in the automotive context.
- We therefore do not recommend a pure Agile approach, but to integrate Agile elements in the existing and proven development cycles and to take advantage of both worlds.
- We propose a Quick Check Agile Development to identify cost, benefits and risks of introducing Agile methods into existing development organisations.
- Any questions ?
- If yes – please don't hesitate to contact us! [www.kuglermaag.com](http://www.kuglermaag.com)
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