

Designing a Lean Software Development Process

Mary and Top Poppendeick

Abstract

The widespread adoption of agile software development is a double-edged sword. On the one hand agile teams have reported impressive gains in productivity. On the other hand, these gains seem to plateau after a while, leaving a disquieting suspicion that something might be missing. This tutorial will cover what might be missing. It will help you evaluate your software development process to find the leverage points for sustained improvement.

First, considering software development as a system, you will see how to evaluate:

- Customer Demand
- Process Capability
- End-to-End Flow
- Causes of Waste

Second, you will learn why agile technical practices are no longer optional:

- Low Dependency Architecture
- Incremental Development
- Automated Verification
- Immediate Integration

Third, you will discover a new way to look at flow through your process:

- Design to Absorb Variety
- Timebox, don't Scopebox
- Limit Work to Capacity
- Establish a Cadence

This tutorial will conclude by showing you how to design relentless improvement into your process.

Details

Date and Time

Tuesday 14 April 2009, 9.00am - 5.00pm

Price

- Registered conference student - AU \$195.00
- Tutorial only attendee - AU \$595.00
- Registered conference delegate - AU \$495.00

Intended Audience

- Managers and team leads

About the presenters

Mary Poppendeick

Mary Poppendeick started her career as a process control programmer, moved on to manage the IT department of a manufacturing plant, and then ended up in product development, where she was both product manager and department manager. After Mary left the corporate world in 1998, she found herself managing a government software project where she first encountered the word waterfall. When Mary compared her experience in successful software and product development to the prevailing opinions about how to manage software projects, she decided the time had come for a new paradigm. She wrote the award-winning book *Lean Software Development* to explain how the lean principles from manufacturing offer a better approach to software development. Over the past several years, Mary has found retirement elusive as she lectures and teaches classes with her husband Tom. Based on their on-going learning, they wrote a second book, *Implementing Lean Software Development*. A popular writer and speaker, Mary continues to bring fresh perspectives to the world of software development.

Tom Poppendeick

Tom Poppendeick has 25 years of experience in computing including eight years of work with object oriented technology. His modeling and mentoring skills are rooted in his experience as a physics professor. His early work was in IT infrastructure, product development, and manufacturing support, and evolved to consulting project assignments in healthcare, logistics, mortgage banking, and travel services.

Tom holds a PhD in Physics and has taught physics for ten years. He is coauthor of the book *Lean Software Development*, which was awarded the Software Development Productivity Award in 2004. A sequel, *Implementing Lean Software Development*, was published in 2006.