

Experience Report

Offshore XP for PDA project

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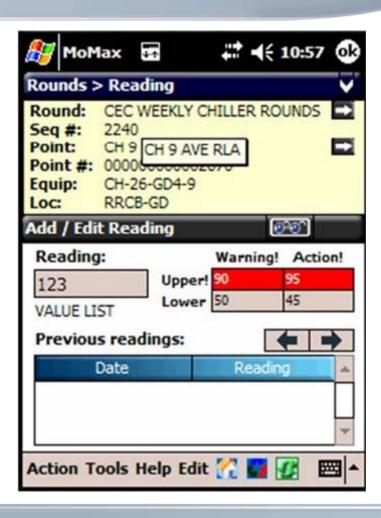
Introduction

- History
- · Customer
- Uncertainty

Project Details

- Team size & composition: 7 (PM, Tech Lead, Test Lead, 3 developers & 1 tester)
- Total effort: 1000 man days
- Product size: 50K lines of code
- Methodology: XP (Extreme Programming)
- Technologies used: C#, Web Services, .NET,
 Compact .NET, SQL 2000 and SQL Server CE 2.0
- Automated Tools for PDA software testing: Test Suit 2.0
- Hardware used for client: PDA Dell Axim X5 with OS Pocket PC 2003

PDA Screen



Offshore XP challenges

- Planning Game with the remote customer
- > Daily communication with the remote Customer
- Daily Deployment on customer site
- Daily feedback from customer
- > XP documentation when customer is not onboard
- Project status tracking & reporting to customer

Challenge: Planning Game with the remote customer

- Customer visits for Face to Face (F2F) Planning Games.
- Planning Games with the whole team on customer site.
- Planning Games with customer on the phone plus special tools like Microsoft Net Meeting for demonstrations.
- Key role of team project manager in translation and explanation.

Challenge: Everyday communication with Customer

- Every day work as a tiny project.
- Team project manager as a single point of all communications.
- Daily phone conferences with customer.
- Preparation of phone conferences minutes by team project manager.
- Shared bugs and change requests database.
- Team buildings.
- "Fast answers" agreement.

Challenge: Deployment on customer site

- Daily delivery and daily deployment on customer site during the whole project.
- Customer dedicated a special technical person responsible for deployment of daily version.
- Encrypted sources transfer.
- Version check between system components.
- Reasonable process for daily delivery candidate preparation was defined.

Challenge: Daily feedback from customer

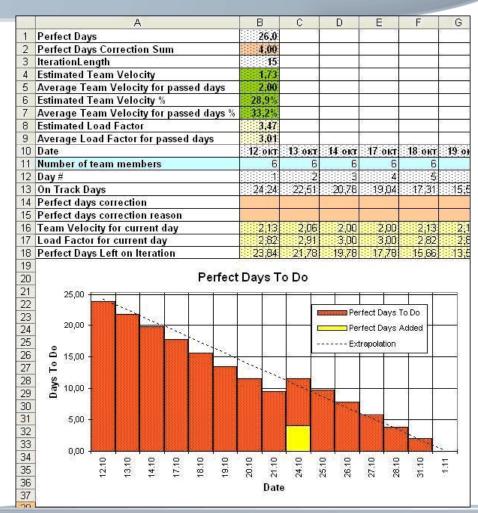
- Daily phone conference with customer.
- Team standup meeting immediately after the phone conference.
- Daily e-mail reporting to customer.
- Notification to customer about 2 possible statuses of User Stories: 'Ready for review' and 'Ready for testing'.

Challenge: XP documentation

- User Stories: description of some relatively independent application functionality as black box from user point of view.
- Story Tests: step by step scenario of user actions which clarify User Story functionality.
- Mockups: screenshots of the existing prototype or draft design prepared by customer which clarifies User Story functionality.
- Assignment of customer as the owner of XP documentation responsible for its update.
- XP documentation 1-2 days before the Planning Game.

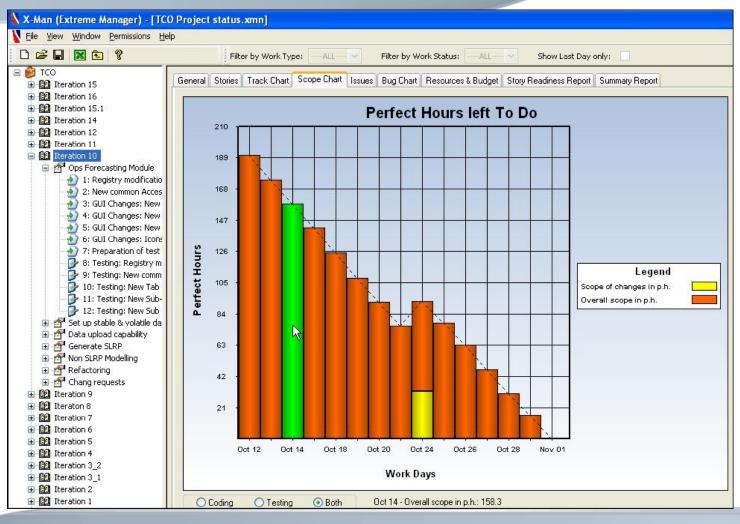
Challenge: Project status tracking & reporting to customer

Excel:



Challenge: Project status tracking & reporting to customer

X-man:



People are using the program on customer site



Conclusion

- Extreme Programming methodology allows fast introduction and correct estimations for unclear areas
- · In case of offshore customer some Extreme Programming approaches does need intelligent customization but the whole methodology works well
- Practical usage of Extreme Programming needs some alignment of XP with business process of specific development company and customer
- In case of remote customer specific managements tools are required to let customer see XP project status and completeness of User Stories

Thank you! Any questions?

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