Kenneth Adams - Agile & Engineering Leader, CSP, CSM, CSPO, SAFe Expert

Southern Nevada, Northern & Southern California

e: kenswebsite
at my resume web site domain

Agile: https://KennethAdams.com/Agile
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Objective

I am interested in career opportunities in an **engineering leadership position** utilizing **Agile / SAFe / Scrum** frameworks, in the role of **Director, Engineering Manager, Director of Agile / PMO, Agile Coach / Scrum Coach / Agile Transformation Leader** or **Program/Project Manager**.

I have experience in many types of business environments including startup, small, regional, national and planet scale at companies like **Apple, IBM, Adobe, VMware**, and in industries like e-commerce, retail, finance, health care, utilities, government and more.

Visit my web site for a whole lot more details at: https://KennethAdams.com/Agile

Highlights

- **Software Engineering: 12+ years**, Engineering Manager, started career as software engineer, earned **17 engineering certifications**
- Agile / Scrum: **16+ years** in total; **3 Scrum certifications** (CSP, CSM, CSPO); Published author
- **12+ years** in a **Scrum Master** role
- **Agile Coaching & Transformation: 12+ years** at companies like **Apple** (very large scale transformation in a >850 person engineering group - >100 teams - 3 continents); Ivanti (>180 of engineers, PdMs, UX - 24 teams - 4 continents); Cox Auto (1,000's of engineers, PdMs, UX - 100's of teams - 14 brand divisions); VMware, Boeing, AT&T, Macys.com, Kohls.com, Genentech, PG&E & more
- **Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe):** 7+ years; Fully trained in **Leading SAFe** and **Implementing SAFe**; Extensive experience **implementing SAFe at large scale**
- **Agile & PPM tools: 12+ years** - Jira, Azure DevOps/VSTS, Rally, Mingle, Smartsheet, Tableau, Confluence, Jive Software, WordPress & many others
- Waterfall / Ad-hoc: **16+ years** - **IBM PM certified** (based on **PMI PMP**), trained & experienced in many methodologies
- Program / Project / Change Management: **19+ years**
- **5 Certifications in Agile & Management**: CSP, CSM, CSPO, CCP & IBM PM
- **e-Commerce** at country to planet scale: **Apple Online Store** - desktop web, services, Mobile Optimized Web (MOW), iOS; Macys.com - Android, iOS; Kohls.com - desktop web, MOW, services
- **Mobile: 7+ years** of PM and design experience, including app dev with iOS, Android and Mobile Optimized Web (MOW)
- **Cloud: 10+ years**; SaaS, IaaS, PaaS; AWS, Azure, Linode, VMware
- **DevOps, CI/CD: 10+ years**; Led transformations; Automation; TDD; Repo strategies & more
- My web site: https://KennethAdams.com
- Recommendations: https://KennethAdams.com/Recommendations
- LinkedIn profile: https://www.Linkedin.com/in/kennethbadams
- My blog: https://AdamsAndBits.com
- Agile / Scrum articles that I've written: https://AdamsAndBits.com/Agile
- Scrum Alliance certifications profile: https://www.scrumalliance.org/community/profile/kadams8

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Experience

12+ years experience transforming organizations from waterfall methods and ad-hoc methods.

Apple

My Role

- My role was Engineering Program Manager (EPM) responsible for managing multiple software and infrastructure engineering programs and teams.
- EPMs manage multiple programs simultaneously, fulfill the Scrum Master for teams, manage cross team communications, and interact with many groups outside of the Apple Online Store (AOS) group including leadership, MarCom (Marketing & Communications) which designs Customer eXperiences (CX) as well as marketing and external communications, business teams that manage the business aspects of online and retail, and many other engineering teams outside of AOS.
- Years: 2014 to 2015

Company and Group

- Apple Online Store (AOS) engineering group that develops the software, builds the infrastructure and operates the global scale e-commerce platform at www.apple.com/store, and the backend systems and front-end software that powers the Apple retail stores.
- Very large scale Agile transformation in a >850 person engineering group consisting of over 100 teams located on 3 continents.
- Tools: Jira, Jira Portfolio, Confluence, suite of Apple developed tools like Radar.

Accomplishments and Experiences

- Managed the Agile transformation for the many teams that I managed.
- Transformed from mostly ad-hoc methods and processes, with some waterfall like methods, to Scrum at scale.
- Built a new Jira configuration that was optimized for Scrum teams. Trained other managers, Scrum Masters and team members on the Jira configuration.
- Managed teams work on projects such as:
    - Developing the software and content systems of the store for the launch of the Apple Watch.
    - New country deployments like China.
    - New payment types and bank integrations. Such as the launch of what is now the financing with Apple Card for all products, and the iPhone Upgrade Program.
    - Backend software engineering and infrastructure builds like core engineering systems managing the store systems, message queueing technology deployments, and more.
    - Massive scale integration of the store into the rest of Apple.com marketing content systems.

More about my work at Apple

- Using Jira with Scrum at Apple Training blog article summarizes the Jira configuration I created at Apple.
- How To make JIRA Agile sing a great Scrum tune blog article details a Jira configuration optimized for Scrum.
- Recommendations from colleagues at Apple.

VMware / Boeing / AT&T / Independent Consultant

My Role

- My roles were as Program Manager, Agile Coach and Scrum Master.
- Years: 2018 to Present

Company and Group

- VMware is the Silicon Valley pioneer of virtualization and cloud technology.
- I worked in the Professional Services Organization (PSO) responsible for helping customers design, integrate and deploy at scale VMware products.
- Boeing and AT&T were 2 of the VMware customers that I worked with.
- Tools: Azure DevOps (ADO), Jira, Confluence (collaboration platform).

Accomplishments and Experiences

- Transformed multiple teams from waterfall methods and some ad-hoc, to Scrum.
- Assisted and coached leadership teams in learned and implementing SAFe, at Boeing where scale was required.
- Accelerated product planning & management with integration of Azure DevOps (ADO) & Jira with Smartsheet and Aha.

- Boosted engineering planning, management & reporting with integration of Azure DevOps (ADO) & Jira with Smartsheet, Power BI, Tableau, Excel and many third party add-on/plugin apps.
- Trained team members in both Jira and Azure DevOps (ADO).
- Migrated data from Jira to Azure DevOps (ADO) for some teams that elected to switch to ADO.
- Developed many real time dashboards and reports in Jira and ADO for individuals, teams, groups and leaders that allowed them to manage their day to day, hour to hour work, and pro-actively measure progress and track actions to improve and correct plans and activities. Advanced metrics driven dashboards and reports allowed everyone to predict future progress and the effectiveness of plans.
- Wrote lots of documentation and training assets to support teams and leaders.

More about my work

- I wrote a blog article Scaled Agile – SAFe Backlog & Roles Simplified to help leadership learn SAFe fundamentals and strategy.
- Jira Dashboards & Reports – 2023 Samples blog article documents some of the Jira dashboards and reports that I built.
- Recommendations from colleagues at VMware.

Ivanti / Heat Software

My Role

- My role was Global Program Manager for the Agile Transformation and Agile Coach.
- I was hired by Chief Product Officer (leader of software engineering, SaaS cloud operations and product management) to transform all of his teams from multiple methods including some waterfall like, some ad-hoc, and some managed with spreadsheets and todo lists, to Scrum at scale.
- Years: 2016 to 2018

Company

- Ivanti / Heat Software was a software product company whose portfolio including service management (similar to ServiceNow and other support ticket management products), end point management, security management, and more.
- Over 180 engineers, Product Managers, User eXperience (UX) designers – 24 teams on 4 continents.
- Tools: Azure DevOps (ADO) / formally known as Visual Studio Team Services (VSTS), Jive Software (collaboration platform similar to Confluence)

Accomplishments and Experiences

- Introduced SAFe (Scaled Agile Framework) tools and techniques to provide what was needed to manage at scale.
- Managed Scrum and SAFe training and tools implementation, data migration and training.
- Led transformation of large scale Agile program with 24 Scrum teams.
- Built and led DevOps / CI/CD Scrum team to transform product dev Scrum teams – also known as a System Team in SAFe.
    - CI/CD (Wikipedia page), Continuous Integration and Continuous Delivery / Deployment, is a set of software engineering practices and technologies to implement advanced automation, and is essential to truly take full advantage of Agile frameworks like Scrum, Kanban and SAFe, and is part of DevOps (Wikipedia page) methodologies.
    - This team led the adoption and deployment of advanced, modern engineering practices and technologies utilizing Microsoft Azure.
    - Before I created this team, almost no automation existed, QA was done manually and so was extremely time consuming and error prone, development infrastructure and environments were very limited and not very unreliable.
    - With this team we transformed software engineering practices using Azure tools and cloud infrastructure, to fully embrace automation and cloud based environments for development and testing environments.

More about my work at Ivanti / Heat Software

- Here are blog articles on some of the work I did with Azure DevOps (ADO) / formally known at that time as Visual Studio Team Services (VSTS).
- Microsoft Visual Studio Team Services Training blog article on some of the training I did with ADO / VSTS.
- Jive Software Wiki Training blog article on some of the training I did.
- Recommendations from colleagues at Ivanti / Heat.

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Cox Automotive

My Role

- My role was a Senior Enterprise Agile Coach, as part of the large scale Agile professionals group of over 100 people that included coaches, trainers, Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) roles like Solution Train Engineer (STE), Release Train Engineer (RTE) and more.
- Year: 2018

Company and Group

- Cox Automotive owns over 20 automotive industry related brands including well known name brands such as Autotrader and Kelley Blue Book. And many inside the auto industry brands.
- Cox Automotive is a division of Cox Enterprises which had at the time, more than 55,000 employees and $20 billion in revenue, which also includes Cox Communications and Cox Media Group.
- More than 40,000 clients in 100+ countries around the world.
- 1,000's of engineers, PdMs, UX – 100's of teams – 14 brand divisions.
- Tools: Rally, Confluence (collaboration platform), Jive Software (collaboration platform similar to Confluence).

Accomplishments and Experiences

- Organization utilized Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) and teams utilized Scrum and Kanban.
- Coached dozens of Scrum and Kanban teams in Agile practices and techniques.
- Facilitated the training and deployment of Rally Agile Lifecycle tools.
- Conducted Agile training and workshops for engineering and product teams, and Community of Learning (CoL) Training for RTEs and STEs.
- Managed the implementation of Agility Health tools for measuring Agile maturity, the effectiveness of Agile practices, and developing Continuous Improvement plans and actions. I am certified as a AgilityHealth Facilitator (AHF).

More about my work at Cox Automotive

- Continuous Planning Training blog article on the training and workshop I conducted.
- Community of Learning (CoL) Training blog articles on the workshops I conducted.

Others

- IBM – Waterfall to Scrum. Tools: IBM custom developed internal tools.
- Macys.com – Nation scale e-commerce & mobile apps. Mostly ad-hoc to Scrum. Tools: Mingle (similar to Jira).
- Kohls.com – Nation scale e-commerce. Waterfall and ad-hoc to Scrum. Tools: Mingle (similar to Jira).
- Genentech – Biotech enterprise mobile apps. Waterfall to Scrum. Tools: Jira, Confluence (collaboration platform).
- PG&E – Utility customer facing web site. Waterfall to Scrum. Tools: Jira.
- And more…