

apexorion Lean Coffee

Espresso...



- In the wake of COVID-19 (Corona Virus), for the safety and health of our trainers and class participants, we will be offering CSM and CSPO classes online for the coming few months. These will be live online courses and will require participants to have internet connectivity and be present all through the 2-day class. Learning, Inspect and Adapt does not ever stop at ApexOrion!

Spilling the Beans...



- First 5 participants of every class get a Super Early Bird discount of 30% off. Contact ApexOrion for your discount code (info@apexorion.com). *Cannot be combined with any other discount.
- Q2 schedules published for CSM and CSPO Certifications
- Job Board/Postings page creation has made significant progress. We intend to take it live and share with all of you soon.

What is Brewing?



- As a first step towards online trainings, we have added 2 live online trainings this month – CSM & CSPO
- We have decided to do one User Story Workshop in Dallas, TX & San Jose, CA every six months.
- We are also considering adding a Product Backlog Workshop and a Kanban Workshop in coming quarters.
- In wake of COVID-19, Global Scrum Gathering in New York has been cancelled. We will miss seeing you all.

Cream & Sugar!



- We will be offering public A-CSM & A-CSPO classes starting Q2 of 2020 & TBR classes in Q3/Q4 of 2020.
- We are also considering offering public Scaling Scrum and Leadership trainings later this year.
- Stay tuned!

Coffee break with ApexOrion

Hello Agile and Scrum Enthusiasts,

User Stories is a topic that is most discussed in almost all of the Agile transformations that we do. Common questions are - "Does the User Story have to be just one or two sentences? How can you describe your requirement in one or two sentences?" The underlying problem is that we treat User Stories as a complete definition of the requirements.

1. As I always say, Product Backlog is like a To-do List. You may not have all the details in it. User stories is simply a format for writing your Product Backlog Items.
2. User stories are a placeholder or a reminder or a pointer to a requirement. They simply point to additional details.
3. User stories are not traditional PRDs (Product Requirement Documents) or a complete description of requirements.
4. Invariably, Scrum Team members will collaborate with the Product Owner to discuss and ask clarifying questions - "Can you add more details?", "What is the acceptance criteria?", "Can you tell us more?".
5. These conversations can be added as attachments (stapled in the case of physical story writing cards) to the User stories. These conversations are where the requirements are created.
6. The details can be captured in any of the following and more:
 - Email capturing the conversation
 - Document with details of requirements
 - Spreadsheets showing mathematical and/or operational model
 - Spreadsheets showing data analysis
 - Slides walking through the details
 - Visio diagrams
 - Flowcharts
 - Sample algorithms
 - User experience designs
 - Customer Experience designs
 - Q&A discussed and answered
 - Any other information format

Bottomline as I always say - "Do not over-analyze, over-think, over-spend." User stories help remind you of the things that you can do. You can figure finer details and the "How" part later on.

PUNITA DAVE, CEO