

Scrum Sourcing™ of Software Applications



Scrum Sourcing™ is an outsourcing model designed for the pace and competitiveness of today's software industry. Compared to traditional outsourcing models it gives outstanding flexibility and visibility, while at the same time offering improved productivity of outsourced projects.

Scrum Sourcing - basic elements

The basic elements of the Scrum Sourcing model are:

- Iterative project model for early and continuous feedback
- Built-in mechanisms for enhanced project visibility
- Flexible requirement management

Iterative project model

Scrum Sourcing is based on the Scrum project model which is used by several hyper productive organizations in North America. It is based on an iterative approach where the project produces a deliverable of executable software in 30-day periods – usually referred to as Sprints. After each Sprint the customer evaluates the delivered software and has the opportunity to change direction of the project, or even finish it.

Enhanced project visibility

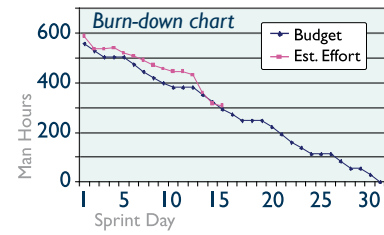
Scrum sourcing contains a set of mechanisms which enhances the visibility of the project for the customer. Each day the project has a stand-up meeting called the Daily Scrum, where the team goes through the status of every task, and the customer and management has the opportunity to listen.

Furthermore, the progress of the whole project is displayed every day in a so called Burn-down Chart, which is a diagram that monitors how much

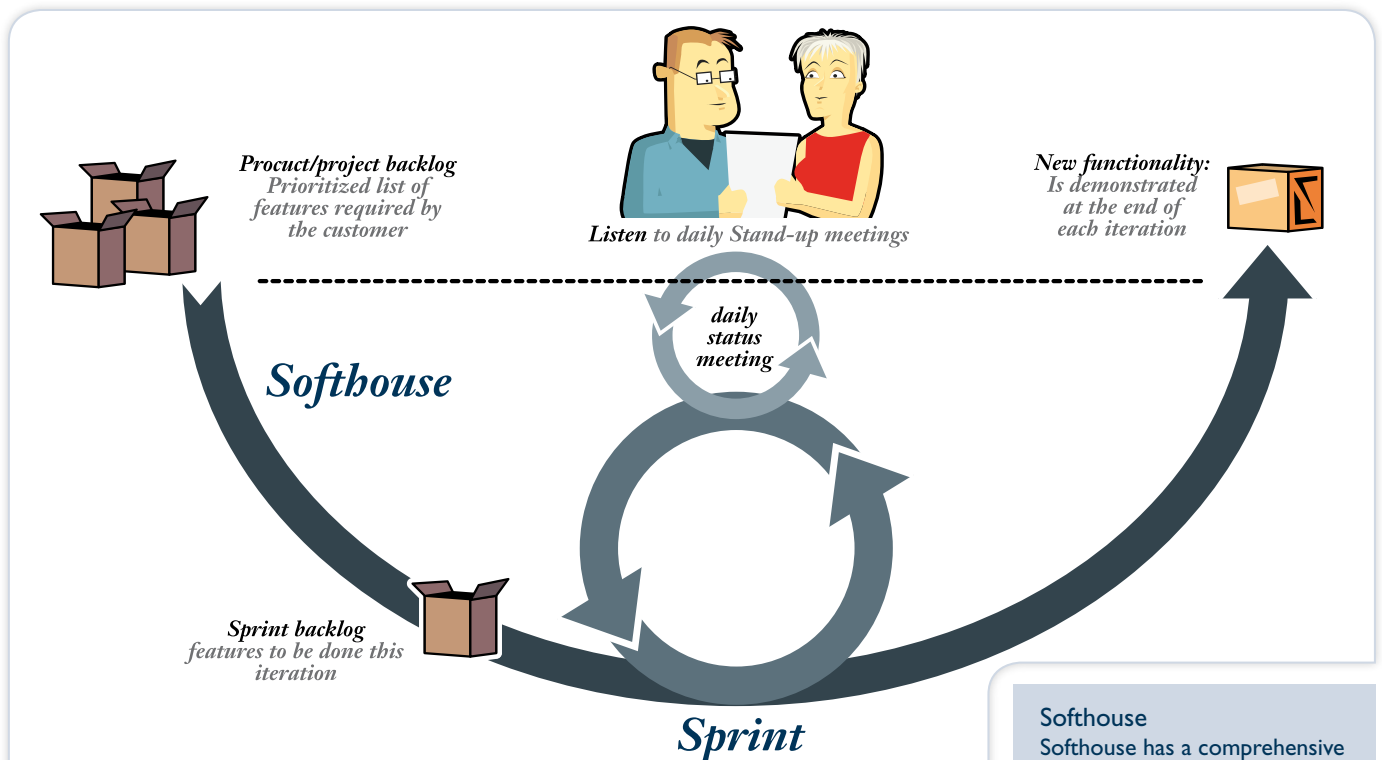
work remains to fulfil the goals of the current Sprint.

Flexible requirement management

Instead of creating a large Requirement Specification upfront, the customer administers a Backlog. A Backlog is a list with the desired features of the system in priority order. Only the highest prioritized features – the ones which will be implemented in the coming Sprint – need to be specified in detail. At the start of each iteration the customer



and supplier agree on how many items in the Backlog can be implemented in the next Sprint. These items are then removed from the top of the list. Until next Sprint the customer can then change the priority order of the existing items in the Backlog, or add new ones.



The Scrum Sourcing process:

At the start of each Sprint the Scrum team at the supplier picks out the highest priority features from the Product/Project Backlog. The number of features selected is based on the total development work the team can perform in one Sprint. During the Sprint the work is followed up by daily stand-up meetings and burn-down charts which indicate in real time how much work is left according to plan. At the end of each Sprint the new functionality is demonstrated and it is decided if a new Sprint should be performed.

Softhouse

Softhouse has a comprehensive competence on agile development methods, and can offer the following services:

- Training for all roles in a Scrum Sourcing project
- Support for administration of a Backlog
- Execution of outsourced projects based on Scrum Sourcing

Visit our website: www.soft-house.se for more information about Scrum Sourcing and Softhouse's other services in Agile Development or contact Anders Sixtensson, Business Area Manager, +46 708 202177.

Productivity for Outsourced Teams using Scrum

Several comprehensive investigations have shown that Scrum can increase the productivity of outsourced projects with a factor of 400-500%. A recent study was made by Jeff Sutherland and Jack Blount at SirsyDyrix on a project including 30 developers in Utah, USA and an outsourced team at St. Petersburg Russia of 26 people. Even if the project was distributed over two continents the Function Point productivity was 5 times higher than industry average, and one of the highest ever documented. [Sutherland, Viktorov, Blount; Adaptive Engineering of Large Software Projects with Distributed/Outsourced Teams].

Softhouse Consulting
Stormgatan 14
SE-211 20 Malmö
Sweden
Phone: +46 (0)40 664 39 00
Fax: +46 (0)40 664 39 19
info@softhouse.se
www.softhouse.se

SOFTWARE BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

SOFTHOUSE