The Docs:
The Dark side of a Project Management

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Who we are? actio ad futurum

• Small Barcelona services/consultancy/development Company

• Latin phrase
  • Acción para lo futuro o por venir. Corresponde a quien tiene interés en evitar un daño inminente o poner un derecho amenazado al abrigo de una contestación ulterior.
  • Action for the future or to come. For a party who has an interest in avoiding imminent harm threatened or put right the shelter of a further reply

• Seasoned people

• External PMO management
Who I am?
Question:
Some things in common between Agile and “traditional”?

Documentation ..... Managers think it is good for programmers, and programmers hate it! The value of documentation is only to be realized if the documentation is well done. If it is poorly done, it will be worse than no documentation at all.

1971, Jerry Weinberg: The Psychology of Computer Programming

Nothing in the Agile Manifesto (http://agilemanifesto.org/) states ‘Thou shalt not do any documentation’, but since many developers have a genetic reluctance to any form of writing that isn’t expressed in a programming language, they have clasped the following principle to their collective bosoms: ...we have come to value:
Working software over comprehensive documentation

What role does documentation play in an agile project? The first thing to understand is that documentation appears on the right-hand side of the value statements in the Agile Manifesto. This means, in short, that the best documentation in the world is no excuse if the project is supposed to deliver software, but fails to do so.

2001, The Agile Manifesto
The right question?

Q: How the hedgehogs make love?
A: Very carefully

Image credit: Raller/Veer
Q: How we need to treat the documentation?
A: Very carefully

Shannon Model:
Source, Sender, Channel, Receiver, Destination, Message
Things: Amount, Author, Format, Tools, ...
Amount: minimum necessary

The correct amount of documentation is exactly that needed for the receiver to make her next move in the game.
Alistair Cockburn (Cockburn 2001)
Author: Environment/Requirements

• ISO
• CMMI
• Methodologies: PMI, PRINCE2, METRICA3
• Document Management Systems/Content Management Systems
Q: International Obfuscated C Contest – IOCC?

```c
#define -F<00||--F-00--;
int F=00,OO=00;main(){F_CO():printf("%1.3f\n",4.*-F/00/CO);}F_CO()
{
....  
 - π
```
Readability tests, readability formulas, or readability metrics are formulae for evaluating the readability of text, usually by counting syllables, words, and sentences.

**Fletcher**

\[
206.835 - 1.015 \left( \frac{\text{total words}}{\text{total sentences}} \right) - 84.6 \left( \frac{\text{total syllables}}{\text{total words}} \right).
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90.0–100.0</td>
<td>easily understood by an average 11-year-old student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.0–70.0</td>
<td>easily understood by 13- to 15-year-old students</td>
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<tr>
<td>0.0–30.0</td>
<td>best understood by university graduates</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Format: Structured Information

- Diagrams
- Tables
- Guidelines for Readers
- Cross References
- Glossary
- Document History
- Table of contents
- List of illustrations
- Page n of m
Format: Layout & Typography

• Text on 50% of a Page
• 120% Line Spacing
• Two Typefaces
• Careful Use of Type Variations
• Careful Ruling and Shading
• Styles, Styles, Styles ...... Styles
Plus:

- Document Archive
- Wikis
- Code-Comment Proximity
- Reader-Friendly Media
- Channels:
  - Separation of Contents and Layout
  - Single Source and Multiple Targets
  - Separation of Processing and Printing
- Document Templates
- Annotated Changes
- Notification upon Update
- Review
- Culture
- Document Quality Assurance
Author: Everyone is a technical writer
Tools:

• Static site generators (Jekyll, R, GitBook)
• Literate programming (TeX, LaTeX): Weave, Tangle
  • ..the current TeX software is written in WEB, a mixture of documentation
    written in TeX and a Pascal subset in order to ensure portability...
• SGML
• Docbook
• Data driven documents (d3.js)
  • Content APIs? Populate text dynamically
• DITA (Darwin Information Typing Architecture)
New concepts:

• DevOps (Manage infrastructure as a developer)
• DocOps (Manage documentation as a developer)
  • *File Format*: Text
  • *Authoring*: Text editor
  • *Building*: Continuous build scripts
  • *Collaborating*: Source control
  • *Versioning*: Source control
  • *Pushing Live*: Terminal Commands
Why not provide tools to document writers?

Sample: ]Project-Open[ - PRINCE2 – Office Integration
Sample: PRINCE2 – “Bussines Case”
Prince 2 – Office Integration
Gràcies