

Being a SW PA engineer in an AGILE environment

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AGILE is the art of pivoting.

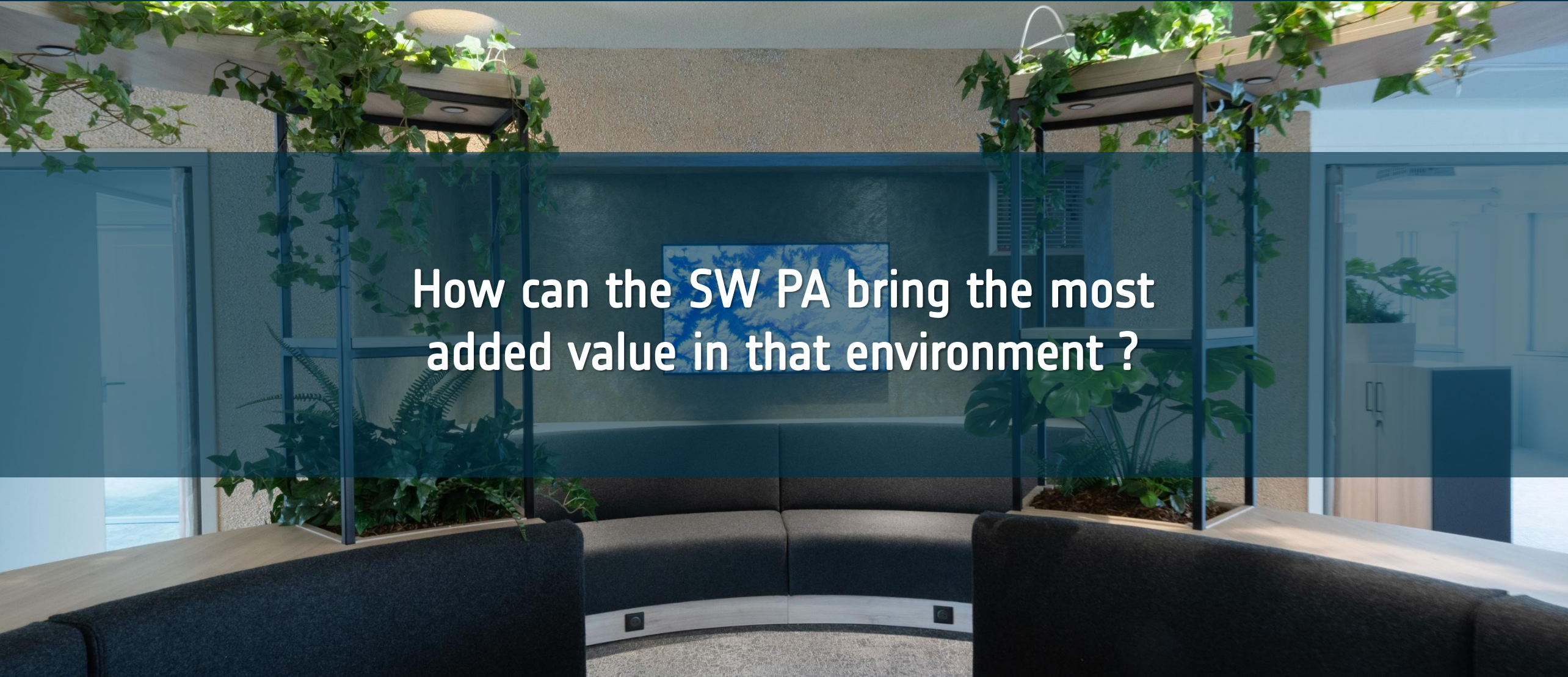
**You assume that your customers' needs can constantly evolve.
So, you organize your work in a way to be able to pivot according to those needs.**

What is NOT AGILE ...

- No planning
- No documentation
- Less discipline

In Agile methodology, the concept of having a dedicated Quality Representative in a team is not explicitly covered. The only mention of it is that it is a shared responsibility among all members of the team.

However, systems being developed for the space industry are typically complex and highly critical, which is why the existence of the SW PA role has been historically enforced by our standards



How can the SW PA bring the most added value in that environment ?

Product Owner



Responsible for maximizing the value delivered by the team by ensuring that the team backlog is aligned with customer and stakeholder needs.

SCRUM Master



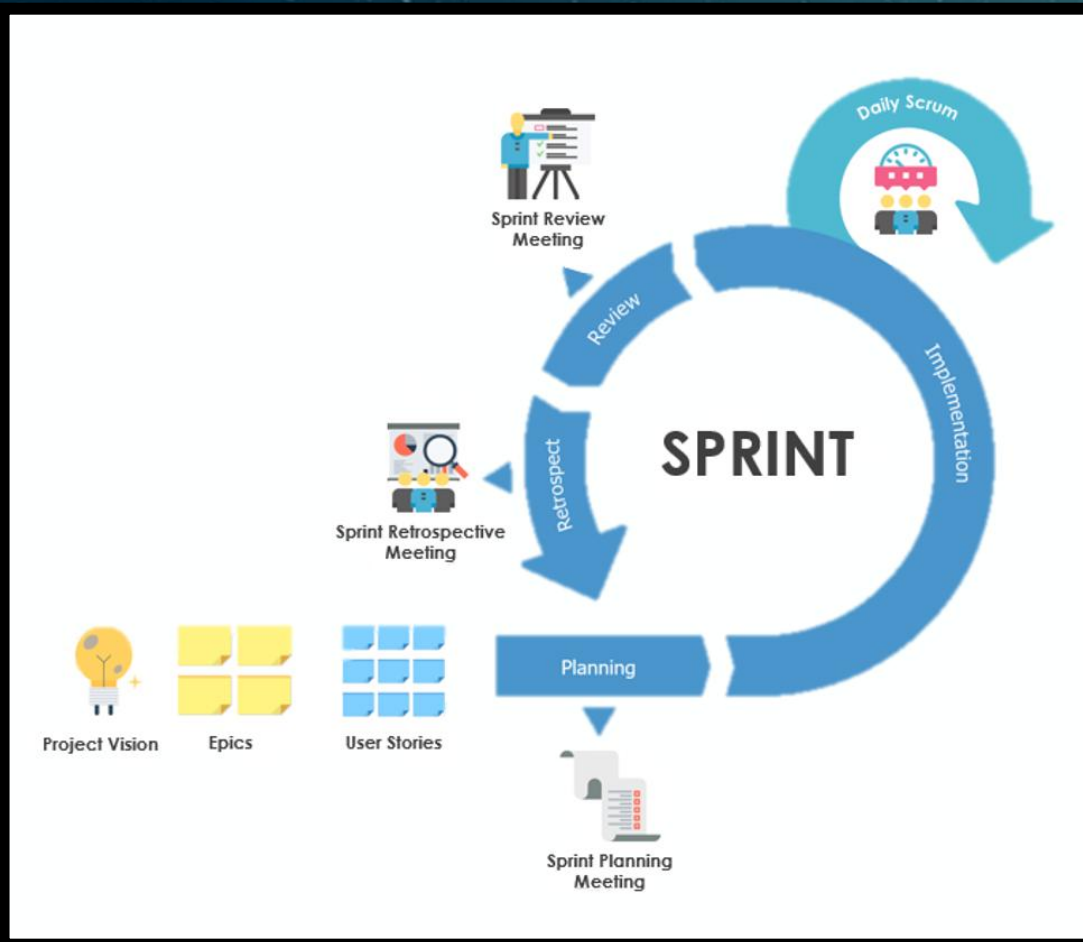
They are the “process guardian”. They ensure that the team adheres to SCRUM principles and practices. Facilitator role.

Development Team



Committed to creating any aspect of a usable product increment each Sprint. The Developers team is cross-functional and self-organized.

Or maybe outside the SCRUM team ?



THE SCRUM FRAMEWORK

Opportunities and limitations for the
SW PA engineer

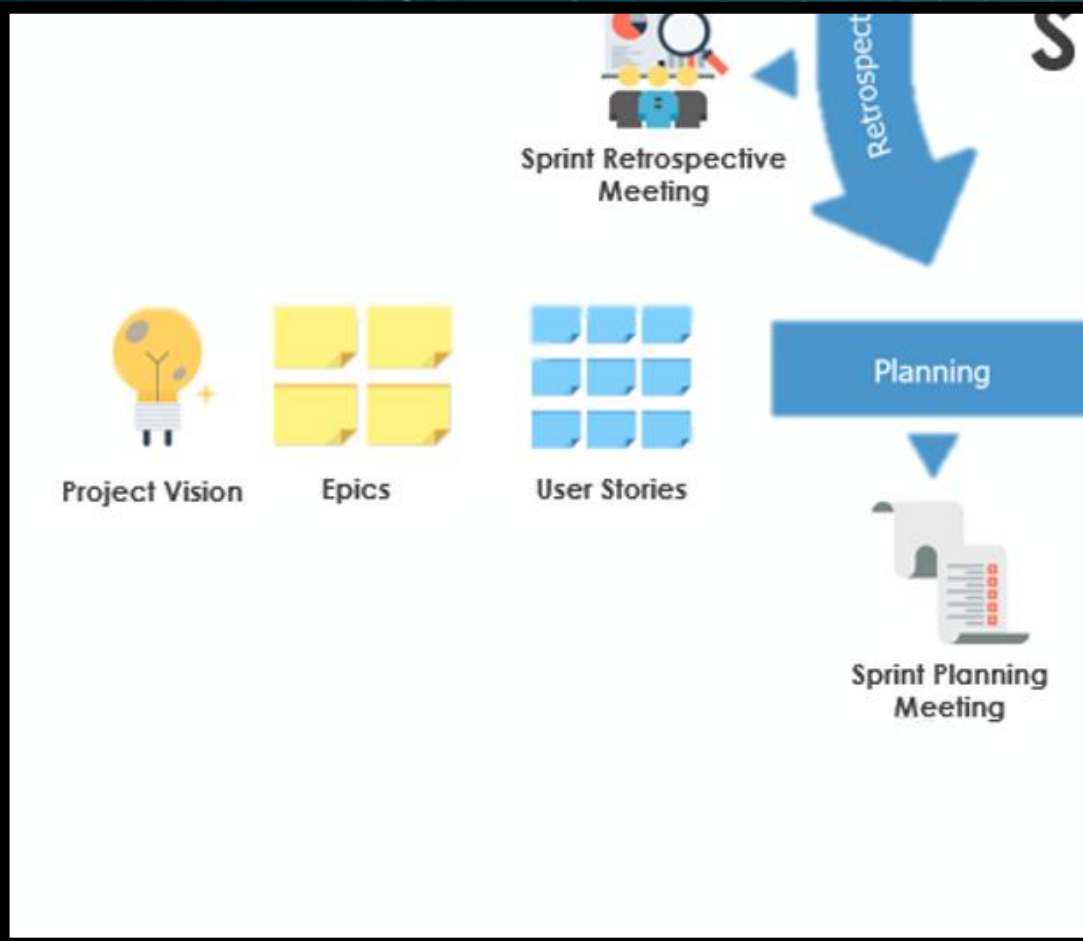
SPRINT PLANNING



Plan the work for the next Sprint



The whole SCRUM team + others if needed to provide advice.



SPRINT PLANNING

Inside the SCRUM team

Outside the SCRUM team

Product Owner



- + Sets clear acceptance criteria
- Is not supposed to interfere with the technical activities to perform
- Create value VS Quality

SCRUM Master

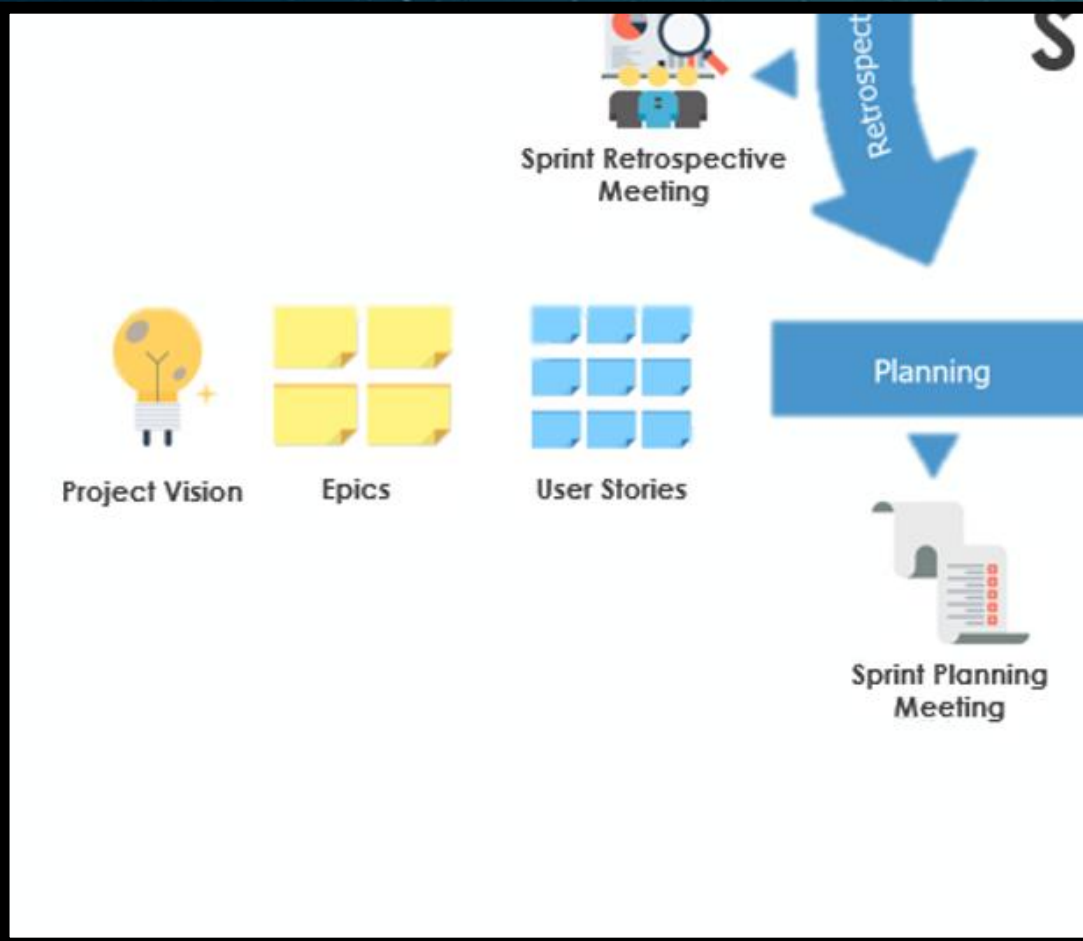


- + Makes sure that a proper Definition of Done is defined in each Features
- + Makes sure that SW PA activities are added in the Sprint Backlog
- Introduces bias on the developer's plan

Developers



- + Defines clear Definition of Done and Acceptance Criteria
- + Builds a more realistic plan
- Loss of ownership on the quality activities from the rest of the developers



SPRINT PLANNING

Inside the SCRUM team

Outside the SCRUM team

- + If consulted, can provide expert knowledge that can help defining the Definition of Done
- Is not implicated in the plan. Impacts the tasks to define and his availability
- Can have a mismatch between the team's perception of Definition of Done and the one from the SPA

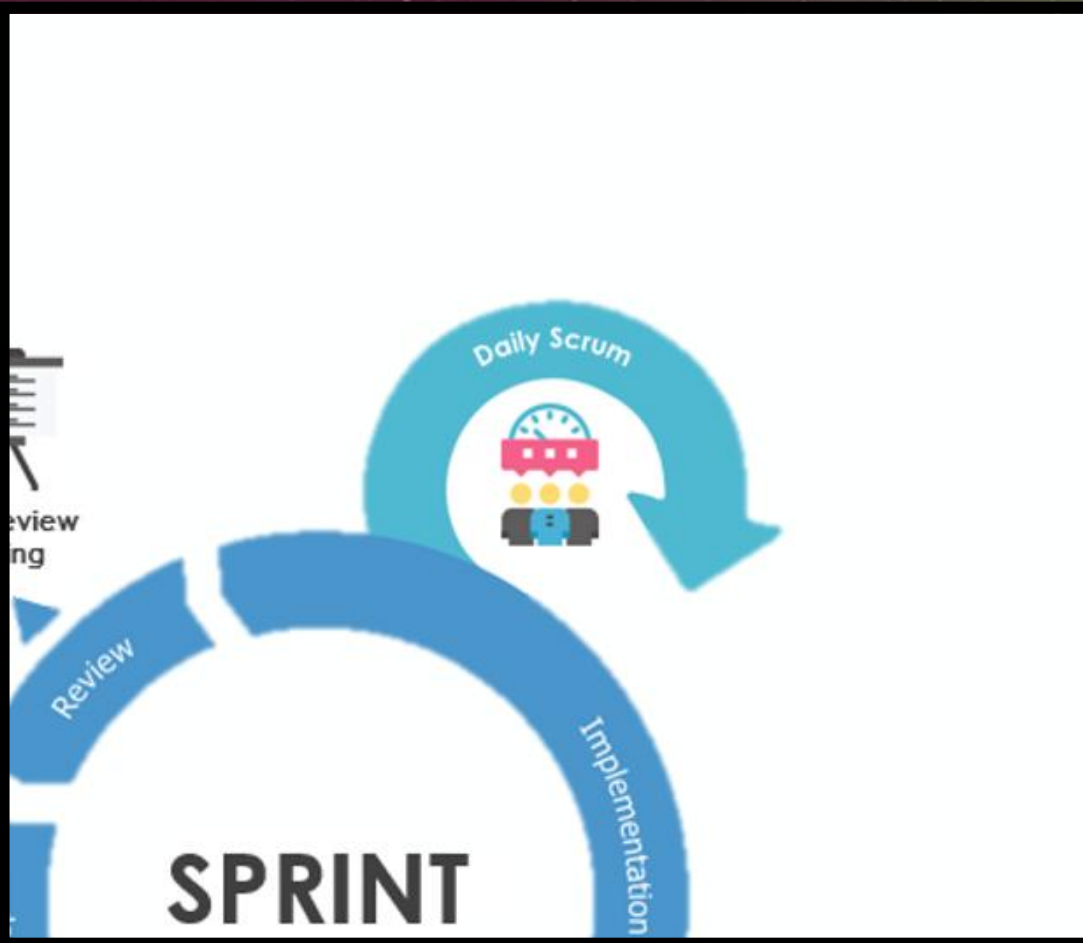
DAILY SCRUM



Inspect progress toward the Sprint Goal and adapt the Sprint Backlog as necessary.



The whole SCRUM team



DAILY SCRUM

Inside the SCRUM team

Outside the SCRUM team

Product Owner



- + Change priorities if the technical debt impacts too much the creation of value
- Rely on Developers to know if there are any quality issues
 - micromanagement

SCRUM Master

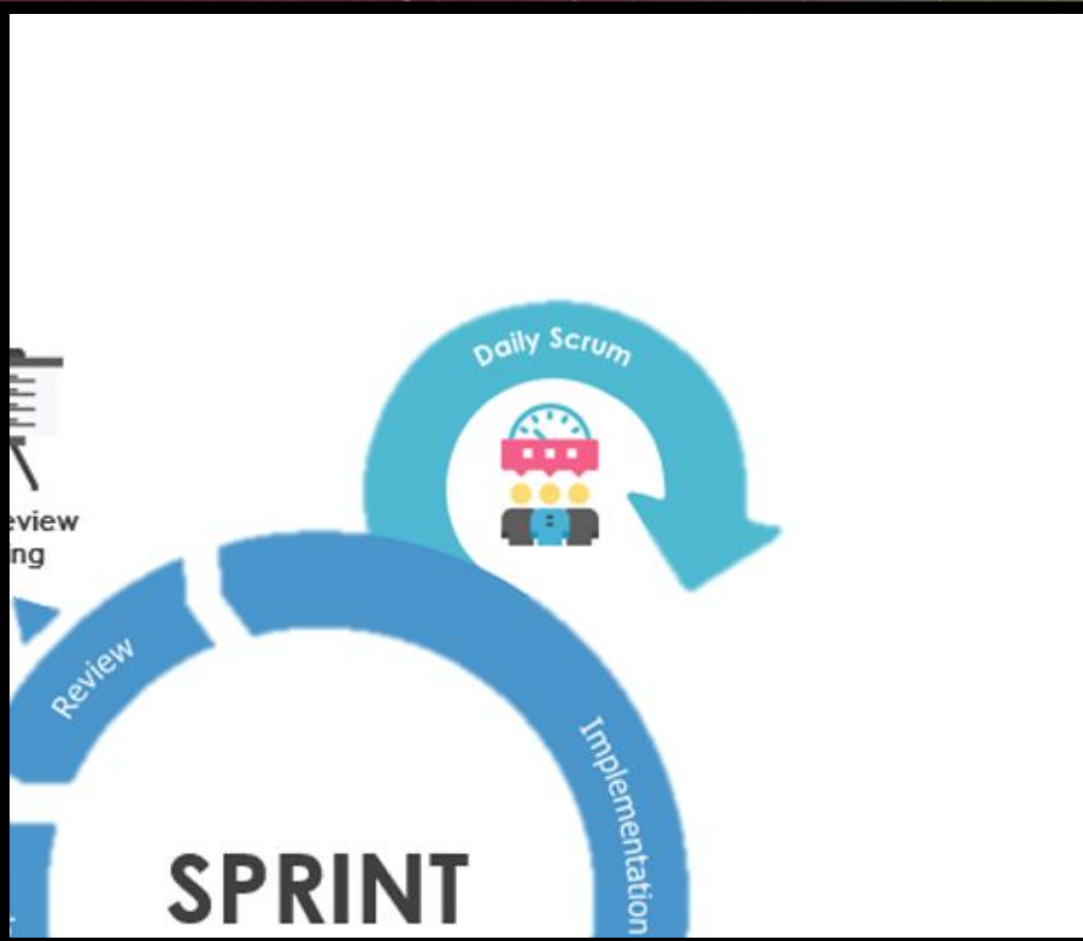


- + Has a critical eye on the ongoing SW PA activities
- Risk of turning the meeting in a problem-solving session

Developers



- + Identifies quickly any ongoing quality issues in the product and can act accordingly
- Relies on the Product Owner to accept any change in priorities



DAILY SCRUM

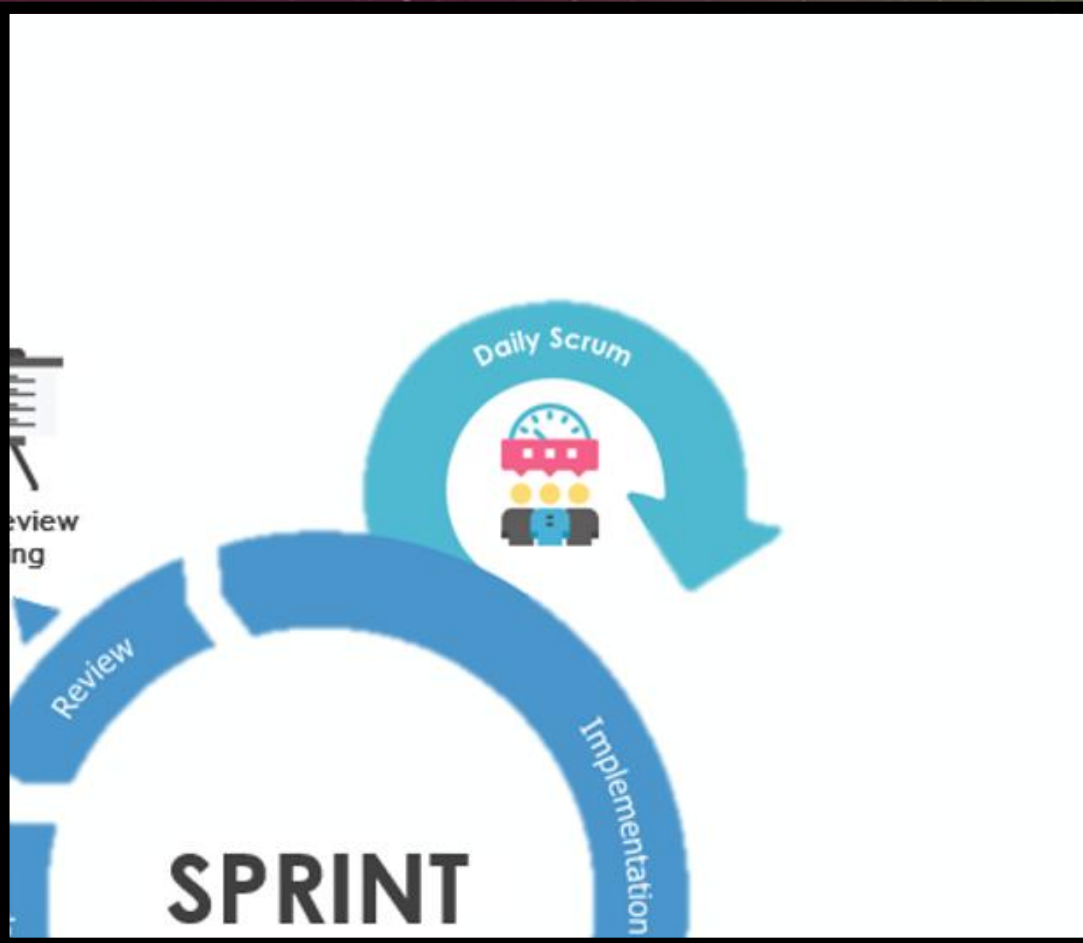
Inside the SCRUM team

Outside the SCRUM team

- No participation in this meeting

- No visibility on quality progress and how to synchronize effectively

- Blockers are not discussed immediately in the team, so they persist



SPRINT REVIEW



Inspect the outcome of the Sprint and determine future adaptations.



The whole SCRUM team + key stakeholders



Review

SPRINT

SPRINT REVIEW

Inside the SCRUM team

Outside the SCRUM team



Product Owner



- + Evaluate more effectively the feedback from the stakeholder – Value/Quality
- Could downplay quality issues to focus on the created value to the stakeholder

SCRUM Master



- + Makes sure that the activities in the Definition of Done were performed
- Difficulty to facilitate a transparent feedback with stakeholder

Developers



- + Gives an immediate feedback on the quality activities done
- + Confidently demonstrates features that are truly done
- Attracts naturally the SPA questions – Loss of ownership from the rest of the team

SPRINT REVIEW

Inside the SCRUM team

Outside the SCRUM team



- + Provide an unbiased feedback to the stakeholders, which can differ from the team's view
- Feedback arrives too late. The Sprint is already finished
- Definition of Done from the team may not align with the one that the SPA would have chosen

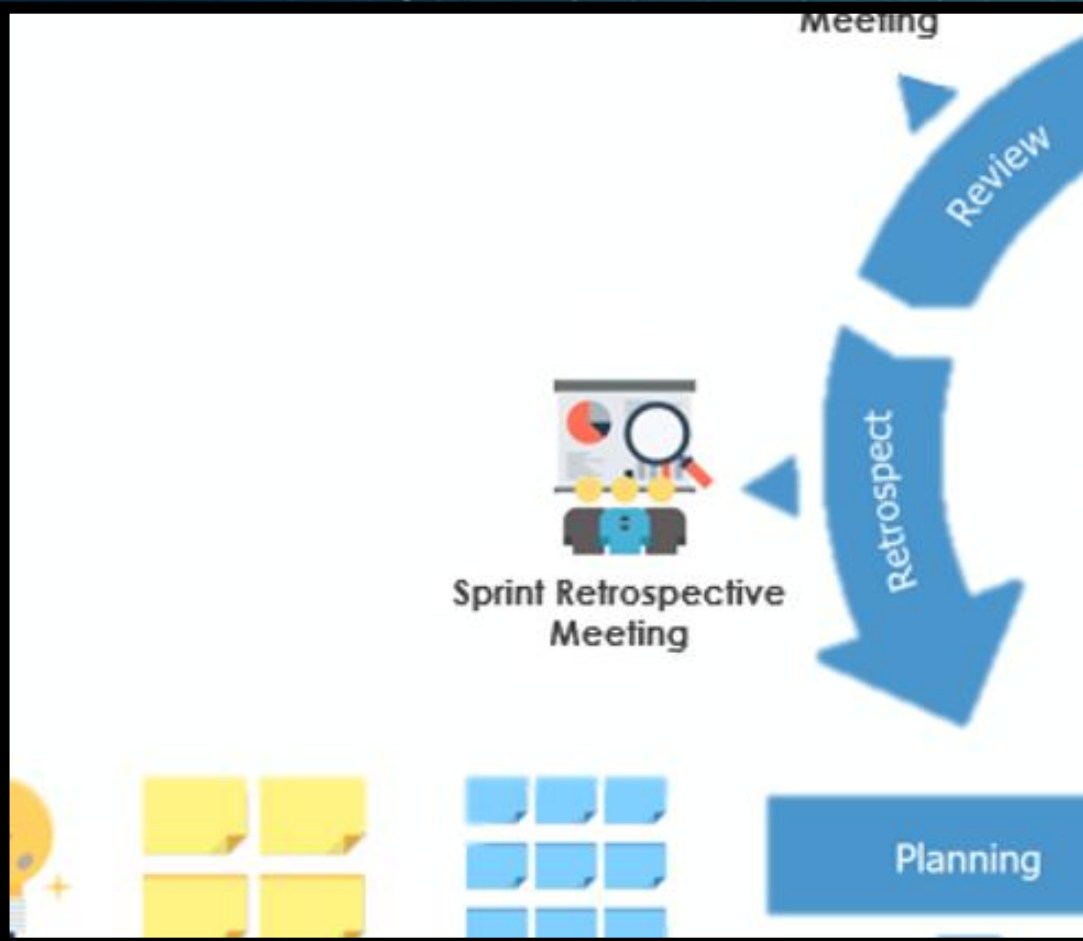
SPRINT RETROSPECTIVE



Plan ways to increase quality and effectiveness.



The whole SCRUM team.



SPRINT RETROSPECTIVE

Inside the SCRUM team

Outside the SCRUM team

Product Owner



- + Bring a perspective on how the process had an impact on the delivered value and the quality of it
- Higher chance to discuss about the content than the process

SCRUM Master

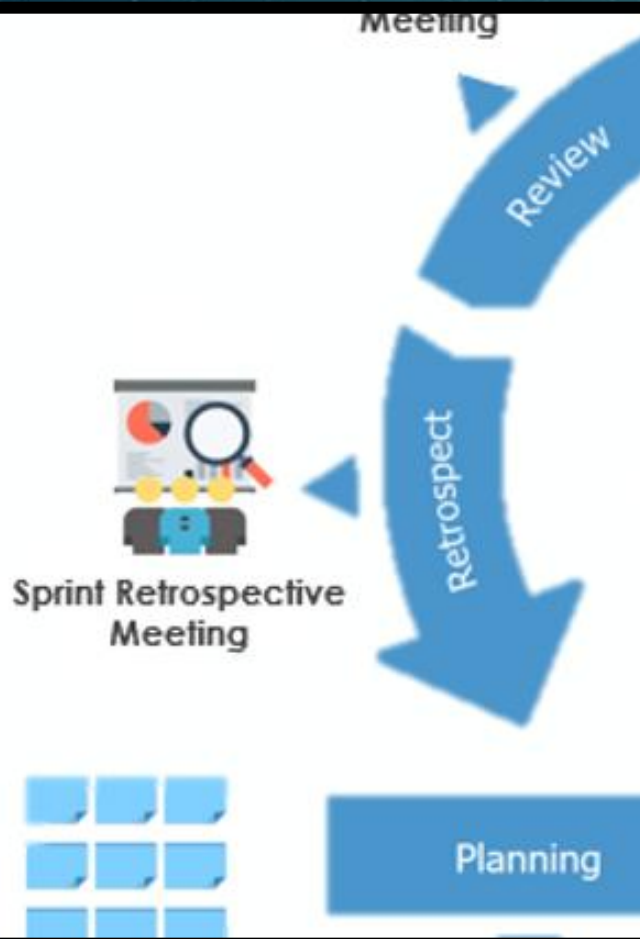


- + Can see how process inefficiency is impacting directly the quality
- Difficulty to facilitate a transparent feedback of the team

Developers



- + Sees how the process impacted the quality activities



SPRINT RETROSPECTIVE

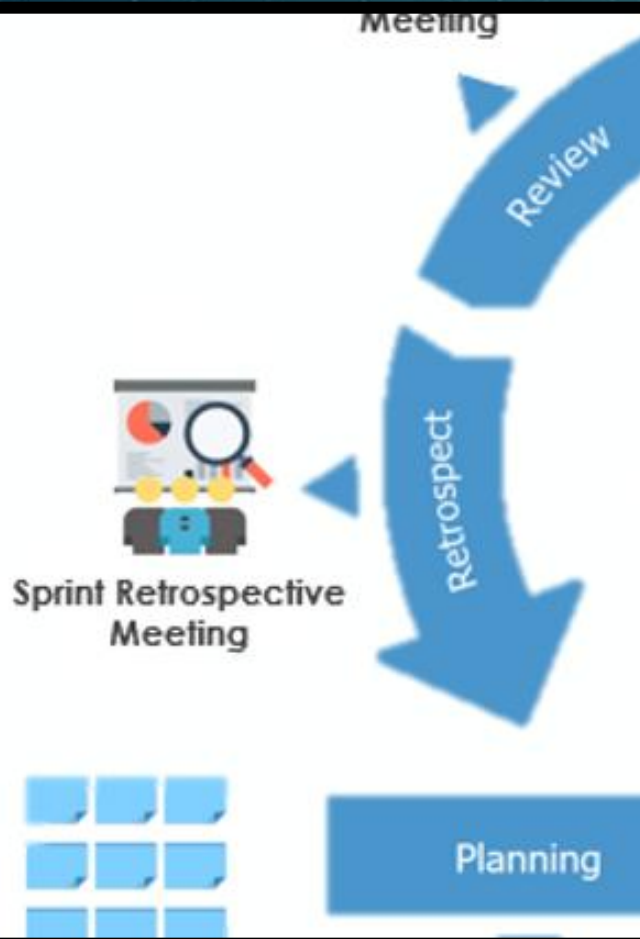
Inside the SCRUM team

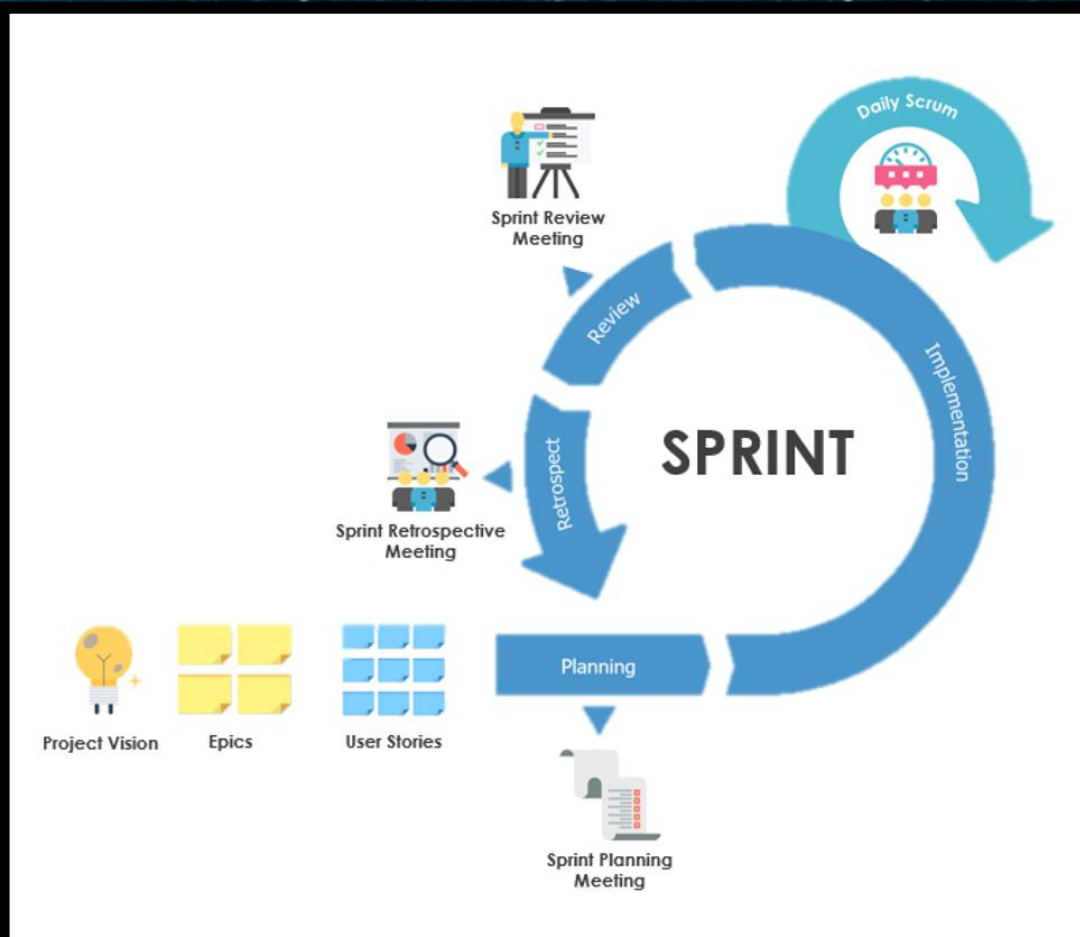
Outside the SCRUM team

+ Provide input for the feedback loop

- No participation in this meeting

- The team can't have an optimal critical eye of the impact of the process on the quality





What are the outcomes :

1. Will help you to identify the opportunities inside the framework
2. Will help you to identify the limitations and find workarounds for them
3. Will help you decide which role your SW PA engineer fits best

Will help create the most added value possible as a SW PA in this AGILE environment

Thank you for your attention