On the Identification of Best Practices for Improving the Efficiency of Testing Activities in Distributed Software Projects
Preliminary Findings from an Empirical Study

Cristina Camacho
cristinacamacho@gmail.com

Sabrina Marczak
sabrina.marczak@pucrs.br

Tayana Conte
tayana@icomp.ufam.edu.br
Software Development

Scrum Framework

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- 2-4 Weeks
- 2+ Months
- Potentially shippable Product Increment

Phases
- Inception
- Elaboration
- Construction
- Transition

Iterations
- Initial
- Elab #1
- Elab #2
- Const #1
- Const #2
- Const #3
- Tran #1
- Tran #2

Requirements
- Design
- Implementation
- Verification
- Maintenance
Software Development
Software Development

- Collaboration
- Coordination
- Communication
Our Goal

- How to answer to these questions?
Our Study

• Interviews
• 16 participants
• Test team
Findings

Standardization of reports
Clearer and sharper descriptions
Technical details last
Findings

Review of terms and vocabulary as early as possible with the team regardless the role

Customer and business analysts should be included in the review
Findings

Detailed defect report
Detailed defect fix report
Findings

Negotiate shifting working hours

Clearly request colleagues to read the text messages
Findings

Requirements analyst should make a more thorough work with business representatives in earlier phases to avoid constant changes

Adoption of requirements management and issues tracking tools
Findings

Detailed requirement description
Findings

Test Analyst to get included earlier on in the requirement review sessions

Training for Dev Team members about non-functional testing
Findings

Dedicated team to prepare testing data
Validate test data with business
Findings

Dedicated resources to manage testing environments per project instead of having a shared serviced across business areas and projects
Why is this Important?

• Test teams ensure quality
• They need to be kept ‘on the loop’
Contribution

• To call attention that test teams also face challenges and need processes and tools to help them perform their work!
Thank you!

Questions?
Comments?
Suggestions?

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