The TameFlow Connection Newsletter

The latest news and ideas about the *TameFlow Approach*

TameFlow Connection No 10

Hello Friends of Herbie,

After a couple of weeks where I was busy with and distracted by my Blockchain activities, I am now back on TameFlow again. Let's see what's happening.

TameFlow

First off, here is a reminder of upcoming TameFlow events. (Besides, if you are running some TameFlow event, let me know, so I can add it to the calendar.)

Upcoming TameFlow Events

- Tuesday July 28th, 2020, at 20:00 CEST: The next **Campfire Talks with Herbie** will feature **Sandeep Joshi**. Sandeep is the driving force behind the [Manifesto for Sustainable Agile](#) and will tell us more about what it is all about. I will reflect on how it can be framed from a TameFlow perspective. As usual, the Campfire Talk will be a [Youtube live broadcast](#).

- Wednesday July 29th, 2020, at 18:30 CEST: I will be the guest on [Justin Zimmerman](#)'s podcast. The theme will be about **Agile Frameworks vs. Agile Methodologies**. It will be expanding on a [Twitter exchange](#) where Justin claimed that *"Frameworks are interpretive. They provide principles. Methodologies are prescriptive and provide instructions."* I was wondering where TameFlow would fit it. My thesis is that TameFlow is neither, because it is based on *Patterns*, and hence it is *generative*. More about this in the podcast.

- Thursday July 30th, 2020, at 16:30 CEST: Our very own [Minton Books](#) will be delivering a talk called: [TameFlow: Integrating Kanban, the Theory of Constraints and More](#) organized by [Digité](#). It is great to see Minton being invited by one of the major tool vendors, and making TameFlow known to a broader audience.

Campfire Talks with Herbie.

Last week the guest on the [Campfire Talk with Herbie](#) was [Richard Kasperowski](#). Richard is one of the most vocal proponents of the **Core Protocols**. The conversation with Richard touched on many aspects.

I cared about highlighting that the *Core Protocols* are an integral part of the *TameFlow Approach*. They were covered extensively in Chapter 8, *Creating a Shared Vision at the Team Level* of the "[Hyper](#)" book.

They are one of the key components that support the **Informational Flow** and the **Psychological Flow**.

A lesser known aspect is that the *Core Protocols* are also based on *Patterns*. The *Core Protocol/Patterns* are part of the broader *Pattern Language* that is at the, well, "core" of TameFlow. In short the *Core Protocols Patterns* are part of the **TameFlow Patterns**.

I highly recommend that any TameFlow practitioner become familiar with the *Core Protocols*.

Re-read Saturday with Tom Cagley

Once again, [Thomas "Tom" Cagley Jr.](), the host of the [Software Process and Measurement Cast](), has posted a new **Re-Read Saturday**. This time it was about the re-read of Chapter 6 of the [Tame your Work Flow]() book. (If you don't have the book you can always get it with a discount with [this deal]().)

You can read Tom's commentary here: [Re-read Saturday, Tame you Work Flow Week 7: Chapter 6 – Introduction to Throughput Accounting and Culture]().

Tom's statement...

> The hardest part for me in this chapter is the need to decouple the cost accounting mental model I have been trained (and retrained) on as a manager and business owner.

... summarized what is the biggest challenge of all for organizations that intend to adopt the *TameFlow Approach*.

While you can attain great improvements by applying the TameFlow elements that govern **Operational Flow**, no TameFlow adoption is complete without also focusing on the **Financial Flow**.

Yet transitioning from the *Cost Accounting* mindset to the *Throughput Accounting* perspective is probably THE obstacle number 1. Therefore if you want to become a successful TameFlow practitioner, learn as much as you can about **Throughput Accounting**.

(Besides, keep an eye on the [TameFlow Training Calendar]() for upcoming courses on the topic.)

Theory of Constraint

The Purpose of Data

Our [David V. Hodes]() published another gem of a post: [Maintain True Data](). He starts off describing an ideal scenario where data and automation are supposed to produce wonderful business outcomes - and then describes how a chain reaction of bad data and misunderstandings creates a comedy of errors. The CEO, or anybody for that matter, cannot have a *"real sense of what is going on."* Any decision is like a random throw of a dice.

David goes on highlighting the need of *"leadership around the reason why it is essential to maintain true data"*.

Ultimately any bad data in the system is attributable to a matter of

leadership. Hence the connection with the foundational pattern of **Inspired Leadership** is evident.

Bad data leads not only to opportunity costs, wasted time, missed business results, but also impacts *"engagement, motivation and a sense of accomplishment."*

But maintaining good data requires a *"high level of operating discipline."*

At the end David refers to Goldratt's *The Haystack Syndrome* book, and quotes Goldratt saying: *"Information is the answer to the question asked of the data."*

It becomes of essence to be able to ask *good questions*; but good questions without *reliable data* will give misleading answers. It all becomes a matter of having an effective and efficient **Informational Flow** in support of effective decision-making.

For this reason, I consider the creating and maintaining of good data as a fundamental element of the *TameFlow Approach*. Thanks to David for the reminding us of this!

That's it for this time.

Have a great week!

Steve

P.S.

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