The TameFlow Connection Newsletter

The latest news and ideas about the *TameFlow Approach*

TameFlow Connection No 14

Hello Friends of Herbie

Welcome to another instance of the TameFlow Connection newsletter. Let's see what is going on in the world of *TameFlow*.

TameFlow Media Presence

Recent Events

- On **August 18th, 2020**, the [Campfire Talk with Herbie (23)](#) welcomed [J.B. "JBrains" Rainsberger](#) as the guest of the show. We talked about **Test-Driven Design/Development** (TDD). JBrains even performed a live coding session showing how TDD is actually done. This was a first for a Campfire Talk: real computer code was shown during the broadcast. JBrains talked about how he used the *Theory of Constraints* to justify the practice of TDD. His thoughts about this can be found in his landmark post: [How Test-Driven Development Works (And More!)](#). We then reflected on how **eXtreme Programming (XP)** has influenced the *TameFlow Approach*; and how they relate today. Those reflections can be found here: [eXtreme Programming and the TameFlow Approach](#). As you can read, eXtreme Programing has definitively left a mark on *TameFlow*. If the *TameFlow Approach* didn't already have a name of its own, it could probably be called *eXtreme Management*, *eXtreme Accounting* or *eXtreme Project Management*... Such a weird thought, I just had to post about it on LinkedIn. **See** [here](#), **and please like, comment and reshare!**

Upcoming Events

- On **August 25th, 2020**, at 15:00 CEST, the *Campfie Talk with Herbie (24)* will welcome [Dr. Paul D. Giammalvo](#) to give us his

insights on large scale **asset (portfolio) management** and **program (operational) management**. Note well that this campfire is at 15:00 CEST instead of the customary 20:00 CEST because of time-zone differences: Dr. Giammalvo lives in Jakarta where he enjoys scuba diving all year round. The broadcast will be on this [YouTube live stream](#).

- In the last newsletter I mentioned the great work of the legendary [Tom Gilb](#) in relation to **quantification of value** - a skill that is essential in the **Full-Kitting** activity. Tom has reached out to me and informed me that on Saturday, **September 19th, 2020**, from 10:00 to 14:00 and 15:00 to 18:00 (EEST /UTC+03:00) he will be running an online Zoom workshop, [Agile Tools: Practical Methods to Help You Deliver Stakeholder Values Rapidly and Predictably](#) during the [Agile Days Kaunas](#). I already signed-up.

Re-Read Saturday with Tom Cagley

The indefatigable Thomas "Tom" Cagley Jr., the host of the *Software Process and Measurement Cast*, once again published a [Re-Read Saturday](#) covering Chapters 12 of my [Tame your Work Flow](#) book, which is about **Drum-Buffer-Rope Scheduling**. Tom's commentary is full of gems to take away:

- *"... you need to know where your constraint is at all times. This means that someone needs to pay attention to the flow and pace of work."*
- *"This infers a degree of discipline... the discipline of the queue."*
- *"I was trained from toddlerhood that idle hands were the playground of the devil. Being busy was the right answer for pretty much everything. Common management practices over the years reinforced that bias..."*
- *"Once I understood the DBR idea, the agile concept of swarming made A LOT more sense and caused me to have a renewed focus on flow and process improvement."*
- *"WIP limits can cause distortions, hide the constraint, and cause excess WIP across the overall value stream as everyone maximizes their own flow (they like to be busy too)"*
- *"The idea of focusing on overall flow means that organizations need to spend the time and effort on understanding their value chains and value networks"*
- *"...it is very easy to spend your limited process improvement budget on work that leads to local optimization rather than top-*

line or bottom-line impacts."

The Business of TameFlow - Addressing the Base

If we look at the current landscape of more-or-less Agile approaches, we see that they are all trying to resolve the "scaling" problem. They start at the team level, and then figure out how to "scale-up." We know that the *TameFlow Approach* does not have this problem - as it is scale-less out of the box.

However, in all of this, I think that an important voice is left out - specifically in organizations that develop software. It is the voice of the foot soldiers: the software engineers that actually create software.

I bet most of them are *not* happy with *any* of the existing approaches.

Hence this reflection. As I mentioned in the above linked post about *XP* and *TameFlow*, I've always taken for granted that coding was handled via eXtreme Programming practices.

But that is no longer viable. My own taking this for granted cannot possibly be shared by or evident to those that have not had the *experience* of practicing eXtreme Programming.

Therefore, it is important to articulate this stance more clearly and explicitly

The *TameFlow Approach* is very much developer friendly - and this needs to be made known!

In doing so, I hope that the folks who actually produce software (rather than those who "talk" about it or "manage" it), can see how their needs, priorities and wants are being met - just like XP ideally does for many of them - but which they are not "allowed" to exercise because of the baggage and weight of mainstream approaches. Let's make **TameFlow the most developer friendly management approach** out there!

That's it for this time.

Have a great week!

Steve

P.S.

Do you enjoy this newsletter? Spread the word and tell your friends and colleagues to subscribe to this [TameFlow Connection Newsletter](#) - or just forward them a copy of this issue. And invite everyone to watch

the [Campfire Talks with Herbie](#) live streams. Or invite them to join the [TameFlow Community](#).