



Essence Workshop
June 20, 2013

Applying Essence in Practice

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www.semat.org

The Essence Specification

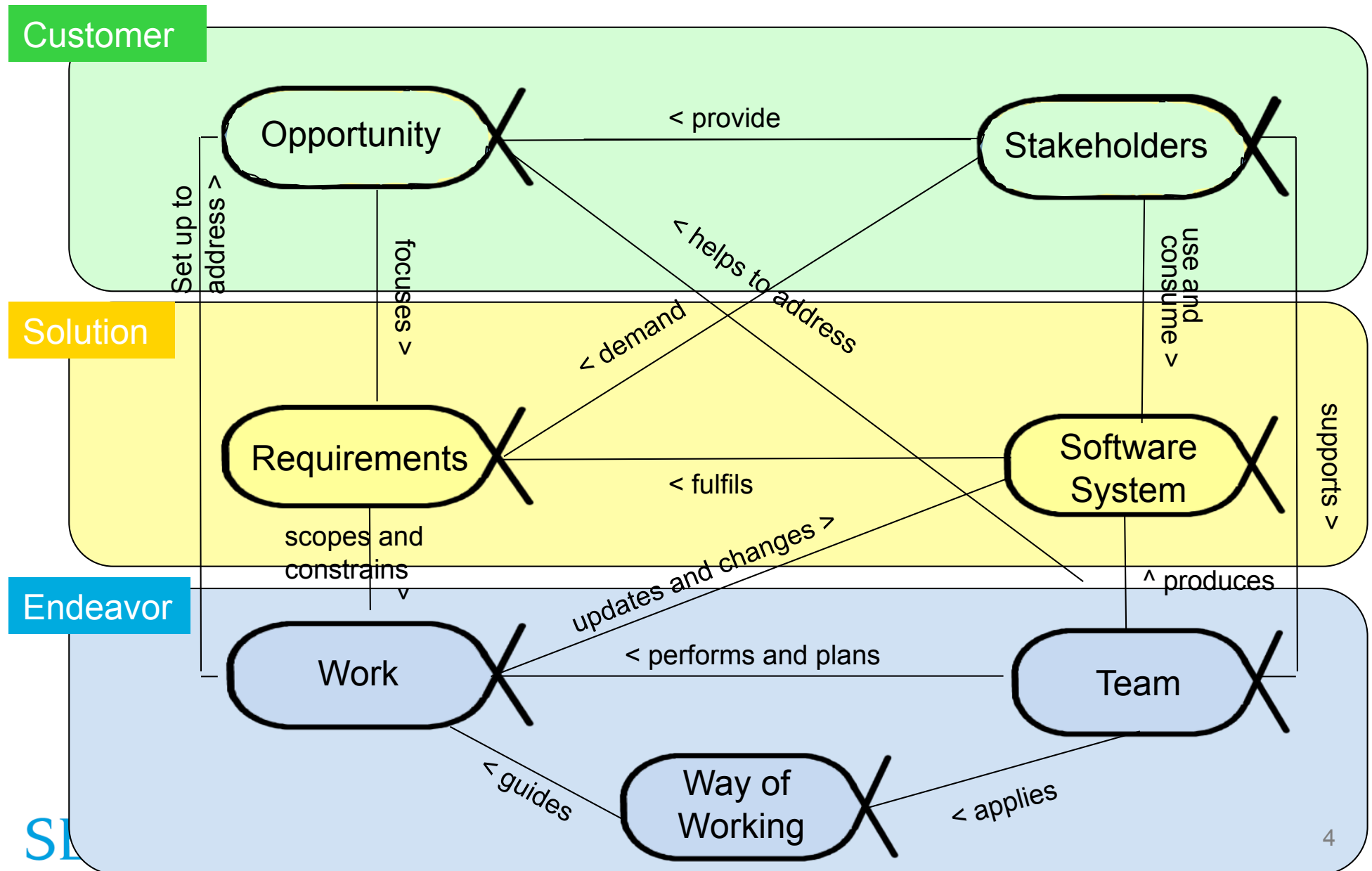
- “Foundation for Agile Creation and Enactment of Software Engineering Methods” (FACESEM) RFP issued June, 2011
- *Essence – Kernel and Language for Software Engineering Methods* submitted February 2013
- Essence 1.0 (alpha) adoption vote pending with OMG Board of Directors
- Essence 1.0 Finalization Task Force chartered March 2013
- Essence 1.0 (beta) adoption expected June 2014

What is an alpha?

α

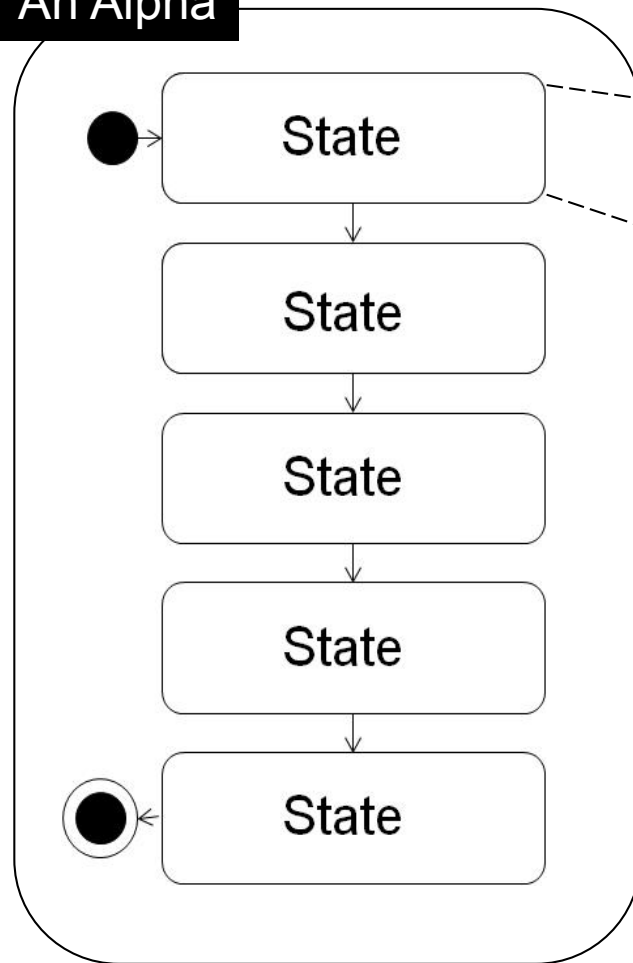
- Alpha is an acronym for an Abstract-Level Progress Health Atttribute.
- An essential element of the software engineering endeavor that is relevant to an assessment of the progress and health of the endeavor.

The Kernel Alphas



The Alpha structure

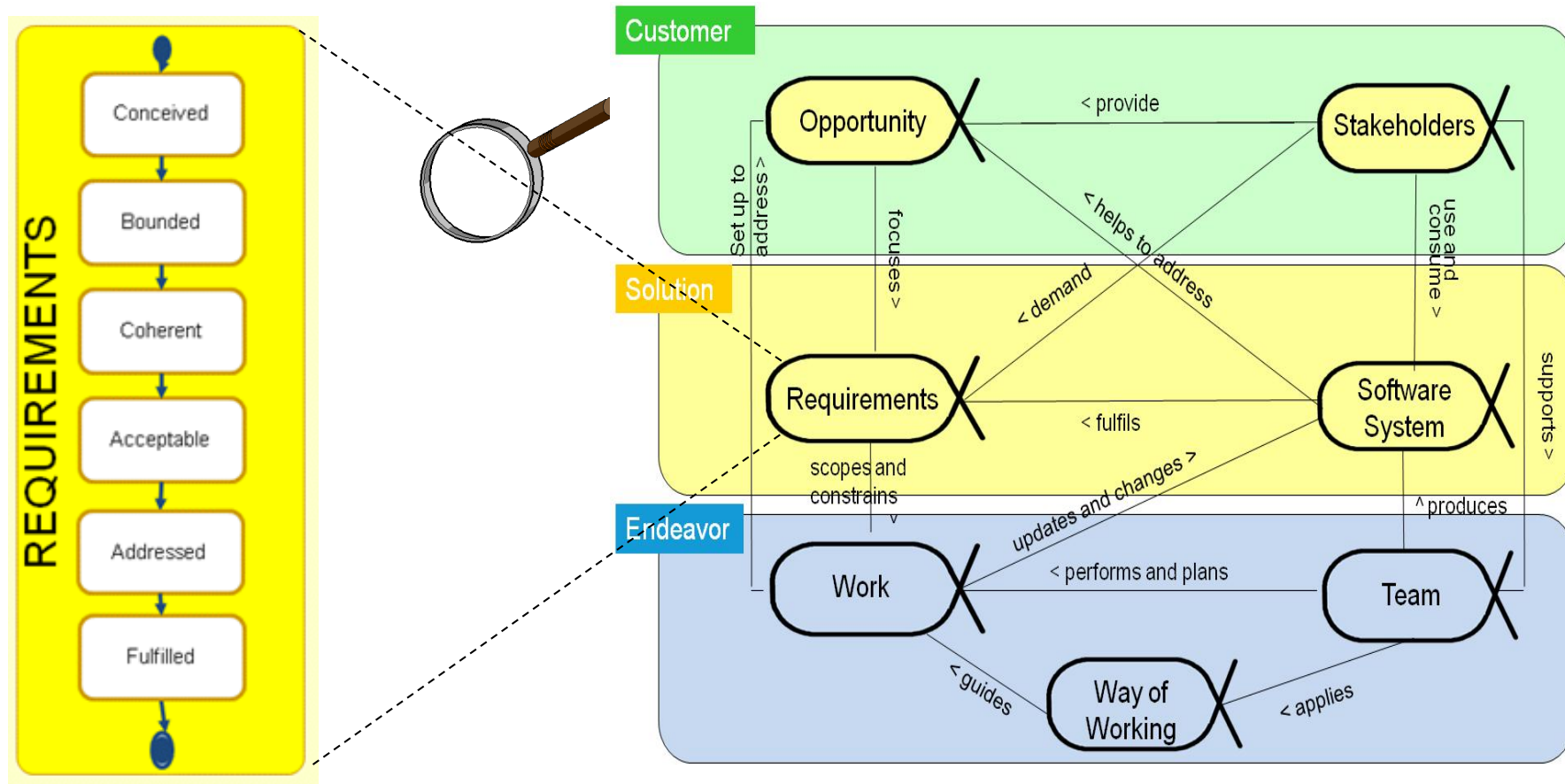
An Alpha



Checklist

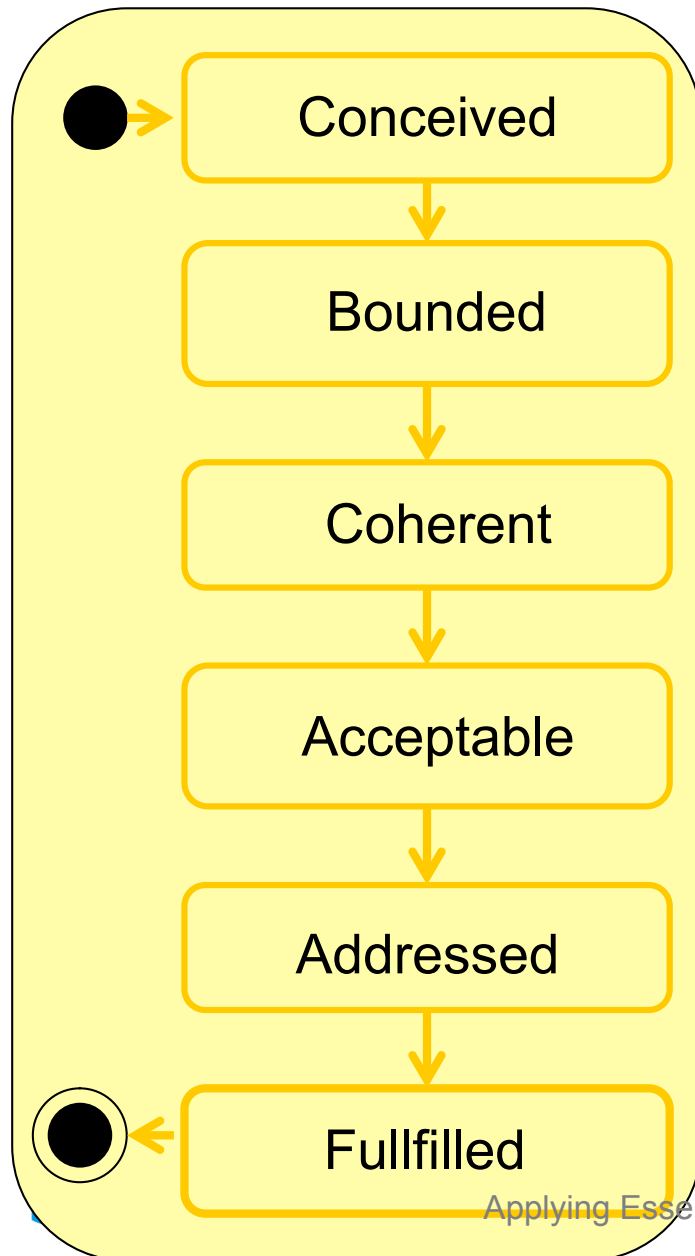
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Requirements– one of the alphas



What the software system must do to address the opportunity and satisfy the stakeholders.

Requirements – states



The need for a new system has been agreed.

The purpose and theme of the new system are clear.

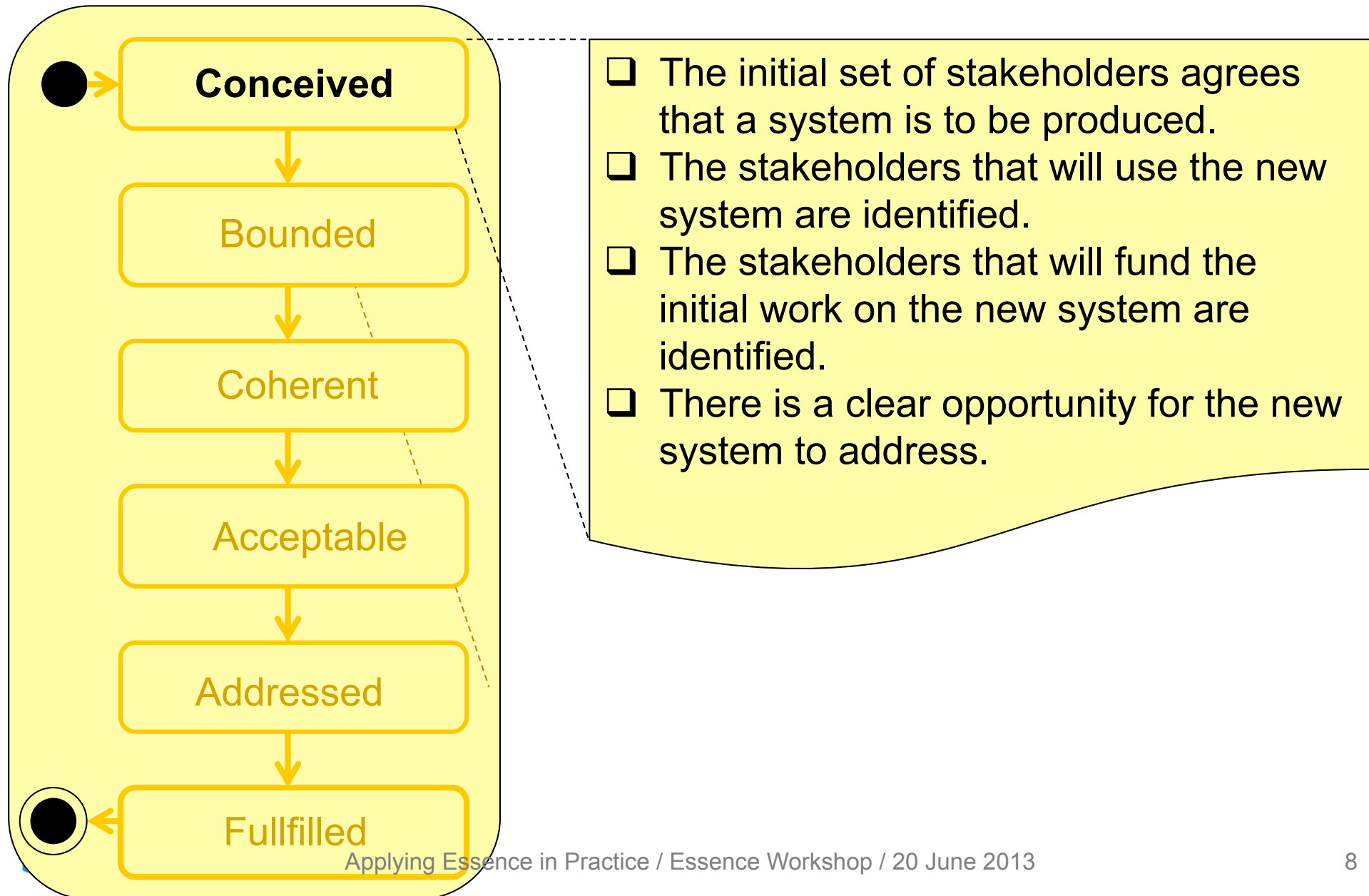
The requirements provide a coherent description of the essential characteristics of the new system.

The requirements describe a system that is acceptable to the stakeholders.

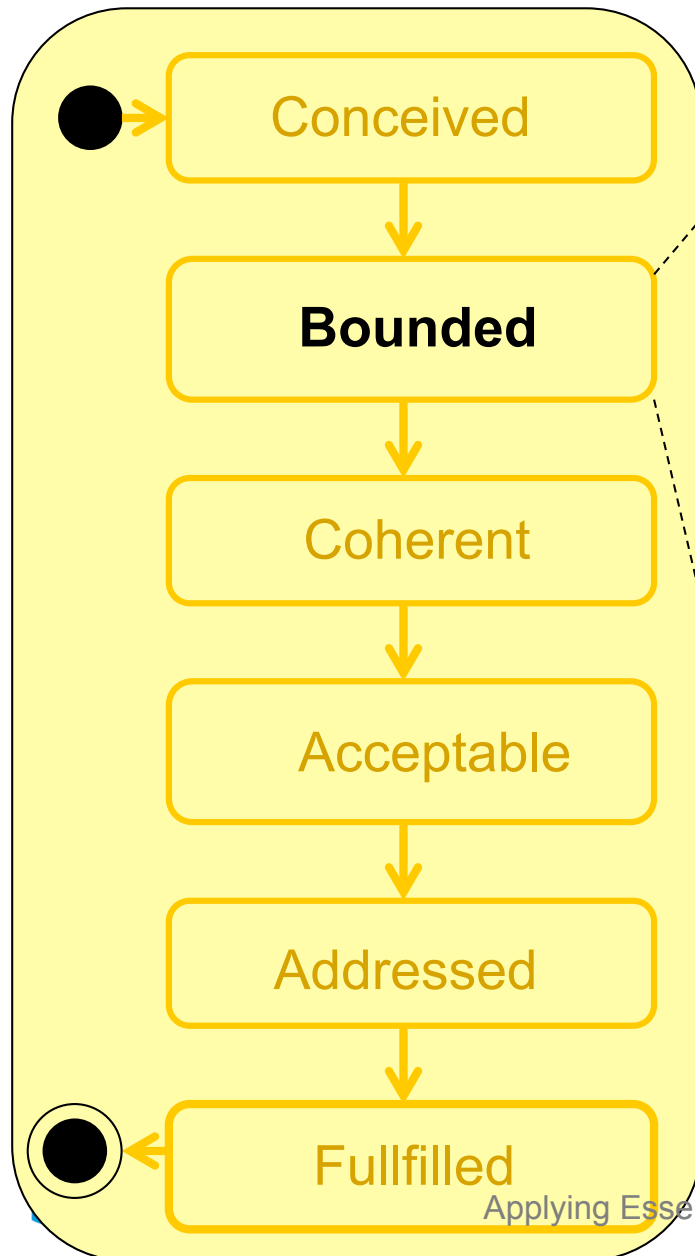
Enough of the requirements have been addressed to satisfy the need for a new system in a way that is acceptable to the stakeholders.

The requirements have been addressed to fully satisfy the need for a new system.

Checklist for requirements states



Checklist for requirements states



- ☐ The stakeholders involved in developing the new system are identified.
- ☐ The stakeholders agree on the purpose of the new system.
- ☐ It is clear what success is for the new system.
- ☐ The stakeholders have a shared understanding of the extent of the proposed solution.
- ☐ The way the requirements will be described is agreed upon.
- ☐ The mechanisms for managing the requirements are in place.
- ☐ The prioritization scheme is clear.
- ☐ Constraints are identified and considered.
- ☐ Assumptions are clearly stated.

Company X, Dave and Smith

- Company X runs many development projects , both small and large
- Dave, the executive of Company X wants to improve software development capability
- This task is assigned to Smith
- Smith meets many diverse teams with different background and experience and helps them

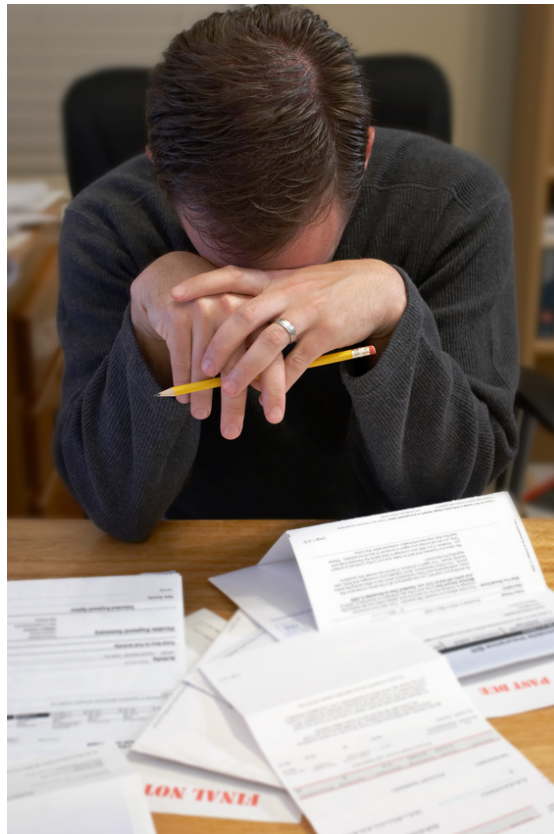


Situation: Encounter with Small Team A

- Smith meets a small team A and needs to understand the current state of development.
- Ponder: How do you do that? What do you look for? What do you infer and how do you come to your conclusion?



Collecting the evidence



- The team gave Smith some documents
 - Business Case
 - Use Case Model
 - Brief System Description
- Smith asks some questions
- What to ask?

What is the real situation

Requirements

Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements
Conceived	Bounded	Coherent	Acceptable	Addressed	Fulfilled
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need for a new system is clear Users are identified Initial sponsors are identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose and extent of the system are agreed Success criteria are clear Mechanisms for handling requirements are agreed Constraints and assumptions identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The big picture is clear and shared by all involved Important usage scenarios explained Priorities are clear Conflicts are addressed Impact is understood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirements describe a solution acceptable to the stakeholders The rate of change to agreed requirements is low Value is clear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enough requirements are implemented for the system to be acceptable Stakeholders agree the system is worth making operational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The system fully satisfies the requirements and the need There are no outstanding requirements items preventing completion
1 / 6	2 / 6	3 / 6	4 / 6	5 / 6	6 / 6

Software System

Software System	Software System	Software System	Software System	Software System	Software System
Architecture Selected	Usable	Demonstrable	Ready	Operational	Retired
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Architecture selected that address key technical risks Criteria for selecting architecture agreed Platforms, technologies, languages selected Buy, build, reuse decisions made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System is usable and has desired quality characteristics System can be operated by users Functionality and performance have been tested and accepted Defect levels acceptable Release content known 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key architecture characteristics demonstrated Relevant stakeholders agree architecture is appropriate Critical interface and system configurations exercised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> User documentation available Stakeholder representatives accept system Stakeholder representatives want to make system operational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System in use in operational environment System available to intended users At least one example of system is fully operational System supported to agreed service levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System no longer supported Updates to system will no longer be produced System has been replaced or discontinued.
1 / 6	3 / 6	2 / 6	4 / 6	5 / 6	6 / 6

Work

Work	Work	Work	Work	Work	Work
Initiated	Prepared	Started	Under Control	Concluded	Closed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work initiator known Work constraints clear Sponsorship and funding model clear Priority of work clear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost & effort estimated Funding and resources to start work in place Acceptance criteria understood Governance procedures agreed Risk exposure understood Dependencies clear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development work has started Work progress is monitored Work broken down into actionable items with clear definition of done Team members are accepting and progressing work items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work going well, risks being managed Unplanned work & re-work under control Work items completed within estimates Measures tracked 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to produce results have been finished Work results are being achieved The client has accepted the resulting software system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All remaining housekeeping tasks completed, and work officially closed Everything has been archived Lessons learned and metrics made available
1 / 6	2 / 6	3 / 6	4 / 6	5 / 6	6 / 6

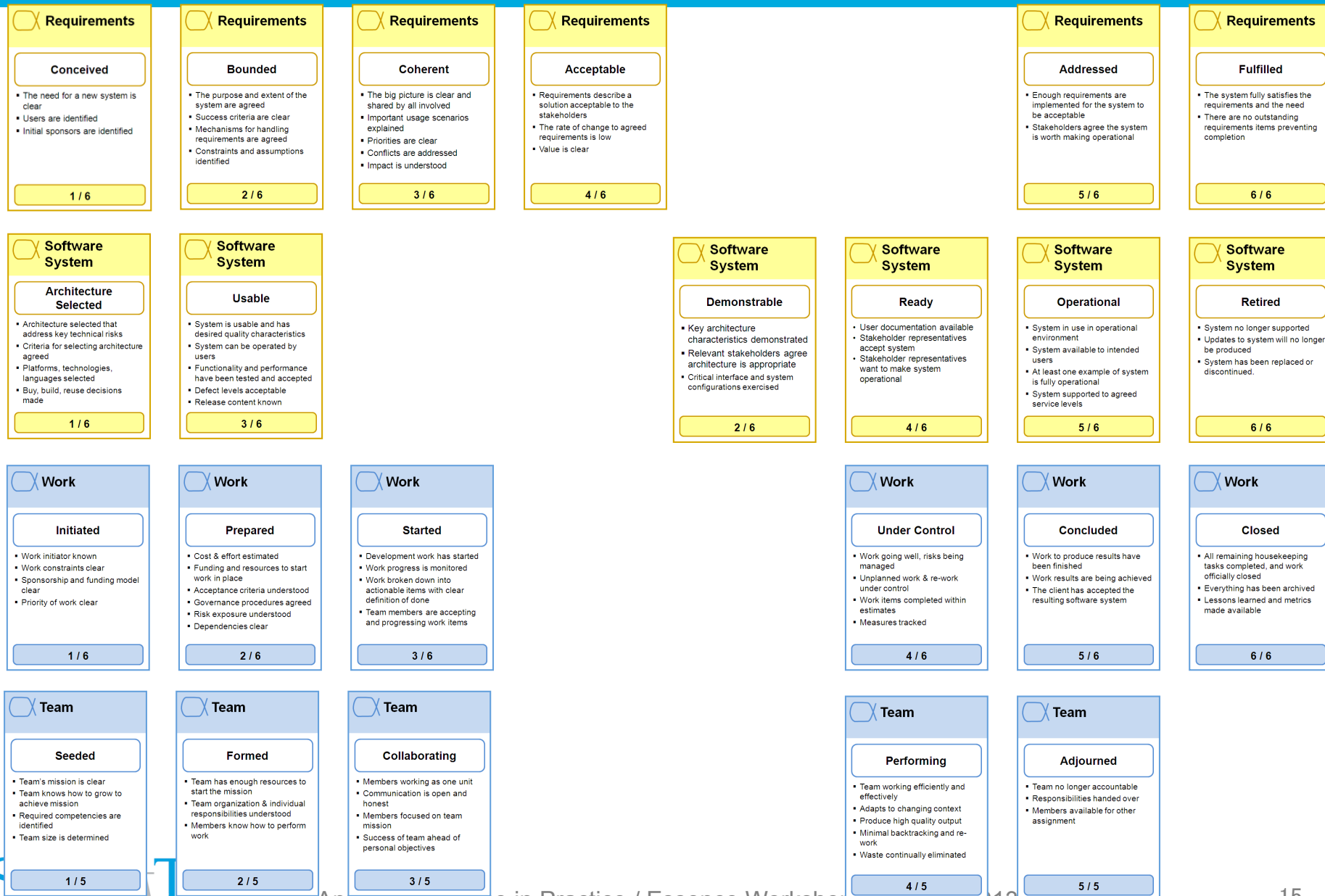
Team

Team	Team	Team	Team	Team
Seeded	Formed	Collaborating	Performing	Adjourning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team's mission is clear Team knows how to grow to achieve mission Required competencies are identified Team size is determined 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team has enough resources to start the mission Team organization & individual responsibilities understood Members know how to perform work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members working as one unit Communication is open and honest Members focused on team mission Success of team ahead of personal objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team working efficiently and effectively Adapts to changing context Produce high quality output Minimal backtracking and re-work Waste continually eliminated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team no longer accountable Responsibilities handed over Members available for other assignment
1 / 5	2 / 5	3 / 5	4 / 5	5 / 5

Plan: Determine Current State



Identify States by Applying State Cards



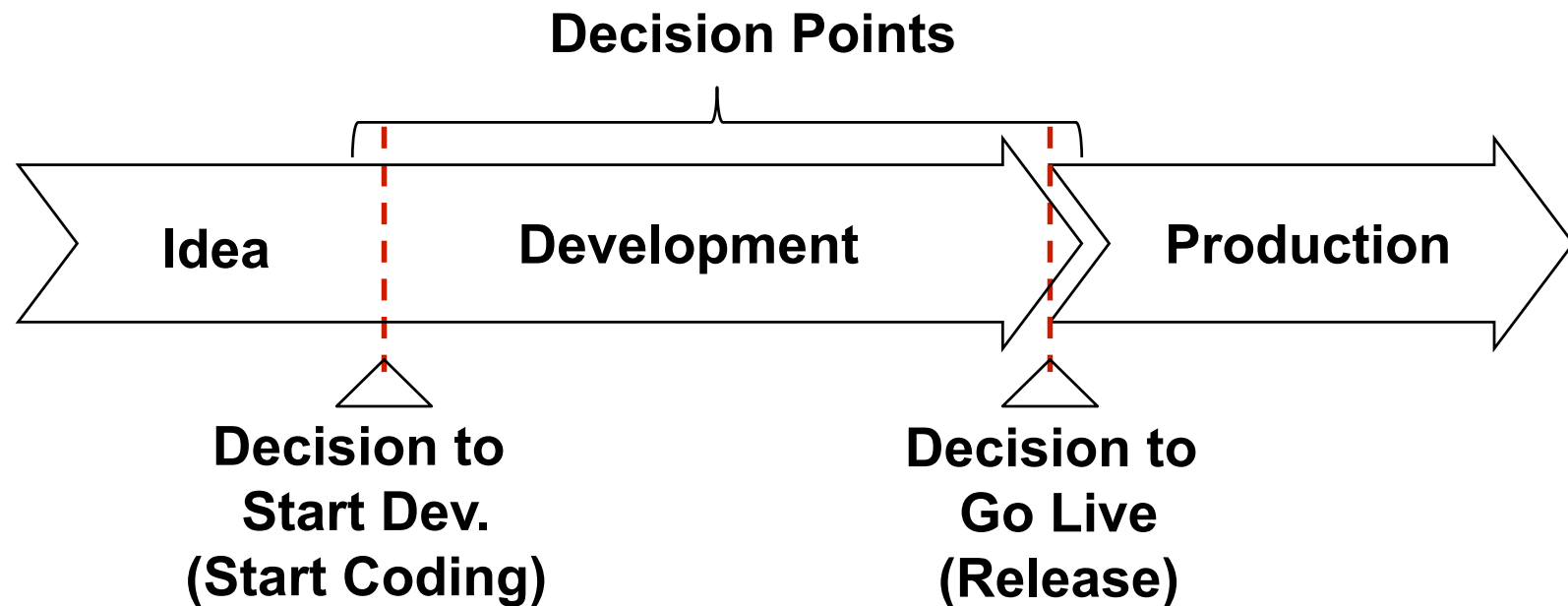
Situation: Executives Demand a Plan

- Cliché: If you don't plan to succeed, you plan to fail.
- Dave, the executive wants a plan.
- Ponder:
 - How do you make the plan?
 - How do you communicate the plan?
 - How do you ensure that your plan works?
 - How detailed should your plan be?

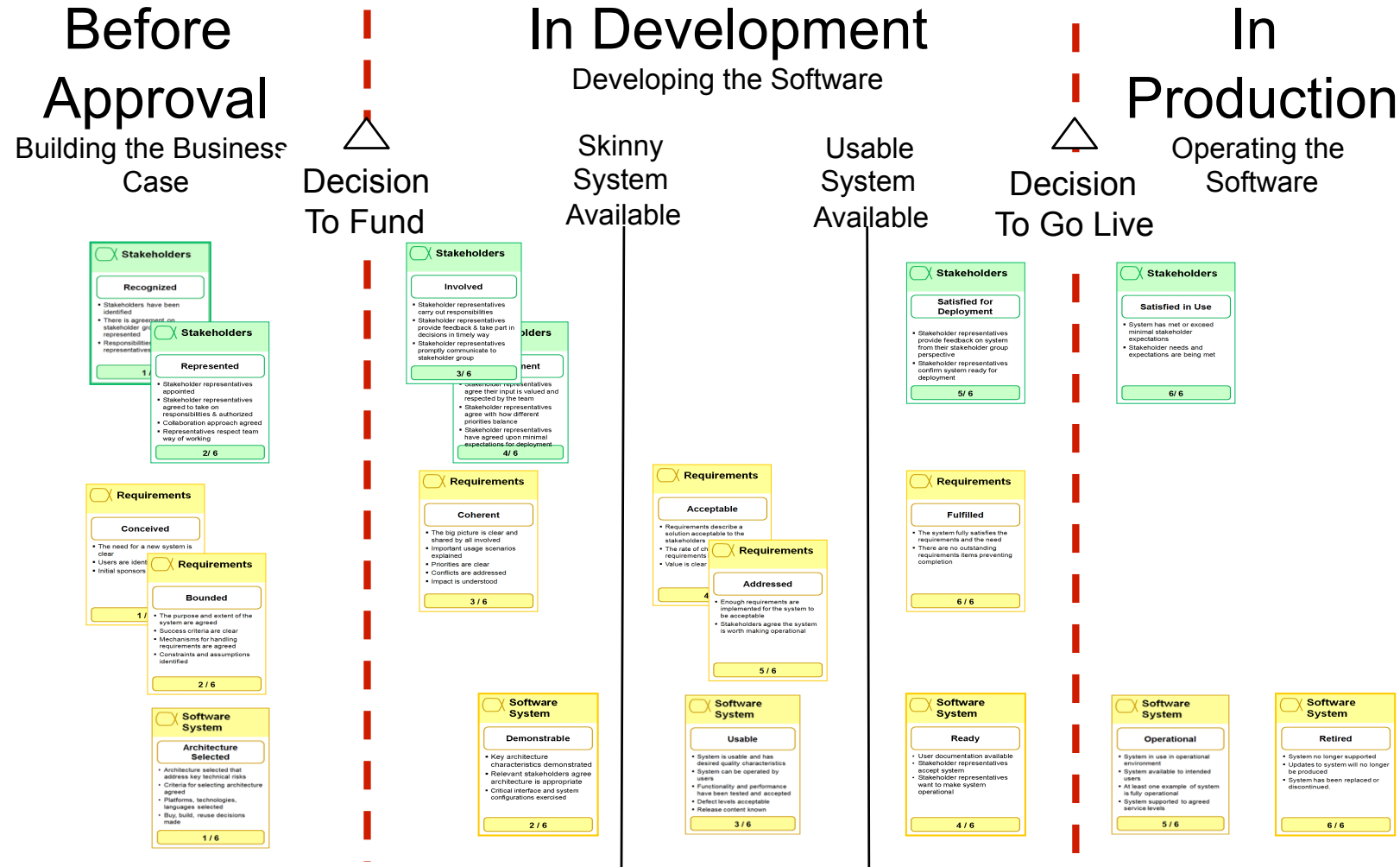


Steps to Planning

- Determine Major Decision Points
- Refine the Decision Points
- Fill in more Details



Planning Development with Alphas



Different Development, Different Planning

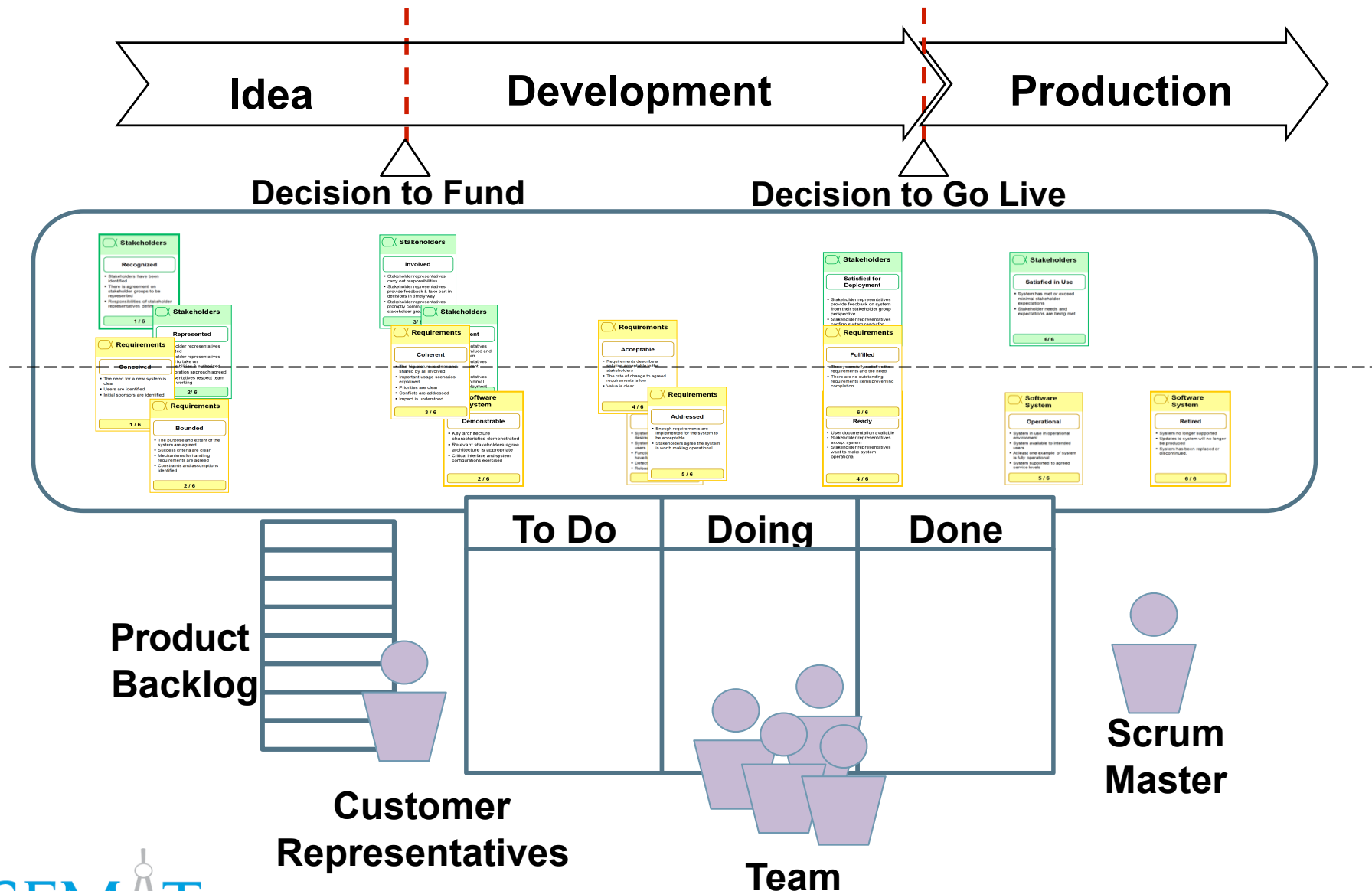
Phases	Agile		Traditional	
	Requirements	Software Sys.	Requirements	Software Sys.
Before Approval	Conceived		Conceived	
			Bounded	
Decision To Start			Coherent	Architecture Selected
In Development	Bounded	Architecture Selected	Acceptable	Demonstrable
	Coherent	Demonstrable		Useable
	Acceptable	Usable		Ready
		Ready		
Decision To Go Live	Addressed	Operational	Addressed	Operational
	Fulfilled	Retired	Fulfilled	Retired
In Production				

Situation: Get the Team Moving

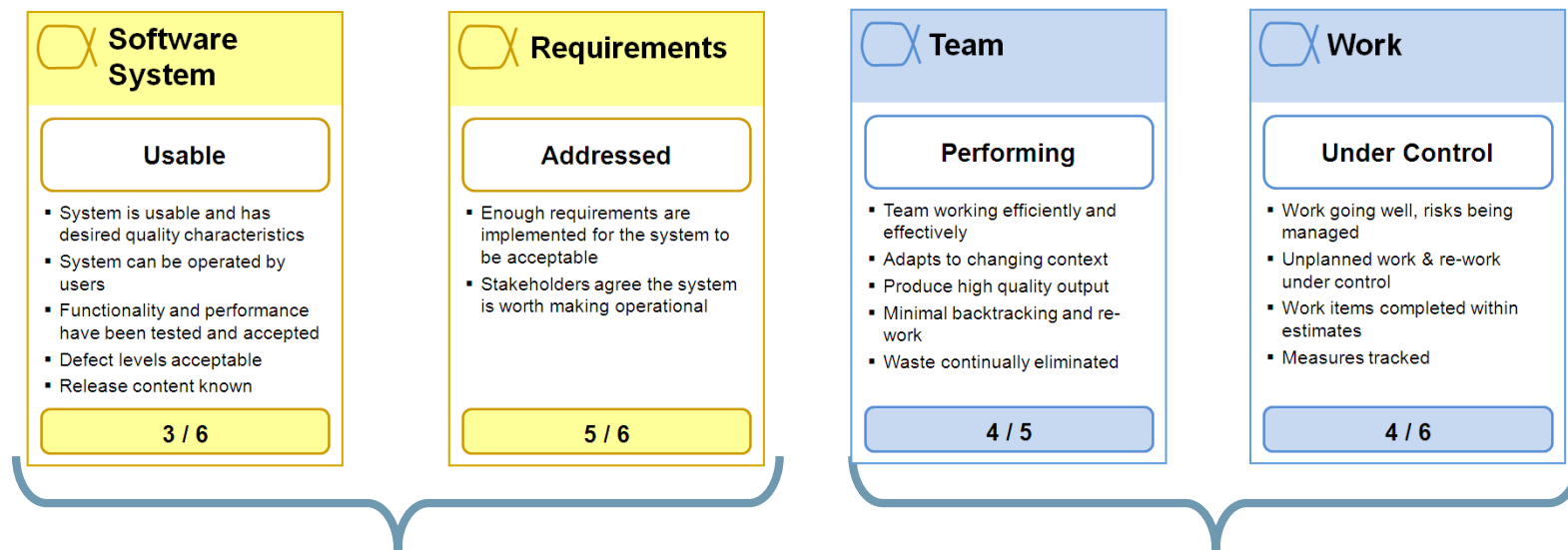
- Dave wants Smith not only to conduct their development successfully but also to be grounded in a solid understanding of software development
- In particular, Dave wants the team to adopt agile development



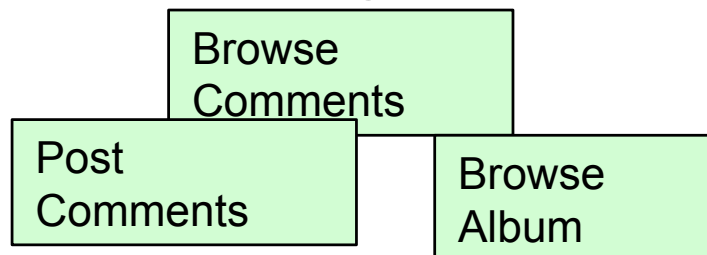
Running Agile Development with Scrum



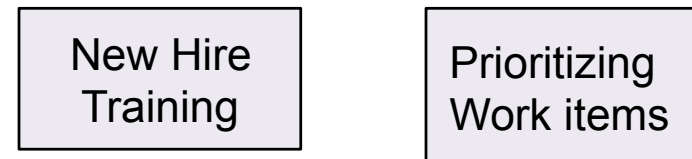
Agreeing on how to Iteration Objectives



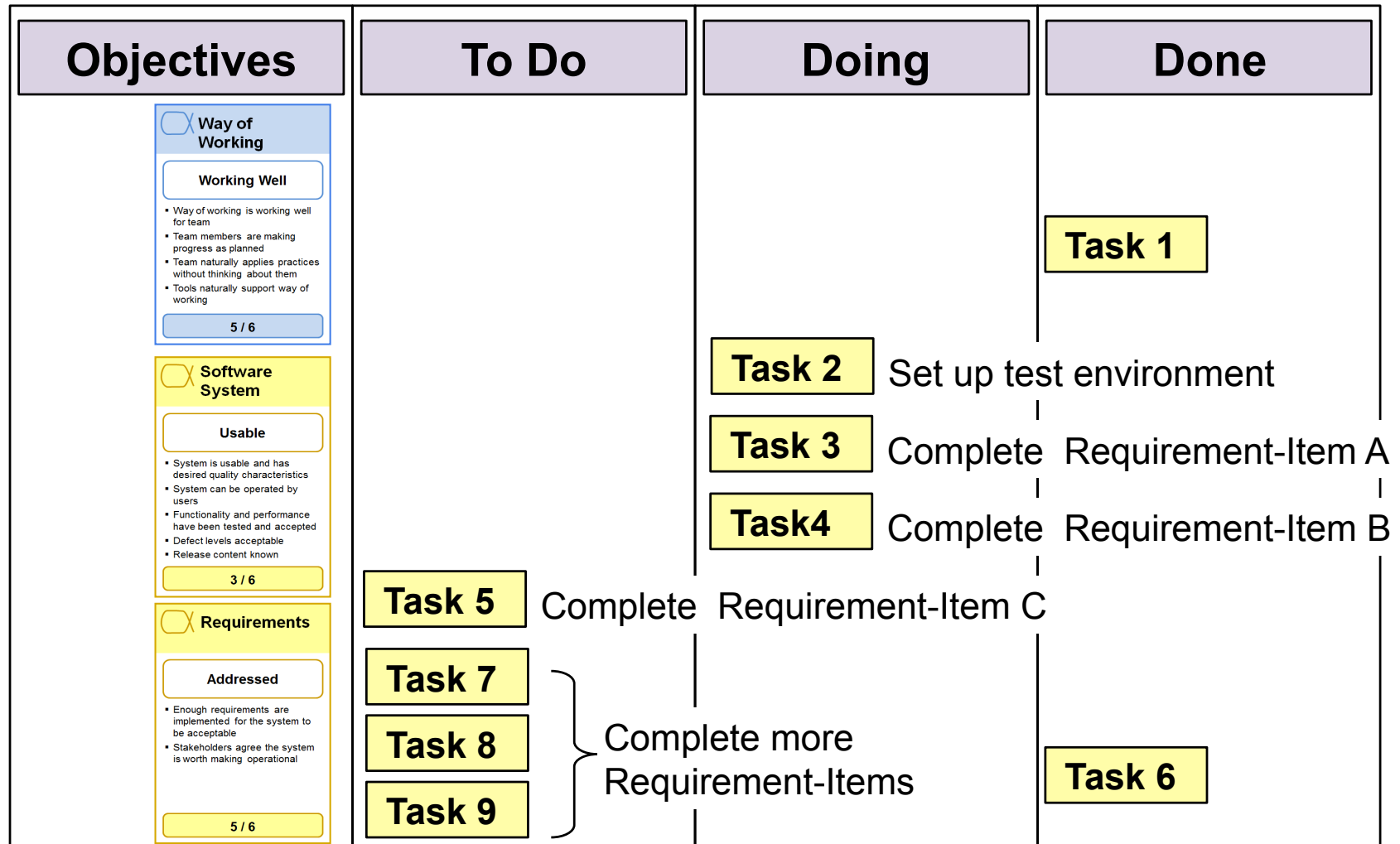
What requirement items will the team need to develop to achieve the above target states?



What tasks will the team need to do to achieve the above target states?



Tasks and Sub-Alphas



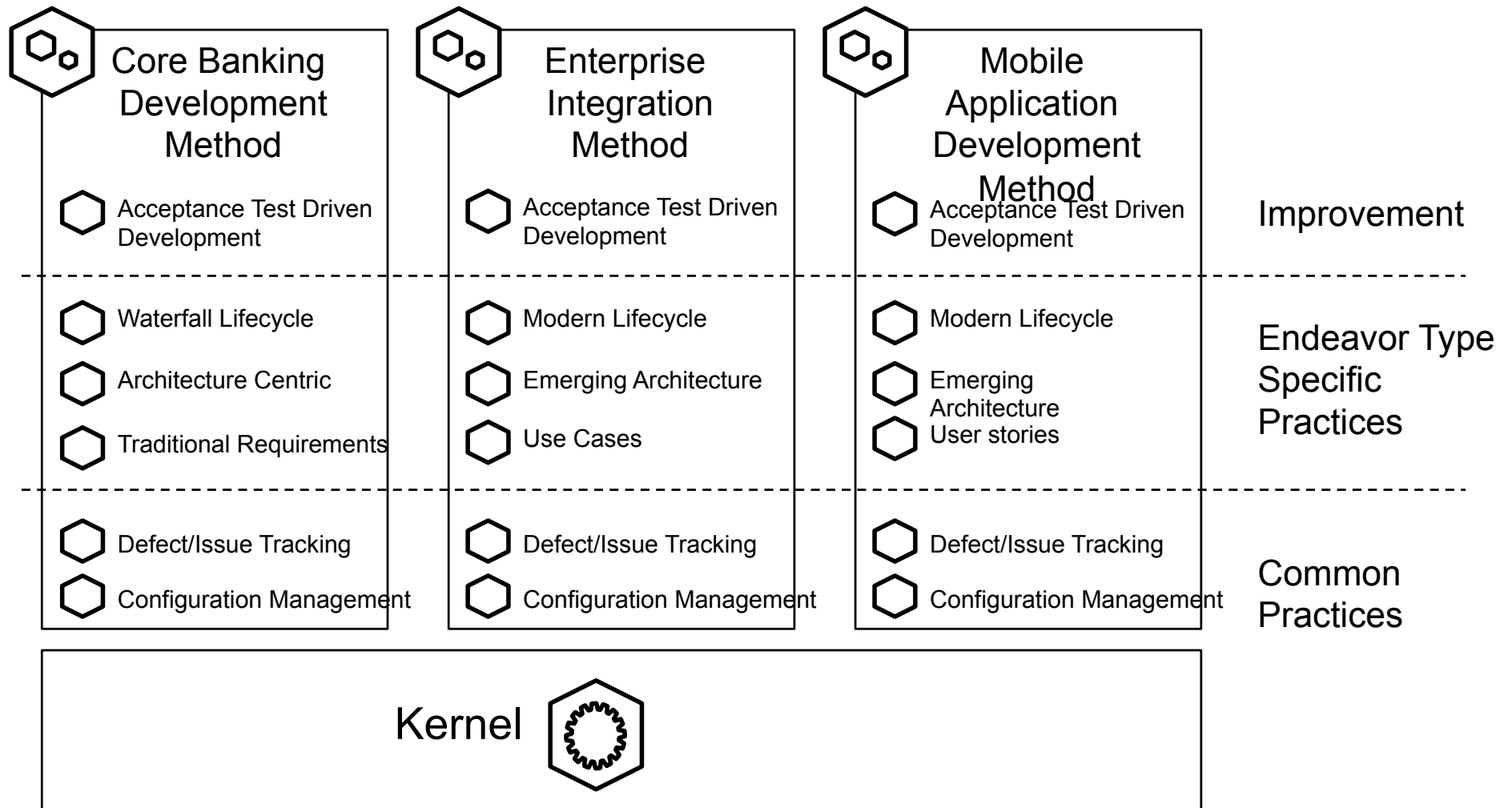
Situation: Replicating Success

- Dave wants Smith to help replicate success in other teams.
- Some way to describe the way of working is necessary
- Smith needs a way to get internal coaches to be consistent, but allow room to improvise and innovate

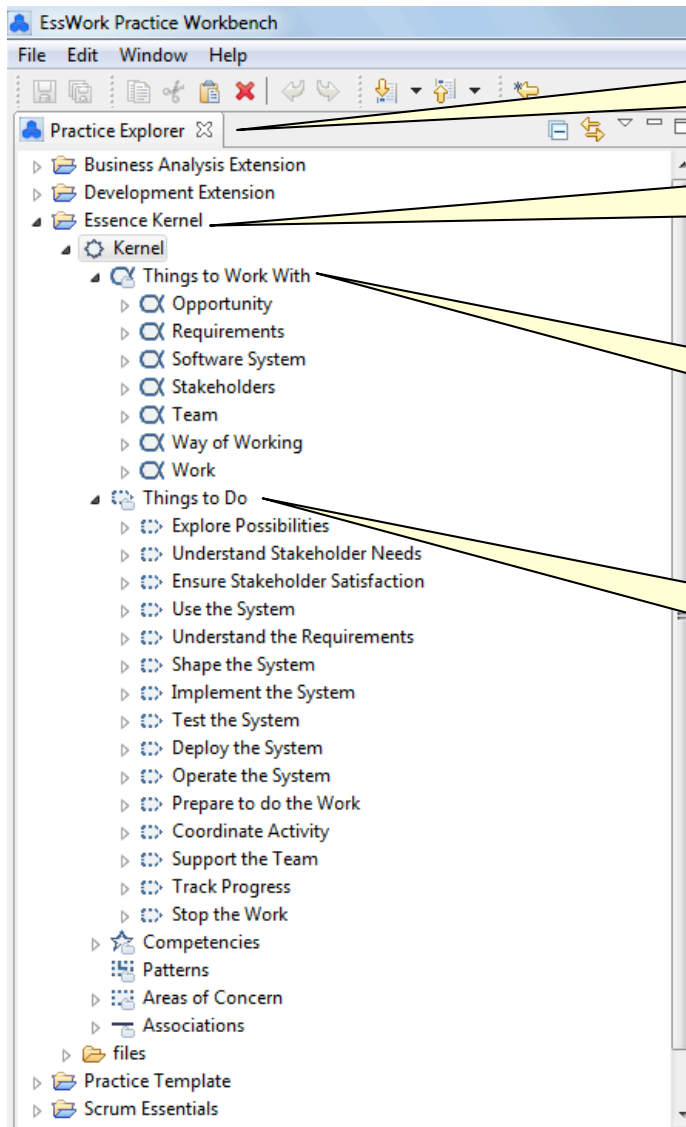
Documenting Practices

Capability	High	Tacit Practices Sufficient	Explicit Practices Needed
	Low	Tacit Practices With Coaching	Explicit Practices With Coaching
		Common	Different
		Background	

A Practice Architecture



Practice Explorer



The Practice Explorer shows Practice Workbench projects

The Essence Kernel project contains the elements defined in the OMG Essence specification

Alphas that represent the essential things to work with

Activity Spaces that represent the essential things to do

ETextile, Guideline and Card views

The screenshot displays the EssWork Practice Workbench interface. On the left is the 'Practice Explorer' tree, which includes 'Business Analysis Extension', 'Development Extension', and 'Essence Kernel'. Under 'Essence Kernel', the 'Team' element is selected. The main editor area shows the 'ETextile Source' view for the 'Team' element, containing plain text and annotations. A callout points to this view, stating: 'The ETextile Source view provides the main editor for authoring the practice using plain text and annotations'. Below the source view, a 'Guideline Preview' tab is active, showing a rendered HTML view of the 'Team' guideline. A callout points to this preview, stating: 'The Guideline Preview renders how the guideline will be presented in HTML'. To the right of the preview, an 'Overview Card Preview' tab is visible, showing a card presentation of the 'Team' element. A callout points to this card, stating: 'The Overview Card Preview renders the card presentation'. A third callout points to the 'Practice Explorer' tree, stating: 'When selecting an element in the Practice Explorer you can switch between different views'. The 'Team' element's content includes an introduction, justification, and a list of states (Seeded, Formed, Collaborating, Performing, Adjourned).

EssWork Practice Workbench

File Edit Window Help

Practice Explorer

- Business Analysis Extension
- Development Extension
- Essence Kernel
 - Kernel
 - Things to Work With
 - Opportunity
 - Requirements
 - Software System
 - Stakeholders
 - Team
 - Way of Working
 - Work
 - Things to Do
 - Explore Possibilities
 - Understand Stakeholder
 - Ensure Stakeholder Sat
 - Use the System
 - Understand the Require
 - Shape the System
 - Implement the System
 - Test the System
 - Deploy the System
 - Operate the System

Team

{element-name}

{etoc}

h1. Introduction

Team: The group of people actively engaged in the development, maintenance, delivery

The team plans and performs the work needed to create, update and/or change the software

h1. Justification: Why Team?

Software engineering is a team sport i engineering endeavor. To achieve hig

Normally a team consists of several p

h1. Progressing the

Teams evolve during their communicate the progressi (2) when team is formed to efficiency and productivi

!../images/team_states

The team is first seeded. effective group to come to begin to see how they can mission.

At its peak of performing, and takes appropriate mea: missions to complete, it :

It is important to unders effectively and efficient:

{states}

ETextile Source | Guideline Preview | Overview Card Preview | State Card Preview

Team

Introduction

Justification: Why Team?

Progressing the Team

States

- Seeded
- Formed
- Collaborating
- Performing
- Adjourned

Contents

- Essential content
- Described by
- Related alphas

References

- Recommended reading

Team

Team: The group of people actively engaged in the development, maintenance, delivery and support of a specific software system.

The team plans and performs the work needed to create, update and/or change the software system.

Essential content

N/A

Described by

N/A

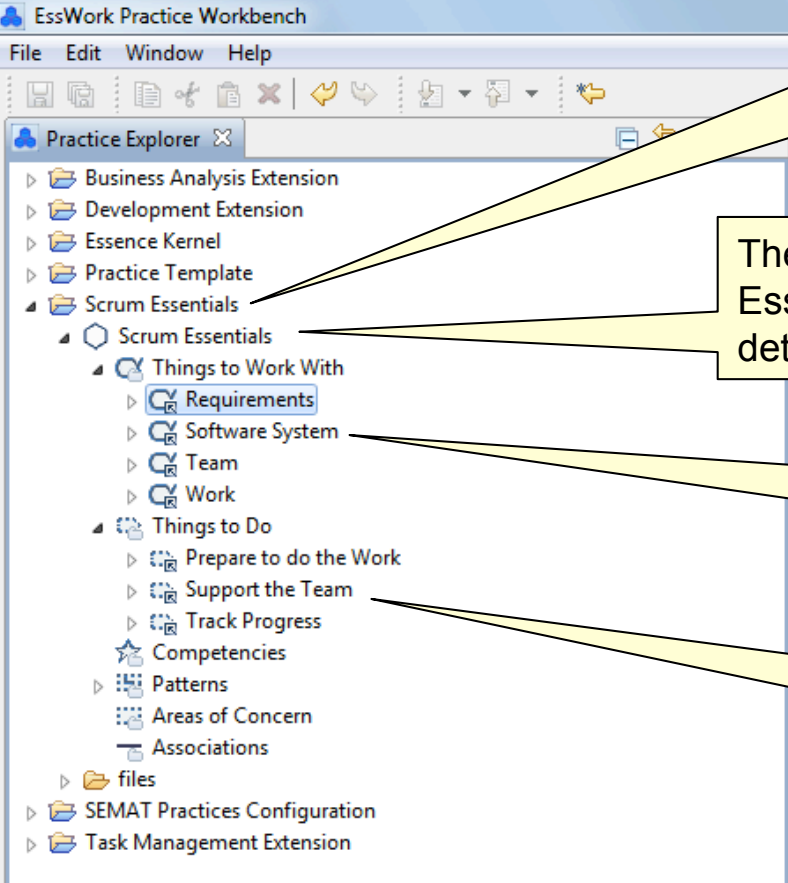
Related alphas

- Stakeholders support Team
- Team produces Software System
- Team performs and plans Work
- Team applies Way of Working

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ETextile Source | Guideline Preview | Overview Card Preview | State Card Preview

Scrum Essentials



The screenshot shows the 'EssWork Practice Workbench' application. The 'Practice Explorer' pane on the left displays a hierarchical tree of projects. The 'Scrum Essentials' project is expanded, showing sub-projects like 'Things to Work With' (containing 'Requirements', 'Software System', 'Team', 'Work') and 'Things to Do' (containing 'Prepare to do the Work', 'Support the Team', 'Track Progress'). Other projects visible include 'Business Analysis Extension', 'Development Extension', 'Essence Kernel', 'Practice Template', 'files', 'SEMAT Practices Configuration', and 'Task Management Extension'.

The Scrum practice is created as a separate practice project in the Practice Workbench

The Scrum practice extends the Essence Kernel by providing more detailed guidance.

Drag and drop the relevant Alphas to extend from the Essence Kernel into the Scrum practice project

Drag and drop the relevant Activity Spaces to extend from the Essence Kernel into the Scrum practice project

Scrum Roles

The screenshot displays the EssWork Practice Workbench interface. On the left, the 'Practice Explorer' pane shows a tree structure with 'Scrum Essentials' expanded, revealing 'Scrum Roles' which includes 'Development Team', 'Product Owner', 'Scrum Master', and 'Scrum Team'. A yellow callout points to this section, stating 'Scrum roles are represented as Patterns'. The main window shows the 'Product Owner' pattern details, including an 'Introduction' and a 'Description'. A second yellow callout points to this window, stating 'Product Owner (Guideline Preview)'. Below the main window, a 'Scrum Essentials' card preview is shown, featuring a diagram of the Product Owner role and a 'Related Patterns' section. A third yellow callout points to this card preview, stating 'Product Owner (Card Preview)'. The card preview also includes a 'Related Patterns' section with the text 'N/A'.

EssWork Practice Workbench

File Edit Window Help

Practice Explorer

- Business Analysis Extension
- Development Extension
- Essence Kernel
- Practice Template
- Scrum Essentials
 - Scrum Essentials
 - Things to Watch
 - Requirements
 - Software
 - Team
 - Work
 - Things to Do
 - Prepare to do Work
 - Support the team
 - Track Progress
 - Competencies
 - Patterns
 - Scrum Roles
 - Development Team
 - Product Owner
 - Scrum Master
 - Scrum Team
 - Areas of Concern
 - Associations
 - files
 - SEMAT Practices Configuration
 - Task Management Extension

Product Owner

Introduction

Description

The Product Owner represents the interests of all stakeholders, defines the features of the product and manages the P

The Product Owner is responsible for maximizing the value of the product and the work of the Development Team. How individuals.

The Product Owner is the sole person responsible for managing the Product Backlog. Product Backlog management includes:

- Clearly expressing Product Backlog items;
- Ordering the items in the Product Backlog;
- Ensuring the value of the work is maximized;
- Ensuring that the Product Backlog is visible to all team members;
- Ensuring the Development Team has all the information they need to work on the items in the Product Backlog.

The Product Owner may do the above work:

The Product Owner is one person, convince the Product Owner.

For the Product Owner to succeed, allowed to tell the Development Team.

ETextile Source | Guideline Preview | Overview Card Preview | State Card Preview

Scrum Essentials

Product Owner

The Product Owner is responsible for maximizing the value of the product and the work of the Development Team. How this is done may vary widely across organizations, Scrum Teams, and individuals.

Related Patterns

N/A

ETextile Source | Guideline Preview | Overview Card Preview | State Card Preview

Scrum Sprint

Sprint (Card Preview)

Sprint is represented as a sub-alpha of Work

The Sprint has States with Checkpoints

Sprint in Under Control State (Card Preview)

The Sprint has associated the Work Product Sprint Backlog that contains the set of Product Backlog items selected for the Sprint, and the plan for delivering the product Increment

