Sandhya Chelerkar

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Profile Summary

- Certified SAFe^R Agilist (SA), Certified Scrum Master (CSM), Scrum Fundamentals Certified (SFC) and Certified Project Management Professional (PMP)
- Trained in SAFe Framework, principles, practices and SAFe Implementation
- A total of 18 years plus experience in software industry, 5 years as Project Manager and 3+ years as Scrum Master
- Proficient in project scoping, stakeholder management, project planning, scheduling, budgeting, hiring and have worked with multiple teams across business units and across geographical boundaries
- Skilled in conducting agile ceremonies – sprint planning, daily scum, backlog grooming, sprint review, sprint retrospective and developing metrics and measurements
- Hands-on experience with Scrum implementation and help the teams mature through the agile way of working
- Exceptional ability to draw insights into business requirements and convert them into User Stories for development team
- Knowledge of SAN and Network Security (firewall, IPSec VPN, SSL VPN, EndPoint protection) domains; deep experience in testing the products in these domains
- Worked on Enterprise applications (web apps in legacy server environments as well as on Cloud)
- Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) with specialization in Systems

Work Experience

IBM India Pvt Ltd. Project Manager
2007–2019
Iteration Manager (Scrum Master), 2015-2019

Liasoned between Product Owner and Development team.
Helped team deliver 5 releases in a span of 3.5 years. Interfaced with cross functional (development, testing, Ux Design) teams located across the globe.
Web application developed using Angular/Node JS technologies and hosted on IBM Cloud. Configured the environment in IBM Cloud and setup DevOps process using Toolchain.
Ran several sessions with Business team to elicit the improvements needed in new application and created detailed User Stories for dev team.
Created Features list in legacy application and new Cloud application to track the inclusion of all existing features.
Managed new product features and enhancements in terms of scope, quality, and schedule within release cycles.
Ran Agile ceremonies – sprint planning, daily scrum, sprint review, sprint retrospective.
Coached team to create and use large visual Kanban boards to track the Sprint items.
Developed scrum metrics like burndown charts and team velocity, used the same to help team improve their productivity.
Participated in stakeholder meetings to understand the product strategy.
Assisted PO with prioritization and maintenance of Product Backlog in IBM RTC tool.
Assisted PO with requirements elicitation from different stakeholders and converting them into user stories.
Acted as servant leader to the development team through mentoring the team to be self-organized and thus confident owners of sprint deliverables, assisted in removal of impediments, solving other problems for the team. Helped with team reskilling and team composition strategies.

Liasoned between business stakeholders and User Experience team to review the designs based upon stakeholder expectations and technical feasibilities.
Executed User Acceptance Testing on different browsers.

Technical environment: IBM Cloud Managed Services, Node JS, Angular JS, CSS, XML, Cloudant Db, Visual Studio, Git Desktop, GitHub, Murally, InVision(UX tool), IBM Rational Tool Concert (RTC), JIRA, Java, JAXB

Project Manager, Compliance, 2012-2015

Was responsible to ensure complete compliance of enterprise applications to Organizational IT Standards and local regulatory requirements depending on their Business Value.
Worked on Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plans, application security control points validation, role-based access control to the application, access management, separation of duties, periodic review of process and control flow documents, DoUs, risk documents, application security health checks, review and approval of application changes.

Project Manager, Operations, 2010-2012

- End to end data delivery management with SLAs for data delivery, publishing, website up-time.
- On-going maintenance project involving continuous monitoring of feeds from upstream systems to following systems until the end data is delivered in desired shape for publishing to various websites in different geographies. This role required prompt communication with dependent teams, communication to stakeholders about delays in case of issues, RCAs of issues and process updations.
- Change control and configuration management
- Adhering to organizational processes and best practices
- Reporting to executive management on issues and lapses

Test Lead 2007-2010

for IBM ISS Network Security products – Team Size: 7
Integration and System Testing of IBMISS Unified Threat Management product Proventia M

Creation and maintenance of project plan
Hiring resources and form teams for different modules of the project
Test and Defect Management using Mercury Quality Center
Plan and prepare Test environment based on test scenarios for particular features - IPSec and SSL VPN, Endpoint security.
Determine the severity of defects, raise them and track them in the Tool, pursue them through the Defect triage meetings with development teams.
Participate in setting up the common servers lab – setup and configure Cisco 4506 switch, creating VLANs, setup and configure IBM Blade Center and VMWare ESX Server
Understand the product from User Guide and other available documents, suggest functionality and usability improvement suggestions to product team.
Help build the QA team.
Training, Mentoring and nurturing the team members.
Planning and creating work plans for the team members - monitoring, motivating, leading and supporting them.
Analysis of Quality Tools with respect to team and project processes and implementation of chosen Tools to improvise the processes.

Value addition: Successfully implemented the 5S Quality Tool to improve the processes employed in the project and brought about a benefit of 24% in terms of total time consumed.

WIPRO Technologies Team Lead
2003–2006
Test Lead for Brocade Fabric Manager product (SAN) – Team Size: 6

Review of Functional Specifications, providing functional and usability suggestions to the development team.
Development of test designs based on functional specs with adequate details on environment, configuration and steps for execution.

Conducting test designs review, incorporating comments, developing the quality of test cases on a continuous basis.
Setting up lab with necessary configuration and hardware, planning the hosts and other resources, configuring other servers and users.
Functional test execution across four phases in a release.
Logging bugs with complete and clear information and supporting documents like screenshots, log files to dev team; verification and closure of bugs.
Timely escalation of needs and concerns to the client.
Clear and concise communication with client and within the team as well.
Participation in weekly status meetings and defect review meetings.
Preparing performance analysis reports and root cause analysis reports for bugs missed for client.
Participation in internal project audit.
Review product documentation.
Review of Product User's Guide.
Mentoring and nurturing the new members in the team.
Monitoring, motivating, leading and supporting the team members.
Planning and creating work plans for the team members.
Analysis of Quality Tools with respect to team and project processes and implementation of chosen Tools to improvise the processes.

Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) Research Associate
2000–2003
Developed intranet for the organization using IIS 5.0 webserver, HTML, Javascript, ASP, MS Access
Developed different functional modules to support Business requirements like Gatepass Management, Program Management, Visitor Management.

Education

School of Business Management, SVUniversity, Tirupati, India
1996 - 1998
Completed Master of Business Administration course with specialization in Systems

Project Management Professional – PMI - 2012
Certified Scrum Master – Scrum Alliance - 2019