agile software development with scrum ken schwaber

Agile Software Development with Scrum Ken Schwaber: Revolutionizing Project Management

agile software development with scrum ken schwaber has been a transformative approach in the world of software engineering and project management. If you've ever worked on a software project, you might have heard about Scrum, a popular agile framework that emphasizes collaboration, flexibility, and delivering value quickly. And much of Scrum's widespread adoption is thanks to Ken Schwaber, one of its original creators and a pioneer in agile methodologies.

In this article, we'll explore how agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber has reshaped the way teams work, the principles behind this approach, and practical insights for implementing Scrum effectively.

Understanding Agile Software Development and the Role of Scrum

Agile software development is a philosophy that promotes iterative progress, collaboration, and adaptability over rigid planning and documentation. It emerged in response to traditional waterfall methods, which often led to delayed deliveries and misaligned expectations. Agile encourages teams to work in short cycles, regularly reassess priorities, and embrace change as a natural part of the development process.

Within the agile umbrella, Scrum stands out as one of the most widely adopted frameworks. Scrum defines specific roles, ceremonies, and artifacts that help teams organize work and continuously improve. Ken Schwaber, alongside Jeff Sutherland, formalized Scrum in the early 1990s and has since been a key advocate and educator of the framework.

Ken Schwaber's Contribution to Agile Software Development with Scrum

Ken Schwaber's work has been instrumental in taking Scrum from a concept to a global standard. As a co-creator, Schwaber helped craft the Scrum Guide, which outlines the rules and principles that make Scrum effective. His dedication to teaching and certification programs has empowered thousands of professionals to adopt Scrum in various industries.

One of Schwaber's significant contributions is his focus on empirical process control—meaning that Scrum teams make decisions based on observation, experience, and experimentation, rather than assumptions. This approach drives transparency, inspection, and adaptation, which are the pillars of Scrum's success.

The Scrum Guide and Its Impact

The Scrum Guide, maintained and updated by Ken Schwaber and Jeff Sutherland, serves as the definitive resource for understanding Scrum. It succinctly defines roles such as Product Owner, Scrum Master, and Development Team, as well as events like Sprint Planning, Daily Scrum, Sprint Review, and Sprint Retrospective.

By providing a clear yet lightweight framework, Schwaber enables teams to tailor Scrum to their unique environments while maintaining core principles. This flexibility is crucial for agile software development, where no two projects are exactly alike.

Key Elements of Agile Software Development with Scrum Ken Schwaber

To appreciate the power of agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber, it's helpful to break down some of its essential components.

Roles That Drive Collaboration

Scrum defines three distinct roles, each with its responsibilities:

- **Product Owner:** Represents the customer or stakeholders, manages the product backlog, and prioritizes features to maximize value.
- **Scrum Master:** Acts as a servant-leader who facilitates Scrum events, removes impediments, and ensures the team follows Scrum principles.
- **Development Team:** A cross-functional group responsible for delivering potentially shippable product increments each sprint.

This clear division of roles helps reduce confusion and promotes accountability within the team.

The Sprint: Heart of Agile Delivery

Sprints are fixed-length iterations, typically lasting two to four weeks, where the team works on a set of prioritized backlog items. Each sprint aims to produce a working product increment that can be reviewed and potentially released.

Sprint events include:

- Sprint Planning: Setting the sprint goal and selecting backlog items.
- Daily Scrum: A short daily meeting for the team to synchronize efforts.
- **Sprint Review:** Demonstrating completed work to stakeholders and gathering feedback.
- **Sprint Retrospective:** Reflecting on the process to identify improvements.

This cadence fosters continuous delivery and rapid feedback cycles, essential for agile software development.

Artifacts That Promote Transparency

Scrum artifacts serve as tools for visibility and communication:

- **Product Backlog:** An ordered list of everything that might be needed in the product, maintained by the Product Owner.
- **Sprint Backlog:** The subset of product backlog items selected for the current sprint, along with a plan for delivery.
- Increment: The sum of all completed backlog items during a sprint, representing a usable product version.

Ken Schwaber's emphasis on these artifacts ensures that the team and stakeholders stay aligned throughout the project.

Implementing Agile Software Development with

Scrum Ken Schwaber: Tips and Best Practices

Adopting Scrum is more than just following a checklist—it requires a mindset shift and commitment to continuous improvement. Here are some insights drawn from Schwaber's teachings and industry experience:

Embrace Empirical Process Control

Scrum thrives on transparency, inspection, and adaptation. Encourage your team to openly share progress and challenges during daily scrums and retrospectives. Use data and real results to guide decisions rather than assumptions or rigid plans.

Prioritize Collaboration and Communication

Scrum is fundamentally about people working together effectively. Facilitate open communication channels and empower team members to self-organize. The Scrum Master should act as a coach and barrier remover, not a traditional manager.

Focus on Delivering Value Early and Often

Ken Schwaber stresses the importance of delivering usable increments frequently. This approach not only builds stakeholder confidence but also allows for early detection of issues and course corrections, reducing wasted effort.

Invest in Continuous Learning

Regular retrospectives are vital for identifying what works and what doesn't. Encourage experimentation and be willing to adjust processes. Schwaber's work highlights that no process is perfect from the start—improvement is ongoing.

The Broader Impact of Agile Software Development with Scrum Ken Schwaber

The influence of Schwaber's Scrum extends beyond software development teams. Organizations across industries—marketing, finance, education—have embraced Scrum principles to increase agility and responsiveness in their workflows.

Moreover, Schwaber's efforts in certification and community building have created a global network of Scrum practitioners who share knowledge and support one another. This vibrant ecosystem continues to evolve, ensuring Scrum remains relevant in a rapidly changing technological landscape.

Scrum and Digital Transformation

In today's fast-paced digital world, the ability to adapt quickly is a competitive advantage. Agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber offers a proven framework for organizations looking to accelerate innovation and improve customer satisfaction. By breaking down silos and fostering transparency, Scrum supports digital transformation initiatives effectively.

Challenges and Considerations

While Scrum offers many benefits, it's important to recognize potential challenges:

- Misunderstanding Roles: Confusing the Scrum Master with a project manager can hinder team autonomy.
- **Resistance to Change:** Transitioning from traditional methods requires cultural shifts that might face pushback.
- Overemphasis on Process: Focusing too rigidly on Scrum rules can stifle creativity and flexibility.

Ken Schwaber himself advocates for using the Scrum Guide as a framework, not a set of rigid rules, encouraging teams to adapt Scrum to their unique needs.

Agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber continues to be a cornerstone of modern project management. By understanding its principles, embracing its practices, and learning from its challenges, teams can unlock greater productivity, collaboration, and customer satisfaction. Whether you're new to agile or seeking to deepen your Scrum expertise, exploring Ken Schwaber's contributions offers valuable insights into an ever-evolving landscape of software development.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Ken Schwaber in the context of Agile software development?

Ken Schwaber is one of the co-creators of the Scrum framework and a prominent figure in Agile software development. He helped formalize Scrum as a framework for managing complex software projects.

What is Scrum according to Ken Schwaber's Agile methodology?

Scrum is an Agile framework for developing, delivering, and sustaining complex products. It emphasizes iterative progress, collaboration, and adaptability, with defined roles such as Product Owner, Scrum Master, and Development Team.

How does Ken Schwaber define the role of the Scrum Master?

Ken Schwaber defines the Scrum Master as a servant-leader who facilitates Scrum processes, removes impediments, and ensures the team adheres to Scrum values and practices to maximize productivity.

What are the core principles of Agile software development promoted by Ken Schwaber?

Ken Schwaber promotes principles such as iterative development, customer collaboration, responding to change over following a plan, continuous improvement, and delivering working software frequently.

How does Ken Schwaber suggest handling changes during a Scrum project?

Ken Schwaber suggests embracing change by using short, time-boxed iterations called Sprints, allowing teams to inspect and adapt their work regularly and incorporate new requirements effectively.

What is the significance of the Sprint in Ken Schwaber's Scrum framework?

The Sprint is a fixed-length iteration, usually 2-4 weeks, during which a potentially shippable product increment is developed. It provides a rhythm for the team to plan, execute, review, and improve continuously.

How does Ken Schwaber's approach address team

collaboration in Agile projects?

Ken Schwaber emphasizes self-organizing, cross-functional teams that collaborate closely, hold daily Scrum meetings to synchronize work, and collectively own the responsibility for delivering value.

What tools or techniques does Ken Schwaber recommend for effective Scrum implementation?

Ken Schwaber recommends using product backlogs, sprint backlogs, daily standups, sprint reviews, and retrospectives as essential Scrum artifacts and ceremonies to manage work transparently and improve continuously.

How has Ken Schwaber contributed to the Agile community beyond Scrum?

Beyond co-creating Scrum, Ken Schwaber founded the Scrum Alliance and Scrum.org, organizations that provide training, certification, and resources to promote Agile and Scrum adoption worldwide.

What challenges does Ken Schwaber acknowledge in adopting Scrum in organizations?

Ken Schwaber acknowledges challenges such as resistance to change, misunderstanding Scrum roles, insufficient management support, and the need for cultural shifts to embrace transparency, collaboration, and iterative delivery.

Additional Resources

Agile Software Development with Scrum Ken Schwaber: A Critical Examination

agile software development with scrum ken schwaber represents a pivotal evolution in the landscape of project management and software creation. As organizations worldwide strive for flexibility, faster delivery cycles, and improved collaboration, Scrum — one of the most prominent Agile frameworks — has gained widespread adoption. Co-created and popularized by Ken Schwaber, Scrum's methodologies have influenced how teams approach complex software projects. This article delves deeply into the principles and practices of agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber, exploring its origins, structure, benefits, and challenges in today's software industry.

The Genesis of Scrum and Ken Schwaber's Role

Scrum's emergence in the 1990s marked a significant departure from

traditional, linear project management approaches such as the Waterfall model. Ken Schwaber, alongside Jeff Sutherland, first formalized Scrum as a lightweight, iterative process enabling teams to manage and complete complex projects effectively. Schwaber's contributions extended beyond conceptualization; he actively shaped the Scrum Guide, defined roles, and advocated for empirical process control in software development.

Under Schwaber's stewardship, Scrum evolved into a framework emphasizing transparency, inspection, and adaptation. His efforts to codify Scrum through the Scrum Alliance and later Scrum.org have established industry standards for Scrum certification and practice. This historical context underscores why agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber remains a benchmark for agility in software engineering.

Core Components and Roles in Scrum

At its foundation, Scrum revolves around defined roles, artifacts, and ceremonies designed to foster incremental progress and continuous improvement. Understanding these elements is crucial to grasping how agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber functions within teams.

Key Roles

- **Product Owner:** Responsible for defining product vision and managing the product backlog, prioritizing features based on business value and stakeholder input.
- **Scrum Master:** Acts as a facilitator and coach, ensuring the team adheres to Scrum principles while removing impediments to progress.
- **Development Team:** A cross-functional group responsible for delivering potentially shippable increments of the product at the end of each sprint.

Artifacts and Ceremonies

Scrum's structure includes essential artifacts like the product backlog, sprint backlog, and increment, which provide transparency and focus. Ceremonies such as sprint planning, daily stand-ups, sprint reviews, and retrospectives create ritualized points for collaboration and course correction.

These elements collectively encourage agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber to support rapid feedback loops and adaptive planning, which distinguish Scrum from other project management frameworks.

Agile Software Development with Scrum Ken Schwaber: Benefits and Challenges

The application of Scrum within Agile methodologies brings numerous advantages, but it also presents challenges that organizations must address to fully realize its potential.

Advantages

- Enhanced Flexibility: Scrum's iterative cycles allow teams to respond swiftly to changing requirements or market conditions.
- Improved Collaboration: Frequent communication within Scrum ceremonies encourages transparency and shared ownership.
- **Higher Product Quality:** Regular inspection and adaptation processes enable early detection and resolution of defects.
- Customer-Centric Development: The Product Owner's prioritization ensures alignment with business needs and stakeholder expectations.
- Faster Time to Market: Incremental delivery means usable features reach customers sooner, providing tangible value early on.

Challenges

- Role Misunderstanding: Misapplication of the Scrum Master or Product Owner roles can hinder progress and team dynamics.
- Scaling Issues: While Scrum excels in small to medium teams, scaling it across large enterprises requires additional frameworks like SAFe or LeSS.
- **Resistance to Change:** Organizations entrenched in traditional methodologies may struggle with Scrum's cultural demands.
- Overemphasis on Ceremonies: Ritualizing meetings without purpose can

Recognizing these benefits and obstacles is essential for organizations aiming to implement agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber effectively.

Comparing Scrum with Other Agile Frameworks

While Scrum is perhaps the most widely adopted Agile framework, numerous alternatives offer different approaches to iterative development. Comparing Scrum to frameworks like Kanban, Extreme Programming (XP), and Lean helps contextualize its unique strengths.

Scrum vs. Kanban

Kanban focuses on visualizing workflow and limiting work in progress without prescribed roles or time-boxed iterations. Scrum, by contrast, structures work around fixed-length sprints and defined roles, which can provide more rhythm but less flexibility in certain scenarios.

Scrum vs. Extreme Programming (XP)

XP emphasizes engineering practices such as pair programming, test-driven development, and continuous integration more heavily than Scrum. Both frameworks complement agile principles, but Scrum focuses primarily on process and team organization, whereas XP dives deeper into technical excellence.

Scrum vs. Lean

Lean principles aim to eliminate waste and maximize value delivery, influencing many Agile methods including Scrum. Scrum operationalizes Lean's emphasis on feedback and continuous improvement through its iterative cycles and retrospectives.

By understanding these distinctions, teams can better select or tailor agile practices aligned with their project needs, enhancing the efficacy of agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber.

Modern Applications and the Evolution of Scrum

In today's fast-evolving technological environment, agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber continues to adapt. The rise of DevOps, continuous delivery, and remote work have influenced how Scrum is implemented.

Integration with DevOps practices, for example, extends Scrum's feedback loops into deployment and operations, fostering end-to-end agility. Similarly, digital collaboration tools have transformed Scrum ceremonies, enabling distributed teams to maintain engagement and transparency.

Ken Schwaber himself has advocated for empirical process control and continuous learning as Scrum matures, urging teams to avoid dogmatism and instead focus on outcomes. This mindset ensures Scrum remains relevant beyond software development, finding applications in marketing, product design, and organizational change initiatives.

Certification and Training

Ken Schwaber's organizations, including Scrum.org, provide rigorous certification paths such as Professional Scrum Master (PSM) and Professional Scrum Product Owner (PSPO) that validate knowledge and promote best practices. These certifications have become industry benchmarks, reflecting the growing professionalization of agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber.

Final Thoughts on Agile Software Development with Scrum Ken Schwaber

Agile software development with Scrum Ken Schwaber has undeniably transformed how software teams operate, emphasizing adaptability, collaboration, and customer focus. While Scrum is not without its challenges, its structured yet flexible approach offers a compelling solution for managing complex projects in uncertain environments.

As organizations continue to embrace digital transformation, the principles laid down by Ken Schwaber's Scrum provide a foundation for innovation and resilience. The framework's emphasis on empirical process control and incremental delivery ensures that teams remain responsive and focused on delivering real value — a necessity in the competitive and fast-paced software industry.

Agile Software Development With Scrum Ken Schwaber

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agile software development with scrum ken schwaber: Agile Software Development with Scrum Ken Schwaber, Mike Beedle, 2002 Arguably the most important book about managing technology and systems development efforts, this book describes building systems using the deceptively simple process, Scrum. Readers will come to understand a new approach to systems development projects that cuts through the complexity and ambiguity of complex, emergent requirements and unstable technology to iteratively and quickly produce quality software.

BENEFITS Learn how to immediately start producing software incrementally regardless of existing engineering practices or methodologies Learn how to simplify the implementation of Agile processes Learn how to simplify XP implementation through a Scrum wrapper Learn why Agile processes work and how to manage them Understand the theoretical underpinnings of Agile processes

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Thomas Stober, Uwe Hansmann, 2009-10-03 Software Development is moving towards a more agile
and more flexible approach. It turns out that the traditional waterfall model is not supportive in an
environment where technical, financial and strategic constraints are changing almost every day. But
what is agility? What are today's major approaches? And especially: What is the impact of agile
development principles on the development teams, on project management and on software
architects? How can large enterprises become more agile and improve their business processes,
which have been existing since many, many years? What are the limitations of Agility? And what is
the right balance between reliable structures and flexibility? This book will give answers to these
questions. A strong emphasis will be on real life project examples, which describe how development
teams have moved from a waterfall model towards an Agile Software Development approach.

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series of case studies, Scrum co-creator and evangelist Ken Schwaber identifies the real-world lessons—the successes and failures—culled from his years of experience coaching companies in agile project management. Through them, you'll understand how to use Scrum to solve complex problems and drive better results—delivering more valuable software faster. Gain the foundation in Scrum theory—and practice—you need to: Rein in even the most complex, unwieldy projects Effectively manage unknown or changing product requirements Simplify the chain of command with self-managing development teams Receive clearer specifications—and feedback—from customers Greatly reduce project planning time and required tools Build—and release—products in 30-day cycles so clients get deliverables earlier Avoid missteps by regularly inspecting, reporting on, and fine-tuning projects Support multiple teams working on a large-scale project from many geographic locations Maximize return on investment!

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Rituraj Patil, 2021-08-19 Empower Your Agile Software Product Development Scrum Teams with
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Frameworks, including the Scrum Framework. ● Covers numerous scenario-based examples and an
in-depth explanation for Scrum Malfunctions and various Advanced Scrum Add-ons/Techniques. ●
Includes visual illustrations for the Scrum-based Agile Way of Working and its associated various
Advanced Scrum Add-ons/Techniques. ● Highlights real-time use-cases and experiences for various
Advanced Scrum Add-ons/Techniques. DESCRIPTION This book emphasizes on the Advanced Scrum
Add-ons/Techniques to be explored, applied, and utilized by the Scrum Teams to establish and
improve a fully functional Scrum-based Agile Way of Working. Reading this book not only helps the
Scrum Teams to encourage their overall responsibility, accountability, and ownership, but also
guides them to become High-Performing Scrum Teams. The book contains numerous real-time
use-cases and visual illustrations for various concepts of Scrum Framework, Scrum-based Agile Way

of Working, and Advanced Scrum Add-ons/Techniques. It also gives an overview of Scrum Malfunctioning and various ways to prevent and correct it. This book acts as a handy reference for the Scrum Teams to make use of Advanced Scrum Add-ons/Techniques. These techniques include the overall Structure and Alignment of Scrum Teams, Scrum Roles, Working Agreements of Scrum Teams, Effective and Efficient Scrum Artifacts Management, Relative Estimation, Scrum Events, Advanced Engineering Practices, Technical Agility, Scrum Metrics, Scaling Scrum, and few other aspects of Scrum-based Agile Way of Working. After reading this book, the readers can look out for any malfunctions present within their Scrum Teams and apply the applicable Advanced Scrum Add-ons/Techniques to address such malfunctions. By applying these techniques, they can also address the scope for a continuous improvement under the Scrum-based Agile Way of Working of their Scrum Teams. WHAT YOU WILL LEARN • Identify Scrum Malfunctions in Scrum Teams along with various preventive and corrective measures. • Adopt Advanced Scrum Add-ons/Techniques and Best Practices for Scrum Roles, Scrum Artifacts, and Scrum Events. • Learn to improvise the Structuring, Alignment, Collaboration, Communication, and Working Agreements of Scrum Teams.

- Utilize Advanced Engineering Practices to improve the Technical Agility of Scrum Teams. Measure Productivity, Quality, Competency, and Performance of Scrum Teams using Scrum Metrics.
- Explore Scaling Scrum approaches and the new Developments of Scrum Guide 2020. WHO THIS BOOK IS FOR This book is for Agile Enthusiasts, Agile Coaches, Scrum Practitioners, Scrum Masters, Product Owners, and for the Agile Software Product Development Scrum Teams having a basic know-how of the Scrum Framework and who want to implement various Advanced Techniques/Best Practices of the Scrum Framework to boost their Organizational Agility. TABLE OF CONTENTS 1. Fundamentals of Agile Software Development, Delivery, and Way of Working 2. Agile Frameworks 3. Overview of the Scrum Framework 4. Scrum Malfunctioning and Understanding the need for Advanced Scrum Add-ons 5. Introduction to Advanced Scrum Add-ons 6. Add-ons for Structuring, Collaboration, and Communication within Scrum Teams 7. Add-ons for Scrum Roles and Working Agreement within Scrum Teams 8. Add-ons for Effective and Efficient Product Backlog Management 9. Add-ons for Effective and Efficient Relative Estimation 10. Add-ons for Scrum Events 11. Add-ons for Advanced Engineering Practices and Technical Agility 12. Add-ons for Effective and Efficient Scrum Metrics 13. Add-ons for Scaling Scrum 14. Additional Advanced Scrum Add-ons 15. A Quick Reflection on Scrum Guide 2020

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agile software development with scrum ken schwaber: Agile! Bertrand Meyer, 2014-04-03 Are you attracted by the promises of agile methods but put off by the fanaticism of many agile texts? Would you like to know which agile techniques work, which ones do not matter much, and which ones will harm your projects? Then you need Agile!: the first exhaustive, objective review of agile principles, techniques and tools. Agile methods are one of the most important developments in software over the past decades, but also a surprising mix of the best and the worst. Until now every project and developer had to sort out the good ideas from the bad by themselves. This book spares you the pain. It offers both a thorough descriptive presentation of agile techniques and a perceptive analysis of their benefits and limitations. Agile! serves first as a primer on agile development: one chapter each introduces agile principles, roles, managerial practices, technical practices and artifacts. A separate chapter analyzes the four major agile methods: Extreme Programming, Lean Software, Scrum and Crystal. The accompanying critical analysis explains what you should retain and discard from agile ideas. It is based on Meyer's thorough understanding of software engineering, and his extensive personal experience of programming and project management. He highlights the limitations of agile methods as well as their truly brilliant contributions — even those to which their own authors do not do full justice. Three important chapters precede the core discussion of agile ideas: an overview, serving as a concentrate of the entire book; a dissection of the intellectual devices used by agile authors; and a review of classical software engineering techniques, such as requirements analysis and lifecycle models, which agile methods criticize. The final chapters describe the precautions that a company should take during a transition to agile development and present an overall assessment of agile ideas. This is the first book to discuss agile methods, beyond the brouhaha, in the general context of modern software engineering. It is a key resource for projects that want to combine the best of established results and agile innovations.

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Software, Software Development, and Testing Management Association, Information Resources, 2021-11-26 Software development continues to be an ever-evolving field as organizations require new and innovative programs that can be implemented to make processes more efficient, productive, and cost-effective. Agile practices particularly have shown great benefits for improving the effectiveness of software development and its maintenance due to their ability to adapt to change. It is integral to remain up to date with the most emerging tactics and techniques involved in the development of new and innovative software. The Research Anthology on Agile Software, Software Development, and Testing is a comprehensive resource on the emerging trends of software development and testing. This text discusses the newest developments in agile software and its usage spanning multiple industries. Featuring a collection of insights from diverse authors, this research anthology offers international perspectives on agile software. Covering topics such as global software engineering, knowledge management, and product development, this comprehensive

resource is valuable to software developers, software engineers, computer engineers, IT directors, students, managers, faculty, researchers, and academicians.

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of the cloud. He explains bugs and why software has so many of them, and why today's interconnected computers offer fertile ground for viruses and worms. The difference between good and bad software can be a single line of code, and Barr includes code to illustrate the consequences of seemingly inconsequential choices by programmers. Looking to the future, Barr writes that the best prospect for improving software engineering is the move to the cloud. When software is a service and not a product, companies will have more incentive to make it good rather than "good enough to ship.

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