Natalia Samoylova

Scrum Master

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Accomplished Scrum Master with 10+ years of experience in facilitating Agile and Scrum practices to drive successful product development and enhance organizational revenue. Excel at maintaining projects within budget and schedule constraints, while adeptly adjusting strategies to meet business objectives. Skilled in resolving conflicts, promoting team growth, and fostering continuous improvement. Champion Agile and SAFe methodologies, ensuring team adherence to best practices and aligning development efforts with strategic goals. Committed to improving team productivity through innovative coaching and possesses a strong track record of launching products ahead of schedule.

Areas of Expertise

- Team Leadership & Training
- Conflict Resolution
- Cross-Functional Collaboration
- Project Management
- Continuous Improvement
- Process Optimization

- Agile Coaching
- Stakeholder Management
- Business Analysis

Professional Experience

Cars, Chicago, IL Sr Scrum Master March 2020 - Present

Ensured projects delivered value within budget and time frame guidelines, adhering to Agile principles. Guided teams in implementing Agile techniques, adjusting approaches as necessary to meet strategic objectives. Facilitated cross-team collaboration to understand business requirements and resolve production issues effectively. Tracked and resolved impediments promptly to maintain team productivity and progress. Collaborated with product owners to refine the Product Backlog and maintain long-term work visibility. Conducted discussions and resolved conflicts within the team with empathy and respect. Worked with the Directors of Engineering (DoE) to foster professional growth and increase team productivity. Coached Product Owners (POs), DoE, and Agile Champions on successful Agile and SAFe implementation.

- Led 4 cross-functional teams to successfully launch products ahead of schedule, resulting in a significant increase in revenue.
- Proactively identified and addressed internal conflicts, fostering a positive atmosphere for problem-solving.
- Promoted a culture of continuous improvement by setting goals and being accountable for achieving them.
- Established clear communication channels with stakeholders, ensuring alignment between business goals and development efforts.

Scientific Games (Jan 2016 - January 2020), Chicago, IL Scrum Master

January 2015 — January 2020

Organized and facilitated daily scrum, sprint reviews, retrospectives, and sprint planning sessions efficiently. Collaborated closely with product owners to refine the product backlog and ensure alignment with project goals. Tracked team progress, including burn down, velocity, and release forecasting, to ensure project timelines were met. Developed an overall test strategy for end-to-end testing, ensuring product quality. Utilized Jira for all sprint tasks, maintaining project transparency and tracking progress effectively.

Enhanced team productivity and efficiency through effective coaching and self-organization initiatives.

- Coached development teams in self-organization and cross-functionality, enhancing team dynamics.
- Contributed to a positive team culture, fostering collaboration and innovation within the development team.

Quality Assurance Engineer (Jan 2015 - Jan 2016)

Executed comprehensive test plans and managed development teams within the Scrum framework. Participated in daily scrum meetings, sprint reviews, and planning sessions. Collaborated closely with product owners to refine backlogs and define acceptance criteria. Tracked test progress and defects using Jira and provided expertise in test strategy development. Conducted root cause analysis of defects and maintained documentation to support QA processes.

- Mentored development teams in the US and abroad, fostering professional growth and knowledge sharing.
- Implemented a comprehensive test strategy, leading to improved product quality and customer satisfaction.
- Facilitated effective communication and collaboration between QA and development teams, ensuring alignment with project goals.

Additional Experience

Quality Assurance Engineer, Nextgen Technology Limited, Chicago, IL

Quality Assurance Engineer, Harwin Healthcare, Chicago, IL

Education

Bachelor of Economics Baltic State Academy CSI

Licenses & Certifications

CSS 5 -Safe Scrum Master Certificate, Scaled Agile Inc

PSM I - Professional Scrum Master Certificate, Scrum.org

PAL I - Professional Agile Leadership, Scrum.org

Technical Skills

Agile Methodologies (Kanban, Scrum, Lean, XP, Crystal), SAFe (Scaled Agile Framework), Confluence, Jira, Asana, Salesforce, DevOps, Test Automation, Quality Assurance Testing