



SQS AGILE APPROACH

# Accelerating quality software delivery



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# The pace of IT Change is accelerating – Agile helps you stay one step ahead

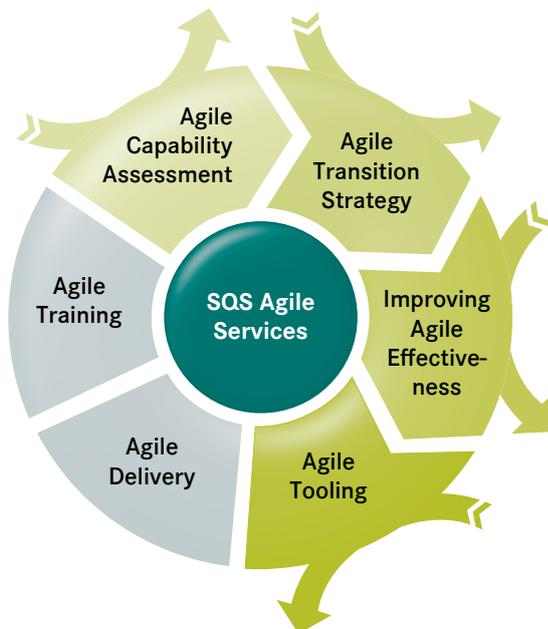
- **Gain a competitive advantage** by launching business-ready software faster than ever before, using our rapid development SQS Agile Services. We help you deliver fast-changing software, on-time and bug-free.
- **Increase productivity and efficiency throughout the SLDC** by delivering quality software at a lower cost. Our SQS Agile consultants are a team of highly motivated experts in the many varieties of Agile approaches, and thought-leaders in the global Agile movement. Our experience on numerous successful client engagements help you ensure an on-time successful launch of quality software.
- **Ensure successful internal deployments** by working with SQS Agile consultants. Our 30 year legacy of transformation projects provide the technical excellence and focus on quality you need to deliver software that consistently meets or exceeds requirements.
- **Help assure your software quality** with SQS Agile Services. SQS has Quality in our name and in everything we do. As the world largest independent software quality assurance company we are acknowledged as the leader for quality improvement. Our heritage is your stepping-stone.

## Why choose Agile?

Because it provides:

1. Greater customer satisfaction
2. Shorter time to market
3. Greater competitive advantage
4. Better resilience to change
5. Better value – lower overheads

## Snapshot of SQS Agile Services



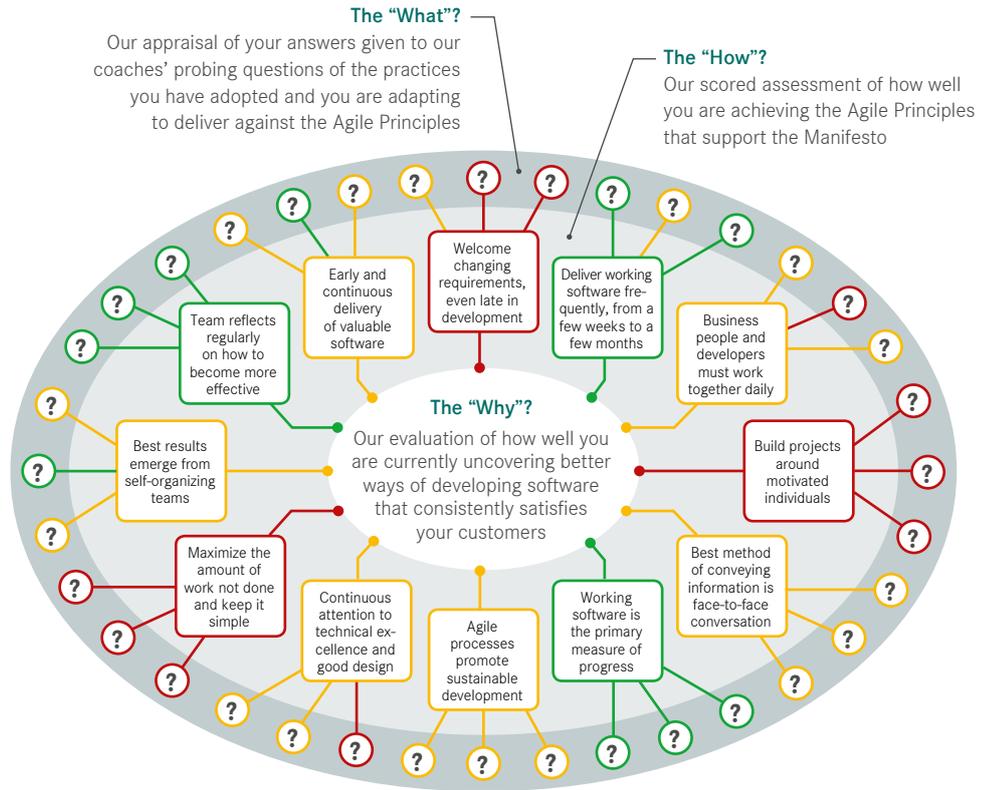
Each of our six Agile Services are designed to be standalone, enabling you to benefit from accelerators aligned to specific points in your Agile journey. Alternatively, you may wish to maximise the advantages of interlocking our various services for a more comprehensive and all-inclusive solution.

1. We recommend you begin with the **Agile Capability Assessment** to determine your existing As-Is state and agree to your realistic To-Be target. This ambition may be close to your organisation's existing set-up, or it may involve additional cultural changes, the introduction of enhanced working practices or the creation of new functions, such as DevOps.
2. Our **Agile Transition Strategy** will then chart the journey for you, in the form of a backlog that you own, prioritise and control.
3. We can then help you implement an agreed change programme through our **Improving Agile Effectiveness Service**.
4. These enhancements to your Agile practice will likely require infrastructure change. Our independent **Agile Tooling Service** will help you select and integrate the most appropriate solution, specific to the needs of your organisation.
5. If you need help improving your overall sprint capacity, our **Agile Delivery Service** is designed to provide you with temporary on-site Agile expert coaches, scrum masters or testers to augment your existing Agile teams.
6. If your people need on-site or off-site tuition, which may lead to improved sprint velocity, then we offer **Agile Training**.

# Full Description of SQS Agile Services

## Agile Capability Assessment

We will assess the quality of your current implementation to see if you are on the right track. The Agile Capability Assessment consists of a combination of onsite meetings, interviews and technical evaluations, culminating in a detailed report. We developed a comprehensive checklist to establish an 'Agile Maturity', appraising a number of capability areas. The report presents the statuses of the appraised areas via a heat map, and includes recommendations to improve effectiveness and efficiency.



## Agile Transition Strategy

Your business is unique, with the organisation, culture and processes tailored to suit your specific needs. To achieve your desired Agile state, however, all of these may need to be updated and improved. This service develops the strategy that you will need to achieve this.

We create a comprehensive strategy by working collaboratively with your business stakeholders and employees. Through a series of workshops, we conduct detailed and in-depth interviews on a broad scale. Once complete, we will present our Transition Strategy document to your main stakeholders and explain the reasoning behind our accompanying implementation plan.

## Improving Agile Effectiveness

Improving your Agile effectiveness better equips you to deliver outstanding software more quickly and in a sustainable manner. Ensuring the quality and rapid delivery of your software allows you to constantly, consistently adapt and improve experiences for your customers.

We begin by looking first at your current Agile strategy and implementation plan, or, if no plan exists, we create one following a series of detailed interviews and review of any existing collateral. We also run the Improvement work as a series of sprints using the plan - adapted, prioritised and owned by your nominated product owner - as a backlog. Typically, these are one week in duration with a Show-and-Tell every Friday to all stakeholders, where we describe the improvements we've helped to effect. We continue these sprints until we have completed the product backlog or until you agree that we have met your objectives.

## Agile Tooling

Optimising the way in which you use the tools that help deliver software will reduce effort and further improve quality. Via Agile tooling, we conduct a comprehensive assessment of your tools capability and utilisation, providing recommendations for new tools where appropriate, and/or helping you reconfigure your existing tools. Through proof of concepts for different tools we can demonstrate the viability of alternative models and support your team with skills training.

These approaches will help you realise maximum value from your investment in Agile tools.



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## Agile Delivery

On occasions, our clients recognise the need to improve not just the quality of their software, but the capacity and speed in which it is delivered. By supplementing their existing teams with expert coaching, scrum Master and testing skills, they significantly increase their velocity and drive-down re-work.

SQS can augment your Agile delivery teams with experienced Agilists, focussed on creating an embedded one-team solution.

Our staff become part of your team; to accelerate delivery to a new sustainable and predictable velocity, we recognise the need to completely integrate our people for the duration of a programme.



## Agile Training

To further up-skill your Agile abilities, we offer a range of training. A combination of a fixed syllabus for certifications reasons, and practical training based on our ever-growing experience of real-world issues, our training programs are continually inspected and adapted.

Our training is regularly reviewed and approved by our Academy and typically comprises a traditional classroom 'push' model. This is supplemented by our 5d intensive Agile Bootcamp, which employs a radical pull model, where learning is delivered in the context of a project.

We deliver training either at your offices or at SQS premises with a mixed multi-client audience. As part of our **Agile Delivery Service**, our coaching activities can spin up on-demand workshops; such as product owner training, scrum master training, specification by example, and exploratory testing.

## SQS Agile Services helped Betting World implement a new commercial betting system to improve efficiency and speed at the Point of Sale.

“I can confidently say that I trust SQS’ judgement and advice, and the testing team’s passion and enthusiasm have resulted in a better quality product for our organisation. The involvement of SQS has surpassed any of my expectations and the testing team has been a critical part of delivering a quality product in a very tight timeframe.”

*Marc Joubert,  
General Manager  
of Betting World*



## How SQS Agile Services have helped our customers

### SQS Agile Services provided regression testing for Siemens PLM Software.

It was completely understood and accepted that automation was the answer for the regression testing problem in a complex project with thousands of test cases. SQS’ large-scale test automation solution is the Test Automation FaQtory®.

- **Multi-year engagement using Agile methodology:**

The Siemens engagement is multi-year, using the agile paradigm of monthly sprints and incremental development and deployment of the automation suite. This allows the flexibility of choosing test cases for automation each month, and keeps the automation suite updated with the latest builds.

- **True partnership:**

SQS’ approach built a true partnership between Siemens and SQS, each focusing on core competency. The required scale of test automation was possible only because of SQS’ specialisation in testing and commitment to deliver on automation.



### SQS Agile Services helped Massdiscounters implement a new debtors solution from Business Connexion (BCX).

The new debtors solution was delivered on time and within budget. If the combined BCX/SQS team had failed to meet the deadline, Massdiscounters could have experienced business disruption and incurred significant financial penalties.

“The SQS team were excellent in understanding and even anticipating our requirements. The mainframe application environment at Massdiscounters is highly specialised and complex, but they were up to the challenge. We built up a strong working relationship with SQS, and were impressed by the depth and extent of the testing they carried out, which went well beyond the functional specification.”



*Etsi Heuer,  
former Regional Programme Manager  
at BCX*

### SQS Agile Services helped a large UK supermarket chain implement a new click and collect service.

With only two months to launch as a service on the website, the retailer chose SQS to help deliver the update in an Agile environment, on-time and within budget. As the first Agile project within the company, processes were still very new and not well defined. SQS Agile consultants were able to adapt to the pressure and communication constraints to ensure that the project delivered on time and on budget.



Contact us today at [agile@sqs.com](mailto:agile@sqs.com)  
to discuss your requirements

Or visit [sqs.com/agile](https://sqs.com/agile)

### Contact

If you are interested in the SQS testing and quality management offering, please do not hesitate to send an e-mail to [info@sqs.com](mailto:info@sqs.com) or visit [sqs.com](https://sqs.com)