

Effective Communication, Collaboration, and Coordination in eXtreme Programming: Human-Centric Perspective in a Small Organization

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Abstract

Effective communication, collaboration, and coordination are important contributing factors in achieving success in agile software development projects. The significance of the workplace environment and tools are immense in effective communication, collaboration, and coordination among people performing software development. In this article, we study how the workplace environment and the effective use of tools like whiteboards, status boards, and so forth for exchanging information improved communication, collaboration, and coordination without compromising the ability to do individual work by developers in a small-scale software development organization. Based on experience and an extensive literature review of communication, collaboration, coordination, and the significance of these in the workplace environment, a survey questionnaire was developed to collect data and observe the effect of these in a small software development organization. Our study indicated appropriate workspace environment has a positive effect on communication, collaboration, and coordination in small organizations developing software using eXtreme Programming (XP). (C) 2009 Wiley Periodicals, Inc.