

# ANATOMY OF A RELEASE

## Manifesto for Agile Software Development

(developed by international Agile Alliance)

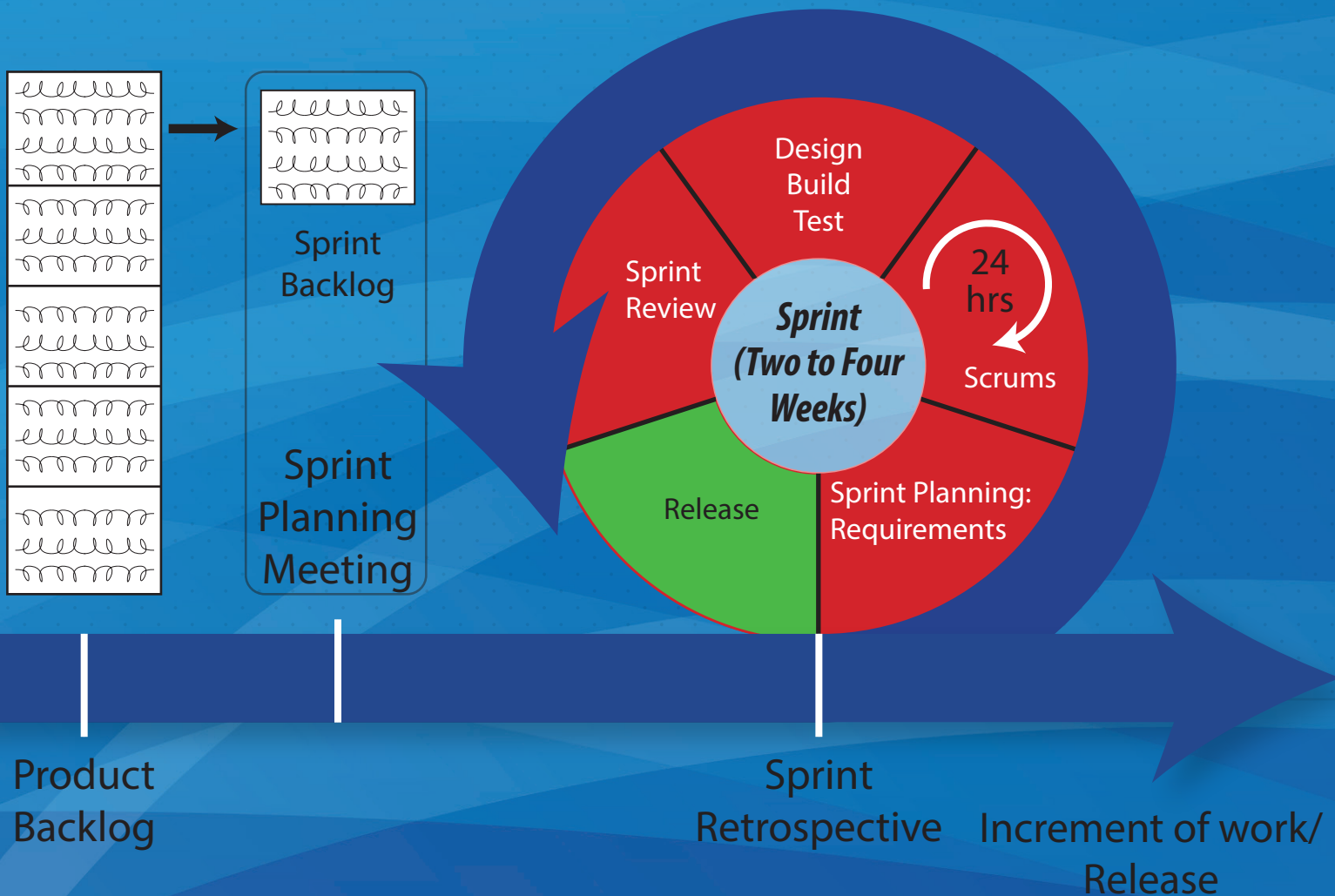
We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it. Through this work we have come to value:

- ★ Individuals and interactions over processes and tools
- ★ Working software over comprehensive documentation\*
- ★ Customer collaboration over contract negotiation
- ★ Responding to change over following a plan

That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

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\* This is referencing internal documentation not end-user documentation or training guides.



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## RELEASES AND UPDATES

We here at TxEIS work hard all year to make sure you have the features you need, when you need them. The diagram above displays the cycle we go through for Updates and Releases. While the two differ in the type of programming they encompass, the methodology is the same. We use a methodology called Agile. We'll discuss the differences between Releases and Updates, consider our level 2 support, and give you a brief overview of Agile.

### RELEASES

- ★ Contain enhancements and changes to the functionality of the TxEIS software.
- ★ Increment the software version number (e.g., 3.2 → 3.3).

### UPDATES

- ★ Contain time sensitive mandates that cannot wait to go with the next scheduled release, and important software fixes.
- ★ Increment the build number.
- ★ Include only the applications that have been updated since the last full release. If, for example, there is only a correction for Attendance, only the Attendance application will get a new build number. The installation package will include Attendance and all other applications that have been updated since the last full release.
- ★ As updates are very focused, turnaround time may be shorter, depending on the scope and complexity of the changes.

### LEVEL 2 SUPPORT

TxEIS offers excellent support around the clock. Our product support team works hard to make sure there are no issues, but when they do arise, we're here for you. Level 2 support addresses concerns by troubleshooting for problem determination, providing methods and steps for resolutions, and discussing software issues and requests with the TxEIS programming component.

### AGILE TIMELINE

Identify the project and what items are going to be programmed (**sprint backlog**) from the overall list (**product backlog**) in the two to three week cycle (**sprints**). During sprints, constantly prioritize requirements as changes arise. Have daily meetings (**scrums**) that last no longer than 15 minutes. When a sprint is over, review how it went, review the software with clients, and release the software (if applicable). Hold a **retrospective** to review the sprint or sprints. Start the process over. This quick turnaround gives you the best, most current software.

# AGILE