

CASE STUDY

Large-scale project execution methodology

Overview

nCore Design was selected by a major IT consulting company to advise on and oversee the project management and execution methodology for a mission-critical financial software development project. The implementation of this regulatory mandated system was undertaken at a global Japanese securities firm over a 12-month period.

Challenge

Advise and manage a large software development project with a regulatory mandated go-live date, difficult user demands, and a 10-year-old legacy system with no documentation.

Solution Description

- A modified Feature Driven Development (FDD) methodology using a cyclic, evolutionary development release schedule focused on complete sets of business workflows.
- Emphasis on continuous client involvement during analysis and testing: daily meetings with the client, ad-hoc interaction, and participation in the client's Project Management Office (PMO) controlled framework.
- A transparent and concrete process for tracking project issues on a daily basis using Trac.
- A pre-release feature review process with a go-no-go software release checkpoint to minimize risk.
- A continuously integrated software configuration management and build system, using subversion and CruiseControl.

Results

- The project was delivered on time despite the client's continuously changing implementation timeline and system scope.
- The project was able to adapt to strict client technical demands and project management framework.
- All of the features required for a given test were verified and ready in time for each compulsory test.
- The software develop-test-release cycle was reduced from one release/month to a release every day during the life time of the project.



CASE OVERVIEW

Situation

Three physical locations, four computer languages, two spoken languages, strict intellectual property rules, a 10-year-old legacy system with no documentation, "cannot fail" periodic compulsory tests, and a regulatory mandated go-live date.

Solution

By specifically adapting Agile methods to client and vendor requirements, an efficient project execution methodology was implemented on behalf of the vendor. nCore also oversaw the implementation in a project management and advisory capacity for its 12-month lifetime.

Benefits

- Delivered on time with all compulsory tests passed.

About nCore

nCore Design is a global provider of training and professional services focused on multicore and manycore computing platforms. As the world leader in hands-on, instructor-led training courses, nCore helps clients increase software performance, throughput, and efficiency while reducing time-to-market.

nCore has significant expertise in modern computing platforms and specialized knowledge of applied software optimization techniques. nCore also develops high performance solutions based on state-of-the-art parallel technologies.

nCore is a privately held company with offices in the US and Japan.