Waterfall vs. Agile – a thought

written by Manoj Khanna | July 25, 2012

Recently I came across this debate on why some companies prefer Waterfall vs. Agile, and I must say that no matter how tempting it is to look the agile way depending on technical needs, but, it all boils down to the business value.

Waterfall has been working for years, and is practiced by all organization types – small or big, successful or unsuccessful, and start-up or established. Agile, though has been in the software engineering Eco-space for quite a number of years now, but primarily it has been adapted by companies which are experimenting with projects or programs that have lower risk ratios, or have a smaller enterprise footprint or is intended to produce a faster delivery around time to market for their products or customers.

There is truly no one on one to comparison between the two methodologies, and rather both methodologies speak for themselves and at times can be seen as complementing each other, but neither one should be taken as an alternative to replace the other as both of them come with their pros and cons. And they are not in any way shape or form trying to compete with each other.

Would be interesting to know other thoughts of how they feel about Agile and Waterfall – either complementing or competing with each other.

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