

Christophe Achouiantz
Lean/Agile Coach
@ChrisAch
christophe@betterify.se

About Christophe

- French
- Living & working in Sweden
- Lean/Agile Coach since 2007
- Applied Kanban since 2009
- Coached 70+ teams using Kanban
- Author of "The Kanban Kick-start Field Guide"
- Brickell Key Award 2016

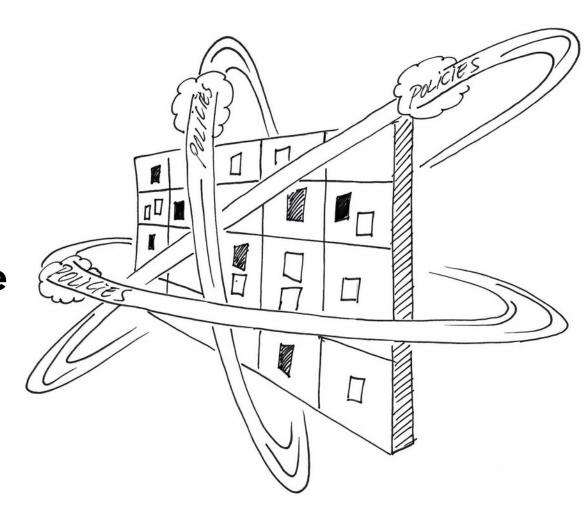


Some Kanban Stories out there...

- "We use Kanban because it has less meetings than Scrum, so we are more efficient."
- "We use Scrum because Kanban was too slack, now the sprints force us to have much more focus than Kanban."
- "We tried Kanban but it didn't work for us: we ended up with too much on our board to manage properly."
- "We could not limit our WIP because our manager pushed new stuff on our board."
- "Kanban is only for maintenance!"

The Curse of the Kanban Method

- Kanban is tricky training material!
- It appears **deceptively simple** "Ha! I get it! Stickies on a wall! What could possibly go wrong?"
- But, it has **deep counter-intuitive** elements that are challenging to put in place in mature org. Pull, WIP limits, help each other's cross boundaries



When you Get Value from Kanban...

- **Team gets value**: "Everything is much more Zen now! We deliver at least as much, without the constant stress."
 - Sustainable pace & improved focus
- Business benefits realized: "Our customers stop screaming at us, for the first time in years we start delivering on time!"
 - More business value delivered faster
- Strategical benefits realized: "We identified new needs and could deliver a new service right away, in parallel with the rest"
 - Stay competitive and adaptive in the long run by identifying and exploiting new possibilities



Agenda

- Why Kanban training matters?
- What I've learned training 70+ teams
- Training for consistent/solid value
- Training for "High Performing"



What I've Learned Training 70+ Teams

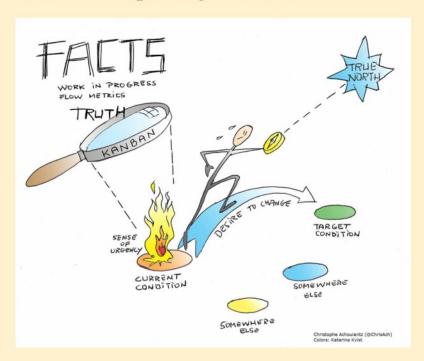
Some Observations and Insights that are the backbone of the Kanban Kick-start model

My Kanban Training Story

- 2010-2014 Introducing Kanban to Sandvik IT
- Training 70+ teams
- Many teams, little time with few coachs
- The model: The Kanban Kick-start, specified in "The Kanban Kick-start Field Guide"
- Sandvik IT's story on InfoQ:
 - https://www.infoq.com/articles/kanban-Sandvik-IT-1
 - https://www.infoq.com/articles/kanban-Sandvik-IT-2
- Presentation at Lean Kanban Central Europe 2011:
 - https://www.lean-kanban-conference.de/whathappened-2011/igniting-change/

The Kanban Kick-start Field Guide

Create the Capability to Evolve



Sandvik IT

Version 1.1 (20131125

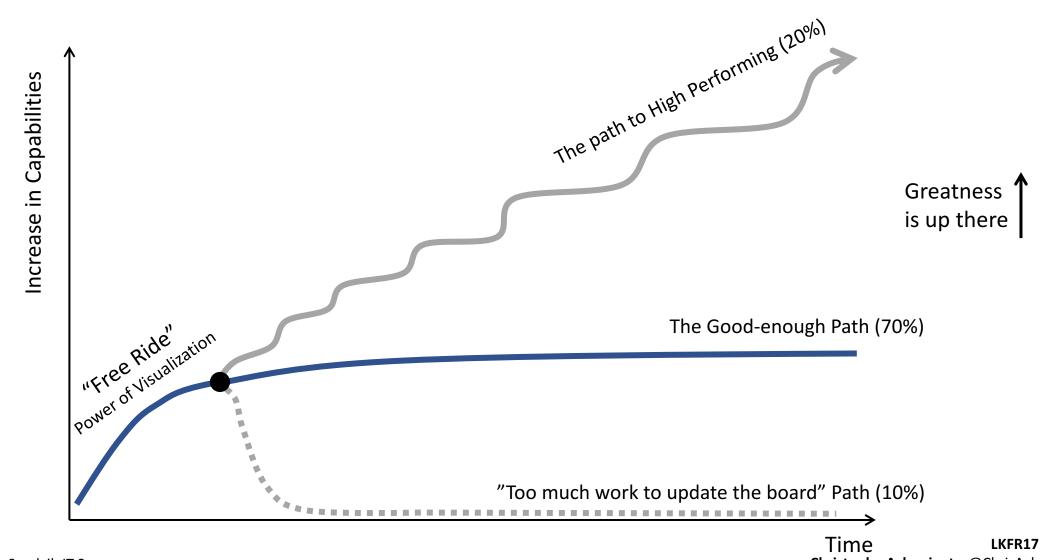
Christophe Achouiantz - Lean/Agile Coach - Sogeti (@ChrisAch)
Johan Nordin - Lean Coach - Simplify Change (@JohanNordin)





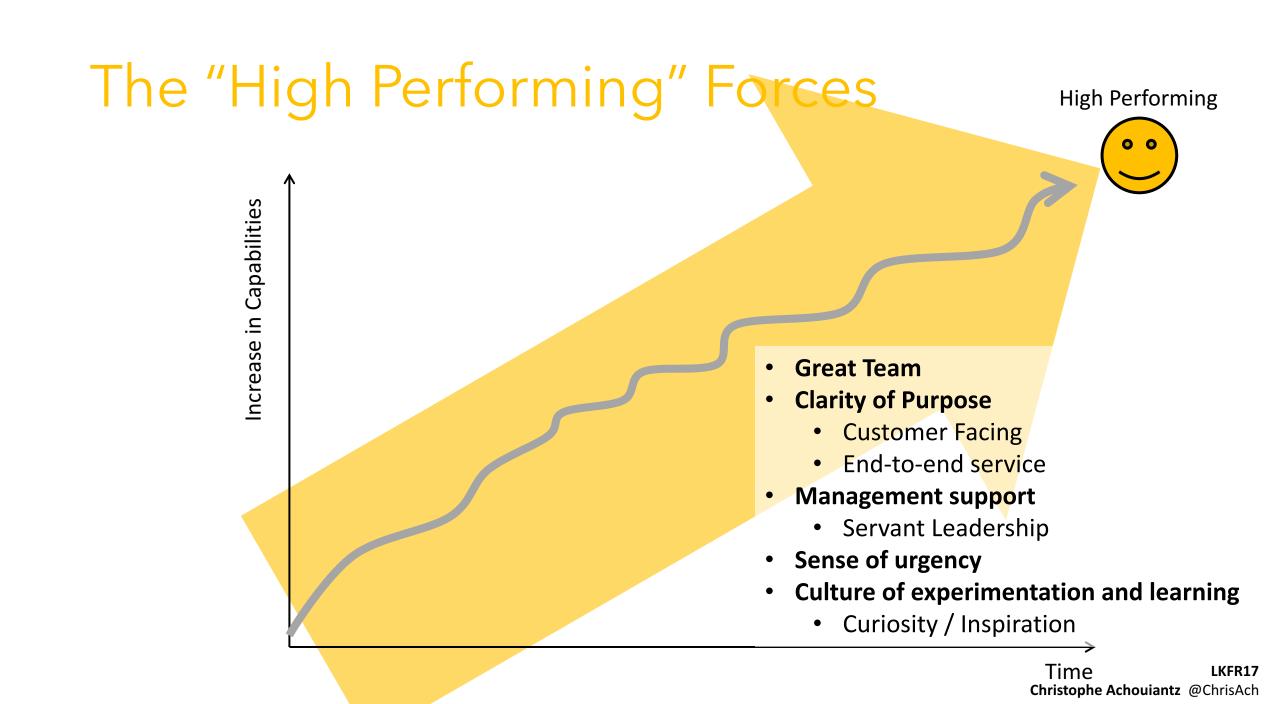
Behaviors Observed

Typical Teams Behavior after Training



All Kanban implementations will degenerate into "stickies on a wall" and die...

What the second law of thermodynamics mean to Kanban



The Dream Scenario for Kanban Training

• A cross-functional (business & IT) end-to-end **service team** that is customer facing with good management support, a clear purpose, and clear sense of urgency can **quickly** reach "High Performing".

• Be prepared that for anything else, it will be a struggle...

Some Insights

How I understand Kanban, and how I think it impacts Training



A Kanban system must provide learnings to improve itself

Kanban is a catalyst for continuous improvements.



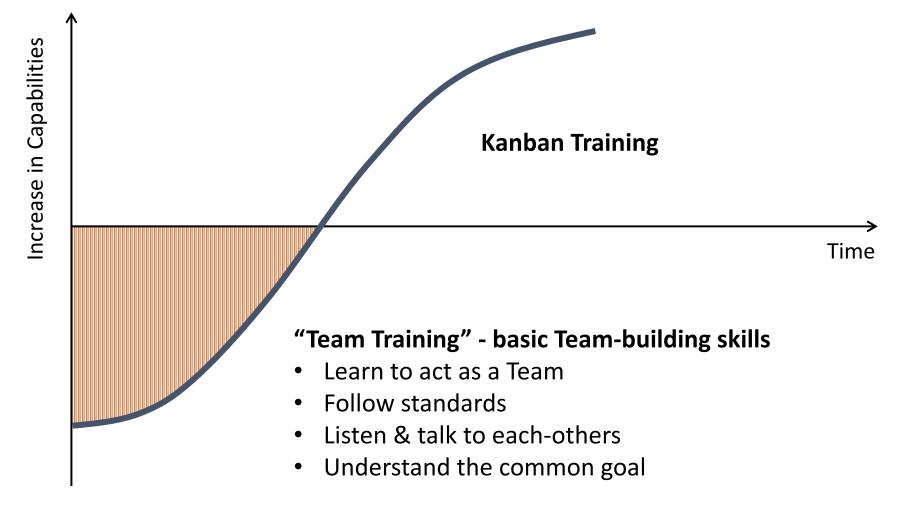


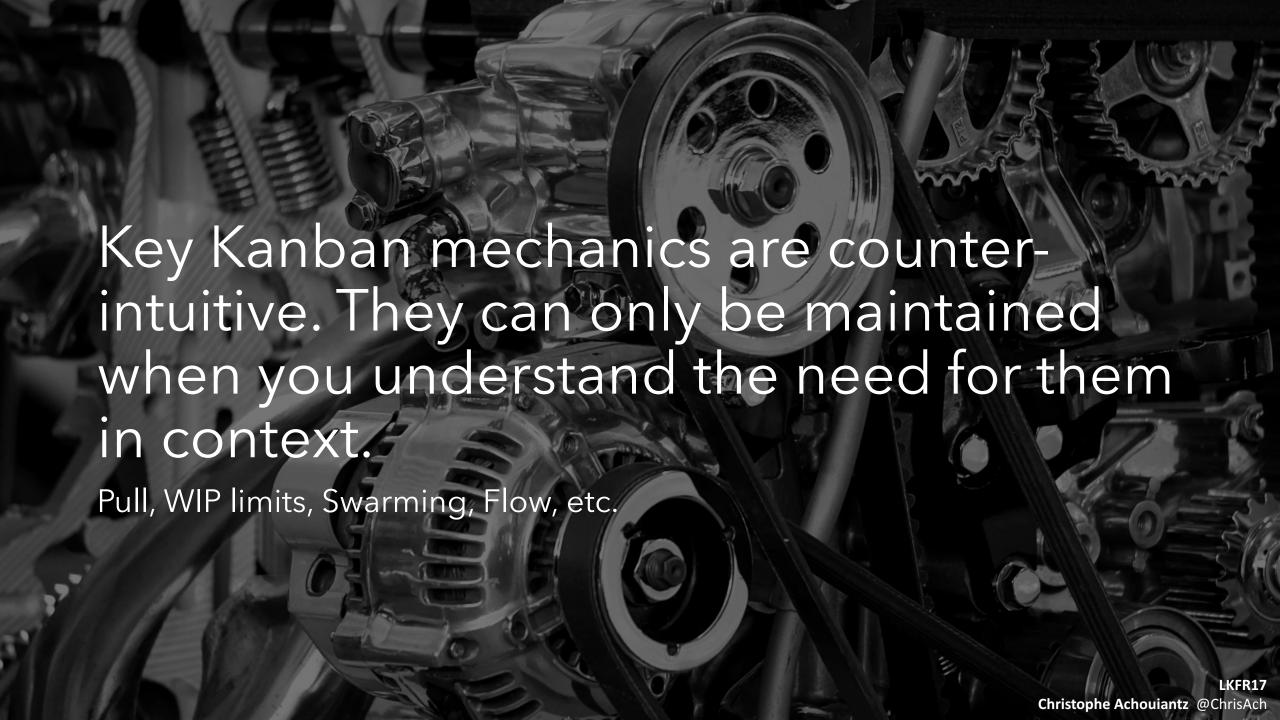
Initial training should not have the ambition to put everything in place.

"Start where you are" means low maturity to start with.

A Kanban system needs time to develop until fully realized.

Some Teams start with Large Debts... It takes time for them to catch up

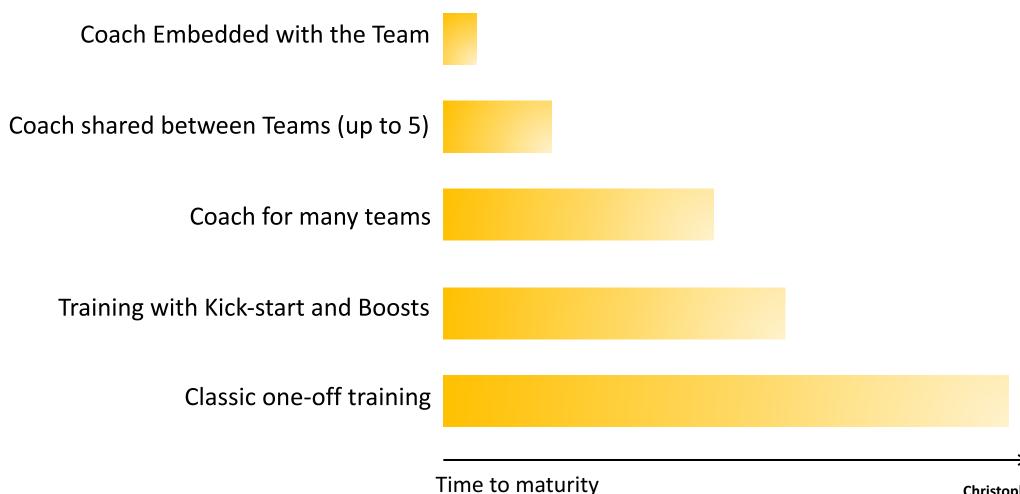








You accelerate the process if you are actively coaching the team



Beware of the Policy-Debt Trap

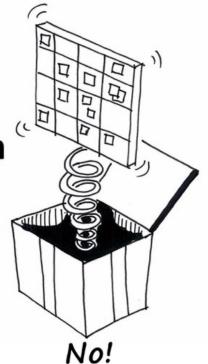
- Keep policies updated to match reality
- Wishful policies to "drive" improvement do not work!
- The bigger differences between policies and realities, the less relevant your Kanban system becomes. The quicker it dies.
- Read more: The policy-debt trap

Policy-Debt: Avoid Pre-Fabricated Systems

- Quicker to get started
- But adapted someone else's process



You **Grow** a Kanban System You do not Summon It



Training for consistently getting the value promised by the Kanban method

Based on these Insights



To reach "High-Performing" a team using Kanban must train continuously.

Contrary to other methods that are more static.

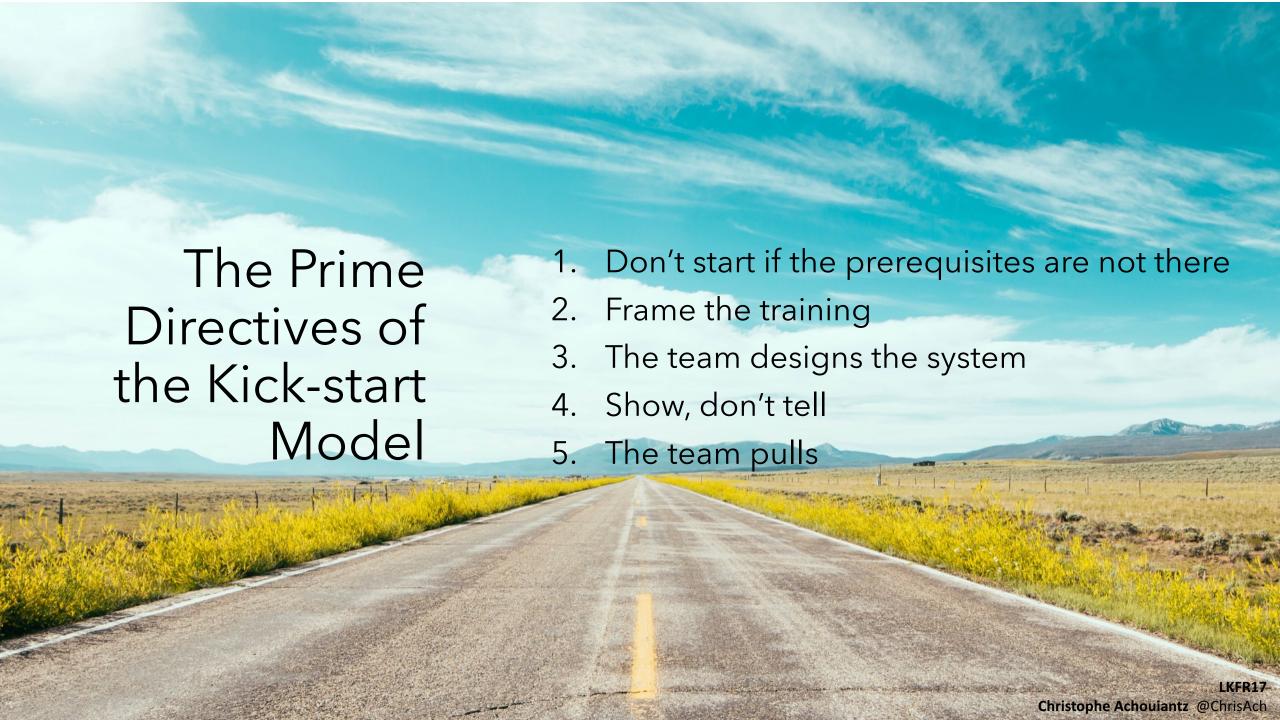
Kanban Training needs to be Continuous & Agile

- Iterative and Incremental
- Inspect and Adapt
- follow the team's maturity
- Don't know upfront what practices will work or not

The Kick-start Model

- Framing (preparations)
- Kick-start (initial training)
- Boosts (continued training)

	The Kick-Start Workshop (1 day)												Boosts					
Understand the Team	Set the Scene	Share Current Concerns	Define a Shared Vision	Discover what the Team does	Identify Work Types	Explain Board Mechanics	Set Visualization Policies	Op Dar	Set Way-of-Working Policies	Limit WIP	Set Planning Meeting Policies	Run First Planning Meeting	Close the Scene	Follow-Up	Measure Flow	Limit WIP	Manage Demand	Assess Depth of Kanban



Don't Start without Prerequisites in place

- Is there a common purpose?
- Is the team functioning?
 - Are there conflicts?
 - Do team members trust and respect each others?
 - Are roles and responsibilities sufficiently clear?

Frame the Training

- Make sure that the manager and team-lead are on-board (Flow Manager / Service Delivery Manager)
 - Understand what will happen
 - Have right expectations
 - Have right mindset and attitude during training & after
 - Set-up a contract
 - Sell in the Pull policy!
- Not only improve team, but improve the Service
 - Frame the training in context of the service(s)
 - Continuous Service Improvement should be one of the goal

Kanban Kick-start Checklist (Example Sandvik IT)

UNDERSTANDING THE TEAM

- Who is "the Team"?
- What are the long-term reasons for the team's existence?
- What are team's success criteria?
- What is the current strategy to meet the success criteria?

UNDERSTANDING WHY KANBAN KICK-START

- What is the team's current situation?
 - How many persons are in the team?
 - What are the roles of the persons in the team?
 - Who are the upstream and downstream partners for the team?
 - What other teams this team is depending on?
 - What other teams are depending on this team?
- Who is/are the customer(s)?
- How often does the customer(s) meet the team?
- What are the major current risks for the team?
- Why do you want to kick-start Kanban in your team?
- Is there a business-case for the Kanban kick-start? (There doesn't need to be one)
- What are the acceptance criteria that decide if and when the Kanban kick-start is a success?

UNDERSTANDING THE FLOW MANAGER'S COMMITMENT

- Who is the flow manager?
- Does the flow manager have the required time to lead the team?
- Does the flow manager have the required dedication?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEAM MANAGER'S COMMITMENT

- Does the team have the authority and responsibility to decide on their way of working?
- Has the manager time to be present?
- Is there is clear policy on how to escalate an issue that is outside of the team's ability to resolve.
- Is there a policy for working with opportunities for improvements? What can team decide on, what requires approval from leader, manager, customer etc?

The Team Owns the System

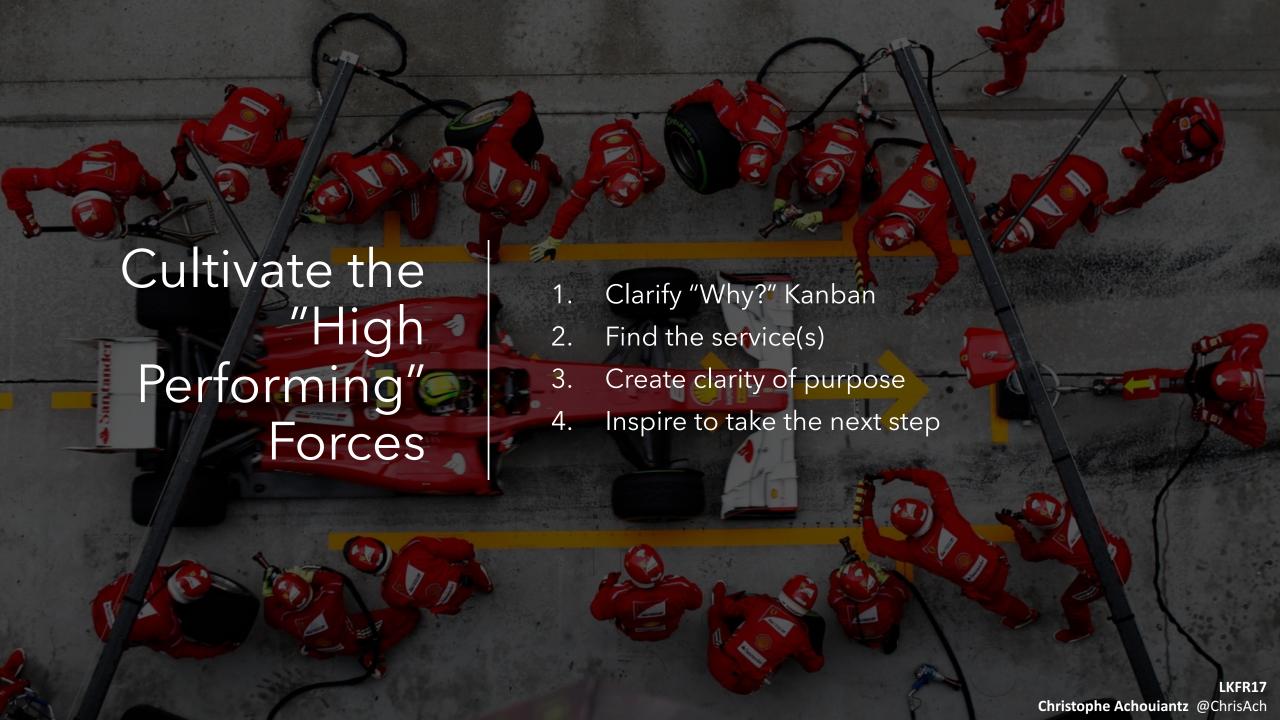
- "Perfect is the enemy of Sticky"
- Let the Team design the Kanban system!
- Use it as a way to increase
 - Team members Engagement
 - Team members Empowerment
 - Team Autonomy
- Keep it Simple!
 - It's a journey!
 - The system should be as light as possible to start with
 - Do not over complicate it

Show, don't Tell

- Cut explanations until they've got it
- Engage the participants emotionally
- Games and simulations: the best way to grasp counterintuitive concepts. Great to refer to later in real situations.
 - Featureban
 - Okaloa Flowlab
 - getKanban
 - Kanban Bootstrap
 - •

Coaching for "High Performing"

Based on these Insights



Start with "Why?"

- Why do you want to use Kanban?
 - What is your goal/vision?
 - What problems do you want to address?
 - To reach what?
- When is your Kanban implementation a success?
 - How does it look like?
 - When are you there?
 - What "metric" have you moved?
- What promises have you made?

YOUR ORIGIN STORY

Why Kanban? Why Change?











The story about why you chose to create a Kanban System.

In which way did this change bring you closer to your goals/vision?

Have the promises of the change been fulfilled? What still needs to be delivered?

YOUR ORIGIN STORY

Why Kanban? Why Change?

IN THE PAST...

We were a small development team using Scrum to deliver a SharePoint solution to one Brand

AND WE LIKED IT BECAUSE...

We were very closed to the Brand (PO) and could deliver value each sprint. The Brand trusted us and we trusted them.

BUT THEN ONE DAY...

The company decided to use the platform for all Brands, and the Brands were on pressure to go 'all digital'.

As a result, 4 Brands started to share the same platform, the development team more than doubled in size and the brands wanted more features, faster.

AND THAT CAUSED...

Slow thoughput of new features, lowered quality, high Technical debt.

As a result, the Brands are thinking to move development § operation "somewhere else"; the "story points" system is being used to demonstrate an increasing cost/point

SO WE WANT TO...

Introduce a Kanban system to:

- Simplify the development process (flow of features & release-train instead of sprints, sprint ceremonies and story points).
- Increase trust towards Brands by increased transparency (showing status of features being developped, discuss blocked features a.s.a.p).

OUR PROMISES

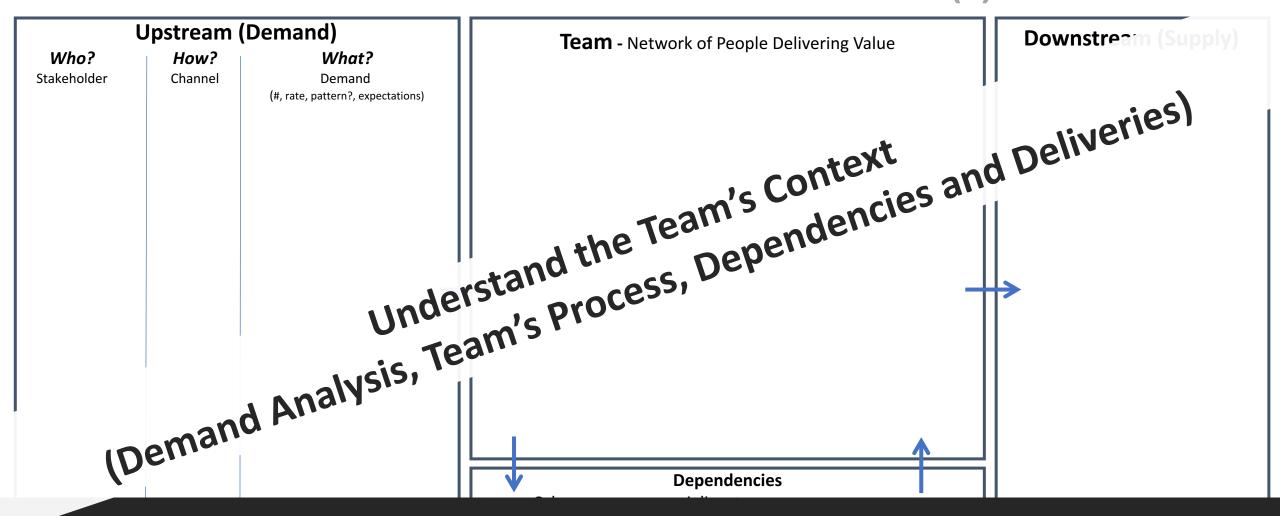
- Simpler dev process
- · Trust by more transparency

Find the Service(s)

- Get out of the team, frame the **service** instead asap
- Go beyond "work" by identifying:
 - What service(s) the team is providing
 - To who (customers)
 - What are the customers' expectations on the service

DEMAND / CAPABILITY ANALYSIS

What Service(s) do we deliver?



Identify what service(s) the team is providing, to who (customers). Understand the customers' expectations on the service

Establish Clarity of Purpose

- Using a dialog with the customer(s), establish:
 - When do you succeed in delivering this Service?
 - When is your Service "fit to purpose" in the eyes of the Customer?

	SERVICE SHEET	DATE		SERVICE NAM	1E			
	HIGH CONCEPT			PURPOSE				
	TROUBLE FITNESS CRITERIA When do you succeed in the eyes of you How to measure How to measure IN THE STATE OF THE STA				g this S	ervice?	Custor	uer;
1	When do you succeed in the eyes of you	ur customer(s)?	ceed in d	elivern.	e eyes	Good enough	Great	Superb
2	How to measure	do you suc	to purpos					
	How to measure hen is your S	era						

The purpose of your Kanban (your *tool* to succeed) is to bring your Service to a "fit to Purpose" level

SERVICE SHEET	SERVICE NAM	E				
What is the service really about at its core? Has the problem been solved somewhere else or is it truly new?	PURPOSE Who needs the (pay), who are				·	
What complicates the delivery of the service? What is expected to cause problems or create risks that will need to be mitigated?	. 0					
FITNESS CRITERIA	CURRENT CAP	RRENT CAPABILITY				
When do you succeed in the eyes of your customer(s)?	Unacceptable	Sucks	Good enough	Great	Superb	
According to the customer (the one paying), what 3-4 aspects make the service "fit to its purpose" (aspects of quality, performance, cost, speed, stability, etc.)						
How to to concretely measure or quantify (using facts/data) measure how well the fitness criteria are fulfilled.	customer's e thresholds w	expectation with the cus	tomer and d	n. Help to dí. Íscover what	riteria to the scuss "pain" aspects of the ss how much	
How to	effort is a "c	great" or "s	uperb" level v	vorth.		
measure						
How to measure						
How to measure					LKFR	
				Christophe Ad	chouiantz @Chris.	

SERVICE SHEET	DATE	SERVICE NAME
HIGH CONCEPT		PURPOSE
TROUBLE		

Dialog to discover Purpose

Focus

What we need to do, and not do, as a team to succeed. Lift team members from 'just delivering stuff that is requested' (day to day)

Alignment

Ensure the whole team understands what matters the most. Shared understanding of current condition and expectations.

Acceleration

So that your Kanban system reaches its potential.

Justify Kanban techniques needed to reach your goals.

	LKF
	Christophe A

	SERVICE SHEET DATE	SERVICE NAM	E			
been solved somewhere else or is it truly new? TROUBLE What complicates the delivery of the service? What is expected to cause problems or create risks that will need to be mitigated? FITNESS CRITERIA When do you succeed in the eyes of your customer(s)? According to the customer (the one paying), what 3-4 aspects make the service "fit to its purpose" (aspects of quality, performance, cost, speed, stability, etc.) How to measure how well the fitness criteria are fulfilled. CURRENT CAPABILITY Unacceptable Sucks Good enough Great Superb Map the current quantification of the fitness criteria to the customer's expectations or valuation. Help to discuss "pain"		PURPOSE				
THINESS CRITERIA When do you succeed in the eyes of your customer(s)? According to the austomer (the one paying), what 3-4 aspects make the service "fit to its purpose" (aspects of quality, performance, cost, speed, stability, etc.) How to measure how well the fitness criteria are fulfilled. Objective How to measure Key Results Wey Results Map the current quantification of the fitness criteria to the customer's expectations or valuation. Help to discuss "pain" thresholds with the austomer and discover what aspects of the service must be improved first. Also, help discuss how much effort is a "great" or "superb" level worth. Wey Results How to measure Key Results LKFRI7						
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measure LKFR17 Christopho Ashaujantz @ChrisAsh	Applied to https://www.oreilly.					
	measure				Christanha A	

SERVICE SHEET DATE	SERVICE NAME YYY Business Platform				
HIGH CONCEPT	PURPOSE				
Development of E-commerce platform TROUBLE	To develop new features for the YYY E-commerce platform in order to make information on products for Brands A. B. C & D available worldwide & provide				
4 different brands share the same platform	Accelerate your Kanban Implementation: Inject exactly the right policies				
FITNESS CRITERIA	to make your Kanban fit for the Service				
When do you succeed in the eyes of your customer(s)?	Good				
Platform is "stable" (according to the Brands)	Change policy: tougher <i>Definition of Done</i> during Validation (introduce performance & stability tests)				
How to Monitor availability of shopping service measure	incidents				
Constant flow of cool & new features not seen on competitors'	Introduce a "cool feature" work type with capacity allocation of 20% to allow for x number per release				
How to # "cool & new" features (according to POs) / release measure	< 1 per release				
3 High delivery precision for new features -	Introduce (new) Class of Service for deadline work items				
How to % of features with deadlines delivered on time measure	~80%				
4					
How to measure	LVED47				
Псизите	LKFR17 Christophe Achouiantz @ChrisAch				

Inspire to Take the Next Step

WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?

The Depth of

VISUALIZE

- 1. Work (all, according to current policies)
- 2. Work Types
- 3. Workflow ("process", way-of-working, value stream)
- 4. 'Next' & 'Done'
- 5. Current Team Focus (avatars)
- 6. Blocks
- 7. Current Policies (DoD, DoR, capacity allocations, etc.)
- 8. Ready for Pull ("done" within the workflow/in columns)
- 9. Metrics (lead-times, local cycle times, SLA targets, etc.)
- 10. WIP limits
- 11. Inter-work dependencies (hierarchical, parent-child, etc.)
- 12. Inter-workflow dependencies
- 13. Risk dimensions (cost-of-delay, technical risk, market risk)
- 14. Visualization easy to access: "One look away"

LIMIT WORK IN PROGRESS

- No WIP limit, but commitment to finishing work over starting new (eventually reaching a WIP level that "feels OK" for the team)
- 2. Some explicit WIP limits, at lower level than workflow (a.k.a Proto-Kanban): personal Kanban, WIP limit per person, WIP limits for some columns or swim-lanes, workflow with infinite limits on "done" queues, etc.
- 3. Explicit WIP limit at workflow level Single workflow full pull
- 4. Multiple interdependent workflows with pull system

MANAGE FLOW

Kanban

- 1. Deferred Pull decisions (dynamic prioritization)
- 2. Flow discussed during team huddles
- 3. Blocks out of team control are escalated for resolution
- 4. Record delivery capability over time: "trailing indicators" using graphs (CFDs, Control Charts, lead-times distribution)
- 5. Know current delivery capability: "flow metrics" (lead-times, throughput, due-date performance)
- 6. Size of ongoing work items is limited (large work is broken down)
- 7. Flexible staff allocation (swarming)
- 8. Cadence is established (planning, delivering, retrospective)
- 9. SLA expectations and forecasts (lead-time targets)
- 10. Capacity Allocations

MAKE POLICIES EXPLICIT

- 1. Definition of Work Types and Work Item (template)
- 2. How to pull work (selection from 'Next'/prioritization of WIP)
- 3. Who and when manages the 'Next' and 'Done' queues
- 4. Staff allocation / work assignment (individual focus)
- 5. Definition of Done at all steps (seen as a Target Condition)
- 6. Who, when and how to estimate work size
- 7. Definition of Ready for 'Next'
- 8. How to select & prepare work for the 'Next' queue
- 9. Knowledge spreading/sharing strategy
- 10. Limit size of work items (work breakdown)
- 11. Class-of-Service
- 12. Capacity allocation

IMPLEMENT FEEDBACK LOOPS

- 1. Team huddles (at least once per week)
- 2. Team members know who has initiated each work item and who to contact for more information and reporting
- 3. Manager meets the team at least once per week
- 4. Key stakeholders (mngt, customers, other groups) are regularly updated on the current situation
- 5. Regular discussions with up- and downstream partners
- 6. Regular discussions about Financial performance
- Regular discussions about Quality KPI (defect rate, customer satisfaction, etc.)
- 8. "Regularly" means once per month or more often

IMPROVE

- 1. The team knows why it exists and its criteria for success
- 2. The team has identified and selected a Challenge to address
- 3. Regular Retrospectives / Kaizen events
- 4. The team knows its current condition (may require metrics)
- 5. The team knows the current target condition (the challenge)
- There is a validation criteria (test) for the current target condition to know when the target condition is reached
- 7. The team knows what obstacles are preventing them from reaching the target condition
- 8. The team knows what obstacle is being currently addressed
- 9. The team knows what is the next step in resolving the current obstacle (PDCA)
- 10. True North exists, is communicated and shared by the team
- 11. The team go and see what they have learned from taking that step

EFFECTS (SEEING EVIDENCE OF...)

- 1. Team members are seeing and understanding the Big Picture (team-level vs. local situations)
- 2. Better "team spirit" (helping each-others to complete work, respect)
- 3. Focus on removing blocks

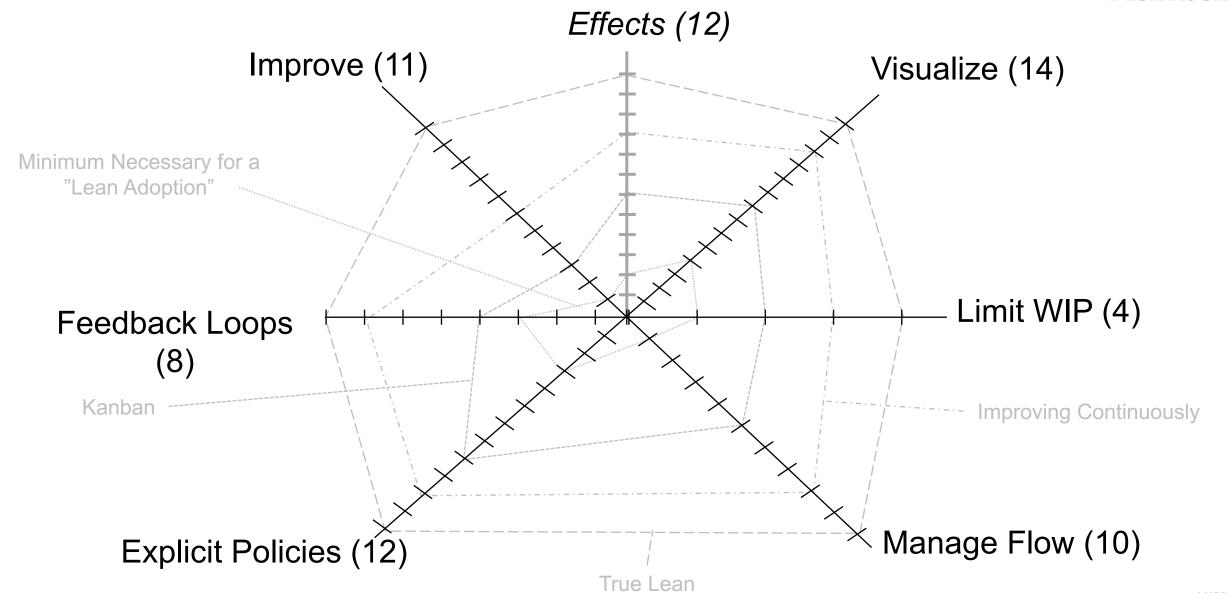
- 4. Focusing on finishing work rather than starting new work
- 5. Team is working on the "right" thing ("right" prioritization)
- 6. Limiting work to team's capacity (limited stress, optimal lead-times)
- 7. Team has motivation to drive improvements

- 8. Local process evolution (visualization, workflow, policies, WIP limits)
- 9. Increase depth of Kanban implementation
- 10. Process evolution was model-driven
- 12. Policy evolution due to operations review

11. Policy evolution as a result of mentor-mentee

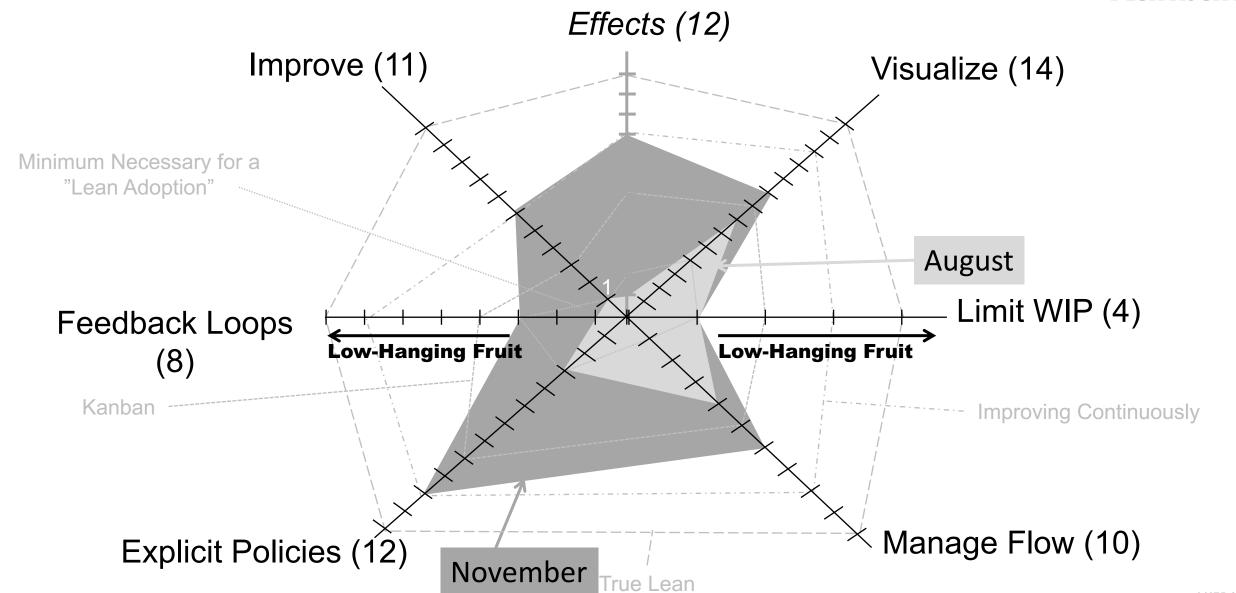
WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?

The Depth of Kanban



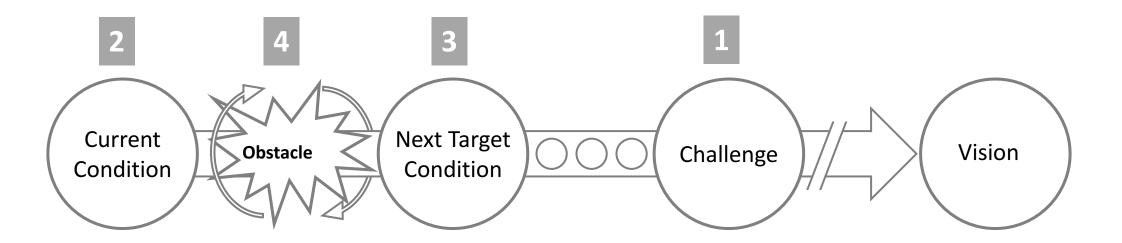
WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?

The Depth of Kanban



The Improvement Process

The Improvement kata (Toyota Kata - Mike Rother)



YOUR JOURNEY

Your Plan to Become

The Past	The Present	The Future	Gre
#1 PROMISE TO FULFILL	#1 LOW-HANGING FRUIT	#1 GOAL FOR YOU	R SERVICE
Challenge	Challenge	Challenge	
When are you done (measure)?	When are you done (measure)?	When are you done	(measure)?
Next Target Condition	Next Target Condition	Next Target Condit	tion
Experiments (Policies)	Experiments (Policies)	Experiments (Polic	ies)

YOUR JOURNEY

Your Plan to Become

		roar rian to boodino
The Past	The Present	The Future Gre
#1 PROMISE TO FULFILL	#1 LOW-HANGING FRUIT	#1 GOAL FOR YOUR SERVICE 2
Challenge	Challenge	Challenge
Development process is "Transparent"	Limit WIP to the team's capacity	Platform is Stable
When are you done (measure)?	When are you done (measure)?	When are you done (measure)?
All demand managers from all Brands can access our digital Kanban tool and participate in our dailies	We set WIP limits and respect them at least for a full 1 month	Agreed stability KPIs reach "good enough" targets
Next Target Condition	Next Target Condition	Next Target Condition
All demand managers from all Brands participate in our dailies	Demand Managers understand and respect the WIP limit	New releases do not deteriorate stability
Experiments (Policies)	Experiments (Policies)	Experiments (Policies)
Try holding our daily meeting at 12:45 instead of 08:45	New policy: Decision to increase WIP can only be taken during dailies, not any time with any team member.	New policy: run performance tests on nightly builds, every night
Get their managers to attend our daily at least once	Invite demand mangers to after-work to play some Kanban game(s)	New policy: All 'urgent' features follow exactly the same QA tests as 'standard' features. No more pushing for half-baked features right before release.

Workshop

Clarity of Purpose

Workshop - Clarity of Purpose

- Form pairs
- One of you is the *client*, the other one the *consultant*
- Clients picks a team you are currently training, coaching, working with.
- Consultants Using the templates for discussion, help your client to understand:
 - Why they chose Kanban and what promises they made
 - What policies/mechanisms their Kanban system should have to make their service(s) fit to purpose



Now Go and Make People Awesome!

Thanks for Participating

