

# WHAT IS LEAN?

Lean software development is a translation of lean manufacturing principles and practices to the software development domain. Adapted from the Toyota Production System, it is emerging with the support of a pro-lean subculture within the Agile community.

## Main Focus



### Understand value and eliminate waste

Optimise development time and resources, eliminating waste, and ultimately delivering only what the product needs.



### Improve flow

Streamline flow so that greater value can be delivered to customers and stakeholders in less time with less cost.

## 7 Key Practices

Lean is enacted through embracing 7 key practices on a day-to-day basis, in planning, delivery, and in continuous improvement and attention to quality.



### Eliminate Waste

Regard everything not adding value to the customer as waste, including partially done work, task switching, and handoffs.



### Build-in Quality

High quality systems have greater customer experience and lower maintenance costs.



### Empower the Team

People need motivation and a higher purpose for their work. A manager's role is to motivate, not tell people how to do their work.



### Defer Decisions

Evaluating different options is only effective when leaders understand this effort is not "free". Provide flexibility for late decision making.



### Deliver Fast

The shorter the iterations, the better the learning and communication within the team.



### Amplify Learnings

Increasing feedback via short feedback sessions with customers helps to adjust efforts for future improvements. This learning process is sped up by usage of short iteration cycles.



### Optimise for the Whole

Think beyond just the team and understand how all of the people, processes and tools fit together, to improve flow of value.