

A close-up photograph of a person's hand resting on a red running track. The hand is positioned on a white starting block. The track has white lane markings and arrows. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the track and the person's arm.

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New WOWs for Remote Agile Teams

NK Shrivastava, PMP, RMP, ACP, CSP, SPC4
CEO/Enterprise Agile Coach - RefineM

Agenda

1. Introductions and Expectations
2. New WOWs for Remote Agile Teams
 - a. What Changed in Recent Times?
 - b. What are the Challenges for Remote Agile Teams?
 - c. Strategies for Remote Agile Teams
 - d. Tools for Remote Agile Teams
3. Quiz – winner will get \$10 Amazon gift card
4. Summary / Q&A

RefineM's Virtual Lunch & Learn

This is a monthly webinar delivered during the lunch hour in the first week (Wednesdays) of every month.

It's designed to help you learn while you eat lunch, providing a relaxed environment to enhance your experience.

The monthly webinars will cover a variety of Project Management / Agile topics.

Your Expectations

What are your expectations from this webinar?

Go to [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) to answer



NK Shrivastava

PMP, RMP, ACP, CSP, SPC4

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 - Enterprise Agile Coach @ IBM
 - Project Management/Process Improvement Consulting and Training Products for Project and Agile Professionals
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 - Agility Assessment Tool
[Agility.RefineM.com/](https://www.refinem.com/agility/)
 - Videos – PMP and Agile
<https://vimeo.com/search?q=RefineM>
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 - Successfully led hundreds of projects of all sizes
 - Recovered many projects, saved millions of dollars
 - Implemented numerous process improvements
 - Coached/mentored hundreds of PMs and executives
 - Board member of SWMO PMI Chapter (2008-2014)

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advantage**

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https://kanbanize.com/sign-up?referral_code=498319

Survey Question

What challenges do you face with your remote Agile teams?

Go to [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) to answer

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What Changed in Recent Times?

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Pandemic

1. COVID-19 caused uncertainty and delays in 2020 that still have impact in 2021
2. Many teams had to become remote with very little warning
3. Massively abrupt shift in ways of working
4. Many teams are still figuring how to work remotely



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Business Environment Changes

1. Businesses creating more remote teams to enable development “around the clock”
2. Purpose is to reduce downtime and enable faster time to market
3. Businesses can also save on real estate costs by adding virtual teams that work from home – between \$5,000-\$8,000 per employee



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https://www.aon.com/attachments/virtual_worker_whitepaper.pdf



What are the Challenges for Remote Agile Teams?

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What is Lost By Going Remote

1. Frequent in-person contact
2. Hallway conversations
3. On the fly white board sessions
4. Access to Agile workspaces
5. Easy access to decisionmakers
6. Going out for lunch/
coffee/socialization on the fly
7. Several collaboration opportunities



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Dealing with the Sudden Shift

1. Pandemic came on us practically overnight
2. Many Agile teams weren't ready
3. Adjustment time was greater for teams not used to remote work



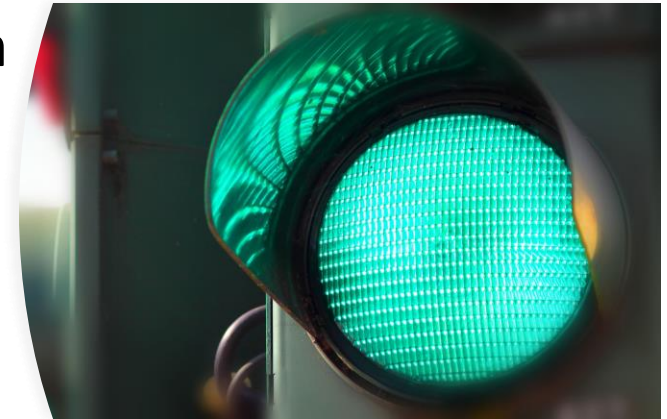
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The Good News?

1. Agile is built to welcome change, even disruptive and sudden
2. Being remote doesn't mean losing productivity
3. Virtual workforce employees' productivity increased anywhere from 10-43%



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https://www.aon.com/attachments/virtual_worker_whitepaper.pdf



New Ways of Working (WOWs) for Remote Agile Teams

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Develop Working Agreements

1. Everyone should feel good about the way they're working on a team
2. Team charter is a powerful tool
3. Charter/agreements should address many things:
 - a. Time zone differences
 - b. General availability/meeting times
 - c. Use of video and other remote tools for remote collaboration
 - d. Personal Preferences
 - e. Cultural Differences
 - f. More, based what team would like to do



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<https://resources.scrumalliance.org/Article/agile-teams-overcome-obstacles-created-distance>

Where teams are going to work?

1. Some teams may still be fully remote post-pandemic
2. Most teams will have somewhat hybrid ways of working
3. Some team members may want to flex to work from home and office as needed
4. Coworking spaces or office rentals may be something that can help with flexibility



How do teams connect better?

1. Think of activities can make teams feel included in the company – online happy hours, game nights, and many others
2. Increased video time
3. Flexibility to do unscheduled video calls as and when needed, including 1-1 calls



How else can teams be supported?

1. Many team members are tired – physically, mentally and emotionally
2. Start Wellness programs
3. Extend mental health outreach and support
4. Finding ways to let team members express themselves and what they are feeling
5. Pep talks



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Tools for Remote Agile Teams

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Videoconferencing

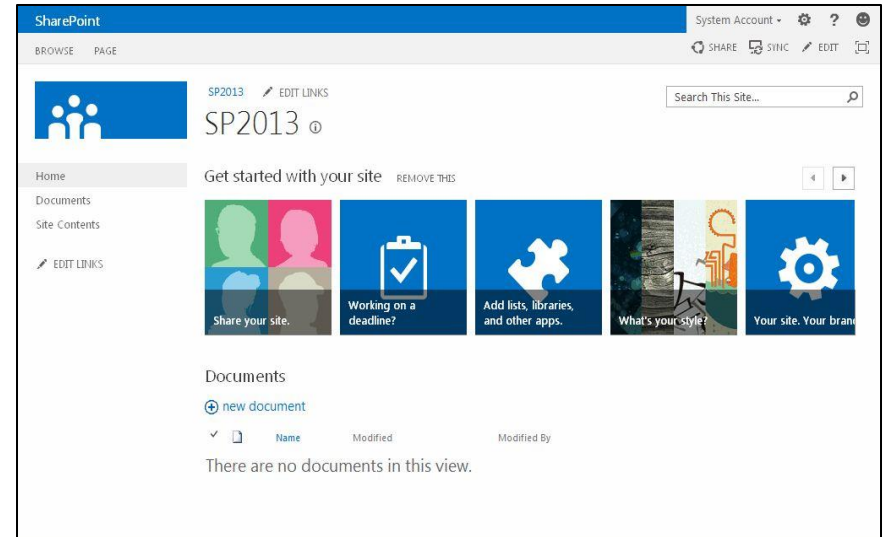
1. Most tools allow for big or small, highly interactive meetings
2. Breakout rooms for small group discussions
3. Examples:
 - a. Zoom
 - b. WebEx
 - c. Microsoft Teams
 - d. GoToMeeting



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File Sharing

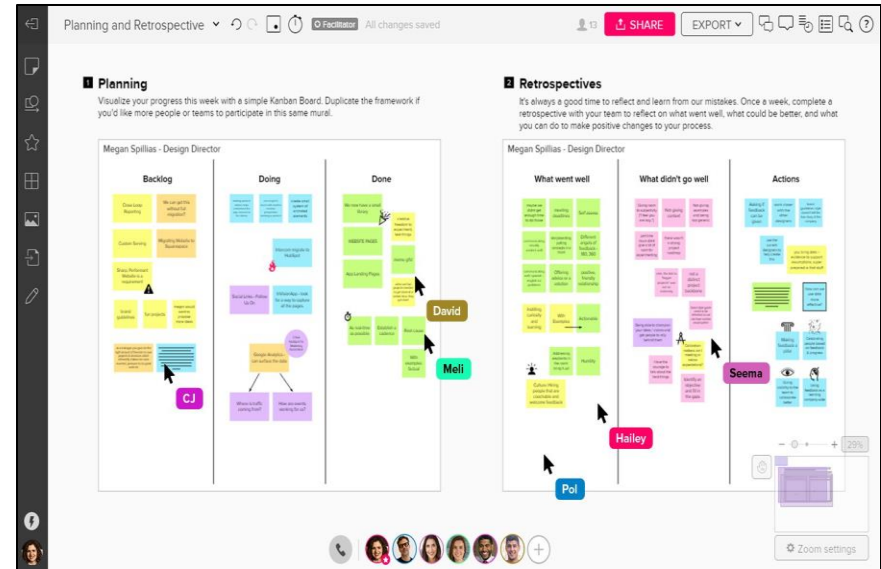
1. Keeps documents in one place for ease of access and “one source of truth”
2. Version control allows rollbacks if needed
3. Examples
 - a. SharePoint
 - b. Dropbox
 - c. Google Docs



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Visualization/White Board – Mural/Miro

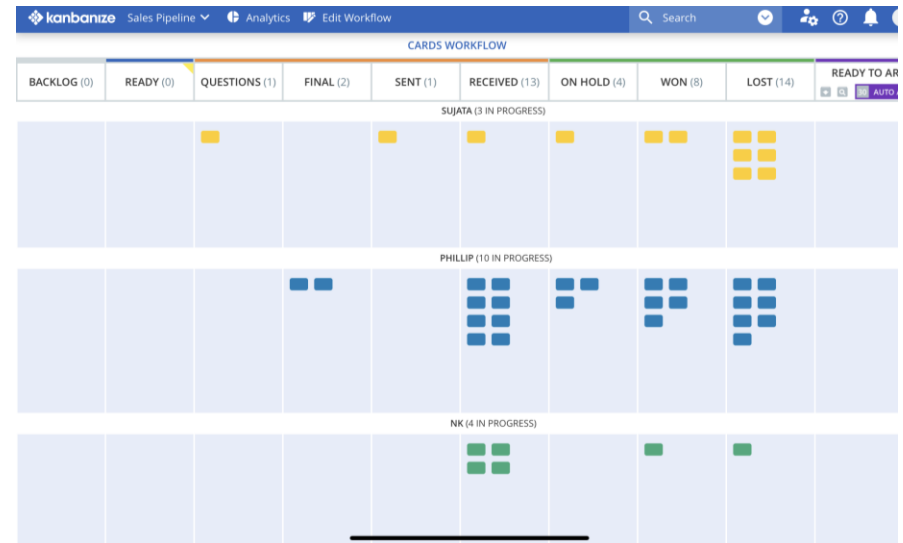
1. Digital workspace where teams can collaborate
2. Teams can use Mural, Miro or a similar tool to plan and review work
3. Teams can also use it for dot voting, value stream mapping, and many other processes
4. <https://www.mural.co/>



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Visualizing the Work – Kanban Tool

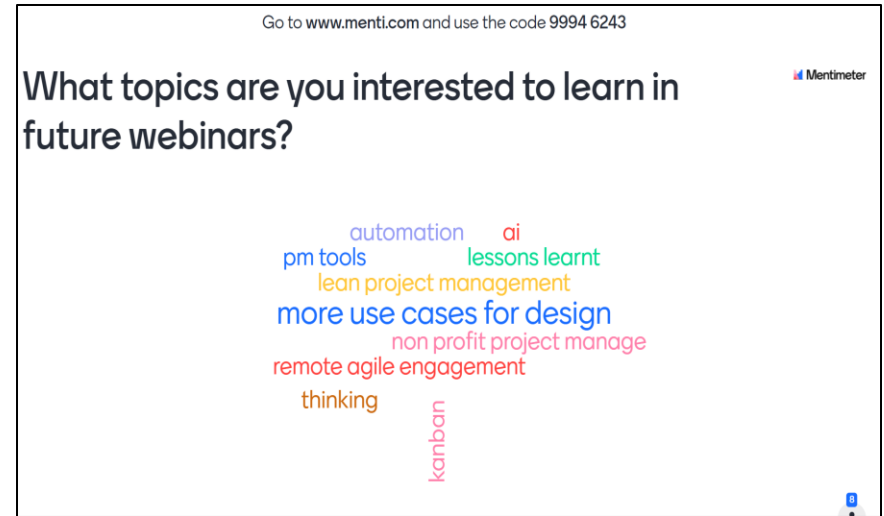
1. Kanban-based tools to visualize workflow and expose blockers/waste
2. Empowers teams to work independently and manage the flow
3. Examples:
 - a. Kanbanize
 - b. Trello
 - c. JIRA



30-day free trial for Kanbanize - https://kanbanize.com/sign-up?referral_code=498319

Survey/Quizzes/Fun Things - Mentimeter

1. Online polling tool with lots of features
2. Over 20 question types
3. Quiz features for icebreaking activities
4. <https://www.mentimeter.com/>



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Survey Question

Which of the concepts discussed today do you feel will be most beneficial to you?

Go to [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) to answer

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Quiz

Go to [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) to answer



Winner gets free access (100% discount)
to Agility Assessment Tool

Conclusion

1. Remote Agile teams had to adjust to both gradual and abrupt changes to their way of working
2. More communication and deliberate strategies can help them overcome the challenges and perform well
3. Tools can be a big help also

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2. **Click “Courses and Training” and Input the following:**

PDU Claim Code	3990LLKLJM
Activity Name	“New WOWs for Remote Agile Teams”
Provider	“RefineM LLC”
Date Started/Completed	June 2, 2021
Contact Person	NK Shrivastava
Contact Phone	(417) 763-6762
Contact Email	Trainings@RefineM.com
PDUs	1.00 Strategic.

3. **Check “I agree this claim is accurate” box and then Submit.**

**Please claim your PDU by end of June 2021.
Claim code will be retired after that date.**

Questions?

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Recipe to Deliver Projects Successfully	Jul 2
Project Management Fundamentals	Jul 6-7

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Leadership Skills for Project Managers	Jul 30
Agile Leadership	Jul 8