

THE **D** FILES





# The D-Files

## Debunking Myths about Distributed Teams

# Who Is This Guy?

- 15+ years doing agile
- Different sized companies
- Different industries



# What is the Big Myth?

“The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is face-to-face conversation.”

–*Agile Manifesto, Principle 6*

Interpretation: If we have remote workers, we can't be agile! (*whew – change is scary!*)

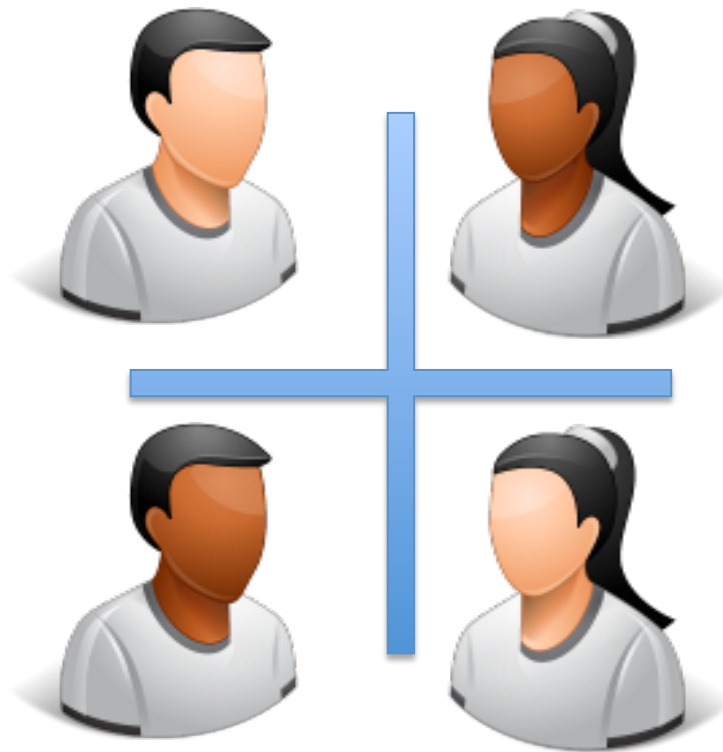


# The Big Myth Isn't True

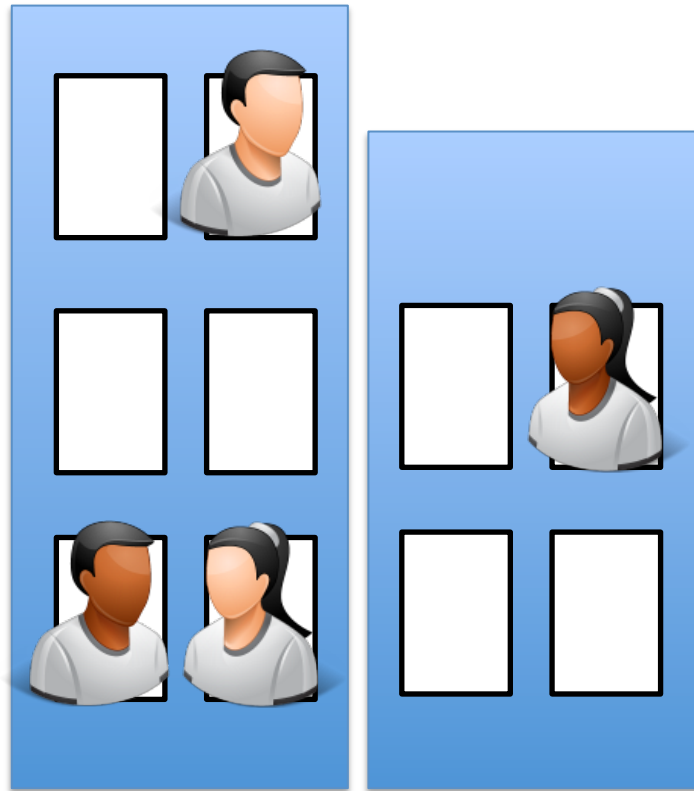


It's a conspiracy, Scully, to make us think we can't be agile!

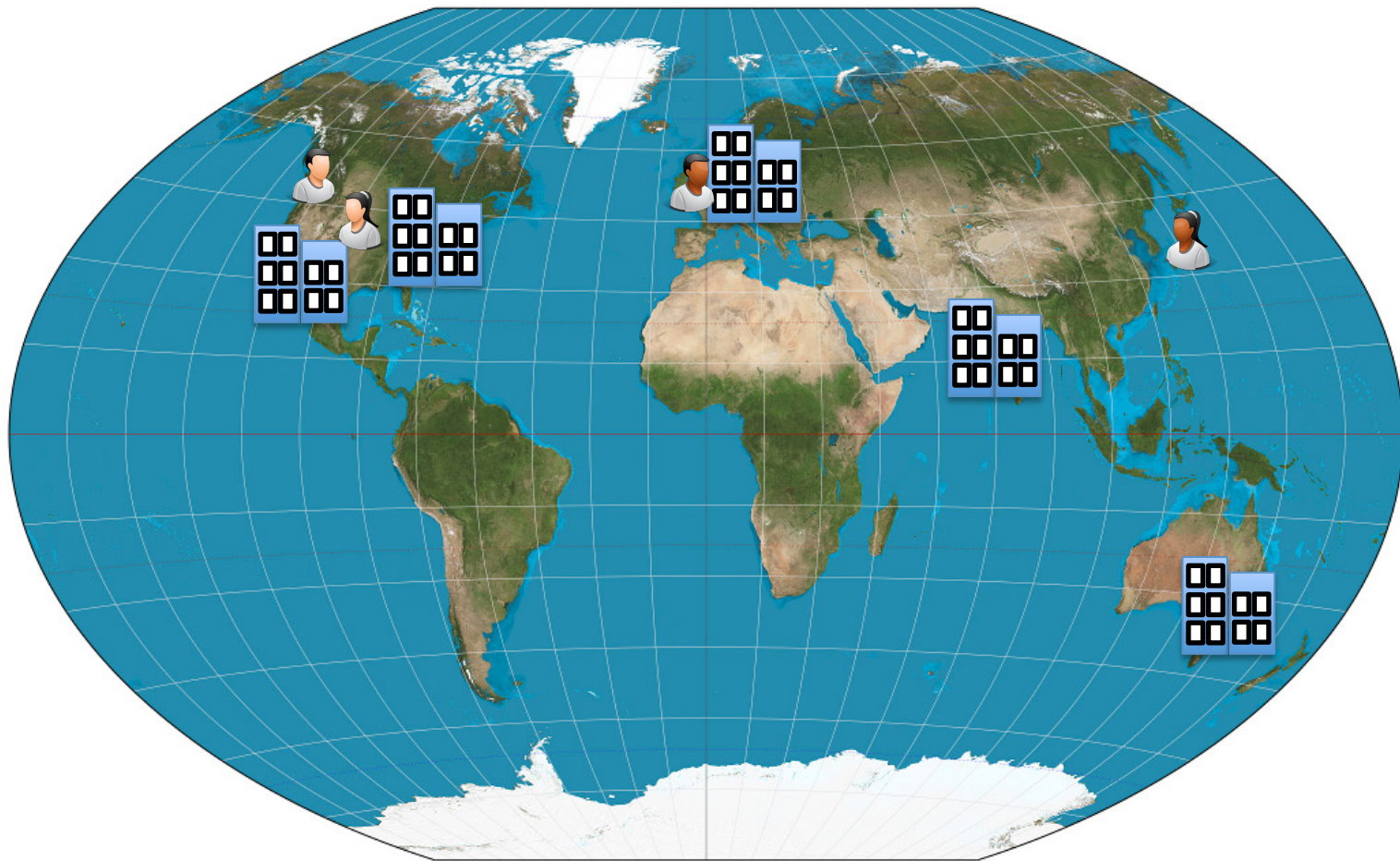
# Today's Teams



# Today's Teams



# Today's Teams





# Distributed Is Now



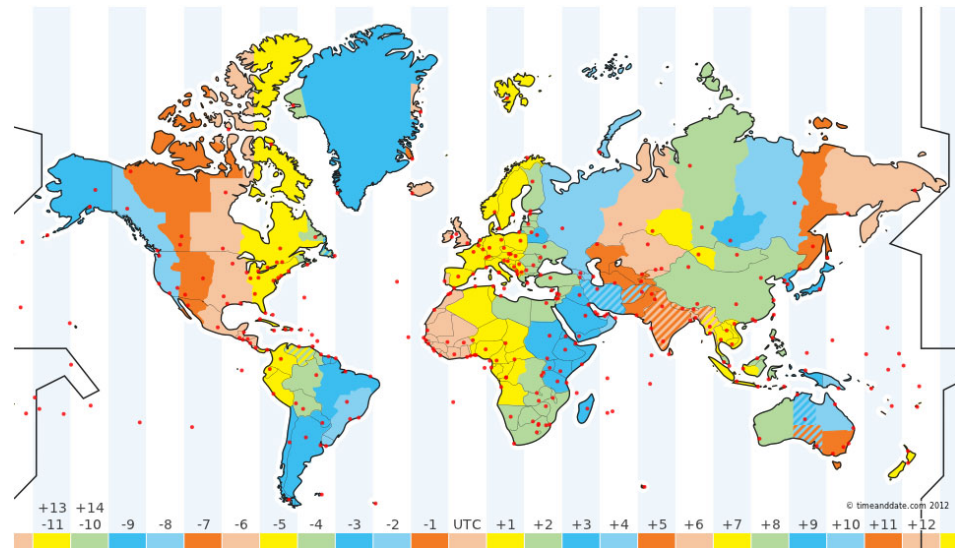
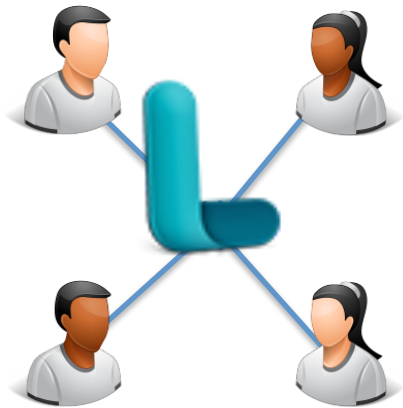
It SEEMS difficult, but there must be ways to make it work.

This looks difficult, Mulder. Our team is everywhere!

# Ceremonies and Meetings

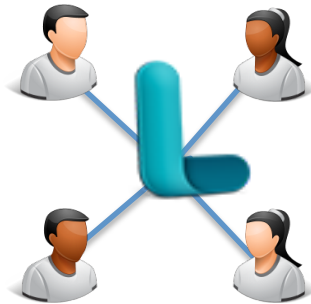


# Ceremonies and Meetings



[www.timeanddate.com](http://www.timeanddate.com)

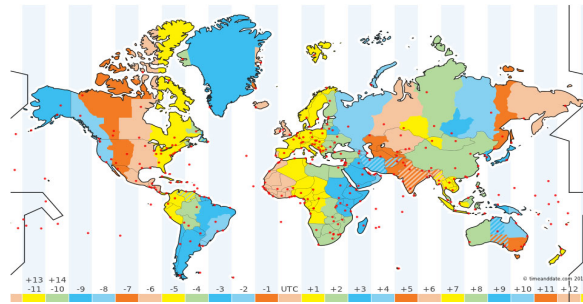
# Coordinating Virtual Meetings



- Similar to in-person meetings
- Include all meeting info in invite
- Start with ice breakers
- Use video where possible
- Establish working agreements



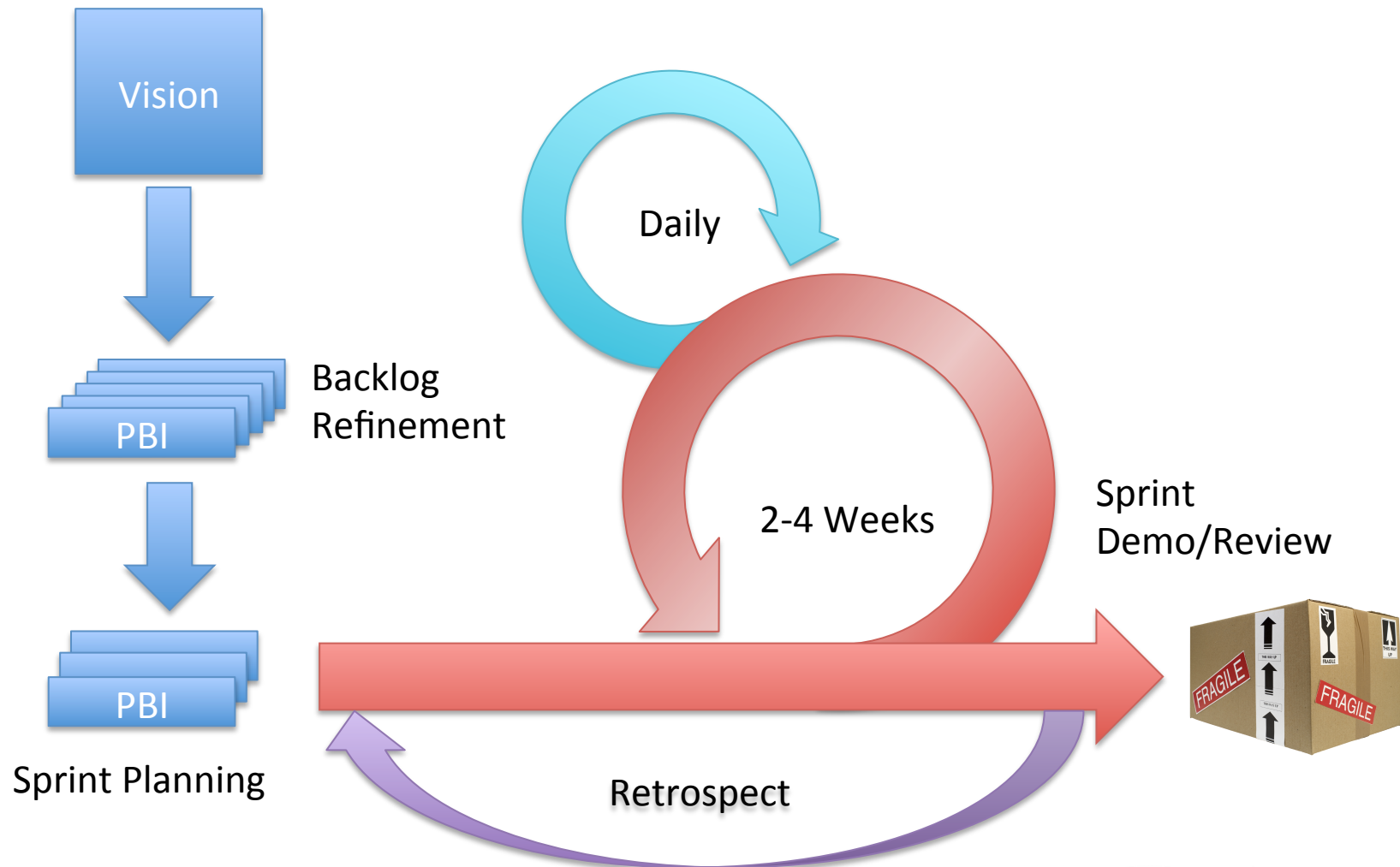
# Coordinating Across Timezones



www.timeanddate.com

- Align ceremonies and meetings to overlap working hours as much as possible
- Shift working hours between team members
  - Easier if just in US
  - For off-shore, check to see if it's possible, but be respectful of worker safety and work/life balance
- Be aware of holidays – they don't often sync with US
- Create fully independent teams that share timezones

# Scrum Ceremonies

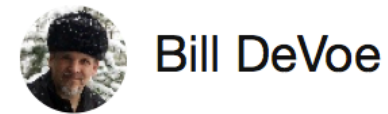
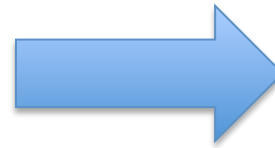


# Team Building



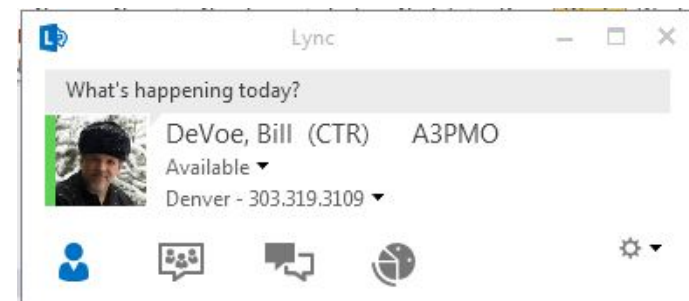
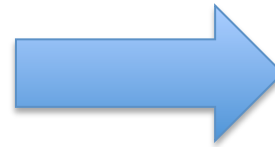
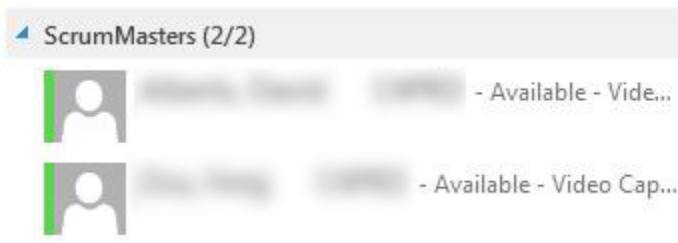
Here's one about team building being impossible with remote teams.

# IM and Workspace Apps



Artemis.

8 months ago via Skype



# Team Building



Credit: VeronicaTherese via Wikipedia.org





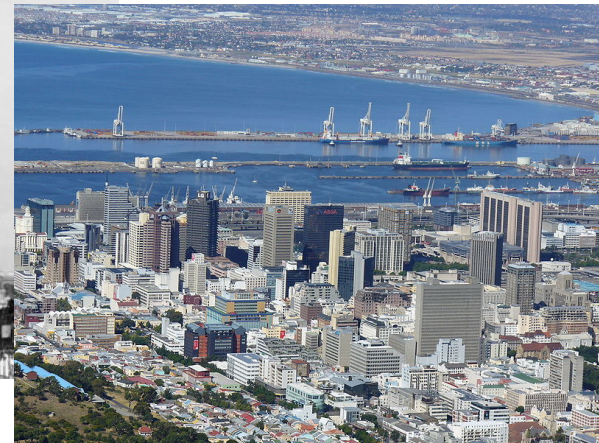
# Team Building



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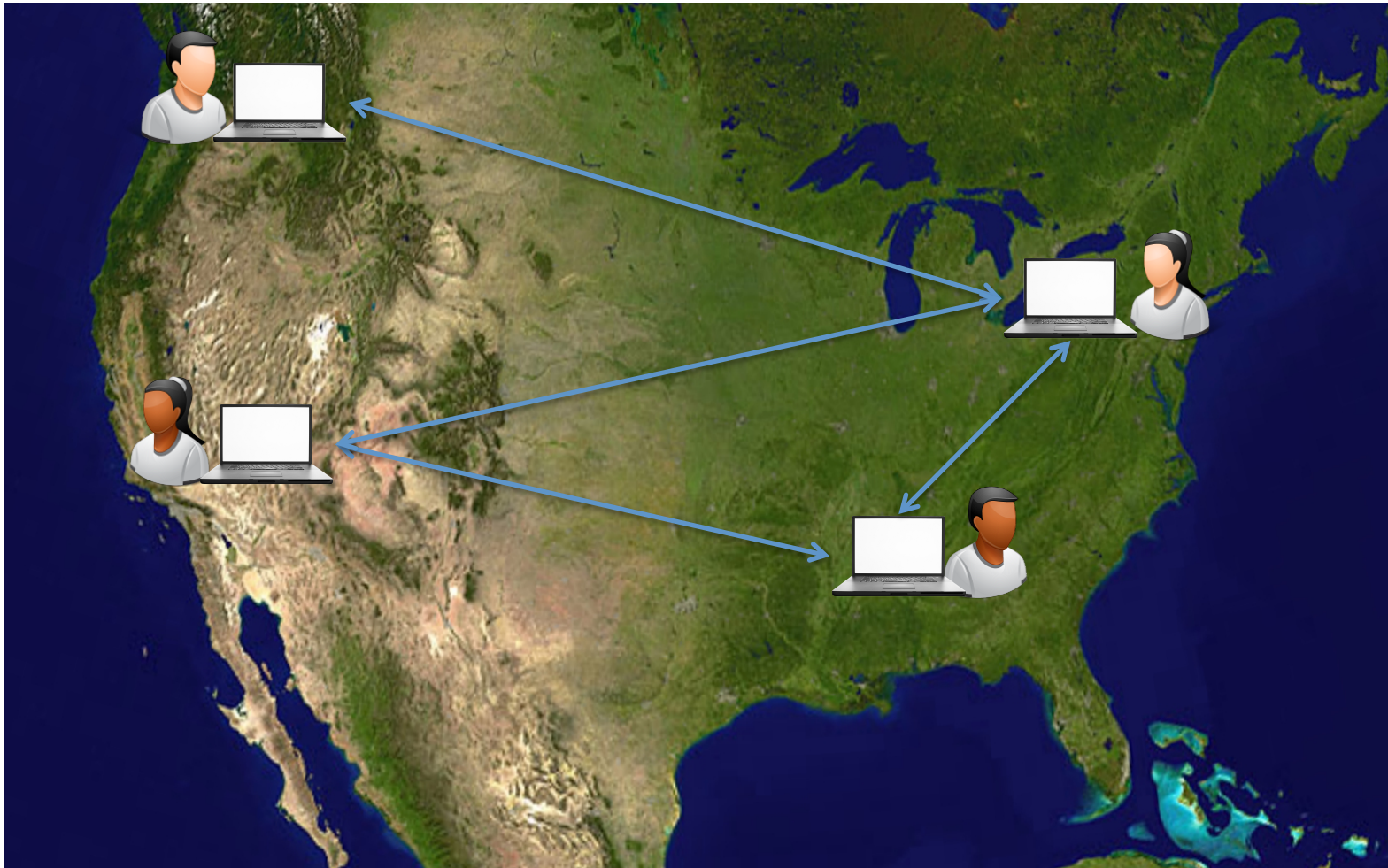


# Work Collaboration



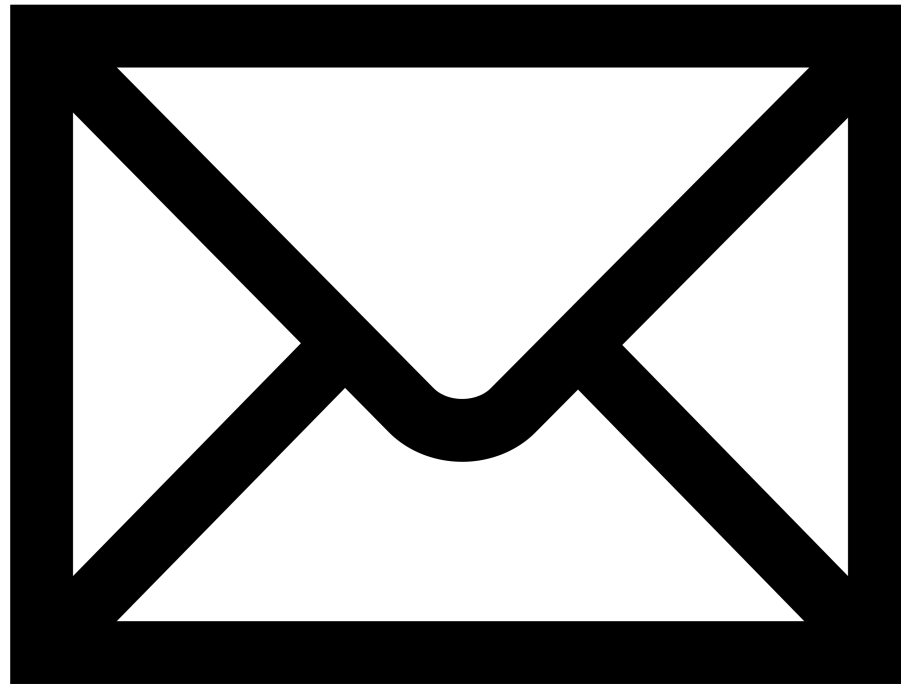


# Work Collaboration





# Persistent Communications



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# Persistent Communications



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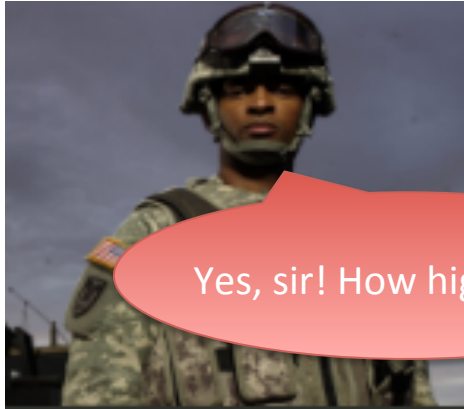


# Working Cultures



Here's one that says that it's too difficult to combine teams with different cultures.

# Culture



Yes, sir! How high, sir?!



# Agile Management





# Agile Management



# Other Considerations



We've debunked all those.  
Did we miss anything, Scully?





# Resources

- Check Out
  - *The Year Without Pants* – Scott Berkun
  - CollaborationSuperPowers.com Podcast
  - ScatterSpoke.com

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**Thank you!**

**Have a great Mile High Agile 2016!**