



Michael James, Danube CST

Michael James is a software process mentor and Certified Scrum Trainer with a focus on the engineering practices that enable agile project management practices. Having worked as a software developer (formerly "architect") for more than 20 years, he has deep experience with automated testing that predates the eXtreme Programming movement, including:

- Formal, phased, high-ceremony processes based on DOD-STD-2167A;
- Chaotic non-processes of the dot-com era; and
- Agile processes such as Scrum and XP.

As an agile coach, James has found that teams learn best when he can work alongside them "in the trenches." This one-on-one interaction allows him to share agile practices and insight while tackling real organizational challenges.

James' key achievements as a software developer and Scrum coach include:

- Coaching three teams at a state government bureaucracy to produce demonstrable functionality in one month. The teams were considered stuck for most of the year prior to engaging Danube's training services.
- Transforming a group of city government developers into an effective Scrum team in two weeks.
- Interviewing more than 100 candidates (mostly Java developers) in search of those who would most seamlessly integrate into our client's existing agile development environment and team dynamic.
- Diagnosing and advising teams at a major database company, a major online book seller, a major projector manufacturer, a leading video game company, two *Fortune* 50 computer manufacturers, etc.
- Producing the ScrumWorks agile project management tool in consultation with key thinkers in the agile community, including Ken Schwaber and Mike Beedle, the authors of the landmark text [Agile Software Development with Scrum](#). ScrumWorks — now available as both downloadable freeware (Basic) and a commercial release approaching its fourth major release (Pro) — is used by more than 125,000 software professionals worldwide.
- Mentoring numerous Java/J2EE developers.
- Developing aircraft- and spacecraft-embedded systems to rigorous standards.

"I felt that Michael James was very motivated to help us learn. It shows that he truly loves Scrum. I also liked that he didn't sell Scrum, but kept to the facts and let them speak for themselves."

-Santa Ana, Calif. course attendee

"A fluid uninterrupted 'learning' experience.... interesting, high value training."

-Richard de Koning,
Professor, Amsterdam
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Danube Technologies, Inc.
520 SW 6th Ave, Suite 940
Portland, OR 97204 USA
1.888.5.danube
T: +1.503.248.0800
F: +1.503.248.0801

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