

# BRAD APPLETON

## AGILE/DEVOPS SOFTWARE ENGINEERING SENIOR LEADER

📍 Arlington Heights, IL | ✉ [brad@bradapp.net](mailto:brad@bradapp.net) | 🔗 [linkedin.com/in/bradappleton](https://www.linkedin.com/in/bradappleton)



*Software Engineering leader, choreographer & cultivator – I guide & grow organizations to be successful digital delivery ecosystems with egoless collaboration, relentless improvement, and continuous curiosity & learning.*

Pragmatic enterprise leader of Lean-Agile Development, DevSecOps, and Agile ALM/CM solutions with 20+ years of expertise guiding, growing, and transforming teams & organizations into effective digital delivery ecosystems.

### KEY SKILLS

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<b>DevOps:</b>	CI/CD, Pipelines, TDD/ATDD, BDD, Infrastructure-as-Code (IaC), DORA Metrics, Agile CM/ALM, Feature Toggles, Trunk-based, Git*Flow, GitOps, ACT, Microservices, SRE, Chaos Engineering
<b>Cloud:</b>	Azure, AWS, Google Cloud Platform (GCP), SaaS/PaaS/ITaaS, Cloud Architecture Patterns
<b>Agile:</b>	Scrum, eXtreme Programming, FDD, Lean, Kanban, ScrumBan, SAFe, LeSS, DA, Scrum@Scale, Portfolio & Program Mgmt, Product Mgmt, Cynefin, Lean Startup, User Stories, OKRs, JTBD
<b>Software Eng:</b>	SixSigma, CMMI, SWEBoK, ISO 9000/9001, ITIL, IT4IT, CM, STQE, ODC/RCA, RM, TOGAF, Sw PLE
<b>Tools:</b>	JIRA, Confluence, Azure DevOps, Jenkins, Bamboo, SVN, Git, Bitbucket, Gerrit, GitLab, Nexus, Artifactory, SonarQube, JUnit, Cucumber, Chef, Puppet, Docker, Kubernetes, TerraForm, ELK
<b>Development:</b>	TDD, BDD, Refactoring, Pairing, Emergent Design, Evolutionary Architecture, SBE, HDD, DDD
<b>Programming:</b>	Java, Python, Groovy, Scala, Ruby, C#, C++, Perl, Design Patterns, UML
<b>Leadership:</b>	Adaptability, Conflict Resolution, Mentoring, Problem Solving, Strategic/Systems Thinking
<b>Change Mgmt:</b>	Kotter, ADKAR, Lean Change, Lewin, Nudge Theory, LaMarsh, Satir, AgendaShift

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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#### **BRADAPP.NET, DevOps & Agile Engineering Senior Leader/Consultant** **05/2020 – Present**

- Drive DevOps & Lean-Agile adoption, transformation, assessment, and measurement.
- Develop, evaluate, and deploy Agile/DevOps frameworks, practices, tools & platforms.
- Adapt the practical application of mindset & principles to the disciplined execution of practices.
- Maximize simplicity, quality & learning-velocity by minimizing duplication, dependencies & delays.
- Continuously deliver stakeholder value, by continually valuing all stakeholders across the delivery cycle.

#### **WELLS FARGO, PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL** [ Remote, Contract], **Senior DevSecOps/Agile Coach** **2021 – 2022**

- Guided/trained DevSecOps coaches and delivery-teams in DevSecOps practices, automation & pipelines across the enterprise (CI/CD, Git SCM & Branching strategies, Continuous Testing & Test Automation).
- Coached & assessed Teams-of-teams on Agile (Scrum/Kanban) mindset & practices within LeSS (and SAFe).
- Train/coach engineers on Refactoring, TDD, Emergent Design, Git/GitHub, and Design patterns & principles.

#### **WALGREENS, Deerfield, IL** **09/2016 – 04/2020**

##### **Senior Manager, DevOps & Agile Engineering Center of Enablement (CoE)**

- Developed/deployed Enterprise DevOps strategy & framework (operating model, practices, tools, mindset, metrics, assessments, change-mgmt) across >100 teams & 1000+ applications/services (\$142MM budget).
- Delivered Enterprise DevOps delivery pipelines & workflow-mgmt with TDD/BDD, static analysis, and config-templates across 10,000+ users & 100+ pipelines (using Atlassian & MS Azure DevOps toolchains).
- Realized 2X-5X improvement in development/deployment cycle-times, MTTR, and 20%-50% fewer defects.
- Coached business & IT to embrace Agile + DevOps, 'grok' Digital transformation, set OKRs & create roadmaps.
- Partnered with Sr Leadership, Vendors & EA to develop strategies, roadmaps & deploy/support technologies.
- Spearheaded Agile/DevOps expert community-groups (Cols, CoPs, and CoEs) to define and advance team & organization-wide standards, methods, and sharing best-practices + lessons-learned across all businesses.
- Trained 100+ senior leaders, organizations & teams in Agile/DevOps principles, practices & pipelines.
- Led workshops and assessments for organizations to learn & improve their Agile/DevOps capabilities.

**MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, Schaumburg, IL** 📍

10/2006 - 06/2016 📅

**Enterprise DevOps & Agile ALM Solution Leader/Architect, Product Manager, Distinguished MTS**

- Created framework (and training) for Lean-Agile practice adoption and scaling (including applications of SAFe, DAD, XP, Kanban, Distributed Scrum, LeSS & Lean Startup).
- Partnered with VPs, IT & Vendors to drive new strategies, and deploy & support new tools/technologies.
- Developed enterprise-wide strategy to deploy & support multiple DevOps toolchains, using a tri-modal approach to minimize total cost-of-ownership while maximizing engineering effectiveness.
- Obtained EVP sponsorship for Lean-Agile adoption (@ Scale), created training materials, and led workgroups in applying & scaling agile principles and practices across the business (1000+ engineers).
- Agile Product Owner for company-wide Git + JIRA deployment (with Artifactory), onboarding over 40 new teams and organizations from ClearCase & ClearQuest.
- Solution Architect/Product Owner and Technical Manager for ALM/CM tool development and deployment across 8 design centers and 6 countries (12,000+ engineers, \$127MM budget).
- Coached and trained new agile teams & coaches in Lean-Agile adoption, resulting in 2X–5X productivity improvement, 30%–40% reduction in defect density, and 4–6week reductions in release cycle-time.
- Organized and led internal agile communities of practice and software engineering symposiums.

**MOTOROLA NETWORKS, Arlington Heights, IL** 📍

05/1998 - 10/2006 📅

- Principal Process & Tools Architect | Manager | Lean-Agile Adoption Leader
- Manager of CM process & tool development/deployment/support and improvement [change/defect mgmt, VCS branching & merging, build + release automation] for 7,000+ users (\$23MM budget).
- Enterprise community leader and evangelist introducing Agile and Lean development practices to >25 recent programs/projects & teams across 4 divisions spanning 8+ sites, and 5 countries.
- Led turnaround of waterfall project using agile development practices, resulting in: 2X improvements in quality, cycle-time and application performance; 50% reduction in code-size; and achieved a predictable iterative delivery schedule with onsite customers.
- Agile adoption leader and coach for multiple application development teams.
- Technical lead/manager for development and support of sector-wide SCM system (3,000+ users).

**EARLIER EXPERIENCE** 📁

MOTOROLA AUTOMOTIVE (Northbrook, IL)	Senior Staff Software Engineer	1994-1998
HARRIS COMPUTER SYSTEMS (Fort Lauderdale, FL)	Senior Software Engineer	1990-1994
SEIDL COMPUTER ENGINEERING (Ann Arbor, MI)	Senior Software Engineer	1989
NORTEL, APPLICON (Ann Arbor), PANSOPHIC (Naperville)	Programmer/Analyst	1986-1988

**EDUCATION** 🎓

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, Fort Collins, CO (🌐 Remote) 1990-1995  
**Master of Science (MS), Software Engineering** (with highest distinction)

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, Ann Arbor, MI 📍 1983-1988  
**Bachelor of Science (BS), Computer Science and Mathematics** (with honors)

SCRUM ALLIANCE, **Certified Agile Leader (CAL I), Certified Scrum Master (CSM)**  
 SCALED AGILE, INC., **Certified SAFe® Program Consultant (SPC), Certified SAFe® Agilist**

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Meetup Member/Presenter:** [APLN Chicago](#), [Suburban Agilists](#), [CAOS](#), [PSOS](#), [LADTLN Chicago](#), [BA Chicago](#)

**Contributing Author/Curator:** [Business Agility Institute](#), [InfoQ](#), [DZone](#), [Agile Connection](#), [CMCrossroads](#), [STQE](#)

**Co-founder,** Chicago Agile Developers & Chicago Patterns Groups; **Section editor,** The C++ Report (SIGS)

**Technical Reviewer:** Manning, O'Reilly, AWL/PTR, NoStarch Press, Pearson, IEEE, Pragmatic Programmers