

SCALED AGILE®

Joint Announcement

For Immediate Release, April 15, 2020

The U.S Air Force and Scaled Agile collaborate to provide recommendations on properly implementing the Scaled Agile Framework® (SAFe®) with DevSecOps

The United States Air Force (USAF), Office of the Chief Software Officer (USAF/CSO) and Scaled Agile, Inc (SAI) are collaborating to create tangible recommendations and resources to address the appropriate application of the Scaled Agile Framework in a DevSecOps context, to support and follow the guidance provided by the Department of Defense (DoD) Enterprise DevSecOps Initiative.

This collaboration represents a new phase in modernizing software development based on advanced architecture (microservices-based), tooling, and methods within the DoD. As the DoD moves to Kubernetes, containers and microservices architectures, it is important to adjust implementation guidance to reflect the ability to decouple releases and teams.

Particularly, this will address several areas:

- Describe how DevSecOps teams can tailor Scaled Agile Framework to their context as one-size-fits-all won't work for DevSecOps
- While safety is a primary concern for the DoD, the ability to rapidly innovate and move at a pace of relevance is even more critical, so long as security and safety are baked-in and not an after thought
- Clarify that teams can and should be decoupled as far as possible and be able to release software at their own pace, while ensuring product owners have access and are aligned to the organization's requirements and goals
- Clarify that 'scaling' doesn't mean unnecessarily tight coupling and coordination of releases and work, or excessive oversight and management.
- Develop training collateral with clear use cases of implementation of SAFe with the DoD Enterprise DevSecOps stack and vision

In a recent meeting at the Pentagon between Mr. Nicolas Chaillan, U.S Air Force, Chief Software Officer, Chris James, SAI CEO, and Dean Leffingwell, SAI Founder and Chief Methodologist, it was agreed that DevSecOps leading practices could be further advanced by mutual collaboration.

"We are looking forward to providing guidelines on the best way to adjust and implement the Scaled Agile Framework as an enabler to DevSecOps and Platform One," said Mr. Chaillan. "Tools and guidelines for this fast growing approach are important to ensure its widespread adoption and use, across the DoD, and into commercial development too."

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“SAFe has evolved over time to incorporate and adapt to new thinking and most advanced proven practices. We are excited to work together with the USAF and the DoD to co-create a portfolio of practices, guidelines and training to accelerate this trend as well,” said Dean Leffingwell.

As part of this collaboration, the teams agree to identify a pathfinder program to develop the practices and approaches required in both government and the industry supporting government to accelerate the delivery of high-quality products and services. This will help foster the adoption and deployment of best DevSecOps approaches while significantly improving sustainable agility and performance at scale.



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