From: Ellen Gottesdiener
To: ellen@ebgconsulting.com;
Subject: [Success with Requirements]: Collaboration Works!; Power Up Your Agile Planning & Analysis; Sue"s Short, To-the-Point Requirements Wisdom; Call for Feedback-Agile Extension to BABoK®; and more
Date: Tuesday, December 06, 2011 10:52:51 AM

---

ebg CONSULTING Ellen Gottesdiener, Publisher

Experts helping you deliver high-value products your customers want and need

ISSN: 1936-3583
Forward to a friend

In This Issue

- Welcome to our Newsletter!
- Collaboration Works!
- Power Up Your Agile Planning & Analysis
- Sue Shares Short, To-the-Point Requirements Wisdom
- Call for Feedback on Agile Extension to the IIBA *BABoK®* Guide
- Requirements Training at Your Own Pace
- Archived Issues

Success with Requirements™

Volume 5: Number 5: 2011

Hi, ellen -

It's been a busy fall and early winter for EBG. We've been working with several new agile clients, writing **our new book**, speaking at far-flung conferences and events, and doing occasional blogging and tweeting.

I chaired two conference events this fall: the two-day Business Analysis and Requirements Workshop (at Better Software/Agile Development Practices, where I also keynoted) and the Agile Summit (at Project World/World Congress for Business Analysts). I also spoke at Agile New England and Agile NYC, presented webinars on agile analysis topics, and was thrilled to attend and present a topic at the Building Business Capability Conference along with Mary Gorman. Mary presented the keynote at IIBA New Zealand Development Day and at two other NZ locations.

Thanks to my wonderful, skilled colleagues for their collaboration at the fall conference events I chaired: Jennifer Brownson, Greg Cohen, Linda Cook, Pamela Johnson, Debra Lavell, and Kent McDonald.

These conference events, and my role as presenter and learner at colleagues' sessions, reminded me of these essentials for success:

- **Holding contrasting concepts and contexts** and discovering the **outside-in** customer view while architecting for product needs **inside-out**.
- Balancing **functional and nonfunctional requirements** to **holistically** understand product needs.
- **Planning and preparing Now-View product needs** with clarity and focus while concurrently aligning requirements with the **strategy, vision, and value articulated in the Big-View** and Pre-View.

For more tips, check out the resources and news below.

For longtime readers, thanks for your continued questions, ideas, and critiques in 2011. For new readers, welcome aboard! For everyone, **warm wishes for a pleasant, healthy holiday**

season. I look forward to continued learning and sharing in 2012!

Warm regards,

~ ellen

Ellen Gottesdiener,
President and Principal Consultant
EBG Consulting, Inc.
http://www.ebgconsulting.com
twitter: www.twitter.com/ellengott

In this issue:

- Collaboration Works!
- Power Up Your Agile Planning & Analysis
- Sue Shares Short, To-the-Point Requirements Wisdom
- Call for Feedback on Agile Extension to the IIBA *BABoK*® Guide
- Requirements Training at Your Own Pace
- Archived Issues

Collaboration Works!

Collaboration is not something that comes naturally to all teams. **It needs to be engineered.**

I first wrote in depth about this in my first book, *Requirements by Collaboration*. (This book, by the way, recently **received a five-star review by Katie Metcalfe**. Katie also discusses key learnings and "sticky factors." Find out why she called it a "pivotal read").

Recently I had the pleasure of recording a podcast with Yaaqub (Yamo) Mohamed of The BACoach on **ingredients for effective workshops**. To see and hear these essentials, start here.

To learn more about my personal learning journey - and what led me to write my collaboration book - visit my blog post (this too was recorded by Yamo ;-)). Consider **your own personal learning journey** - how is it going?

Power Up Your Agile Planning & Analysis

In October, before my presentation at Agile NYC, Joe Krebs (Agile NYC founder) conducted a podcast interview with me. I discussed **how product partners collaborate** to discover, plan, and prepare product needs (requirements), **continually**.

Listen to learn more about the practices Mary Gorman and I are writing about in our **in-progress book**.

Sue Shares Short, To-the-Point Requirements Wisdom

Need to define your software security requirements? Want tools and techniques for tracking changing requirements? Want to know how to map requirements to test cases?

EBG requirements expert **Sue Burk** **has been sharing her wisdom** on these and other tough requirements topics with **TechTarget** readers for more than a year.

We've recently posted fourteen (!) of Sue's short, to the point "Ask The Expert" posts on our publications page. Seek and find **useful wisdom** from Sue at this spot.

Call for Feedback on Agile Extension to the IIBA® *BABoK*® Guide

Have you heard? The agile extension of the BABoK® (IIBA Business Analysis Body of Knowledge®) is being **updated**. The all-volunteer team (including me) would love to get your feedback on the extension.

This updated version was kick-started at an intense working weekend in August, **cosponsored by the IIBA and the Agile Alliance**. Before this, only an introduction had been released. Knowing the team is composed of folks with a **wide range of experiences and perspectives**, I made the case for having a neutral facilitator guide our work. In retrospecting the event, we all agreed that having a facilitator was extremely valuable.

All weekend we worked in **small subteams** on different portions of the document, rotating to different techniques for brief review rounds as time permitted. Afterward, the document was lightly edited and then released in early November.

I'm now **reading the agile extension front to back** (well, actually I started with the Glossary). I am reading from **the point of view of the primary persona** we drafted in August ("Bob the BA" transitioning to agile) as well as from my own perspective as an agile practitioner and coach.

Reading with fresh eyes, I find many improvement "opportunities." It is a first cut of a more complete extension and **needs customer feedback - yours!**

So do yourself, the agile community and the business anlaysis community a favor and **make your voice heard** in this crucial industry standard. Please read it and submit your feedback before January 31, here.

Stay tuned. In a future blog post, I'll share my own feedback.

Requirements Training at Your Own Pace

Are you working to **obtain your CBAP© or CCBA™**? Are you **transitioning to business analysis or seeking knowledge and assets to enhance your work**? Then EBG's eLearning is for you.

Content-rich, engaging, and practical, EBG Consulting's 8-course curriculum earns you **24 PDs** (Professional Development hours) or **24 CDUs** (Continuing Development Units) with the IIBA. Because this training is aligned to the PMBoK®, it also qualifies for PDUs with the PMI.

Use code **FRSWR04** to receive your 10% discount as a reader of *Success with Requirements*. Learn more in this video tour.

Archive Issues

Visit our archives to read earlier *Success with Requirements* issues. Sample topics include tips for business analysis in agile development, tips for data-centric projects, our new acceptance testing training, and more.

Publication & Reprint Information

I invite you to reprint material from *Success with Requirements* in other electronic or print publica-tions provided 1) the following copyright notice is used, "Written and edited by Ellen Gottesdiener, copyright EBG Consulting, Inc., [year]. All rights reserved." and 2) a link to http://www.ebgconsulting.com is included in the credits.

Please send us copy of the publication that includes our reprint, along with a cover note referencing that it is a reprint.

Success with Requirements is a trademark of EBG Consulting, Inc.

Privacy & Subscription

This newsletter is sent only to confirmed "double opt-in" subscribers who have signed up at http://www.ebgconsulting.com.

EBG Consulting, Inc. does not sell, rent, or loan subscriber information to any third party.

Forward to a Colleague ··> | Manage Your Subscription ··>

Copyright 2011 ebgconsulting.com

This message was sent to ellen@ebgconsulting.com from:

EBG Consulting | 419 Hudson Road | Sudbury, MA 01776

Email Marketing by iContact try it free

Manage Your Subscription | **Forward To a Friend**

View this message in the iContact Community: View message Comment on this message Receive as RSS

Share this message with others: del.icio.us Digg reddit Facebook StumbleUpon