



## Release Notes Applied SAFe® 4.0

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As of March, 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

**NOTE:**

Applied SAFe® 4.0 builds on SAFe® 4.0 and will be kept in sync with the upcoming versions. Demonstrations can be scheduled upon request.



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## Content

1	Overview .....	3
1.1	Main Changes .....	3
1.2	End-User Impact .....	4
1.3	Versioning Details .....	4
2	Applied SAFe Release Details .....	5
2.1	Enterprise Level .....	5
2.2	Portfolio Level .....	6
2.3	Value Stream Level .....	7
2.4	Program Level .....	8
2.5	Team Level .....	9
3	New or Updated Documents .....	9
4	Appendix .....	10
4.1	Document History .....	10

## 1 Overview

### 1.1 Main Changes

Brief overview of achievements and improvements:

- SAFe 4.0 main features:
  - Foundation – Guidance for Lean-Agile Leaders, Communities of Practice, Core Values, Lean-Agile Mindset, SAFe Principles and Implementation
  - Portfolio – Guidance for strategy formulation and portfolio communication, organizing and funding Value Streams, managing the flow of larger initiatives, governance and cross Value Stream coordination
  - Value Stream – For those building the world’s largest software and systems, SAFe includes Solution Intent, Solution Management, Engineering and Architecture, Agile Customer and Supplier relationships, and ART Coordination
  - Program – Describes Agile Release Trains, teams of Agile Teams that build solution Capabilities and subsystems. ARTs align teams to a common mission, provide architectural and UX governance, facilitate flow, and provide objective evidence of progress and fitness for purpose
  - Team – Introduction of Kanban and flow. SAFe teams can apply Scrum, Kanban or a hybrid of their choosing
- Applied SAFe key concepts for effective SAFe 4.0 application:
  - New Value Stream workspace that can be tailored and instantiated individually for 4-Level SAFe
  - Enhanced tailoring on all Applied SAFe levels to easily tailor to specific needs of the individual instances (Enterprise, Portfolio, Value Stream, Program & Team)
  - Instantiation of 3-Level or 4-Level SAFe configurations and combinations of both (e.g. Program aligns 4-Level SAFe with Value Stream and 3-Level SAFe with Portfolio)
  - SAFe Foundations are integrated on all 5 Applied SAFe levels with easy access over the big picture page for each level
  - Enterprise level integrates comprehensively the strategic alignment for the relevant SAFe elements (e.g. Strategic Management, Governance, Acquisition, Organizational Learning, Organizational Process Training)
  - Practice library extended with new methods like MBSE, Set-based Design as well as the Economic Framework and revised Built-in Quality
  - Portfolio level provides several coordination activities for complex system of system development (e.g. Central Release Management, Multiple Solution Alignment, Deployment Coordination, Customer Roadshows)
  - Integrated Enterprise Kanban flow from Portfolio (Epics) via Value Stream (Epics, Capabilities) and Program (Epics, Feature) to Team (Story). Epic Kanban part on Program and Value Stream can be tailored away, all levels are supported with their specific Kanban Board
  - Program and Value Stream level are well aligned regarding Solution and Release Management, Roadmaps, Milestones, Visions including frequent Increment integration and easy access via the spanning palette on the big picture
  - Teams can choose between ScrumXP and Kanban or a hybrid of both including the needed metrics and tools

- All levels provide a comprehensive set of metrics and all process elements are updated to comply with the actual SAFe 4.0 framework release
- All work product models are adjusted and enhanced to reflect the new elements of SAFe 4.0
- All levels provide the latest SAFe 4.0.3 trainings and videos with a quick overview and link to the original SAI training site
- All SAFe templates are upgraded to the latest SAFe 4.0.3 PI Toolkit
- Upgraded documentation:
  - Applied SAFe 4.0 Compliance Report to prove 100% implementation regarding SAFe 4.0 as a Reference Model
  - Applied SAFe 4.0 Model Report
  - Applied SAFe Process Modeling Guideline
  - Applied SAFe 4.0 Tailoring Mindmap
  - Applied SAFe Process Element Metrics that report upgrade metrics between Applied SAFe 3.5 and 4.0

## 1.2 End-User Impact

Summary of major impact for the following roles:

- SPCs, Leaders, Managers, Change and Process Coaches:
  - SAFe Foundations, new SAFe 4.0.3 trainings and videos
- PPM, VSE, Process Coaches:
  - New Value Stream level, funding of the value stream, CapEx & OpEx
- PPM, VSE, Solution Architect/Engineer and Solution Manager, RTE, System Architect/Engineer and Product Manager, DevOps, Release Manager, Process Coaches:
  - ART and Value Stream coordination, solution vision, context and intent, enterprise Kanban flow, shared responsibilities for release management, DevOps, Roadmapping and metric reports
- Quality Manager, PPM, VSE, RTE, Scrum Master (Bootstrap Roles):
  - New instantiation approaches for 4- and 3-Level SAFe including aligned tailoring for the Applied SAFe workspaces
- Process Engineer:
  - Updated and enhanced work product model inclusive model report

## 1.3 Versioning Details

Applied SAFe	4.0.0
Release Type	Major (New Release)
SAFe	4.0 (Enterprise SAFe 4.0.0)
SAFe Courseware	4.0.3
Stages	6.4.2.2 (GA)

## 2 Applied SAFe Release Details

### 2.1 Enterprise Level

Process Type	Description	Change Type
Process	Enhanced Strategic Management and Governance to reflect the Enterprise abstract of SAFe 4.0	Update
Process	Integrated Supplier abstract into Acquisition	Update
Process	Integrated Communities of Practice (CoP) into Organizational Learning	Update
Process	Integrated Implementing 1-2-3 abstract into Organizational Process Training	Update
Work Product	Revised Requirements and Test Management work products to reflect the Enablers and new Value Stream level element Capability	Update
Work Product	The different SAFe Milestone types for use in all relevant Applied SAFe levels and phase overviews	New
Practice	Model-Based Systems Engineering (MBSE) practice	New
Practice	Set-Based Design practice	New
Practice	Economic Framework practice	New
Practice	Revised Agile Architecture and Built-In Quality practices	Update
Practice	Agile Contracting practice	New
Practice	Scrum of Scrum Meeting, ScrumXP and Team Kanban practices for reuse in all levels if appropriate	New
Metric	Revised Metric overview	Update
Training	Update to the new SAFe 4.0.3 trainings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leading SAFe 4.0</li> <li>Implementing SAFe 4.0 with SPC Certification</li> <li>What's new in SAFe 4.0 ILT</li> <li>SAFe 4.0 for Teams</li> <li>SAFe 4.0 Scrum Master Orientation</li> <li>SAFe 4.0 Product Owner Orientation</li> </ul>	Update
Training	SAFe videos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAFe Foundations 4.0.3 with Dean Leffingwell (Video), including the revised presentations "SAFe Foundations" and "SAFe in 8 Pictures"</li> <li>What's New in SAFe 4.0 with Dean Leffingwell and the Framework Team (Video)</li> </ul>	Update

Process Type	Description	Change Type
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introducing SAFe 4.0 and the SPC4 Certification</li> </ul>	
Training	Applied SAFe videos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applied SAFe Implementation and its mechanics (Video)</li> <li>Applied SAFe Learning Nugget on Value Stream and Budgeting on Portfolio (Video)</li> <li>Applied SAFe Learning Nugget: Solution work products on Value Stream Level (Video)</li> </ul>	New
Resource	Updated all available SAFe templates to 4.0.3	Update
Resource	Tailoring for 3- and 4-Level SAFe, refined tailoring implementation	Update
Reference Model	Updated assignments to SAFe 4.0 reference model	Update

## 2.2 Portfolio Level

Process Type	Description	Change Type
Process	Revised content for Value Stream funding and ART launching	Update
Process	Revised content for Value Stream and Program Coordination and Integration (e.g. Central Release Management, Multiple Solution Alignment, Deployment Coordination, Customer Roadshows)	Update
Work Product	Enabler Epic replaces former Architectural Epic	Update
Role	Added tailorable coordination roles like e.g. Solution Portfolio Management, DevOps, Release Management, System Team	New
Practice	Revised practice for Capitalization to reflect the new CapEx and OpEx guidelines	Update
Metric	Revised Portfolio Metrics	Update
Tools	Portfolio Kanban Board	New
Resource	Refined tailoring implementation and especially the tailoring of the coordination activities, roles and work products	Update
Reference Model	Updated assignments to SAFe 4.0 reference model	Update

## 2.3 Value Stream Level

Process Type	Description	Change Type
Process	Vision and Roadmap Maintenance	New
Process	Value Stream Backlog Refinement	New
Process	PI Planning (includes Pre- and Post-PI Planning)	New
Process	Solution Development	New
Process	Inspect & Adapt	New
Process	Deployment Pipeline	New
Process	Architectural Runway Building (tailorable and linked from Program)	New
Process	Release Management, copied from Applied SAFe 3.5 Program, revised, is now in responsibility of the Value Stream Level and linked to the Program Level	Update
Process	Risk Management, linked from Program	New
Process	Product Management (ISPMA), linked from Program	New
Process	Value Stream Kanban (Capability Kanban and tailorable Epic Kanban)	New
Process	Supplier Management, linked from Acquisition (Enterprise)	New
Process	Release Train Building and Maintenance, linked from Portfolio	New
Work Product	New Value Stream work product model for all process areas including Solution Development (e.g. Solution Context, Solution Intent), Value Stream Backlog Management, Release Management, Milestones, Roadmap, Capabilities and Enablers	New
Work Product	Release and Solution Increment including Definition of Done	New
Role	User management including bootstrap role for Value Stream Engineer	New
Role	Solution Architect/Engineer, Solution Manager, DevOps, Release Management, Customer	New
Practice	New practices like Economic Framework, MBSE and Set-Based Design linked from Enterprise	New

Process Type	Description	Change Type
Metric	Value Stream Metrics including linked Epic metrics from Portfolio that can be tailored away if no Epic Kanban is used	New
Tools	Value Stream Kanban Board, Value Stream PI Planning Board	New
Resource	Tailoring for portfolio and program alignment regarding release management, DevOps and other coordination activities	New
Reference Model	Assignments to SAFe 4.0 reference model	New

## 2.4 Program Level

Process Type	Description	Change Type
Process	Program Kanban (Feature Kanban and tailorable Epic Kanban)	New
Process	Revised content for all existing processes to reflect main changes like Solution/Program Vision, PI Planning, ART & PO Sync, Release Mgmt, Milestones, Roadmapping	Update
Process	Release Management, linked from the Value Stream Level and tailorable for 3- respective 4-Level SAFe	Update
Work Product	Linked elements like Solution, Solution Vision, Roadmap, Milestone for 3-Level SAFe (tailorable)	New
Work Product	Release and Solution Increment including Definition of Done for 3-Level SAFe (tailorable)	New
Work Product	System Increment including Definition of Done	New
Work Product	Updated Architectural Features to Enabler Features including new Enabler Epics	Update
Role	Customer, Release Manager for 3-Level SAFe (tailorable)	New
Role	Epic Owner in case an Epic Kanban is used (tailorable)	New
Practice	Updated Release on Demand to Release any Time	Update
Practice	Balancing Integration Effort and Feedback practice	New
Metric	Revised Program Metrics including linked Epic metrics from Portfolio that can be tailored away if no Epic Kanban is used	Update
Tools	Program Kanban Board, Program Board for PI Planning	New



Process Type	Description	Change Type
Resource	Refined tailoring implementation to reflect 3- and 4-Level SAFe impacts	Update
Reference Model	Updated assignments to SAFe 4.0 reference model	Update

## 2.5 Team Level

Process Type	Description	Change Type
Process	Iteration Planning and Execution reflects Scrum, Kanban or hybrid method approach (tailorable)	Update
Work Product	Revised abstract for Iteration Goals and Team PI Objectives aligned with PI Planning	Update
Work Product	Team Increment including Definition of Done	New
Practice	Introduction of Kanban and flow. SAFe teams can apply Scrum, Kanban or a hybrid of their choosing	New
Metric	Revised Team Metrics incl. Cumulative Flow Diagram	Update
Tools	Team Kanban Board with Classes of Service (tailorable)	New
Resource	Refined tailoring implementation, team can choose between Scrum, Kanban or hybrid method	Update
Reference Model	Updated assignments to SAFe 4.0 reference model	Update

## 3 New or Updated Documents

Name	Version	Description
Applied SAFe Model Report	4.0	Overview of all work product diagrams
Release Notes	4.0	Completely restructured and revised release notes
Applied SAFe Process Modelling Guideline	1.3	Extended and revised according to latest Applied SAFe process engineering practices
Applied SAFe 4.0 Compliance Report	4.0	Documentation of 100% implementation regarding SAFe 4.0 as a Reference Model
Applied SAFe 4.0 Tailoring Mindmap	4.0	Tailoring Mindmap for all levels giving an overview of the tailoring structure
Applied SAFe Process Element Metrics	4.0	Applied SAFe Process Element Metrics that report upgrade metrics between Applied SAFe 3.5 and 4.0

## 4 Appendix

### 4.1 Document History

Version	Date	Author, Org. Unit	Status	Comment / Description of Change
0.1	02-MAR-2016	Stefan Küffer	Draft	Initial version
0.2	11-MAR-2016	Stefan Küffer	Review	Ready for Review, added new SAFe 4.0.3 trainings
1.0	15.MAR-2016	Stefan Küffer	Final	Approved with no adjustments