

Profile

10+ years of experience in the digital world, I am an industry 4.0 transformation specialist passionate about the drivers of digital disruption from both customer and organization perspectives. Cultivated my ability to manage digital projects and lead international teams with vast exposure in UAE and Malaysia. Seeking career advancement as Agile and Digital Solutions Consultant for broader value and impact reach with mutual gains.

Key Achievements

- ✓ Managed technology projects over a multi million-ringgit delivery portfolio and high profile customers. Rescued projects from deviating course by application of transparency and collaborative stakeholder engagement.
- ✓ Transformed 20 teams across different organizations and cultures by enabling self-organization, agile mindset and craftsman culture in software development.
- ✓ Contributed as a technology leader in Smart City digital transformation in terms of ICT and Mobile applications with Smart Dubai Government.
- ✓ Helped enterprises with tailored workflows, lean operations and transparency dashboards to streamline software delivery operations and metrics resulting in up to 40% increase in velocity and performance efficiency.

Work Experience

Infinitium Group of Companies

September 2020 – Present

Digital Transformation Manager

- Accelerating the strategic digital transformation program and 5 legacy modernization initiatives for a regional pioneer offering digital payment gateway, authentication, security and other services for acquirers and merchants.
- Overhauled large-scale Agile transformation with rapidly changing constraints, influenced organization restructuring of 160 people for faster time to market. Coaching multiple teams on Scrum and DevOps mindset.
- Architected and implemented DevOps infrastructure from the ground up (Jenkins, Nexus, Ansible, Sonarqube, Gitlab, OWASP ZAP etc.) that increased deployment frequency by 70% and improved overall ability to innovate.
- Spearheading the execution of an innovative enterprise project with Microservices architecture, Graph databases, Machine learning, AWS Cloud. Architecting process workflows, automations and dashboards in Jira.

Aleph-Labs

December 2019 - April 2020

Head of Delivery

- Achieved timely, cost and quality focused deliveries with efficient resource management by applying Scrum on 80+ team size across multiple projects on technologies like Java, React, Angular, NodeJS, MongoDB etc.
- Headed performance management and capability building, analyzed gaps, and evaluated improvements with Scrum, Kanban & Lean solutioning. Performed agile maturity assessments to baseline industry practices.
- Guided technical engineering best practices e.g., Test Driven Development (TDD), DevOps, Continuous Integrations and Delivery (CI/CD) practices etc. to uplift resource capability and reduce 30% defect rate.
- Transformed organization-wide Agile project management practices by mentoring 6 teams and project managers on Agile concepts and practices. Optimized value streams by leveraging workflows and boards in Jira.

Smart Dubai Government

September 2014– November 2019

Squad Lead & Agile Coach - Digital Tribe

- Supervised digital transformation engagement with one of the leading management consultancies as counterpart Agile Coach from Smart Dubai for agility implementation using Spotify model across a tribe of 60 members.
- Directed Digital Squad with 12 cross-functional and cross-cultural members to deliver strategic business requirements and proof of concepts for innovation using iOS, Android, Java Microservices, Appian BPM etc.
- Formulated stable velocity measurement metrics achieving up to 40% improved value delivery with agile thought processes in technical decisions facilitating component driven development.
- Lead the development of Dubai Now Mobile App, a comprehensive hub to interact with 55+ government entities within a single app in line with Dubai Paperless Strategy.
- Conceptualized and implemented automation tools that resulted in 20% faster application development time and standardization of software development practices, including automated code generation for repetitive tasks.

Consulting & Innovation Experience

Freelance Consulting

May 2020 – Present

Agile Coach Consultant

- Providing training workshops and career mentorship to project managers and business analysts on Agile Delivery techniques and frameworks in collaboration with AceAim Australia. (aceaim.com.au/mastering-agile)
- Advising a block-chain startup on agile processes and Jira workflows, mentored team serving a Fortune 500 client for high performance engineering culture, Devops, Agile values and principles.
- Advising an eCommerce agency on Agile processes, provided necessary training and facilitated product delivery using Scrum practices and metrics for a logistics megacorp in the Middle East.
- Coached 10 start-up teams on agile product management and value focus using Jira and design thinking for a renowned incubator based in the Middle East.
- Contributed in Agile research focus groups to facilitate bridging the gap between academia and industry practices, particularly in Agile and Scrum implementations and Testing structure in Agile.

Json4Swift.com / Json2Kotlin.com

September 2015– Present

Founder / Product Owner

- Launched products to make working with JSON easier and manageable, saving hours of development time and cost, and reducing errors for the benefit of both developers and businesses. 50K+ user base worldwide. (github.com/search?q=syedabsar&type=code) actively used by open source community both iOS and Android.

Manipal Academy of Higher Education

February 2018–November 2019

Adjunct Faculty

- Creating a unique and practical learning experience, with real time problem solving, case studies, scenario simulation and embedded certifications like Six Sigma to enhance a student's thought process.
- Applying agile practices into academics with transparency, inspection and adaptation as core values of the classroom system. Appreciated by students as an innovative approach to university teaching.

🏆 Winner - Smart App Innovation Awards 2016 Professional Track Runner Up (Emirates Islamic Bank).

Software Development Experience

Solutions 4 Mobility / Emirates NBD

April 2013 - August 2014

Senior Mobile Application Developer

- Directed a team of 15 technologists on core banking project activities for personal and corporate (smart business) applications for Emirates NBD Bank on iOS, Android and back-end technologies.
- Strengthened human resource efforts by interviewing and evaluating candidates based on industry-wide benchmarks with 30% intake of top talent.

iSolutions LLC, Abu Dhabi

May 2012 - March 2013

Lead Software Developer

- Orchestrated and engineered in-house and outsourced projects with a team of 15 technologists including analysts, designers, developers, QA, admins etc. (ASP.Net, Wordpress, iOS, Android etc.)

Influx Technologies, Bahrain.

August 2011 - May 2012

Programmer

- Deployed at 6-Pence International Group (Staffing, Recruiting and Outsourcing Solutions, Debt Collection Agency, Telecom Franchises Management) to support software development operations from requirements analysis to development, testing and deployment of solutions across all domains. (VB6, VB.Net, MSSQL etc.)

Next Generation Innovations, Pakistan.

August 2010 - July 2011

Applications Engineer

- Worked on full life-cycle development of business engineering, entertainment and social networking applications on the iPhone and iPad Platforms from conceptual design to deployment systems integration. I was part of the core team and helped in further mobile team recruitment for expansion.

PixSense Pvt Ltd, Pakistan.

Jan 2009 - Sept 2009

Prototypes Intern (Mobile)

- Developed several prototypes concerned with mobile software, technology research, web portal, wap sites etc using J2ME (Image Processing, HTTP Communication, Mobile Record Stores, Memory management etc).

Notable Projects

DubaiNow Mobile App: Dubai Now was designed with active customer engagement at DSG's Customer Experience (CX) Lab. It is a very comprehensive hub for the public to communicate and interact with Dubai government entities, considering that it combines multiple government entity services under one app.

Smart Dubai Devops Implementation: Migrated SVN and VSS repositories to Git, Conducted Devops Training, Clean Coding Best Practices, Unit Testing etc. Git, Branching Practices, Branch Strategy for Automation, Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery, Code Quality in Automated Pipeline, Security in Automated Pipeline, Artefact Management in Automated Pipeline, Infrastructure Automation as Code, Containerization etc.

Dubai Happiness Meter: The Happiness Meter is one of Dubai's first strategic 'smart city' initiatives. The world's first, city-wide, live sentiment capture engine, the meter builds on the directive of UAE Prime Minister Mohammed Bin Rashid to 'make Dubai the happiest city on Earth.'

Emirates NBD Mobile Banking: SmartBusiness is a mobile app offered by Emirates NBD Group which facilitates Businesses, Corporate & Institutional Clients to perform banking transactions at their convenience.

Certifications



- ICAgile Certified Agile Coach (ICP-ACC)
- Professional Scrum Master (PSM-I) by Scrum.org
- Professional Agile Leadership - Evidence Based Management (PAL-EBM) by Scrum.org
- Software Product Management Specialization by University of Alberta via Coursera.
- AWS Accredited Partner Certified: Tech/Business, Cloud Economics & Well Architected Best Practices.
- Digital Transformation Executive Certificates by Asia Business School, Boston Consulting Group (BCG), GKK Consultants and CCSD Council.
- Software Architecture Principles & Practices by Software Engineering Institute.
- User Experience for Project Managers (I and II) by Telono & UXAlliance.
- Certified Business Analysis Professional Bootcamp and DevOps Bootcamp by Business Beam.
- Managing the Company of the Future by London Business School via Coursera.
- PMI-ACP (Agile Certified Practitioner) by LEORON Professional Development Institute.
- Certified Technology Specialist by Microsoft. (SQL Server Database Development & HTML5)

Education

Masters Degree, Major in Project Management
SZABIST - Academic City, Dubai. (2013–2015)

Bachelor's Degree, Major in Software Engineering
University of Karachi - Pakistan. (2007 - 2010)

Community Contribution / Media Appearance

Journey from Scrum Master to Agile Coach - Agile Network India
<https://youtu.be/LUXwRxXLtf4>

Interview with Agile Delivery Specialist - 5amMester Scrum
<https://youtu.be/-12mRB8iLJ0>

Digital Tribe - Smart Dubai Public Sector Agile Initiative
<https://youtu.be/Nq5TTvkbpUQ>

Skills

Leadership, Scrum, Sprint Planning, Sprint Burndown, Sprint Retrospective, Backlog Refinement, Mobile Application Development, Coaching, Jira, Confluence, Kanban, Bitbucket, Git, iOS, Swift, Kotlin, Java, Software Architecture. Agile Project Management, Continuous Integration, Jenkins, Bamboo, REST APIs, CX.

Testimonial

“Any team would be lucky to have Absar within it. His grasp of Agile methodologies mixed with his ability to motivate, mentor and improve teams has been a key asset for our project deliveries. I've always enjoyed chatting with him and planning our next steps, seeking ways to constantly improve, and building a team for the future.”

- Gaël Oliveres (Managing Director - Aleph Labs)