Excella

Liftoff Second Edition
Start and Sustain Successful Agile Teams
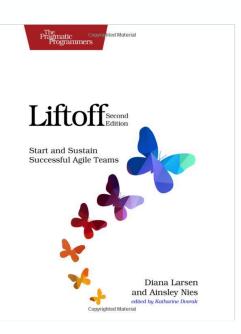Diana Larsen and Ainsley Nies
edited by Katharine Dvorak

"At the beginning of a team-based effort, often there's a void, an inertia. Teams need an initial boost – a liftoff – to generate a force that overrides the inertia resulting from a lack of common purpose, unclear communications channels, undefined working relationships, and other areas of ambiguity."

What does it look like?

A scope-boxed endeavor
that is one part team chartering,
one part Sprint 0,
and one part futurespective.

It attempts to answer the question:
"What does a team need to know to ensure it is successful?"

Team Launch

Purpose

Project / Product Vision	
Backlog of Work	
Project / Product Goals	
Metrics: Quality, Value, Collab + Delivery	

Alignment

Effective Facilitation	Roles and Responsibilities
Agile Principles and Team Values	Skills inventory
Team Working Agreements	Definition of Ready / Done (DoR, DoD)
Team Ceremonies / Events	Development / Testing Workflow
How Do We Celebrate?	

Context

Business Context	Business Owner Relationship
Understanding Stakeholders	Product Users
Notional Architecture	Team Agile Knowledge
Target Environments	Delivery Risks
Review of Applicable Policies	

These elements help the team understand what it's trying to **accomplish**, reinforcing its **identity** and focusing it on achieving **common goals**.

These elements ensure a **common understanding** of how the team plans to **work together**.

These elements help the team understand their client, any other groups or efforts that are active in its environment and the team's relationships to them.