

Profile

I am a **Senior Agile Coach** and certified SAFe® Practice Consultant (SPC 6), as well as SAFe® RTE 6.0 with over 20 years of experience in coaching, training and governance (methodologies, processes and models). My deep interest in Lean-Agile, Scrum and change management has led me to specialize in coaching, change management and agile transformation in complex organizations. In addition, I am certified SAFe Remote Trainer®, Certified Scrum Master (Scrum Alliance®), PMP® and used to be an Authorized Training Partner, ATP (for PMI®).

My latest ventures has been with the Central Bank of Sweden (Riksbanken), Ikea and Atlas Copco.

My specialities: A "tell-it-like-it-is" attitude coupled with friendliness and my genuine wish for people to thrive and reach their potential.



Industry Expertise

Financial Services, Educational Services, Manufacturing, Transport, Retail

Qualifications

Trainer, Mentor, Agile Coach

Agile Transformation Lead

SAFe SPC® & RTE®

Scrum Master CSM®

PMP®

Tools & software

Azure DevOps, Word Press, Office, Jira, Confluence, Trello, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Photoshop / LightRoom / InDesign

Languages

Professional: Swedish, English, German

Basic knowledge: Spanish, French, some Tibetan



Denise Vestin

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Experience

CGI Financial Services (fall of 2021 – present)

Sr Agile Coach and RTE – *Riksbanken*

Aug 2022-present

Introducing developmental value streams at the Centrall Bank of Sweden, enabling Agile Release Trains. Training, ad-hoc work shop facilitations, curricula development and coaching product management, team coaches (Scrum Masters), certifying RTEs and product owners and facilitating PI events (big room planning) as well as other ceremonies. Also involved in coaching business agility on C-level and above, helping transform and synchronize teams and methods of working. Introducing WSJF (weighted shortest job first) at C-level. Applied changes in Azure Project set-ups to fit organisation, introducing standard ways of defining Epics, Features etc. Coaching top-down and bottom-up.

Agile Coach – *Inter Ikea Marketing and Communication*

spring 2022-summer 2022

Sr agile coach role – in charge of developing three teams to evolve from fairly rudimentary agile cognition to being able to follow both Scrum and Kanban oriented approaches. Here, a method called Dual Track was already decided on, and in Denise's case it also entailed working closely with "Jeff Gothelf"-inspired UX-researchers and -designers. OKR-orientation and follow-up. Practical guidance to enable value-based deliveries.

Agile Coach – *Atlas Copco*

fall 2021- spring 2022

Led a small team to an improved cohesiveness, product-orientation. Clarified "agile" and put theories to practice.

Agile Transformation Lead/Business Analyst/Agile Coach/trainer

fall 2021- spring 2022

- Sr Instructor: SAFe courses: Leading SAFe, SAFe Scrum Master, SAFe Product Owner/Manager.
- Developer of tailored agile courses and instructions.
- Inspirational agile courseware and lectures for Korn Ferry – as well as regular online trainings with corporations in South America as well as the US. Clients in the defense, packaging and vehicle industries.
- Developer of strategies, bids and framework-technical feasibility discussions.

ProgressLEAD Scandinavian Management AB/Jambiz Group

2018 to 2021

Agile Transformation Lead/Business Analyst/Agile Coach/trainer

Established, led and supported agile transformations from portfolio level to working groups and in the reversed order. Coached internally and externally. Responsible for the company's LearningLEAD initiative, which enables both consultants and customers to become certified Agilists and/or PMP® certified project managers. Coached and trained in SAFe® and PMI® subjects externally and internally as well as in facilitation and workshop management.

Part of the management team and its initiatives around innovation and portfolio management, which meant methodology immersion, team building, communication and presentation.

Hired as sr. instructor "Leading SAFe®", "SAFe® Product Owner/Manager", "SAFe Scrum Master®" etc. SAFe® courses for Jambiz Group and as a training consultant for ReadyNex.

Hired by the American educational companies International Institute of Learning, IIL (NYC) and KornFerry (Los Angeles / Boston) for knowledge-specific areas, such as risk management, facilitation, and most things related to classic project management as well as Lean-Agile initiatives.

Has on several occasions coached Scrum Masters towards the RTE role in both SAFe® and in less formalized contexts.

SAAB Defense and Security

2006 to 2023

Recurring sr. instructor

Education, coaching and mentorship in the 10 different knowledge areas of traditional project and program management (ISO / PMBOK®), such as risk management, cost and scheduling as well as governance for middle managers and steering group members. Held workshops related to agility and functional, hierarchical work. Recurring visits to SAAB 4-10 times a year onsite and online.

Business Analyst/hybrid agile/traditional

Helped develop the role of the business analyst (BA), so that current and future BAs become solution-diagnostic at the same time as they clearly define both functional and non-functional requirements regardless of methodology. Due to the fact that the company works in hybrid mode (both agile and traditional), the relationship between traditional requirements management and epics - features - user stories was emphasized.

Qatar Telecom, Qatar Foundation, Al Jazeera etc.

2002 to 2015

Sr. instructor, Agile coach/traditional and hybrid, business analyst

Trained, developed and coached in project management, business analysis and portfolio management (corporate and strategic) for a number of companies in the Middle East, mainly in Qatar but also in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. Conducted a number of workshops on cost accounting methods for projects and programs as well as risk workshops in these countries as well as in Lebanon and Morocco. During those years, she travelled to the Middle East at least once a month for over 12 years. Hence, cultural adaptations were noted and internalized.

Denizen of Sweden (own company)

1999 to 2018

Educator, speaker, agile transformation, sr. product/service strategist, coaching/mentorship

Founded Denizen of Sweden, as an independent consultant, instructor and coach in traditional project & program management and Business Analysis subjects. In 2008, together with a team from George Washington University, Denise created an agile education program which was used for several years, including at HSBC in England and Switzerland.

Lectured and coached for companies such as:

Volvo Cars (Sweden), Toyota (Belgium), Spotify (Sweden), Microsoft (France, Germany), Hewlett-Packard (Europa), Zürich (Switzerland), Ford (UK), Barclays Capital (UK), HSBC (UK, Switzerland), Dupont (Spain, Switzerland), Aventis (Germany), InterIKEA (Athens, Greece + Delft, Netherlands), AP Möller Maersk (Denmark, Spain, Morocco), Motorola (China), British Petroleum (UK), MI5 (UK), GE Money Bank (UK and Eastern Europe), Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (UAE), Qtel/Ooredoo (Qatar), Bank Muscat (Oman), Swiss Re (Switzerland), SAAB Defense (Sweden), Maersk Oil (Denmark, Kazakhstan, Qatar), Chengiz-Chevroil (Kazakhstan).

- A selection of assignments in coaching / strategy / mentorship that Denise performed:
 - Responsible for adjusting and validating the governance model for Maersk Oil together with their PMO and Boston Consulting Group (2011)
 - Product ownership for an investment within ICA Maxi (2002-2003)
 - Cost and schedule management for Alecta (2006-2008), including financial follow-up of 12 projects in a program that ran for 7 years
 - Development / training of agile requirements for BAs, for Folksam (2018)
 - Agile Product Ownership and strategy development for InterIKEA (Athens, The Hague, Helsingborg, 2016-2017)
 - Creation of a "war room" - a simulation for Maersk Oil Trainees, and a 2-day workshop in risk management for oil engineers at Maersk Oil in Aberdeen and Copenhagen, (2017-2018)

Tieto

1999 to 2000

IT Project Manager

Program Manager for a team of 42 developers and testers, building an Object-Oriented system for the travel industry. Project and Product Manager for a system developed for the Exhibitor, Älvsjömassan.

Nocom and Visuell Information

1995 to 1999

Product- and Project Manager, Internet Applications

Project manager for Sweden's very first commercial "Connect to Internet" package for Tele2 and one of the first hosting services in Sweden: Algonet. Denise was responsible for Netscape Server installations and later, when working for Visual Information, product manager for web solutions and responsible for 10 web developers and designers. Trained both internal consultants and external customers in the various technical solutions we sold, as well as HTML and CSS.

Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet

1989 to 1995

IT Manager

Head of what that in those days was termed "computers" ie – computer-department - from physical installation of the Internet at the museum 1991-1992 to creating Sweden's 10th HTML-based web in 1993, to the first booking system for the IMAX theatre Cosmonova. Management of all units purchased for researchers and exhibitions, including application adjustments and development.

Reuters Nordic

1987 to 1989

Developer/Micro Computer Analyst

Developer of Reuters' Unix-based systems and database system Informix. Also, operationally responsible for (Unix) server installations and maintenance throughout the Nordic region.

Abel-Noser Corporation, NYC, USA

1981 to 1987

Developer, technology documentalist and project manager, financial systems

Developer of financial systems for discount brokerage Abel-Noser, a Wall Street money brokerage firm. Responsible for end-user documentation. The last assignment at Abel-Noser involved project management of an investment system for the UN Pension Fund. This included technical documentation and training of UN personnel. Computer languages: Kerningham-Ritchie C (!) And Clipper-compiled DBaseIII.

Scandinavian Marine Claims Office, NYC, USA

1979 to 1981

Telecom and computer management

In this Scandinavian company for re-insurance matters in logistics and shipping, she was responsible for installations, training and maintenance of everything "electronic": telephony, telex and the first word processors!

Before this – my career was entirely made up of theatre and dance:

Ballet and contemporary dance education from the age of 5 to 18 years of age.

Sweden:

Östgötabaletten – stadsteatern Norrköping/Linköping 1977-1979

SVT – Musicals with Tommy Körberg and more Swedish artists

Cramérbaletten (1975)

L'Etoile Du Nord (avantgarde) (1974-1976)

Oscarsteatern: No No Nanette musical 1975

USA:

Sweet Charity – musical – New York City, 1979

Assorted freelance jobs

Roughly did around 100-150 performances a year from the age of 18 until I tore off my cruciate ligament.

Never had to work as a waiter/server!

Courses and certifications

Scaled Agile Framework SPC® 6.0 & RTE® 6.0 (2018, 2023)
Enabled to teach SSM, SA, POP/M & RTE 6.0

Scaled Agile Framework, Remote Trainer® (2020)

Scaled Agile Framework, Validated Trainer®

Certified Scrum Master, CSM® (2009)

PMP® (2005 – present)

Expert areas

Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe)

Agile Methodologies

Leadership, Mentorship,

Training, Coaching, Facilitation

Education

Risk Management, Earned Value Management, Scheduling and Cost Control, Governance, Business Analysis, Enterprise Business Analysis, UML, Use Case and such.

Diploma Programs, George Washington University USA (2000-2009)

Assembler, C and Cobol programming, Systems Analysis, Managerial Accounting,

Associate degree, Pace University USA(1979- 1986)

Marketing and Economics,

Associate degree, IHM (1992-1993)

Deutsche Schule Stockholm

Regular schooling but in German
Stockholm, Sweden

Kathmandu University, Rangjung Yeshe Institute of Buddhist Studies 2012 & 2014

Colloquial and Classical Tibetan.

Dance education

London School of Contemporary Dance

London, UK (1971-1973)

Scholarships and private tutoring

Melissa Hayden School of Ballet

Jeffrey Ballet School

American Ballet Theatre School of Ballet

New York City, USA (1973-1975)