

BURAK YUKSEL

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SUMMARY

Certified Scrum Master & Agile Programme Manager with 5+ years' experience coaching engineering teams and delivering secure, mission-critical systems across regulated environments. Former SC-cleared engineer with a strong technical foundation in DevOps and the SDLC. Proven track record increasing sprint predictability to 80–90%, reducing epic cycle time by 40%, and maturing backlogs to 2+ months of ready work across 7 teams (40+ engineers). Known for developing engineers, simplifying complex delivery challenges and driving a high-performance Agile culture.

EXPERIENCE

Discover Financial Services, Agile Programme Manager

Mar 2025 – Present

Leading delivery across 7 engineering teams ensuring predictable and transparent delivery across key programmes.

- Achieved 80–90% sprint predictability through capacity-based planning, WIP control and proactive risk escalation.
- Reduced epic cycle times from 100+ days to ~55 days by improving slicing quality, readiness and flow discipline.
- Uplifted backlog maturity to 2+ months of ready work, coaching POs and engineers on refinement standards and Agile metrics.
- Embedded a data-led delivery culture by building dashboards that improved transparency, predictability and decision-making.
- Led full PI Planning cycles across TRDC, driving roadmap alignment, objective setting, dependency mapping and ROAM-based risk management.
- Owned programme-level RAID management, identifying risks early, coordinating dependencies and implementing mitigation plans.
- Established structured programme plans and governance rhythms (weekly stakeholder updates, milestone tracking, cross-team syncs).
- Directed cross-team collaboration for current modernisation project, owning roadmap alignment, risk mitigation and delivery coordination across multiple domains.
- Increased release cadence and reliability through weekly cross-functional release alignment sessions.
- Supported secure delivery, compliance practices and risk governance across TRDC, enhancing reliability and audit readiness.
- Strengthened ADM's organisational reputation by championing Agile practices, improving delivery maturity and influencing lasting mindset shifts among partner teams.

Discover Financial Services, Scrum Master

Mar 2024 – Mar 2025

- Facilitated Agile ceremonies and uplifted delivery practices across multiple UK and India teams.
- Introduced comprehensive predictability reporting, improving transparency and enabling earlier risk intervention.
- Coached Product Owners on backlog health, refinement discipline, risk management and dependency handling.
- Mentored engineers through Discover's Personal Growth framework, shaping development goals and building engineering capability.
- Strengthened team collaboration and resilience during high-pressure periods, maintaining delivery stability.

Barclaycard, DevOps Engineer / Scrum Master

2018 – 2024

- Improved predictability to 80%+, reduced backlog waste by 33%, and uplifted delivery maturity across two cross-functional teams.
- Coached and mentored offshore engineering teams using guided, suggestive questioning to build autonomy and deeper technical understanding.
- Built and maintained cloud-based infrastructure using AWS, Terraform, Jenkins, Chef, Ruby, OpenShift.

- Supported CI/CD automation, deployment processes, and environment stability in secure and regulated delivery contexts.
- Partnered with security and compliance teams to meet regulatory and operational controls.

EDUCATION

Bournemouth University

BSc (Hons) Software Engineering (2014 – 2018)

First-Class Honours

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Professional Scrum Master I (PSM I)

SAFe Practitioner (Previously held)

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (Working towards)

SKILLS

Agile & Delivery Leadership: Scrum, Kanban, SAFe, PI Planning, iteration flow, facilitation, ceremony design

Programme & Portfolio Delivery: Roadmapping, dependency management, RAID, milestone tracking, delivery governance

Team Coaching & Development: Mentoring engineers, guided problem-solving, constructive challenge, psychological safety

Data-Driven Delivery: Predictability, cycle time, throughput, WIP optimisation, delivery dashboards, metrics storytelling

Stakeholder Management: Cross-team alignment, transparent communication, exec-ready updates, expectation management

Risk, Security & Regulation: Secure delivery, risk management, issue escalation, change & incident processes, SC-cleared experience

Ways of Working: Backlog health, refinement standards, flow optimisation, continuous improvement

Tools: Jira, Confluence, Miro, SharePoint, Trello