Enable SAFe (Scaled Agile Framework) with Structure

The following are detailed instructions for visualizing SAFe in Structure.

Requirements

To do this, you will need:

- JIRA Software and Confluence
- Structure
- Structure.Pages
- Structure.Testy

Ready-to-use demo space: Live Demo

Setup

We assume that your JIRA is prepared for scaling. The most common configuration is to create separate projects for each level:

- Kanban project for Portfolio level, with the following Epic issue type and statuses: Funnel, Reviewing, Analyzing, Portfolio Backlog, Implementing and Done
- Kanban project for Solution level, with the following Issue types: Capability and Enabler
- Kanban project for Program level, with the following issue types: Feature and Enabler

Features are named "Epics" in JIRA, so you can rename them in Administration. Projects for each Team (Scrum or kanban, Scrum is preferable) and Issue types (User Story, Bug, Improvement, Enabler) can be left as is.

Step-by-step guide

1. Define your company Strategy in Confluence

Create a Space in Confluence for high-level documents and describe the Strategy of your company.

2. Define Themes

Define Strategy more precisely by dividing it into several themes, each a sub-page of Strategy.

3. Link Themes to Epics

Define Epics, or high-level tasks for implementing your theme. Link JIRA issues with their corresponding themes in Confluence.

4. Add Capabilities

Since you have a separate project for Capabilities, divide your Epics into more precise Capability issues and put them into a Capability Board. Don't forget to link each Capability with a corresponding Epic! You can use standard JIRA issue link types, but it will be more convenient to create you own "implements"/ "is implemented by" link type.

5. Add Features

Add details to any large Capabilities and divide them into Features. Don't forget to link each Feature to its corresponding Capability.

6. Stories

Each Feature can be divided into more detailed Stories. Don't forget to link Features and Stories with an epic link.

7. Sub-tasks

If you need more detailed tasks, divide Stories into Sub-tasks.

8. Put it all together with Structure

Create an empty Structure and visualize everything in one place: http://recordit.co/IFYAzeBezV

- Find your Strategy page and add it to the Structure: http://recordit.co/0vt6mNYsqR

- Click the Automation button to enable automation. Then click the + icon next to the Automation button, and use the Extend generator to add the following rules:

- Add all child pages (extend | child pages): http://recordit.co/5l5fqPM4c3
- Add issues linked to pages
- Add Capabilities linked to Epics
- Add Features linked to Capabilities
- Add Stories linked to Features
- Add add Sub Tasks linked to Stories

9. Take it to the next level!

Now that your structure is created, you can modify it to fit your needs:

- You can Group issues on a specific level. For example, group by Sprint on the Team level to track progresses.

- You can prioritize issues by sorting by WSJF.
- You can specify your Objective during PI planning in Notes.