

**Human  
Productivity  
Lab**

# VISUAL COLLABORATION FOR AGILE SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUM

## CASE STUDY

**Summer 2013**

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### About VBrick

- [www.vbrick.com](http://www.vbrick.com)
- Media management and distribution provider
- Main development offices in Herndon, VA and Wallingford, CT with multiple geographically dispersed employees
- Over 9,000 customers in 100 countries

### Goals

- Improve their ability to do Agile software development between disparate offices
- Share Agile's Big Visible Charts during Daily Scrums, Sprint Planning Sessions, and Scrum of Scrums
- Save whiteboards, annotate over images, and whiteboard interactively between locations
- Record, Archive, and Stream – Release Planning Sessions, Daily Scrums, and Scrum of Scrums

### Approach

- Designed visual collaboration environments with large format display, interactive whiteboarding, and annotation to share Agile's Big Visible Charts
- Crestron control panel for ease-of-use
- Added the ability to record, archive, and stream Daily Scrums, Scrum of Scrums, and Release Planning Sessions conducted in the room using VBrick's DME Streaming Gateway and Mystro.
- Integrated MS Lync for remote participants
- Provides highly productive tools for local meetings as well

### Case Study

#### Visual Collaboration for Agile Software Development & Scrum

*Media management and distribution solution provider VBrick was looking to supercharge their Agile software development between offices and among remote employees. The Human Productivity Lab delivered a solution that supercharged every meeting.*

Agile software development and Scrum are helping companies rapidly deliver useful software internally and to customers. The Agile and Scrum process, however, suffers when the team members are in geographically diverse locations. This impediment is compounded when senior software product management and architects are tasked with managing, in some cases, dozens of simultaneous hardware/software projects across those disparate geographies.

VBrick, a leading provider of scalable solutions for the management and distribution of streaming media faced such issues when they opened a brand new office and executive briefing center in Herndon, VA. The company had recently hired a new Chief Technology Officer and Chief Architect who would be located in the Herndon office but, would be managing developers at the company's Connecticut office as well as remote employees. Chief Architect, Henry Zektser sums up the issue: "We inherited developers who had traditionally used the waterfall software model and put them through Agile-Scrum training to get everyone on the same page, literally and figuratively. We had multiple locations, remote workers, and lots of projects that needed to be managed."



*A VBrick ScrumMaster makes changes to his team's VersionOne burn down chart in real time.*



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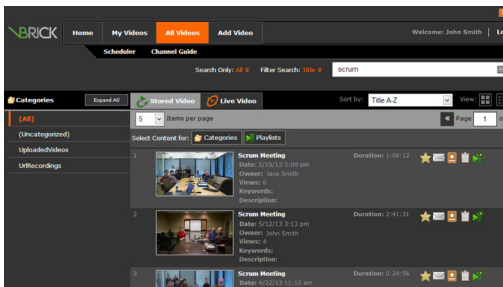
## About VBrick

VBrick has over fifteen years of experience providing scalable solutions for the management and distribution of streaming media to global enterprises, government agencies, and educational institutions. VBrick provides unique solutions to capture, encode, manage, distribute and display media on any device from the cloud and across any network. Whether you are looking for live webcasting, digital signage, corporate learning, sales enablement, customer engagement, surveillance or other visual communication capability, VBrick has a solution for you.

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## About Human Productivity Lab

The Human Productivity Lab is a leading consulting firm in telepresence, videoconferencing, and visual collaboration. The Lab advises firms how to successfully deploy visual collaboration solutions to enhance internal and external communications, cut costs, improve organizational productivity, and increase bottom line revenue. The Lab's focus is on creating solutions that address the human factors of participants to replicate, as closely as possible, in-person experiences.



*Daily Scrums, Scrum of Scrums, Sprint Planning Sessions, and End of Cycle Meetings/Reviews are stored on the company's private YouTube channel using VBrick's Mystro.*

## A Powerful Solution

The Human Productivity Lab designed a solution that lets VBrick connect with its Connecticut office and remote workers using their existing LifeSize videoconferencing endpoints and Microsoft Lync.

After redesigning existing conference rooms and adding a SMARTBoard 8000, VBrick is able to both view and make changes to their Agile Big Visible Charts in real time during their Daily Scrum, Scrum of Scrums, and Release Planning Sessions. The solution also added a Crestron control panel and custom programming for ease-of-use.

In addition to sharing their Agile-Scrum data in real-time, participants can whiteboard interactively, annotate, and save annotations and/or the contents of a whiteboarding session to files that can be e-mailed or worked on at a later time.

The SMARTBoard also serves as a large-format display for a PC that has been configured for collaborative work in the room. The PC has been loaded with all of VBrick's productivity applications (Microsoft Office, VersionOne, Adobe, Web Browsers, etc.) and Microsoft Lync which combines to create an environment that is equally as productive for local meetings held in the room as for collaborating with remote locations.

Finally, the solution utilizes VBrick's own DME Videoconferencing Streaming Gateway to capture, store, and archive the Daily Scrum, Scrum of Scrums, Sprint Planning Sessions, and End of Cycle Meetings/Reviews. The recorded sessions are stored on VBrick's Mystro Video Management Platform which creates a "private YouTube channel" like experience that allows anyone to view a session they missed or need to refer back to.

*"The Human Productivity Lab's design supercharged our Scrum sessions and provided tools to improve every meeting held in that room"*

*— Rick Rumbarger, Vice President*



The VBrick solution came out of work for another HPL client, a global 2000 employee telecommunications provider. In that engagement the HPL created a design for the company's software and hardware development executives to monitor the health and status of 15+ different projects. The design of the development "war room" also included a visual collaboration capability that connected the War Room to a variety of visual collaboration environments in the company's satellite development offices. The Lab developed a variety of different designs for other visual collaboration environments:

- **Agile-Scrum "Team Rooms"** – Optimized environments for software development teams that connected the teams to the War Room, other software/hardware development teams, and partners/customers. The design also optimized the space for local collaboration of team members.
- **Instructor-Led Training** – Classroom environments optimized for recording, archiving, and streaming content and teaching remotely.
- **Remote Workers** – A low-cost package of video and audio peripherals to optimize their collaboration with the company's office environments.



*A Human Productivity Lab design for a software and hardware development "War Room" with the ability to manage more than a dozen development projects around the world. The room is designed to display multiple individual team charts simultaneously and communicate effectively with Agile-Scrum team rooms around the world. The room is designed to simultaneously seat four development teams locally for collaborative work and one virtually during sprint planning sessions and other multi-team meetings.*