



**DENNIS STEVENS**  
CHIEF METHODOLOGIST

Dennis Stevens is one of the Founders of LeadingAgile and serves as our Chief Methodologist. To this role, he brings 25+ years of experience in helping organizations leverage technology to improve their business performance and a passion for assisting organizations in developing the capabilities to deliver technology that makes a difference to their business. Dennis is primarily focused on the pragmatic application of Lean and Agile thinking to integrate Project Management, Business Analysis, and Software Engineering in a way that enables scaling Agile to the Enterprise and he is widely considered to be a specialist and thought leader in the areas of Enterprise Agile Coaching, Enterprise Agile Requirements, Enterprise Agile Program and Project Management, IT-Strategy Alignment, Lean and Kanban, Agile Software Development Coach.

Dennis has led both major projects and Agile Transformations in many global enterprises. He was a significant contributor to Microsoft's Business Architecture methodology and was the Deputy Project Manager for PMI's OPM3 Second Edition. He also helped bring Agile to PMI: serving on the steering committee of the PMI Agile Certified Practitioner, as a past leader of the PMI Global Community of Practice and is currently the Vice Chair on the Software Extension to the PMBOK.

However, Dennis isn't just known for his thought leadership and consulting skills. He's also a prolific writer and has been published in the June 2008 Harvard Business Review article "The Next Revolution in Productivity" and is the co-author of the Cutter Consortium Executive Report "Rethinking the Agile Enterprise" which discusses incremental strategies to Enterprise Agile adoption. Additionally, he's recognized as a contributor to Ric Merrifield's "Re-Th!nk: A Business Manifesto for Cutting Costs and

Boosting Innovation” and David J. Anderson’s “Kanban: Successful Evolutionary Change for Your Technology Business.”



**CLIFF LEFEVERS**  
SENIOR CONSULTANT

Cliff has over 25 years of experience in large-scale commercial software development and technology. However, his primary experience has been focused on the leadership of software delivery organizations, with a specific focus on technical and business architecture. He's applied his expertise across a wide range of commercial software product companies such as: PeopleSoft/Oracle, Microsoft, and Fiserv; as well as smaller SaaS-focused companies like InfluenceHealth and BioIQ.

During his time at Microsoft, Cliff worked with their largest global independent software vendors to help reshape their business architecture and align the focus of their product investments to their core capabilities and service-oriented principles. Additionally, Cliff also participated directly in the development of industry-specific capability models and helped to define industry-specific architectural models based on the Microsoft Azure platform.

In 2013, Cliff joined Fiserv as the Director of Architecture & Business Analysis. There he became an influential presence as he assisted them in forming their technical and business architecture, as well as their Agile processes as part of a large-scale Agile Transformation initiative. This included the definition and re-alignment of Technical Solution Architects, Business Architects, and Product Managers to define the product capabilities for both current and future product initiatives. Cliff was also heavily involved with the Product Teams across the organization and helped them to define architectural standards and was charged with leading the evolution of the product suite. Much of his work was to align the technology deliverables to business capabilities and insuring that divisional strategic initiatives were defined appropriately within the Agile process. Cliff was also a key contributor to the creation of the Fiserv "Ignite" innovation program to help drive Agile principles and Lean-Start-Up techniques.

Most recently, as a consultant for LeadingAgile, Cliff's been working with several "monolithic" enterprises where he's implemented effective change management strategies on a grand scale, and has

assisted these organizations as they restructure themselves in such a way that they can deliver value to their customers through the identification of new products, the alignment of those products to capabilities, and the establishment of an appropriate business architecture. One such organization was a large financial institute, where Cliff worked directly with the teams and was able to successfully lead multiple Expeditions through our Basecamp model.

Cliff's supplemental areas of expertise include DevOps, Technical Quality Assurance, JIRA, and VersionOne.



**RICK MCMICHAEL**  
PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT

Rick McMichael has joined LeadingAgile as a Principal Consultant and brings over 30 years of professional experience in all aspects of Agile, innovative, and high-performance software product development to our team. His career focus has largely been on technology and the discipline of software architecture; specializing in large-scale, high-volume transaction processing systems across web and mobile, as well as a myriad of other channels. Rick also possesses strong leadership, communication, and Transformation management skills. Rick has conducted M&A related due diligences and led the technology integration of several acquired companies. Additionally, he currently holds seven patents related to electronic payments, billing and payment processing.

Most recently, Rick served as the Chief Architect of Worldpay, a payment processing company, where he partnered with the product organization to solution new, revenue-generating products for a merchant acquirer with global reach. In addition, he was also influential in establishing community-based architectural governance standards and leading DevOps & Agile Transformations for the FinTech giant.

Before Worldpay, Rick spent several years at CheckFree/Fiserv where he held multiple roles at the Director, VP, and C-suite levels. There he was responsible for instituting enterprise-wide governance routines that focused on product innovation, simplification and risk reduction. Rick led a team of 40 people who provided software and data architects, architecture strategy, governance, research and development, and capability development—but he also led the creation of the Fiserv Real-Time Payment Network.



**SARA MCCLINTOCK**  
SENIOR CONSULTANT

Sara McClintock has over 15 years of experience in IT/software development, Lean Agile coaching, and Enterprise Transformation. Although her career has spanned multiple industries such as: agriculture, software, insurance and financial services for both commercial & personal lines, agribusiness, and workers compensation—she has a strong background & vast experience working within the financial industry.

Sara is passionate about solving problems and setting up systems to build and deliver through higher performing teams. She has a deep knowledge in Portfolio, Program, and Product management and has the ability to build and lead teams at each individual level—no matter the discipline. Whether it be in development, automation, analysis, or Scrum roles; Sara is able to provide strategic coaching with an emphasis on building and delivering leading-edge technologies and creating high-performing development teams.

Most recently, as part of LeadingAgile, Sara has been focused on the set up and coaching of the Program Tier and training and supporting the Delivery Tier within large financial institutes.



**ANDREW YOUNG**  
SENIOR CONSULTANT

Andrew is passionate about, and built his career around, Design Thinking and Service Design. He views Organizational Design, and Product Development through an empathetic lens of understanding for both employees and customers and has dedicated his career to helping individuals and organizations alike realize the value and the business advantages of Design Thinking.

Andrew believes that Agile and Agile Transformations are about modernizing our problem-solving approach across the organization and shouldn't merely be isolated to software development. His focus is on shifting the mindset of the entire enterprise, and the people who work there, from an output-based to an outcome-based planning approach.

Technology continues to move faster and faster and as organizations are scrambling to keep up, often their processes and behaviors respond poorly because they tend to forget about first principles and fail to differentiate between the needs of the organization and the wants.

Andrew earned his dMBA from CCA, where he focused on helping founders scale entrepreneurial efforts into sustainable organizations. Additionally, Andrew is a part-time facilitator at the Georgia Institute of Technology where he is educating leaders, students, and organizations on Design Thinking and sustainable organizational design through outcomes not outputs.

Andrew's career started within the creative/design organizations within companies, where he quickly realized there was disconnect between what to build, who they are building for, and the business expectations. Since then, Andrew has spent the last 10 years leading businesses toward an empathetic approach to Organizational Design and Product Development through highly-aligned and transparent change management that's centered around a Design Thinking and Service Design approach to problem solving and product development.