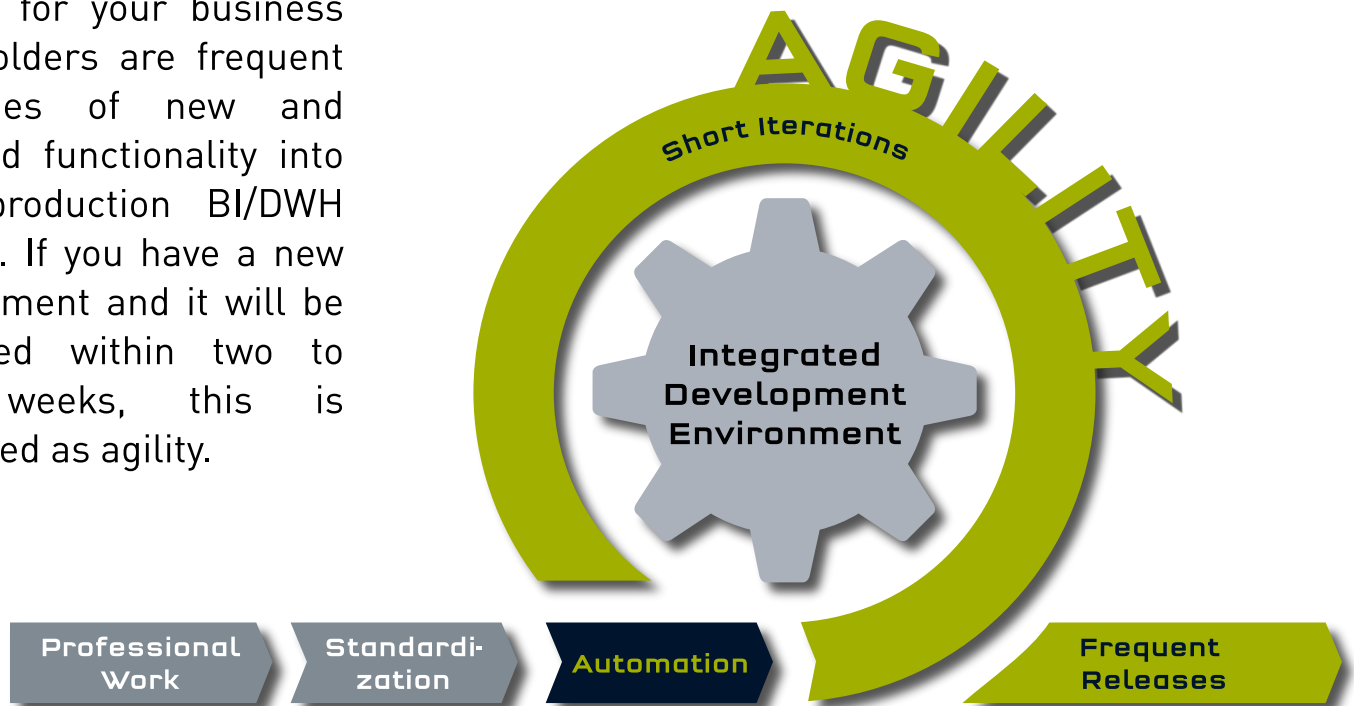




Downtown-Patterns

The problem with “agility” is that agility itself is not a tangible thing. You will not find a red button in your company which you can press to increase agility. The most tangible “thing” for your business stakeholders are frequent deliveries of new and changed functionality into your production BI/DWH system. If you have a new requirement and it will be delivered within two to four weeks, this is perceived as agility.



Now we can think about what makes frequent deliveries possible. Short iterations do. If your iteration length is four or even six weeks, it is just not possible to deliver into production more frequently. On the other end, if you have one-week iterations, you will produce potential shippable data warehouse increments every week. What makes short iterations possible? How can you build a data warehouse increment in one week? Through automation. What are the elements you can automate? You can automate all the steps in your development process which can be standardized. This leads us to a paradox: Even though agility is often associated with terms like freedom and flexibility, one of the key enablers is heavy standardization.

The stations in Downtown-Patterns describe the areas for standardisation in the form of design patterns and uniform development standards.

The first station is “Architecture Blueprints”. Here we look at the various architecture T-Shirt sizes available for BI/DWH systems. The other stations are related to common design patterns in the BI world. They can be separated into two groups: Data related patterns and information product related patterns.