

# Beyond Boundaries: Nurturing Psychological Safety for Tech Excellence

7 Mart 2024, Perşembe Hilton Hotel Kozyatağı, İstanbul

Tech Leaders Summit



### About Me Barış BAL

- Agility Consultant, Managing Partner @ ACM Agile
- Computer Engineer / Electronics & Communication Engineer
- More than 20+ years professional experience





### **Agile Türkiye**

**Agile Türkiye** was established in 2008 as a non-profit organization with the vision of becoming a global community that fosters Agile culture, develops new practices, and increases awareness by keeping a pulse on the ecosystem.

#### Our goal is to:

- Spread the Agile culture and raise awareness
- Develop new practices and inspire others
- Help individuals adopt Agile methods
- Create a community of Agile practitioners in Turkey



for further info

Agile Türkiye Summit 2024 the biggest organization in the region is on 24.10.2024

Join us to come together with the thought leaders and examples from all around the world for experience sharing in a friendly environment.

### **Quick**Pulse Check

- When did you hear Psychological Safety?
  First time, Around 1 year, 1+ years?
- I am working in a Psychologically Safe team/company/environment
- To me, the term Psychological Safety is...



"No woman comes up with a good idea when being chased by a tiger"

Anonymous board member of Tesla to Elon Musk as quoted by Wired in DR. ELON & MR. MUSK





## **Introduction What is tech excellence?**



Technical Excellence is the ability to foresee and eliminate an issue before it has the potential to jeopardize safety, schedule, budget, quality, and most importantly, client satisfaction.

 $J_{L}$ 

**Excellence NOT EQUAL to Perfection** 

## **Introduction What is a high-performance team?**



Similar skillset

working towards common purpose

coach gets out of the way after prep

high level of trust

everyone watched out for each other

high performing relationship

self directed

empathy/supportive

### Introduction What is Psychological Safety





Team psychological safety is a shared belief held by members of a team that it's OK to take risks, to express their ideas and concerns, to speak up with questions, and to admit mistakes all without fear of negative consequences



## The Need for Psychological Safety in Tech Teams

- Innovation
- Problem Solving
- Agility
- Employee Well-being

## **Creating a Culture of Psychological Safety**

- Lead by Example (Vulnerability)
- Foster Open Communication
- Frame Mistakes as Learning Opportunities
- Build Trust
- Emphasize Collaboration Over Competition

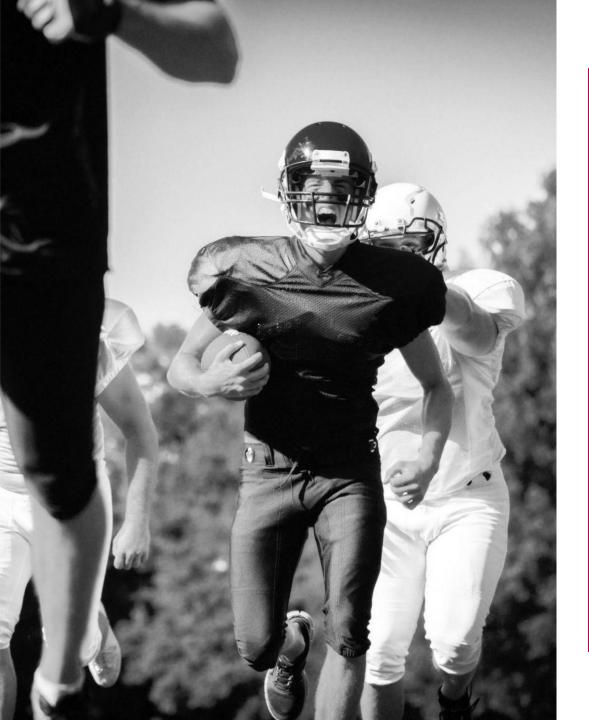


### **Building Trust** and Respect

- The foundation
- Vulnerability
- Innovation
- Conflict Resolution

## Overcoming Challenges and Resistance

- Challenge 1: Fear of Vulnerability
- Challenge 2:
   Legacy of Blame Culture
- Challenge 3: Lack of Clarity
- Challenge 4:Time Investment
- Challenge 5:Difficulty Measuring Success



**Case Studies** and Success Stories

Google



Buffer Etsy

PIXAR

## Practical Tips and Takeaways

- Start small, Start Now
- Champion Growth Goals
- Celebreate Risk-Taking
- Hold Blameless Retrospectives
- Solicit Feedback Regularly



### **Conclusion**

- Fuels innovation
- Enhances Problem-Solving and Agility
- Boosts Employee Well-being and Retention

What action will YOU take to foster psychological safety starting today?



### **Q & A**

- Contact me via <u>baris.bal@acmagile.com</u>
- To more info on Psychological Safety and assess your team's/company's level, visit: <a href="https://www.acmagile.com/fearless-organizations">https://www.acmagile.com/fearless-organizations</a>





