

Feedback forms

How did you find out about the conference ?

- Regular attendee
- Email on xp-nl mailing list
- I've been here before...
- Know it for years already
- Colleagues, Geert De Cang
- 2004 folder at B???. Hooked since then
- I was at previous conference, and it will keep on going on in the future, every year an xpday(s)
- Grapevine
- Email, colleagues
- XP.BE
- Remembered it from previous years
- Colleagues
- Been there, done that
- Colleagues
- XPDAY.NET
- Received an email from my employer
- I've been here since the start in 2003
- Call for proposals in mailing list
- Website
- Pascal Van Cauwenberghe himself (on several occasions :-)
- Pascal Van Cauwenberghe
- Via my colleagues, internet
- Colleagues
- From the organizers
- 2nd participation
- XP.BE mailing list
- Came last year
- Got an email
- Internet
- Website xpdays
- A colleague
- Web
- By reading Pascal Van Cauwenberghe's blog
- By experience...
- Through programmer colleague
- Xp.be mailing list on yahoo
- I'm subscribed at the xp.be mailing list and wiki
- I come every year
- Through a colleague
- Word of mouth
- While preparing CITCON Europe 2007
- Colleague

- Website
- Willem van den Ende mentioned it in his presentation
- By Colleagues
- Via the website
- From a colleague, who has attended the previous three editions
- Through colleagues at EMC
- Tipped by work
- A colleague (XP evangelist :-)
- Via a coding dojo in NL that is just being started
- Vera suggested to aid in the organisation

What did you like?

- Pomodoro session. Meeting people. End of day wrap-up.
- The one minute sessions by attendees at the end. Good selection of sessions
- I (continue) to like the focus on interactive sessions over presentations.
- A lot of interesting tracks. Open minds, lots of talking + discussion. Open space possibility.
- Short sessions with detailed subject
- Meeting people
- Good selection of sessions. Good food. Good ambiance.
- Good mix of sessions, free beer. Conversations, meeting people, not too big, the final wrap-up
- Diversity of sessions. Conference facilities were very good (conf. Rooms, food, coffee, bar, staff...) only toilets were not that clean on Friday morning.
- Interactivity
- The open atmosphere
- Format of conference, discussions during the sessions
- Interviewing techniques, Georges Ataya
- Format, content, timing
- Being there
- I learned a lot. The one minute sessions. The interactive aspect in most sessions. Talking to people who already have experience.
- Interaction and informality
- I liked the hands-on sessions “Learning while doing”
- Variety
- The atmosphere is always good, people are open and most of the time willing to talk
- Diversity of sessions. Nice crowd. Interesting conversations.
- My first presentation
- Atmosphere! Everybody is very interested and cooperative. Perfect meeting rooms.
- The variation and fun and new techniques
- The Pomodoro technique. Sharing ideas.
- Organisation, meeting people, interesting sessions. Plenary review of sessions is cool ☺
- Games, simulations
- Meeting people

- Getting answers to our questions in our session. Meeting people from the industry & learning from them. Session content.
- Session with code, fishbowls
- Planning sessions, communication, CRM ???, Offshore & fixed price
- Great atmosphere, open minds, great ideas
- Practical hands-on sessions
- Energy, openness of people
- Retrospective patterns, choosing the content of Backlog, committing to a date, talking to Sr Management
- Cool. Lots of variation in sessions
- A lot
- Most sessions. Small size of the conference
- As always: the informal atmosphere, the interactive content, and the organisation
- The interactive sessions. It's the best way to learn and better understand "why?"
- Diversity of workshops/presentations, atmosphere
- Nice atmosphere, good discussions
- Openness, discussions
- I had interesting conversations with lots of people
- Discussions with people in and outside of sessions
- Open space. Drinks
- Very good to choose for workshops format for many presentations. Good atmosphere at the conference, everybody likes to exchange experiences with each other
- A lot of things! Atmosphere, organisation, the open space, many talks
- Location, sessions
- The 'Culture' session: "people vs process"
- Interactivity, discussions
- The interactive workshops, the audience is really involved
- Meeting people, lots of hands-on experience, nice atmosphere
- The discussions about applying agile
- Practical aspects & discussion
- Stickers at the reception. Speakers showing results and experiences from actual projects. Absence of stands (repr. Vendors/sponsors)
- Fishbowl. To see that other companies/developers encounter similar problems as me
- The open conversation/discussion. The networking opportunity
- XP Loops and other high level info about the XP process
- Proximity. The subjects addressed.
- Both the preconference and the conference dinner since they provide a good environment to connect with other people.

How would you make the conference perfect?

- Better lunch: salad falls out on the floor
- Have on Wednesday night the dinner at the conference location so that people who are arriving during evening can join in. Only have one hour sessions, so you can attend more sessions.

- By scheduling the most interesting sessions not on top of each other. Maybe a collaboration would be in place?
- Record each track and make it possible for attendants to watch them online/on DVD
- More women :-)
- 3 clones to go to the other sessions?
- Better lunch!
- Get more not (yet) agile practitioners involved
- Less overlap of sessions (longer duration)
- ?
- Do not know now
- Bring more industry & more of their challenges. Go beyond “state of the art” in agile
- Informal meeting
- More opportunity to meet people
- Print session titles, class numbers on card that fits in back of name tag. Provide terminal to check mails in between sessions.
- Panel discussions on themes. Get more “product owners” people to the conference to get a more balanced discussion.
- Better descriptions of the sessions
- Conflict of sessions, had to choose between
- Get rid of traffic jams ☺ Took us 5 hours to get here instead of 2 ½
- Bigger integration of Open space (having a more visible marketplace, presentation of program every morning)
- More concrete practical sessions. If there is a topic with lots of discussions expected => broader time box
- Even more experienced speakers + more preparation of presentations
- Product Owner
- Choose topics based on value => planning game? (like Agile Open)
- Beware of agility: we spoke mostly about Test Drive Development. It is very developer oriented
- Fewer conflicting sessions, stricter selection of presentation. More open space format
- More people attending by more publicity
- Dinner room less noisy for the evening dinner
- Examples from real projects
- More women, food
- More food
- Training/coaching of presenters
- Round up after exercises with lessons learned
- More open space
- ?
- Make videos of the sessions available on the net
- Better acoustics in the dinner room (more curtains) and café. Perhaps at dinner put the themes (scrum, fit...) on the table (you could choose a theme?)
- The concept of interaction in all presentations/by all speakers

- (Vague) More depth in some presentations. A lot was pretty much listening to other people using Agile development. More presentations/workshops by commercial Product Owners
- More open space (somehow enthuse people for it)
- A big name in the agile world. Sessions by other people than the “usual suspects”
- More Open Space (in a room)
- It’s already perfect!
- A free board for participants in the open space. Unclear sometimes why some talks are in yellow or orange. Levels of difficulty or difference technique/case studies
- Not calling it XP any longer
- More discussions
- Other location, Mechelen has a bad connection
- More about more complex projects
- Some sessions could use more time, some less
- Put list of agile books lying around on the XP Day website
- Just fine like this
- Some sessions had overlap where the basics of the SCRUM process were repeated. Maybe a central session at the start of the conference where basics are explained can prevent this
- It’s pretty good as it is!
- I'd suggest to have something like a "short session" track, so that at each point in time a short session is available. We could improve the feedback process on the session proposals. Some idea's mentioned in the retrospective session are to let the participants (of past conferences) help to provide feedback.

Which (new) things are you going to apply?

- Pomodoro
- Want to try the dimensional planning
- The 9 boxes
- GTD. Dimensional planning. SCRUM
- TDD, applying some tips
- Just continue with refreshed morale
- Dimensional planning, retrospectives, outcomes of our own session, 9 boxes
- Security inspections
- Lessons learned from the communication game
- Buffer technique of Marco
- ?
- Scrum board, innovation games
- “Product backlog ???” – from the open space
- Planning techniques, interviewing techniques
- Pomodoro technique
- Scrum boards. Tests.
- Metaphor on Dirt/Cobble/Asphalt roads for selling « incremental » thinking to non « incremental » thinkers
- Pomodori, new communication ideas
- Product backlog + role Product Owner. SCRUM.

- Pomodori (kitchen timers)
- Introduce TDD Randori as an agile practice in software teams
- Fishbowls as a discussion form
- GTD, talk to management, Product Owner => Importance, Fishbowl technique/TDD
- Dimensional planning, retrospective tips
- The Pomodoro technique, Fishbowl technique
- Product planning on value
- Dimensional planning?
- Experiential learning, fishbowl
- Dimensional planning, SCRUM
- Product Owner organisation. Different retrospectives. Release management changes
- Test reviews
- Dimensional planning. SCRUM
- More unit tests. Better communication
- Nine boxes interview technique. Dimensional planning.
- Multidimensional planning
- Speak Sr management language to Sr manager. Planning tips/iterations
- Pomodoro + dimensional planning
- Sustainable tests
- Pair programming. Pay extra attention to writing maintainable tests.
- I'll try the pomodoro
- Work in collaboration with developers from my organisations
- GTD. Project board
- Fishbowl!
- Fuckup charts
- Fishbowl, GTD
- Fishbowl discussions
- Agile at home
- Scrum board
- Update planning board. Improve retrospectives
- SCRUM
- SCRUM board
- TDD + more refactoring
- Testdriven development (already being applied, but not as rigorous and fine grained as shown during the session).
- Small iterative steps, via SCRUM
- SCRUM and participative-collaborative approach
- The Pomodoro technique
- Write more unit tests
- Maybe read some stuff about the bootcamp protocols, Bernard and Yves almost got me brainwashed ;-)

What would you like to investigate further?

- The role of XP Day events
- The quality of user stories

- TDD, pairing
- Get the people around me to join in finding better ways to produce software
- Content of sprint/product backlogs
- Our session brought up more testing ideas to explore
- Communication techniques
- Fishbowl
- Topics on Agile Project Management, human side of Agile development
- Dimensional planning, GTD
- Cultural patterns, talking mgmt language
- How to apply agile in non pure SW and in globally distributed collaborative environments
- Agile as lifestyle
- Test driven design
- None (except of course for the ones being applied, see above ☺)
- Also the Pomodori, take a look at the paper and finding out how to use it in any situation. Interviewing techniques.
- Seeking for legal advice on agile contracting
- TDD / GTD
- Product Owner
- TDD
- Product owner & proxy customer in corporate environment
- Talk with people from the conference in future xp.be meetings for instance
- How to manage a backlog
- Planning & cost estimates
- XP
- Product owner/Customer role and team interaction
- Multidisciplinary agile application
- Requirements exploration
- Sustainable tests
- Code ownership by the team without alienating the main contributor or contributors
- NLP, the podcast of “Software for your head”
- CMMi vs SCRUM, better understand the way to link both
- GTD results and practices
- Fixed price projects, cultural patterns
- GTD
- Some books and alternative ways of doing things
- Exploring requirements
- Don't know yet
- Introduction to SCRUM
- Agile Project Management
- Pair programming
- Find a good balance between defining a software architecture before and incremental changes to it with TDD
- Pair programming
- All aspects of XP
- How to deploy ‘agile’ in an organisation

- Test based development and continuous integration
- More real experience

What would you like to see in a next conference?

- The role of XP Day events
- A bit more technical sessions, and less focus on SCRUM
- More code-related sessions
- Don't move the date!
- Perhaps a way to inform people how to setup and Agile Development environment. Tools to use & configure. "Startup booster"
- New presenters. New (non-software) companies
- More of the same
- More sessions about differences/similarities between agile and non-agile worlds. More sessions about communication
- More of the same
- Do not know now
- More business concerns. Addressing more real challenges companies face
- How to apply agile in non pure SW and in globally distributed collaborative environments. Process improvement
- Experiences of other people
- More of this ☺
- More "advanced" session -> no time spent on basic principles & terminology + indication of threshold pre required knowledge per session
- Don't know
- Automated build. Creating sprint backlog + sprint planning
- Interviewing techniques (something like this year)
- One track about advanced topics
- Technical items
- More specialist if possible. Less about the basics (most know already). More real life practices
- User stories advanced, team dynamics, product owner
- More practical examples
- Very experienced people that wrote books about agile/lean/scrum methods. Get more non-developers to the conference to learn about this stuff and to discuss with
- First day "regular", second day Open Space
- Real examples
- More XP principles, deeply explored
- Continue the emphasis on practicum over theory. More on agile in large organisations.
- Video coverage
- Analysis in an agile way
- Verdieping ("more depth"?)
- Database-related things
- More of the same
- More communication presentations, we know it's an area of improvement
- Digital copies of presentations (downloadable/memory stick)

- More of the same ☺
- A big name in the agile world. Sessions by other people than the “usual suspects”
- Don’t know yet
- Introduction to SCRUM
- The future of XP/Agile
- Agile project management
- More about complex projects. Find a good balance between defining a software architecture before and incremental changes to it with TDD
- Maybe a technical approach to TDD (e.g. presentation of an implementation of tools/infrastructure)
- Tools
- Feedback from the audience being collected; speakers being encouraged to make notes or use flip overs. Either a shorter lunch break or a seated instead of a standing lunch
- A central session at the start of the conference where basics are explained
- Not sure yet
- Dunno yet, I’ll try to hand in a session with such a topic

Why did you choose to come on Thursday only?

- Sessions on Thursday more interesting for me. Not enough time for two days
- Lack of time. Fitted in my schedule
- No particular reason, just to get an intro to agile
- Possibility offered by employer only on that day
- Just to get an introduction to Agile. So 1 day should be sufficient and try a more day course in a few weeks or so
- Personal constraints
- Not allowed to take more than one day off from current projects. The long drive home on Friday would have shortened the weekend
- Limited time/budget. Be able to go to other conferences (javapolis)
- Cost (self-employed)
- Because I can’t attend on Fridays
- The content of the talks, mainly in the “process & improvement” track

Why did you choose to come on Friday only?

- Busy on a release
- Too much to do

Why did you choose to come on both days?

- I like two days
- If I come to Belgium, it doesn’t make sense to not stay for both days
- One day is not enough, 2 days is OK
- Both days had good subjects
- Both days because too many interesting sessions
- I want it all!
- To get the most out of the conference

- Interested in multiple sessions + chance to meet people + being a session organizer
- Lots of time to meet people during Thursday night
- In order to attend as many sessions as possible
- I had free entrance as an organizer
- Because of interest in programme of both days
- Because of dinner and beer
- Because I wanted to learn as much as possible
- Learn as much as possible
- Both days had sessions I liked. It also makes you get to know other XP people better
- 2 days of value; state of mind 100% agile; evening dinner
- One day is not enough
- To get the most out of the conference. To spend an evening with fellow practitioners
- Interesting agenda on both days
- Both days were interesting
- All the sessions are interesting when you just start with agile
- Two days is the best # of days, 3 is too much, 1 is not enough
- A lot of interesting subjects needs two days
- Getting the most out of it
- Didn't want to miss anything
- Content & presenters. one minute sales pitch & website
- I chose 2 days: more is better ☺
- Was able to join two days, no ??? on agenda
- So I can choose the most sessions ☺
- To maximize the value of an expensive trip
- Completely immersed
- It takes time before you get in the mood of reflecting on how/what you are doing
- Didn't want to miss anything
- More than enough interesting subjects on both days
- Given that I fly in from Switzerland two days makes more sense than a single day
- If there were a third day I would also be there
- Because the presentations I wanted to see were scheduled on both days
- Focus for more than just one day. Meeting more people because you don't rush home.
- Wanted to attend both days
- To maximize time at the conference, have dinner & opportunity to talk to a lot of people
- I had one session every day. 2 days are good to talk to many people
- Learn as much as possible about Agile methodology
- I must fly here and this is good for me and my family (i.e. still have week-end)
- Interesting topics. The informal part
- To get the most out of the conference