

From Stakeholder Requirement to Acceptance Criteria

One level down means: more concrete, smaller, closer to the solution. Everything up to the User Story stays implementation-free.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 29148:2018 · SAFe · Cockburn · Bass/Clements/Kazman

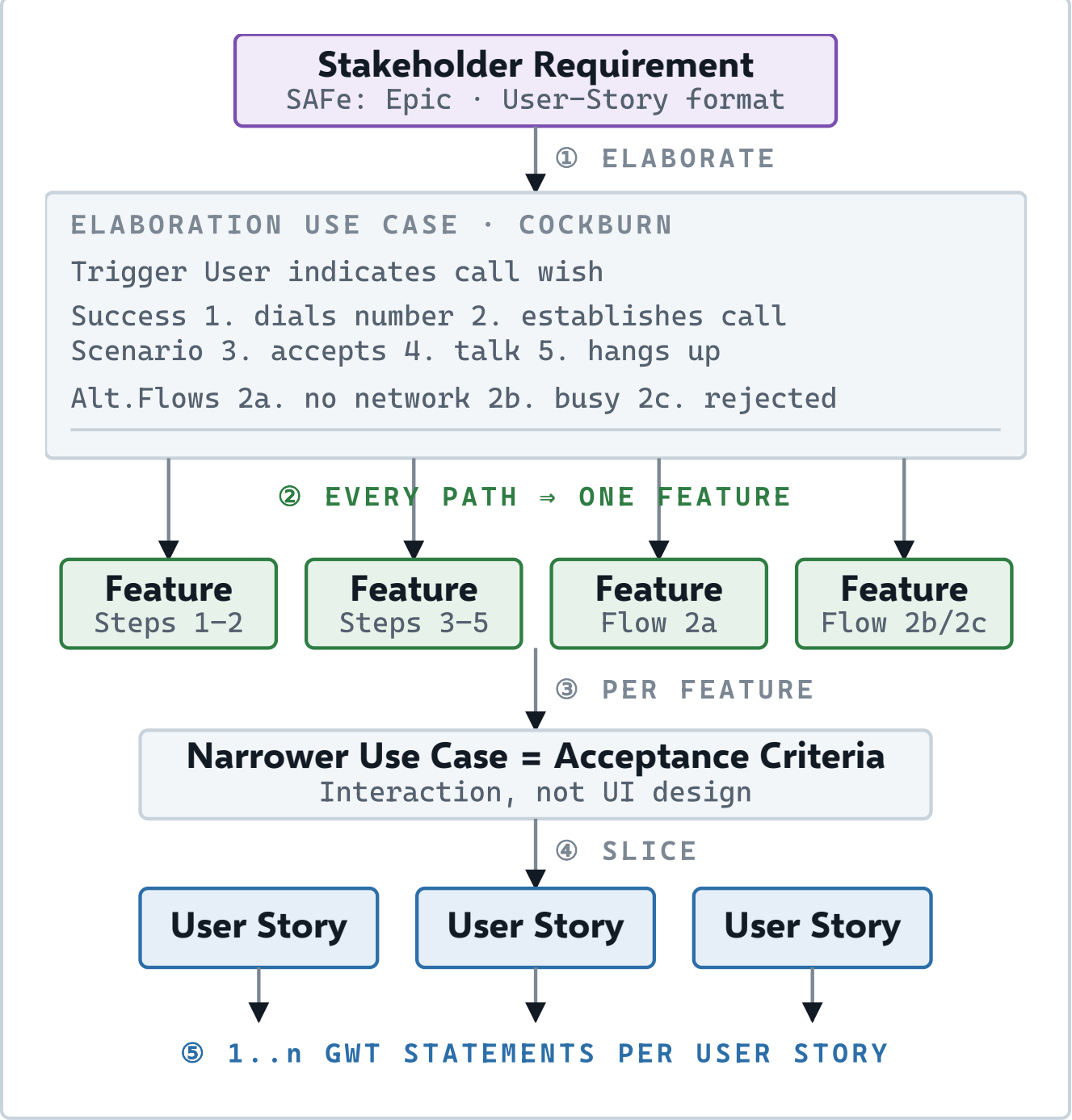
01 The Levels — which artifact, which format, what it is accepted against

PROBLEM SPACE · THE WHAT	ISO 29148 · Business Requirement Business Goal Mission, goals, opportunities NOT DECOMPOSED	Maximize the infotainment premium option take-rate to offset high localized manufacturing costs. Has Business Objectives, but no children. Nothing below hangs under it — everything traces to it. No link ⇒ gold-plating.	FORMAT Direction-Metric-Impact Elevator Pitch quantitative or qualitative ELABORATED BY Business Objectives — SMART	— Trace target of the Stakeholder Requirements
	ISO 29148 · Stakeholder Requirement Stakeholder Requirement SAFe: Epic IMPLEMENTATION-FREE VALIDATION	As a driver I want to make a phone call on the road so that I can go on driving. Deliberately coarse — a bundle of functionality, neither <i>singular</i> nor <i>complete</i>. Of SMART, only Specific and Relevant apply here.	FORMAT User-Story format FUNCTIONAL Requirements-Sentence OPERATIONAL QUALITY ELABORATED BY Elaboration Use Case · or Quality Scenarios — neither one is Acceptance Criteria	2–6 months Strategic Planning · T-shirt: S = 1 PI, M = 1–2 PI, L > 2 PI
	ISO 29148 · System Requirement System Requirement SAFe: Feature IMPLEMENTATION-FREE VERIFICATION	As a driver I want to dial a phone number while driving so that I can talk to a partner while driving. Must be bounded: fully developable and testable within a single PI. Special cases on the same level — Architecture Enabler and Operational Feature WE.	FORMAT User-Story format + Problem Statement, + Benefit/Value ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA its own, narrower Use Case	1 PI · 8–12 weeks Increment Planning · 3–5 Sprints
	no counterpart in ISO 29148 User Story SAFe only IMPLEMENTATION-FREE	As a driver I want to select the phone functions and the dialing option while driving so that I can type in a phone number. Must span the subsystems and describe user interaction. “Update the CAN message matrix layer” would be the mistake that loses the value.	FORMAT User-Story format a single interaction, no more ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA 1..n GWT statements	1 Sprint · 2–4 weeks sliced from the feature’s Acceptance Criteria
SOLUTION SPACE	ISO 29148 · System Element Requirement System Element Requirement SAFe: Implementation Task IMPLEMENTATION-BOUND	The dialer service shall normalize the entered phone number to E.164 before handing it to the telephony stack. Technical specification for software, hardware and their interfaces. Alongside it the Sub-System Requirement, which some organizations keep as well.	FORMAT technical specification ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA —	outside the course scope The course ends one level above.

02 Classification — it drives format and refinement

CATEGORY	FORMAT	REFINED BY
Functional	User-Story format	Use Case → Features → User Stories → GWT
Operational Quality external, user-visible	Requirements-Sentence format	Quality Scenarios — as AC or as its own Operational Feature WE
Developmental Quality internal, for build and maintenance	Requirements-Sentence format	Architecture Enabler → architecture
Constraint Budget, schedule, law, technology	Requirements Sentence with “will”	nothing — Constraints are not decomposed

05 Decomposition



03 The Formats — the mapping is our proposal **WE**

USER-STORY FORMAT · VALUE FOCUS
As a <role / type of user> I want <to do this>, so that <I achieve this goal>.
Check: Is there a nameable user <i>and</i> a value for them?
REQUIREMENTS-SENTENCE FORMAT · SYSTEM FOCUS
[Condition] Subject Imperative Action Object [Constraint]
shall binding requirement should goal or recommendation, not binding will stated intention → Constraints
Check: Is the obligation explicit — shall, should or will?
GWT FORMAT · ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA OF THE USER STORY
Given state of the world before the behavior When the behavior being specified Then the expected change that follows
Check: Can a test case be derived from it directly?

06 Quality Scenario — six parts

Source of Stimulus	who or what triggers it
Stimulus WHEN	which event
Artifact	which element is affected
Environment GIVEN	Normal · Peak · Overload
Response THEN	how the element reacts
Response Measure	Latency · Jitter · Miss Rate ...

Environment is the lever
The same quality is held to a different standard under Normal, Peak and Overload — that is what makes it negotiable instead of utopian. A Response without a **Response Measure** is a statement of intent.

04 The Quality Question **WE**

SAFe · COPY	PROPOSAL · REFERENCE
Feature A < 200 ms	Feature A
Feature B < 200 ms	Feature B
Feature C < 200 ms	Feature C
The same number three times in three Acceptance Criteria. The copies drift apart.	One source of truth. Several features affected ⇒ its own Operational Feature.

07 KANO — a search tool, not just a label

