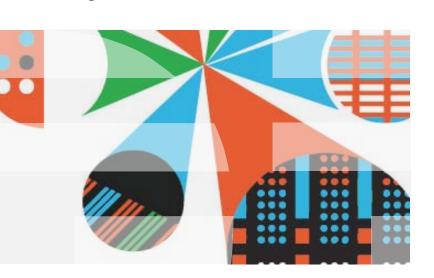


Hang on a Minute... What Happened to my Requirements?

Christopher Alderton Senior Consultant IBM SWG Services, Rational Software alderton@au1.ibm.com





Hang On a Minute - What Happened to My Requirements?



What engineering produced



What the customer wanted



What we will cover

- Why do your specified requirements not appear in the delivered product?
- Requirements happen across the whole of the lifecycle not just at the beginning.
- What you can do to better manage the requirements set, and ensure that the developing product is meeting expectations.
- Conclusion and time for final questions.



Agenda

- Root causes of disappearing requirements
- Requirements across the whole lifecycle
- Tips and Techniques
- Conclusion





Some Familiar Situations...











Why your requirements don't appear in the final product



- Poorly defined requirements
- Not keeping track of changing requirements
- Developers doing what they want
- Impact analysis not undertaken properly
- Large volume makes managing the requirements set difficult



Why your requirements don't appear in the final product



- Not changing scope as needs change
 - Stakeholders change their minds
 - and don't tell you
 - Business imperatives
- Test squeeze
- Locked into early screen designs



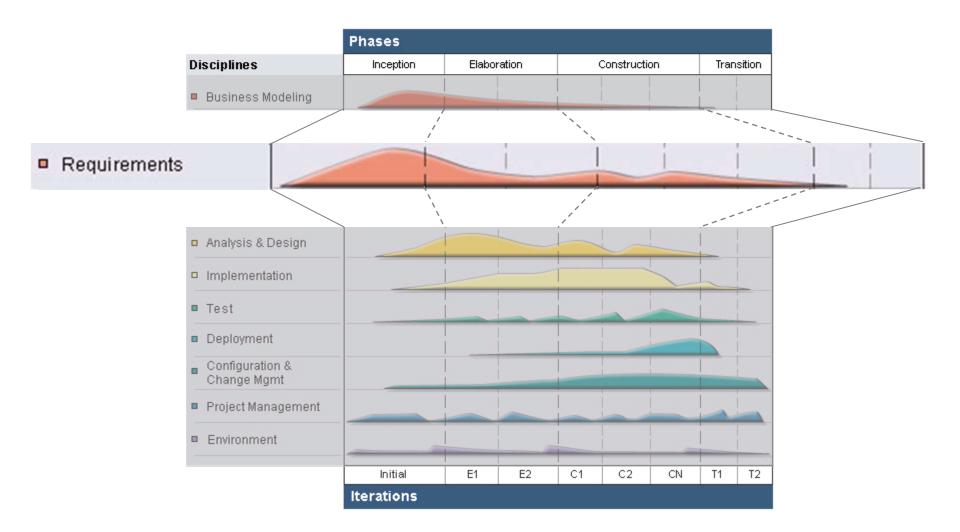
Agenda

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Requirements across the whole lifecycle





Changing emphasis across the phases (optimal):

- In Inception, confirm the scope
 - 60%-80% of final requirements gathered
- In Elaboration, refine scope through discovery when mitigating risks
 - Negotiated scope change add, modify and delete requirements
- In Construction, minor changes to scope
- In Transition, no new requirements



The Requirements Management Practice

Content References

- Chow to Adopt the Requirements Management Practice
- Key Concepts
 - Requirements
 - Requirement Attributes
 - Traceability
- Work Products
 - Requirements Attributes
 - Requirements Traceability
 - Requirements Management Process Description
- Tasks
 - Organize Requirements
 - Assess Requirements Consistency
 - Manage Changing Requirements
 - Plan Requirements Management Strategy
- Analyst

from the IBM Rational Unified Process



The Requirements Management Practice



- Guidance
 - Tool Mentors
 - ¶ Packaging Requirements in RequisitePro
 - ¶ How to assign attributes with RequisitePro
 - Thow to establish and verify traceability with RequisitePro
 - Packaging Requirements
 - dCategorizing Requirements

Inputs

[Technical Specification]



Agenda

- Root causes of disappearing requirements
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What you can do to stop requirements disappearing



- Use the requirements to gain and maintain agreement
- Document and maintain the requirements set
- Organize your requirements
- Create and use attributes
- Trace between the types of requirements



What you can do to stop requirements disappearing



- Plan and measure
- Control change
- Avoid GUI design too early
- Automate where practical
- Gradually improve your requirements practices



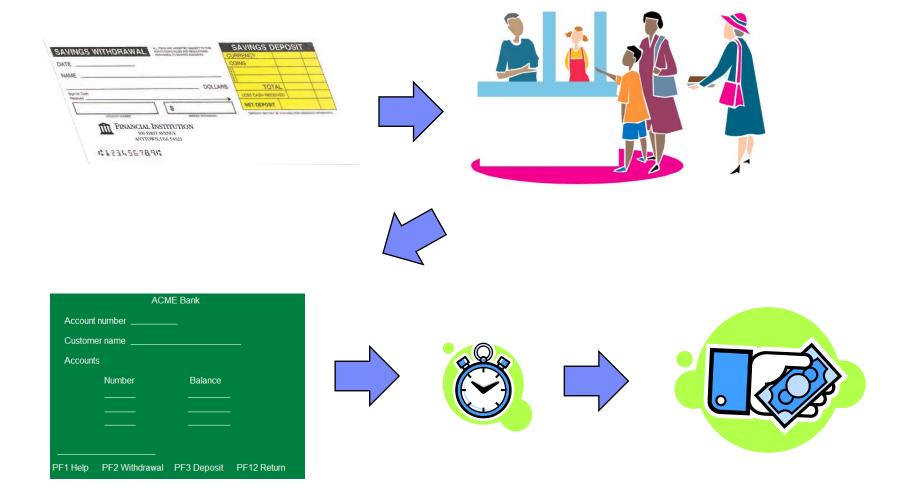
Use the requirements to gain and maintain agreement

- Tell the stakeholder what you think they are telling you
 - Requirements Composer lets you tell stories
- Document and maintain the requirements set
 - Communicate to the developers, testers and tech writers
- Use a requirements hierarchy to do impact analysis
 - Allows discussion on scope change
- Don't let the stakeholders change the originally submitted document
 - Make them do a change request instead





Storyboards are more than just screenshots





Document and maintain the requirements set





Document and maintain the requirements set

- Write them down
- Index them
- Your copy of the requirements is the reference point
- Update them as they change
- Use them as the basis for testing

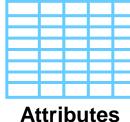




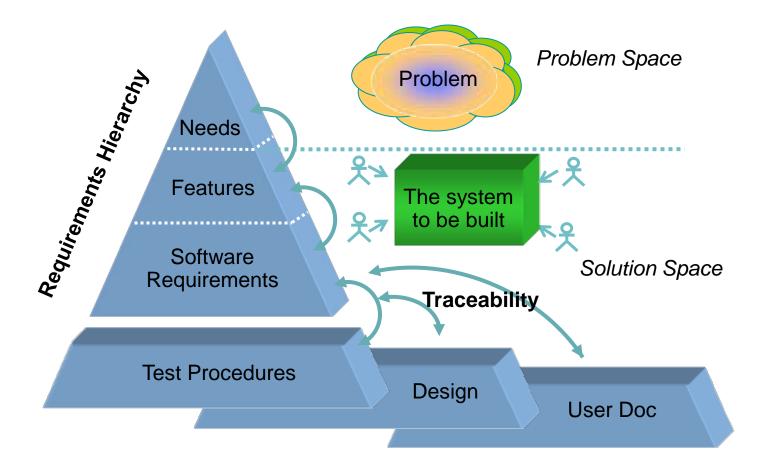
Organize your requirements













Organize your requirements

- Not all requirements are equal
- Large numbers of requirements are unmanageable
 - Group them by purpose; person; importance; timing; layer or a combination of these
- Control who can change requirements
 - You don't want the programmers changing them!



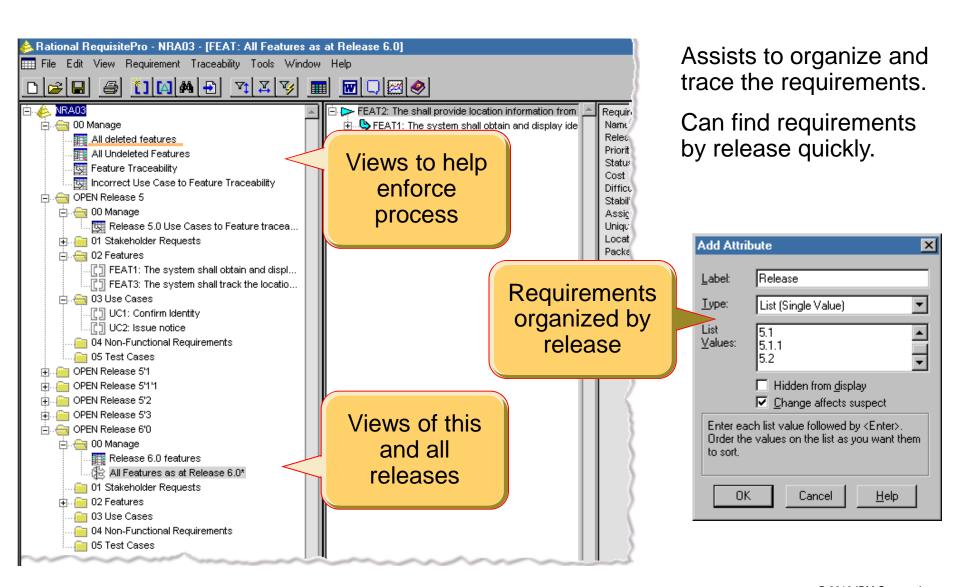
Create and use attributes

- Attributes are the metadata of the requirements
- Use attributes to perform
 - Scheduling
 - Integration with change requests and defect tracking
 - Correctness analysis
 - Trend analysis





Using attributes – checking on what is being done when





Trace between the types of requirements

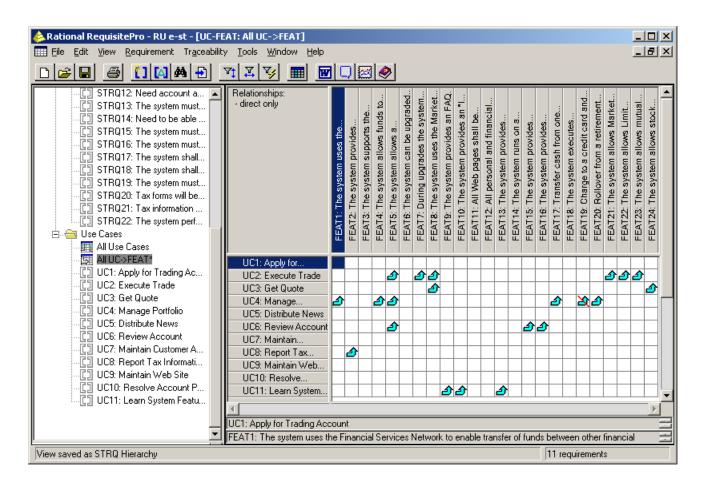
- Tracing the relationship between requirements of different types helps you to perform
 - Impact analysis
 - Completeness analysis
 - Coverage analysis
 - Testing
 - Confidence tests





Trace between the types of requirements

Shows relationship between two requirements.





Plan and measure





Tool: IBM Rational Method Composer 🔙





Plan and measure

- What process and mechanisms will be used
- Tooling
- How will it be configured
- Measurements and metrics
- Reports
- Requirements change management



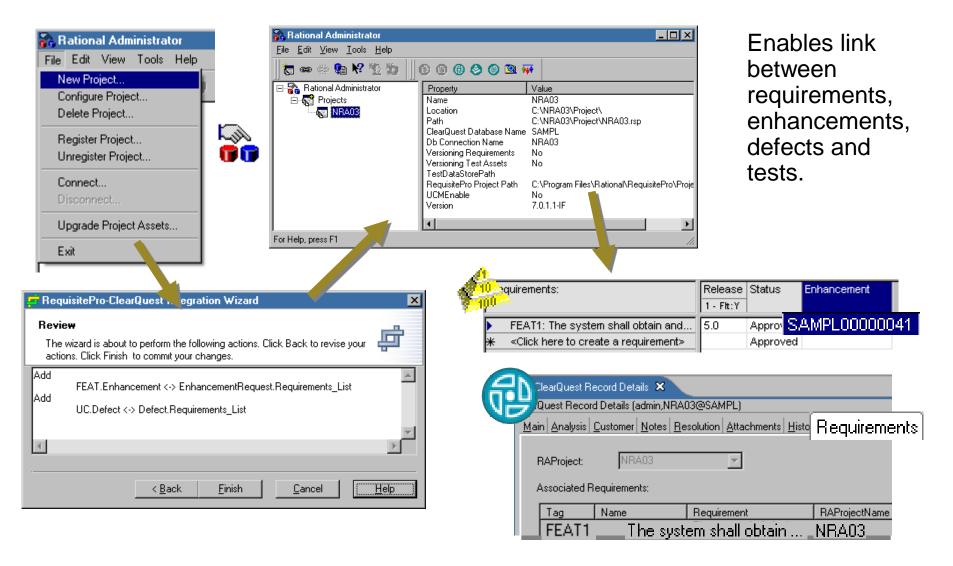
Control Change

- Control change or it will control you
- Beware the scope creep
- Perform impact analysis
 - What other changes will occur
- Change will happen ensure it happens in an orderly manner





Integrating requirements with change – defects, etc.



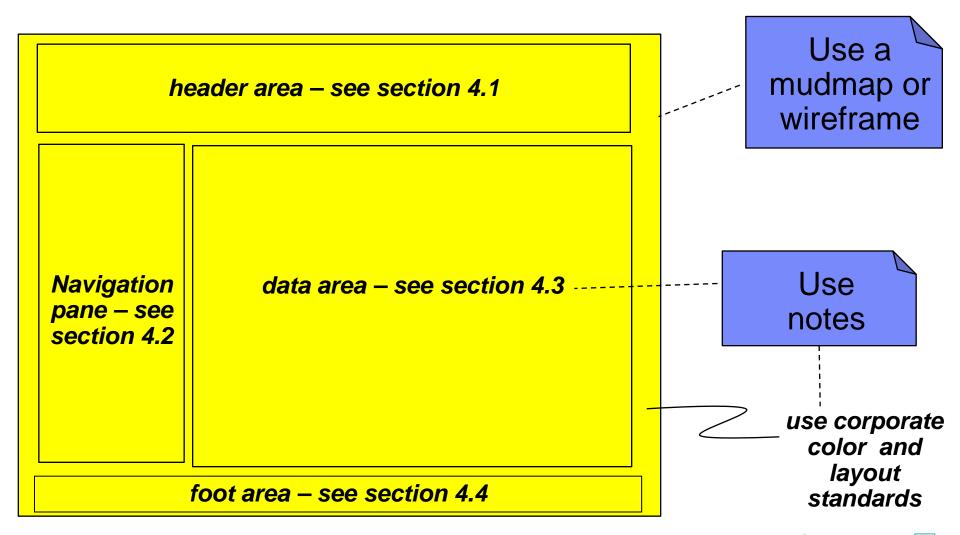


Avoid GUI design too early

- Aim for GUI requirements, not design
 - You are not locked in too early to the solution
 - Reduces time to get agreement
 No haggling about where a field goes, or what it looks like
 - Makes defining the scope quicker
 - Your job is easier
 - Gives the GUI designer something to do



Avoid GUI design too early



Tool: IBM Rational Requirements Composer ...





Automate where practical

- No one just uses paper and pencil anymore
- Use the tools that suits your needs
- Allow time to get skilled in the product
- Improve your work practices
 - You don't want to do bad things quicker











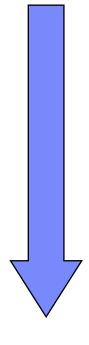






Gradually improve your requirements practices

- Written
- Organized
- Structured
- Traced
- Integrated



A gradual, cumulative process

you won't get here tomorrow

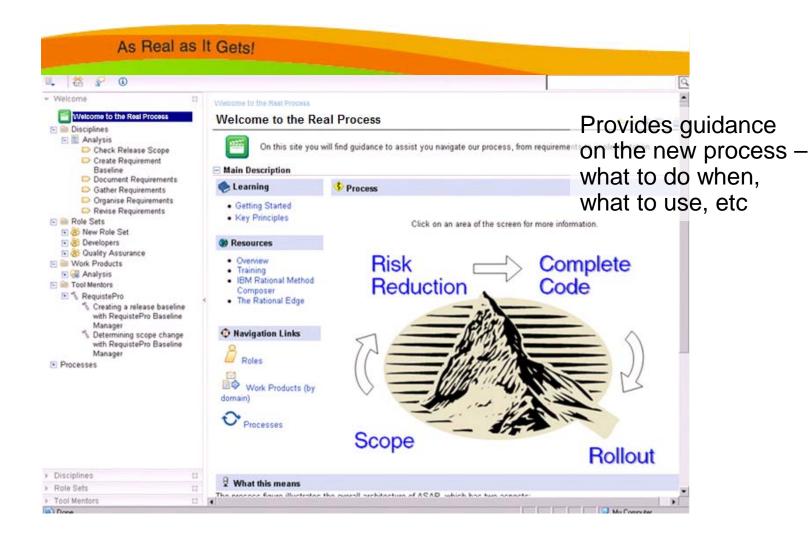
The Five Levels of Requirements Management Maturity, Jim Heumann, The Rational Edge, February 2003

Tool: IBM Rational Method Composer 🖳





Process guidance created with Method Composer









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What you can do to stop requirements disappearing

- Use the requirements to gain and maintain agreement
- Document and maintain the requirements set
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- Trace between the types of requirements
- Plan and measure
- Control change
- Avoid GUI design too early
- Automate where practical
- Gradually improve your requirements practices





What you can expect:

- Reduced errors in requirements set
- Better management transparency
- Control of scope creep cost and schedule
- Fewer bugs going into production and having to be fixed in the next lifecycle
- Quicker testing traceability
- What you expected to see is there









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