

IBM Software Group

Measurements Drive Performance Achieving confidence in an uncertain world

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Do metrics drive performance?



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They clearly drive behaviour

The *right ones* help drive desired performance





A bit of bookwork: Part I Some interesting facts

The last 20 years

- Cost estimation is not getting much better
- US: Productivity for traditional systems comparatively flat
- US: Quality levels have only improved slightly
- Productivity / Quality
 - Best is 3 times above average
 - Worst are 50% worse
- Historical Data
 - Leading edge companies have 10 times more data available for estimation / planning
- Sociological v. Economic
 - > 20% of organisations have productivity / quality metrics based on functionality

Sources: COCOMO, Capers Jones: Applied Software Measurement



A bit of bookwork: Part II "The good, the bad"

Good metrics

- Provide insight and therefore the ability to change for the better
- Are a minimum set to support business need
- Are well defined and understood by those affected
- Are easy to collect accurately (preferably automated)
- Are visible
- Questionable metrics (not the above!)
 - Crush individual/team spirit, innovation, desire to do a good job,
 - Are used for harassment or humiliation,
 - Appear to measure something tangible (i.e. # of pages in a specification) but do not actually provide a measure of progress or value



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A bit of bookwork: Part III "The past or the future"

- Leading Indicators
 - Give an indication of the future
- Lagging Indicators
 - Tell you about the past

| Aircraft stall warning | Aircraft "black-box" data | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Defect trend e.g. bad = not reducing | Escaped defects (e.g. in the user base) | | |
| Cost projections e.g. bad = increase month on month | Cost at completion (e.g. overspent) | | |
| | + | | |
| | time | | |
| Maybe corrective action can be taken | Too late to do anything this time | | |
| Maybe concerve action can be taken | → lessons learnt for next time | | |





What is UK industry actually measuring? Metrics our consultants find in use

- Project Schedule Variance. Time recording measurements (e.g. planned effort vs actual, effort against specific project tasks or phases), productivity
- **Project Cost Variance**. Project budgets/costs
- **Quality**. Defect density, defects by phase, defects by priority.
- **Requirements**. Number, types, traced/untraced, churn...
- Development. Source lines of code, Use Case points (rare), McCabe's cyclomatic complexity
- **Testing**. Passed tests, failed tests, test coverage.





What is industry actually measuring? UK High integrity systems developer

10+ years ago

- Compelling need: avoid historical programme cost and schedule slippage
- Solution: Iterative, risk driven software development
- Primary measure: system usage scenarios (specified, implemented, tested)
- Standard measures: SLOC productivity, defect trends, PM metrics
- Today
 - Engineering Dashboard
 - Operational objectives (flown down from BU to EU e.g. tender response time)
 - Financial (EBIT, overhead control)
 - Training
 - IS Tooling (Tool licence usage, denials)
- Future
 - MoD mandating Earned Value reporting





What is industry actually measuring? Rational product development



Prototype dashboard illustrating business level view of measures

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What is industry actually measuring? IBM Hursley Development Labs

Develop and support

Transaction Processing

- Enterprise Messaging and Storage
- Service Oriented Architecture
- Grid and Pervasive Computing
- Java and Linux



IBM Hursley Development Lab Example: Websphere Product X Development



IBM Hursley Development Lab More Example Measures

- Platform Management
 - Test suite pass rate by build (identifies problem areas)
 - Test suite pass rate over time (Identifies test reliability)
 - Build v. Defect 3D Trend Chart (builds on X, time on Z, pass rate on Y identifies where problems were introduced)
- Tivoli (CQ-ALM)
 - Tasks per phase (workload management)
 - Activities ready for building ("fix" management)









Phase 1: Elicit and set business value objectives

Business and IT

- Define business objectives
- Map business objectives to operational objectives
- Define development approach

Know what you want to improve and why





Establishing context for setting business objectives Primary dimensions

Scale / complexity

- Application size, team size
- Risk of loss of life or money, compliance need

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Variance

- > Technical, legal, and organisational risk
- Organisational ability to deliver

Sources: COCOMO – 22 parameters



Determining improvement areas and approach





Phase 2: Determine solution components

Business and IT

- Baseline "As-Is" and define "To-Be" model
- Define solution roadmap
- Do financial analysis; business case
- Define measurement system

Be able to justify and know how the improvement will yield %x, \$y in n months for an investment of \$z





Practice-based approach

- Addresses one aspect of the software lifecycle
 - ▶ e.g., continuous integration, use-case driven development, etc.
- Can be incrementally and independently adopted
- Can be mapped to operational objectives and development pain points
- Adoption can be measured





Context determines preferred practices Different practices apply to different contexts

| Predictability | High | Requirements elicitation Evolutionary architecture | Risk-value lifecycle Requirements Management Modeling practices | ent |
|-----------------------------|--------|---|--|------|
| Agility | Medium | Iterative development 2-level planning Shared vision | Architecture management Requirements elicitation Iterative development 2-level planning | t |
| Efficiency | Low | Test management Release management Continuous integration Scale | Test management Release management Continuous integration Application Size, Team Size, Medium | High |
| | | | | 18 |



Example mapping





Tailor measurements to context





Phase 3: Accelerate and monitor adoption

Business and IT

- Implement roadmap (incremental adoption of practices)
- Monitor results and steer adoption
- Showcase improvements

Demonstrate tangible improvements in incremental steps



TAX.



Monitor Adoption Example: Are we iterative?



No – iterative needs demonstrable results – there is little working software or feedback



Phase 4: Review and communicate business results

- Business and IT
 - Review and steer as required
 - Publish results

Communicate and steer on-going improvements









Example of incremental adoption



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Case study: Improving IT efficiency

Company profile

- Global telecom equipment manufacturer
 - 2500 engineers in years 1-2, ramping up to 6,000 in 3-5
 - Average project size: 20 people
 - Average project duration: 6 months

Assessment findings

- Address IT as a "cost center:" Scope creep on "customer specials" eroding profitability
 Manage requirements scope and improve analysis and cost estimates rigor
 - 80% of projects are maintenance
 - Reduce defect rates; improve test efficiency, invest in innovation
 - Multiple build processes across acquired companies
 Streamline processes to reduce build failures

| | Short term | Short term | Mid term | Long Term |
|-----------|--|---|--|--|
| Benefit | Reduce probability of failed builds by 50-75% | Reduce defect rates by 5% | Improve test team efficiency by 8% | Defect rates lowered 5% more, test costs lowered 30% more |
| Strategy | Streamline build management processes across acquired companies; automate build management | Improve/integrate defect &requirements management Establish defect management between defects, requirements & test | Automate manual tests, reduce 40-60% overhead. Test teams create/tear down test infrastructures | Add requirements definition (e.g., storyboards, use cases, performance requirements) Automate test lab management |
| Timeframe | 6 months | 4 months | 3 months | 12 months |



Jazz platform direction Operationalise capability improvement



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