Practical Software Measurement

A guide to objective program insight



Software Product Engineering Measurement July 24, 1997

Joint Logistics Commanders Joint Group on Systems Engineering

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense Acquisition and Technology

Workshop Participants

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Restatement of Objectives

- Identify key SPE issues and customer needs
 - Context Issues
 - Measurement Issues
- Formulate Requirements for SPE effort
- Identify SPE product(s)



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SPE "Context" Issues

- Assessing the accuracy with which user expectations are captured
- Impact of life cycle
- Standards (internal/external)
 - Adhering to
 - Capturing intent
 - Establishing adequacy ?
- Providing guidance for interpreting measures



SPE "Context" Issues

- Interface: Human, System (HW/SW)
 - Quality & Functionality
- Functionality & Quality Focus
- Process and Product artifacts
- Customer Categories
- Measuring Internal & External Quality
 - Quality attributes of the product
 - Quality attributes of use



SPE "Context" Issues

- Judged inappropriate
 - Facilitating communication
 - PM issue
 - Establishing effectiveness of SPE measurement process
 - Process issue
 - Improving Product Engineering process
 - Process Issue
 - Cost & Schedule
 - PM Issue



SPE "Measurement" Issues

- User expectations as related to functionality
- Changes in quality both positive and negative
- Operator usability quantification via development measures
- Group current issues and abstract to higher level



SPE "Measurement" Requirements

- Guidance on defect classification and definition.
- Discussion on the use of product measures to determine when products are ready for release. (intermediate & final)
- Development measures can be used to support maintenance issues (fnctlty/quality)



SPE "Measurement" : Other Considerations

- Measures should work in any environment
- Acquisition may be another category for customer
- Investigate IEEE & ISO Software Quality Stds
- Relationship of formal SW inspection data to SPE
- Process adherence impacts product quality
- Products can include training manuals

PRACTICAL SOFTWARE MEASUREMENT

Conclusions And Recommendations

- The SPE measurement effort will <u>assess</u> <u>the impact</u> and <u>incorporate the findings</u> relative to the above identified:
 - "Context" issues
 - "Measurement" issues
 - "Measurement" requirements



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Next Steps - Action Items

- Survey analysis
- SPE Planning Group consider workshop results (7/29)
- Issues and Requirements
- Products of SPE Effort
- Strategic plan



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