

Outsourcing Software Systems

Assuring Success

How Big? How much? How long?
... and how do I get what I expect

Jeff Van Fleet, President and CEO

What we want

- On time delivery
- Expected functionality
- High quality
- Competitive price

- Open communications
- Clear expectations

Industry Track Record

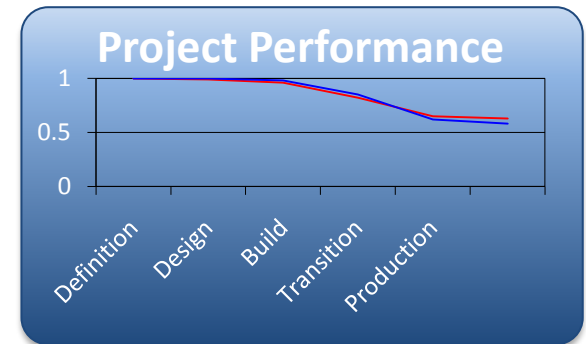
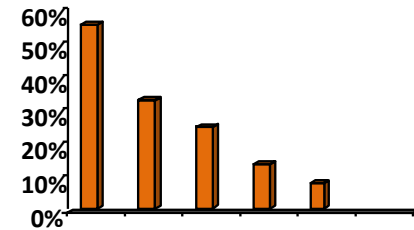
1. Larger projects = Lower Success ¹
2. Large software projects average ¹

Cost	190% over budget
Schedule	220% over budget
Functionality	61% of plan
3. Unplanned rework due to latent defects is the number one factor; defects found in later phases cost 5X from previous phase ²

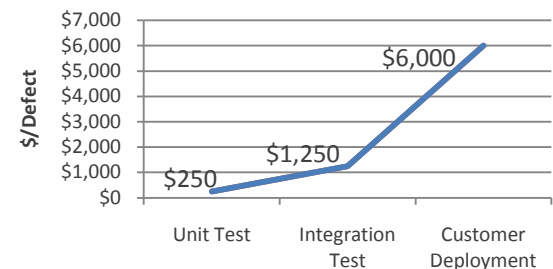
¹ Data adapted from Standish Group (2004)

² Data from Lighthouse Technologies, Inc.

% Project Success



Cost of Defects

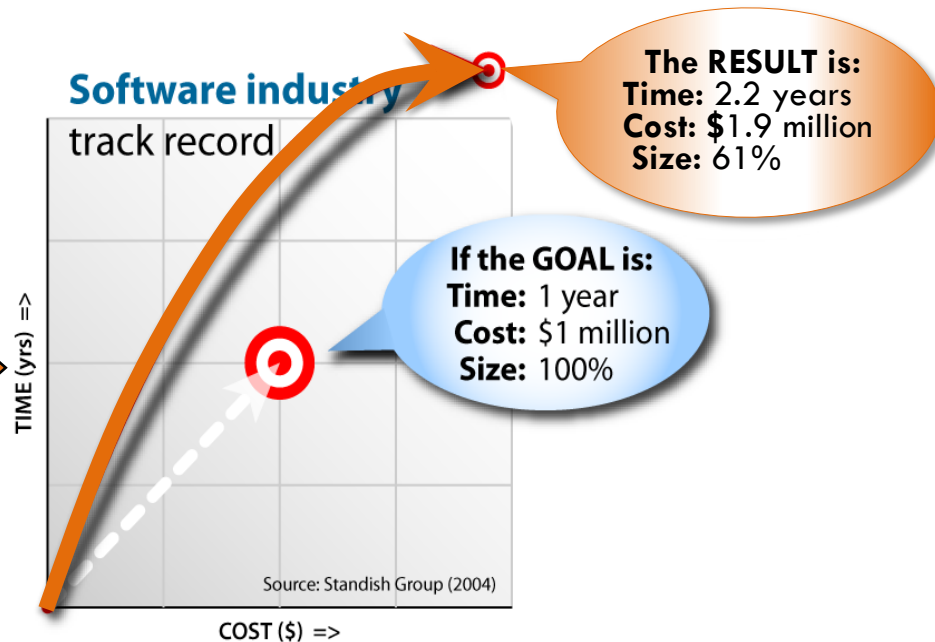
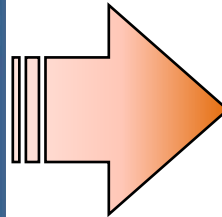


Typical risks lead to typical results

Top 6 Project Risks

1. Lack of user input
2. Incomplete requirements
3. Changing requirements
4. Lack of executive support
5. Technology incompetence
6. Unrealistic Expectations

Source: Standish Group (2004)



Three big issues

Project Scoping – Establish Baseline

- Establish realistic cost, schedule, and quality expectations
- Achieve successful leadership approval, RFP development, and vendor negotiations

Communication

- Assure all stakeholders understand process ,roles, and responsibilities
- Assure project stays aligned with business need

Visibility

- Assure transparency into entire development process
- Drive out defects with milestone gate checks, inspection, and testing
- Have information for course corrections

The solution: Function Point Analysis

A method to break software systems into smaller components, so that they can be better understood.

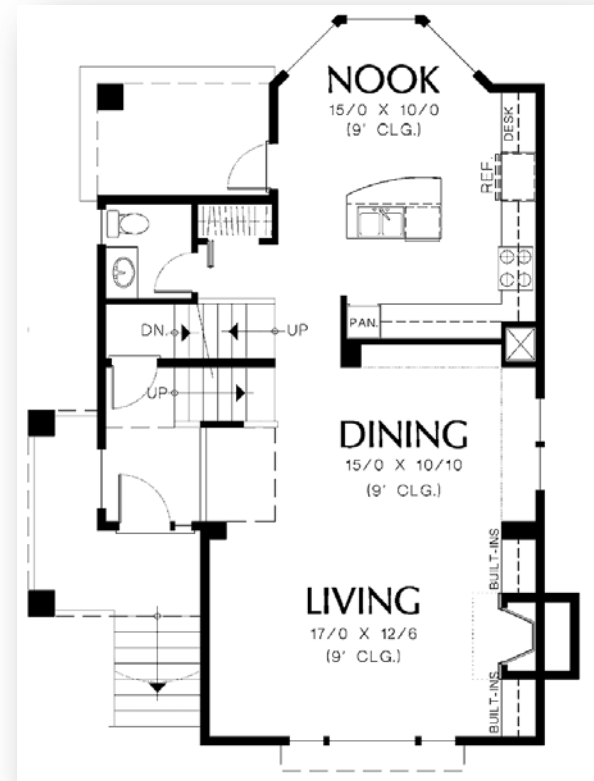
If building software is like building a house ...



The solution: Function Point Analysis

A method to break software systems into smaller components, so that they can be better understood.

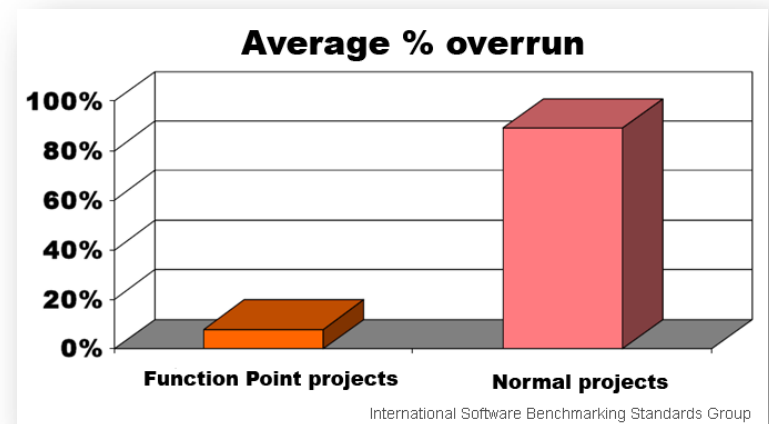
... then Function Points are like square feet.





Why Function Point Analysis?

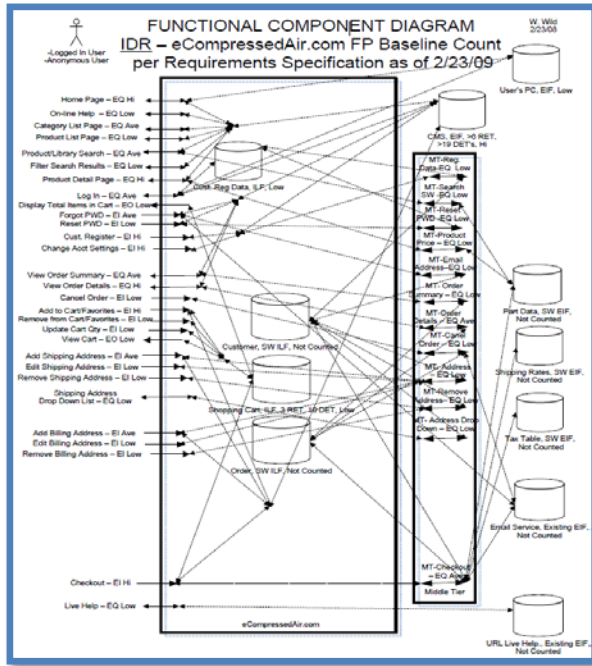
- ISO recognized tool to measure software size
- Sets scope of effort (like floor plan's cost/square foot)
- Estimate is precise (accuracy $\pm 5\%$)
- Managed by International Function Point User's Group (IFPUG)
- It allows comparison across all sizes and technologies
- ISBSG maintains database of 5100+ projects
- FP projects rarely overrun



Project Scoping – The Process

Needs Statement

Hskjdfk ksdkjl hashj III a
Jldlfhisdhjkfkh kljl hkd hhkjs
Hjkdsklfhkhkjksdk lsdh jkkj
dllk lkd dsl hsdljh sadiyu h



Count the FPs

CMMI	\$/FP	Defects/FP
1	\$3035	1.77
2	\$1683	0.94
3	\$1350	0.51

Develop RFP Expectations

- Cost/FP
- Defects/FP
- Schedule/FP

Three big issues

Project Scoping

- Establish realistic cost, schedule, and quality expectations
- Achieve successful leadership approval, RFP development, and vendor negotiations

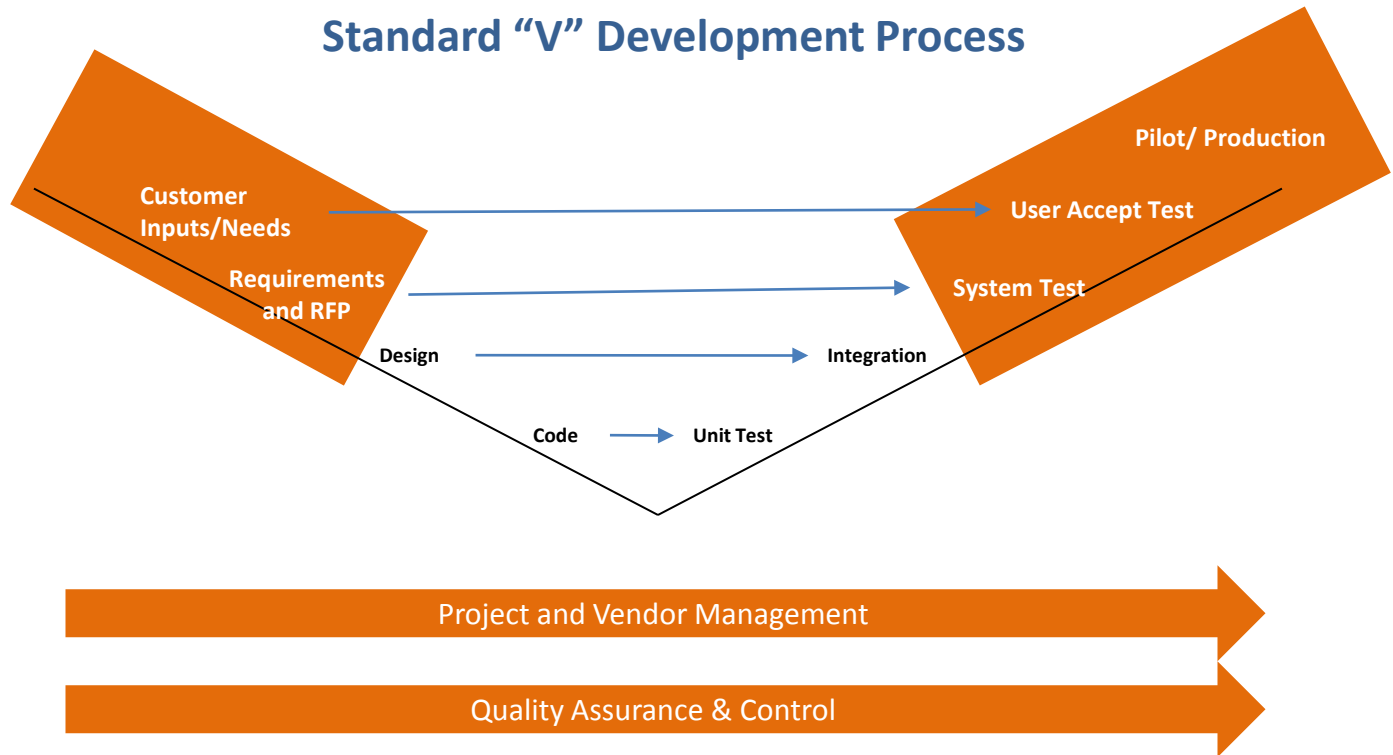
Communication – No ball gets dropped

- Assure all stakeholders understand process, roles, and responsibilities
- Assure project stays aligned with business need

Visibility

- Assure transparency into entire development process
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- Have information for course corrections

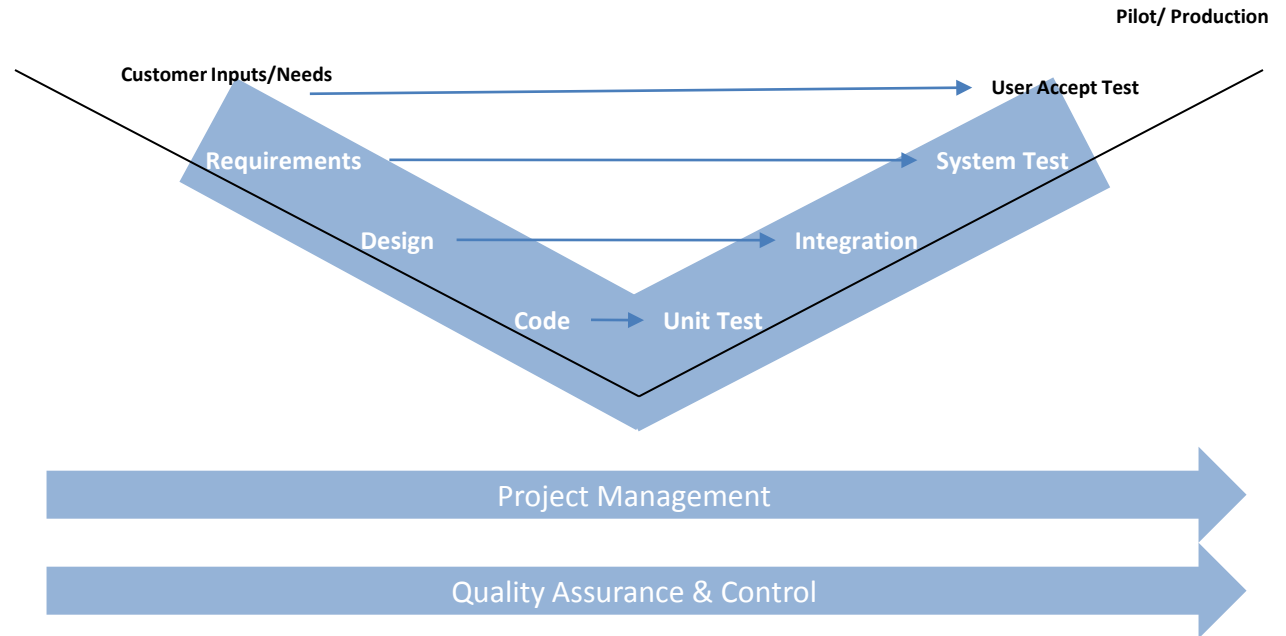
Client Responsibilities



Communication

Standard “V” Development Process

Vendor Responsibilities

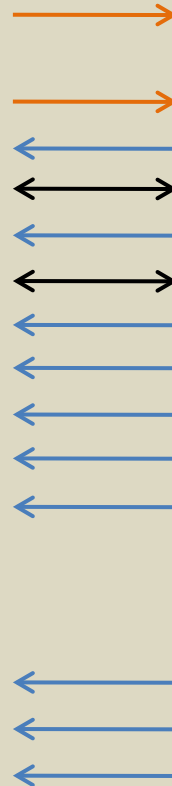


**Lots of
interfaces
lead to
lots of risks**

Client

- Customer Need
- Requirements
- Project Scoping
- RFP
- Proposal Evaluation
- Contract Negotiations
- Architecture Conformance
- Legacy System Interface
- Design Inspections
- Code Inspections/ Standards
- Unit Test Inspections
- Integration Plan /Test Inspect
- Data Inspections
- System Test
- User Acceptance Test
- Pilot / Production
- Project Mgmt
- Configuration Mgmt
- Quality Mgmt
- Org Change Mgmt

Interfaces

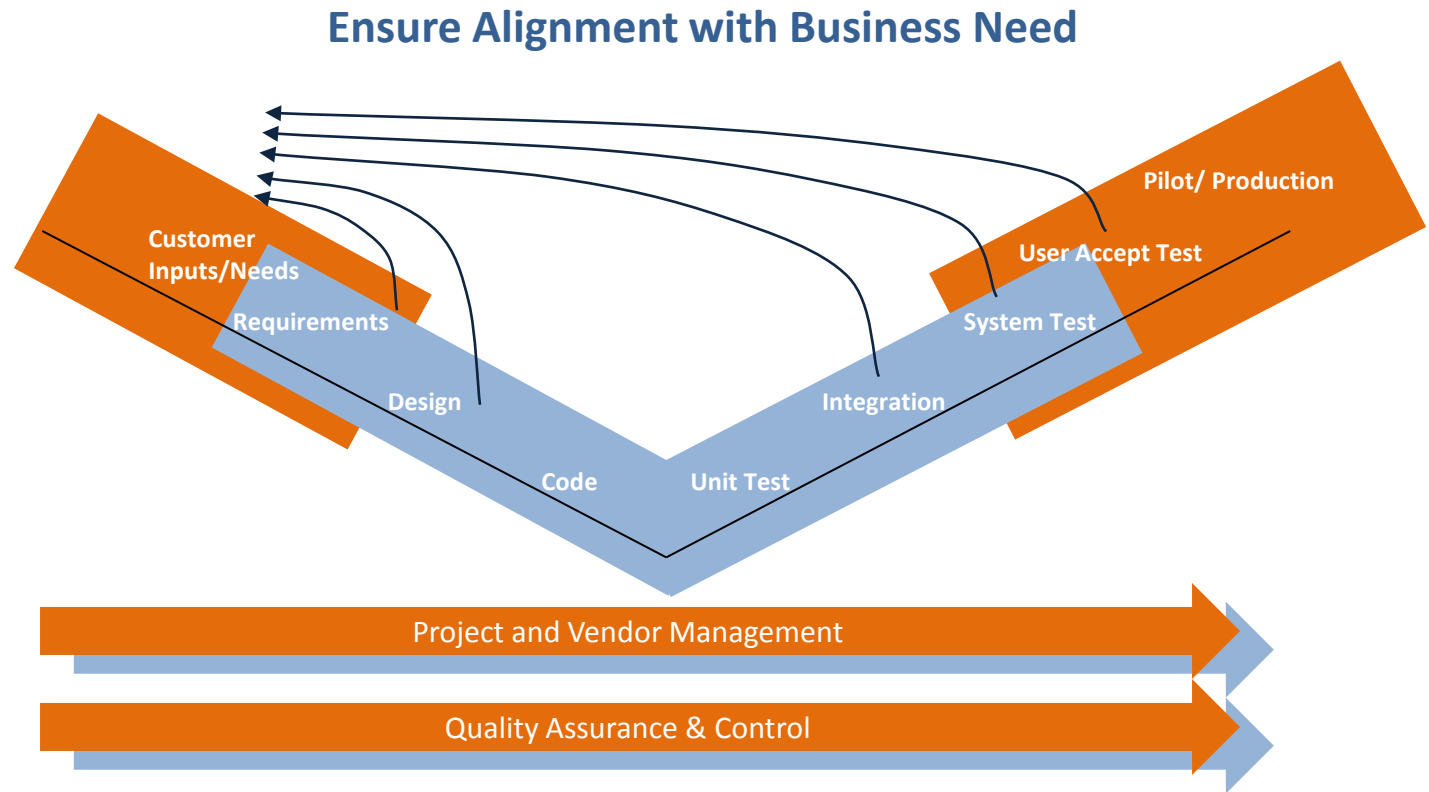


Vendor

- Requirements Verification
- Project Scoping
- RFP Eval / Bid Decision
- Proposal Development
- Contract Negotiations
- Architecture
- Legacy System Interface
- Design
- Code
- Unit Test
- Integration / Integration Test
- Data Conversion / Cleansing
- System Test

- Project Mgmt
- Configuration Mgmt
- Quality Mgmt

**Establish
Milestone
Gate Checks
with Users**



Three big issues

Project Scoping

- Establish realistic cost, schedule, and quality expectations
- Achieve successful leadership approval, RFP development, and vendor negotiations

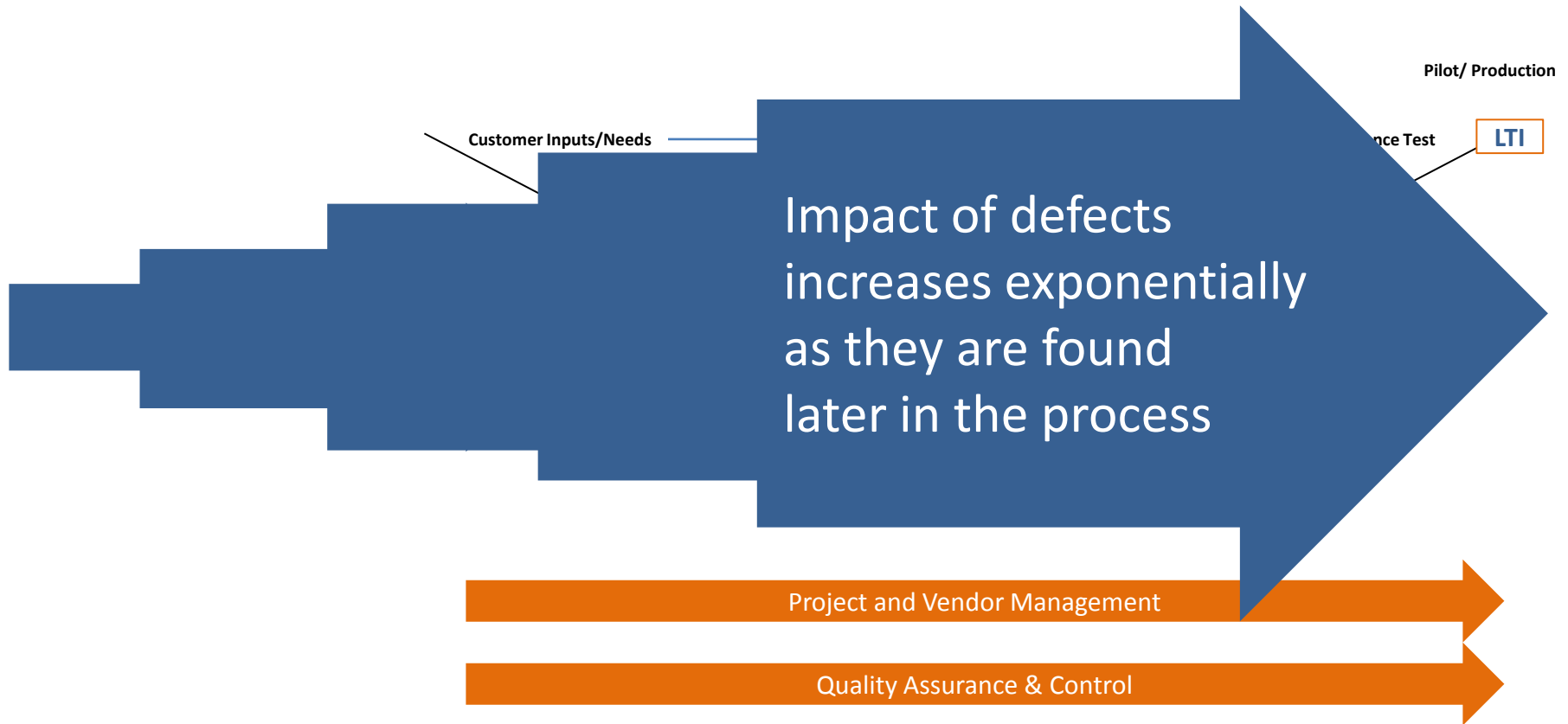
Communication

- Assure all stakeholders understand process, roles, and responsibilities
- Assure project stays aligned with business need

Visibility – Avoid Surprises

- Assure transparency into entire development process
- Drive out defects with milestone gate checks, inspection, and testing
- Have information for course corrections

Undetected defects cause unplanned rework



Unplanned rework causes the "Surprises" (schedule slips and cost overruns)

QAWatch™ Predictive Analysis - Internet Explorer provided by Dell
http://qawatch/PRedictiveAnalysis.aspx

Project Attributes
Function Points: 1,000 Process Maturity Level: Level 1 COTS / RIC



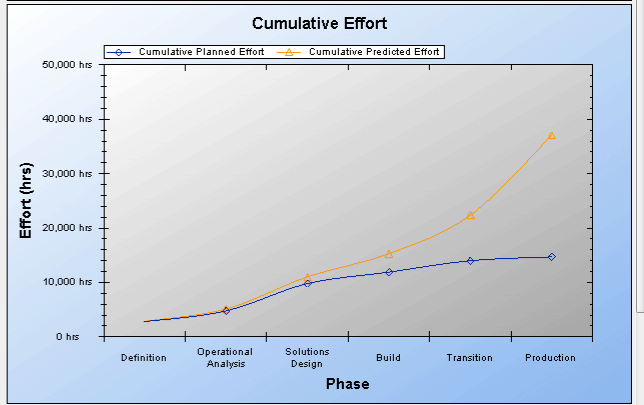
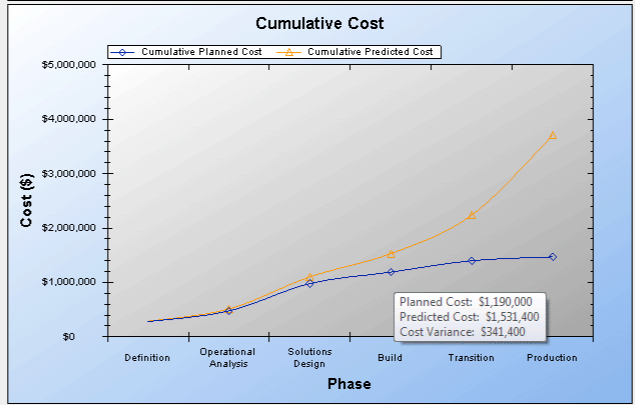
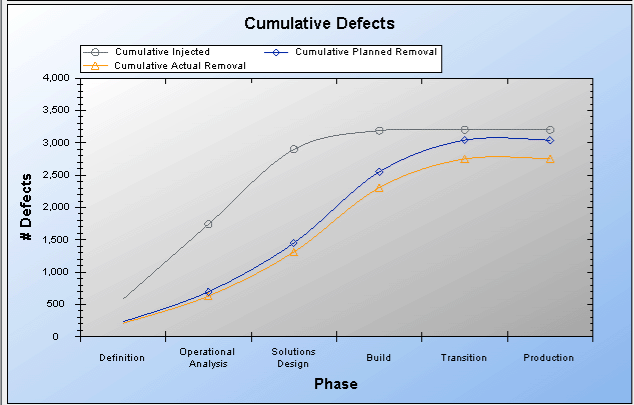
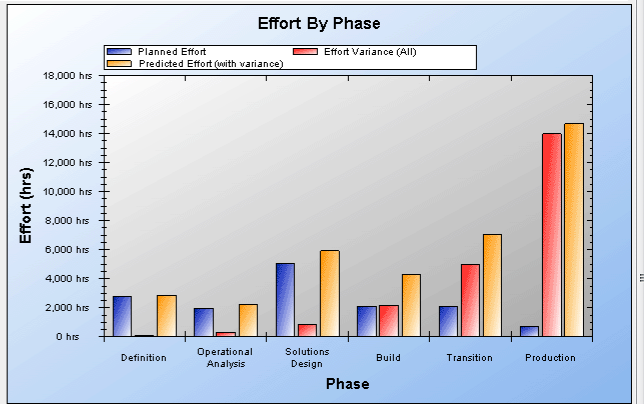
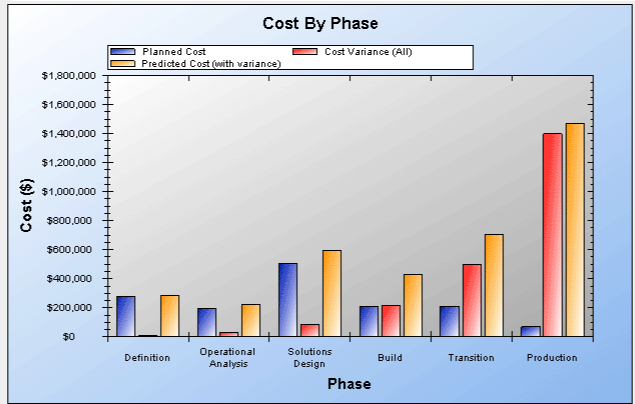
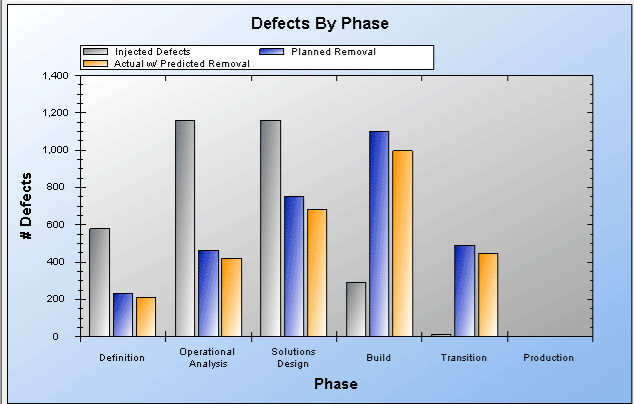
Quality Options

- Injected Defects
- Planned Removal Defects
- Actual w/ Predicted Defects
- Quality Variance

Cost & Effort Options

Cost per Hour: 100

- Planned
- Predicted (with Variance)
- Variance (All)
- Variance (Definition)
- Variance (Operational Analysis)
- Variance (Solutions Design)
- Variance (Build)
- Variance (Transition)
- Variance (Production)



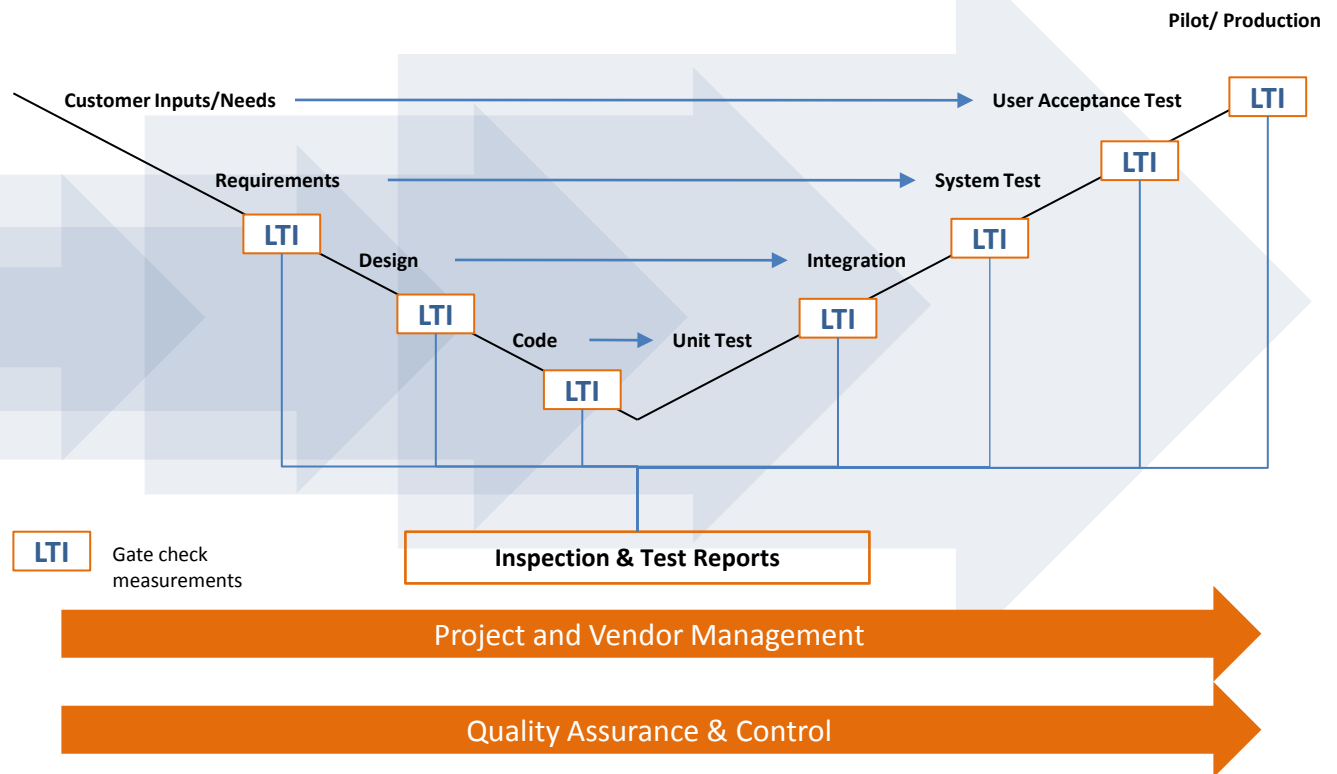
	Definition	Operations Analysis	Solutions Design	Build	Transition	Production
Function Point Count	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0
Injection Rate (per FP)	0.8	1.2	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Planned Defects	800.0	1,200.0	1,200.0	300.0	0.0	0.0

	Definition	Operations Analysis	Solutions Design	Build	Transition	Production
Planned Cost per FP (\$)	280.0	198.0	504.0	210.0	210.0	70.0
Planned Cost	280,000.0	198,000.0	504,000.0	210,000.0	210,000.0	70,000.0
Predicted Cost	280,000.0	496,000.0	998,000.0	1,208,000.0	1,418,000.0	1,488,400.0

	Definition	Operations Analysis	Solutions Design	Build	Transition	Production
Planned Effort per FP (hrs)	2.8	2.0	5.0	2.1	2.1	0.7
Planned Effort	2,800.0	1,980.0	5,040.0	2,100.0	2,100.0	700.0
Predicted Effort	2,800.0	6,760.0	11,800.0	13,900.0	16,000.0	17,431.4

Formal Milestones, Gate Checks, Inspections, and Testing eliminate “Surprises”

“To get what you expect,
you must Inspect”
– 7-Eleven



Summary - Managing Risks

Risks

- Scope not known before proposals are received
- Vendor underestimates work
- Vendor thinks they are better than they really are

Mitigation

- Use FPA to estimate scope yourself
- In RFP, ask vendor for FP estimate and Basis of Estimate
- Ask for past performance projects and metrics, CMMI rating, and independent assessment of their performance

Summary - Managing Risks (continued)

Risks

- Larger projects = Higher Risk
- Heads off track and you don't know
- No user involvement / buy-in

Mitigation

- Require iterative development. Vendor to identify the FPs/iteration in their project plan. Have specific schedule and quality metrics for each iteration.
- Define processes, I/F points, and milestone exit criteria. Inspect all work products and test each iteration.
- Have users involved in RFP, requirements, major milestones, iteration testing, and UAT

Recommendations for success

Getting best value

- Minimize proposal assumptions by building good requirements
- Use FPA to estimate scope to get budget approval
- Require cost/FP bids and require vendors to specify planned effort/FP and defects/FP
- Incent if early and less defects
- Penalize if late or more defects
- Agree to development process, milestones, and work products before starting project

Getting best value

- Inspect all work products, first article and 10-15%. Reject all if exceeds your threshold
- Specify maintainability expectations
 - Code complexity
 - Comment density
 - Conformance to architecture, design, and coding standards
 - User documentation
- Budget for sufficient team to inspect and test
 - The better the vendor is, the less this costs

Trust, but Verify

Custom Software, ERP, or packaged apps

Full Application Lifecycle Management Solutions

- Vendor management for outsourced projects
- Internal teams - Reduced cost and schedule with increased quality

Component Services

- Full Service Testing
- Program Management
- Requirements
- Assessments, Audits, Benchmarks
- Project Scoping
- RFP and Proposal Analysis

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