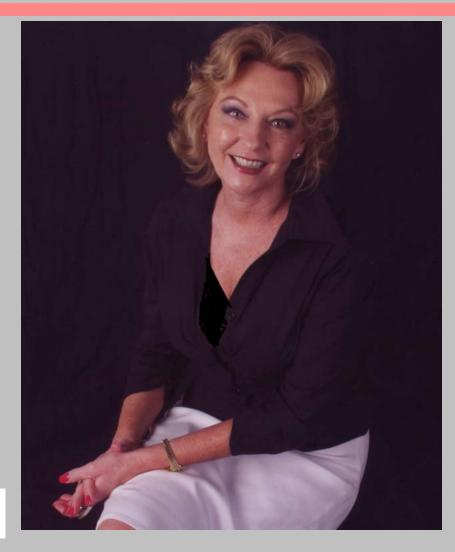
Reducing Variation at Each CMMI Maturity Level

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Welcome





Continuous Variation of Reducing Variation

The ideas of variation found in this presentation

- Provide the backdrop for using the CMMI model as the basis for an organization's process improvement initiative
- Show that this journey is synonymous with a journey of reducing variation



Understanding Variation The Key to Managing Chaos Donald J. Wheeler, SPC Press, 2000

Process Change and Variation

- Dr. Wheeler shared his interpretation of Dr. Walter Shewhart's approach to interpreting data.
 - We analyze numbers in order to know when a change has occurred in our process of system...."
 - Some variation is routine, run-of-the-mill, and is to be expected even when the process has not changed.
 - Other variation is exceptional, outside the bounds of routine, and therefore to be interpreted as a signal of process change...." "...

Understanding Variation

- Understanding variation is achieved by collecting and analyzing process and product measures so that special causes of variation can be identified and addressed to achieve predictable performance
- All characteristics of processes and products display variation when measured over time
- Variation may be due to
 - Natural or common causes
 - Special or "assignable" causes of variation
- Understanding and controlling variation is the essence of CMMI Maturity L4 & L5

Common Causes of Variation

- Common causes of variation
 - Variation in process performance due to normal interaction among the process components (people, machines, material, environment, and methods)
 - Characterized by a stable and consistent pattern of measured values over time
 - Variation due to common cause is random but will vary within predictable bounds
 - Onexpected results are extremely rare
 - Predictable is synonymous with in control

Special Causes of Variation

- Special or Assignable causes of variation
 - Arise from events that are not part of the normal process
 - Represent sudden or persistent abnormal changes due to one or more of the process components
 - inputs to the process
 - environment
 - process steps themselves
 - the way the process steps are executed

Examples of assignable causes of variation include inadequately trained people, tool failures, failures to follow the process

Process Variation

Reducing process variation is an important aspect to quantitative management:

It is important to focus on subprocesses that can be controlled to achieve a predictable performance

 Statistical process control is often better focused on organizational areas such as Product Lines where there is high similarity of processes, than on the organization's entire set of products

CMMI Overview

Level	Process Characteristics	Process Areas
Optimizing	Focus is on quantitative continuous process improvement	Causal Analysis and Resolution Organizational Innovation and Deployment
Quantitatively Managed	Process is measured and controlled	Quantitative Project Management Organizational Process Performance
Defined	Process is characterized for the organization and is proactive	Requirements Development Technical SolutionIntegrated Project Management Integrated Teaming Organizational EnvironmentProduct Integration Verification Validation Organizational Process Focus Organization Process DefinitionIntegrated Project Management Integrated Teaming Organizational Environment For Integration Integrated Supplier Management Risk Management Decision Analysis & Resolution
Managed		Requirements ManagementConfiguration ManagementProject PlanningMeasurement and AnalysisProject Monitoring and ControlSupplier Agreement ManagementProduct and Process Quality AssuranceProgram
Initial	Process is unpredictable, poorly controlled, and reactive Kasse Initiatives, LLC	Version NDIA CMMI Conf - 2005 Reducing Variation - CMMI - 10

Maturity Level 1: Initial

Processes are usually ad hoc and chaotic

- The organization usually does not provide a stable environment
- Success depends on the competence and heroics of the people in the organization and not on the use of proven processes

Maturity level 1 organizations are characterized by a tendency to over commit, abandon processes in the time of crisis, and not be able to repeat their past successes

Variation Among Individuals

One of the traits of CMMI Maturity Level 1 is that the process "belongs" to the people."

If others follow a process, it is normally due to the strong personality of someone on the project who has experienced using processes in another environment

From a variation point of view, a level one organization has great variation based on its individual employees following their own process paths. This is why maturity level one companies depend so heavily on the heroics of its people

Maturity Level 2: Managed

- Projects ensure that requirements are managed and that processes are planned, performed, measured, and controlled
- The process discipline reflected by maturity level 2 helps to ensure that existing practices are retained during times of stress
- At maturity level 2, requirements, processes, work products, and services are managed
 - The status of the work products and the delivery of services are visible to management at defined points
 - The work products and services satisfy their specified requirements, standards, and objectives



Managing the Project Involves

- Estimating the scope and work that needs to be performed
- Developing mechanisms to acquire identified products
- Developing a project plan
- Getting commitments to the plan
- Working with suppliers to acquire identified products
- Monitoring progress against the plan
- Identifying and analyzing risks
- - Taking action to address significant deviations from the plan
 - Taking action to appropriately mitigate risks

Measurement and Analysis to Support Projects

Support projects includes specifying the objectives of measurement and analysis such that they are aligned with established information needs and business objectives

Defining the measures to be used, the data collection process, the storage mechanisms, the analysis processes, the reporting processes, and the feedback processes

Providing objective results that can be used in making business judgments and taking appropriate corrective actions

Basic Measures

Project Management Measures Size and complexity Effort and Cost Schedule Computer Resources Data Management Knowledge and Skills Stakeholder Involvement Technical Performance Commitments Critical Dependencies Quality



Project's Processes to Reduce Variation

At CMMI Maturity Level 2, processes normally belong to the project and are enforced by the Project Manager

The processes, standards, guidelines, checklists, and templates are enforced for all of the project members to achieve more uniformity in development and product quality

Assuming that all projects follow some form of process, the amount of variation that was seen in organizations of maturity level 1 is reduced even if all of the projects followed a different process

Maturity Level 3: Defined

- Processes are well characterized and understood, and are described in standards, procedures, tools, and methods
- The organization's set of standard processes, which is the basis for maturity level 3, is established and improved over time.
 - These standard processes are used to establish consistency across the organization
 - Projects establish their defined processes by tailoring the organization's set of standard processes according to tailoring guidelines

Maturity Level 3: Defined - 2

 The organization's management establishes process objectives based on the organization's set of standard processes

Processes are typically described in more detail and more rigorously than at maturity level 2

Organizational Processes to Reduce Variation

At The Organizational Level, an organization that wishes to achieve CMMI Maturity Level 3 needs to have its processes owned by the organization for economy of scale to be realized and process measurement to make practical sense

These process definitions are tailored and incorporated into the project's defined processes throughout the organization and thus variation in project development and product and service quality is again reduced

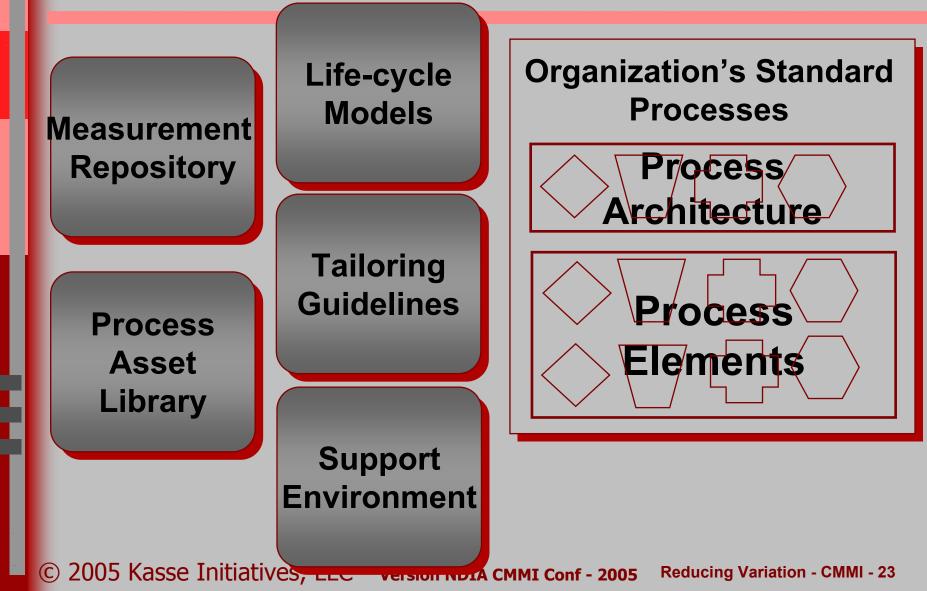
Organizational Processes to Reduce Variation - 2

An organizational measurement repository is established and maintained which contains both product and process measures based on the organization's set of standard processes along with the information needed to understand and interpret the measures

Trends can be seen and predictability can be start to be achieved

Process performance baselines can now be developed to support quantitative management later

Organization's Process Assets



Maturity Level 4: Quantitatively Managed

- Quantitative objectives for quality and process performance are established and used as criteria in managing processes.
- Quantitative objectives are based on the needs of the customer, end users, organization, and process implementers
 - Quality and process performance are understood in statistical terms and are managed throughout the life of the processes
 - Subprocesses are selected that significantly contribute to overall process performance

Maturity Level 4: Quantitatively Managed - 2

- Special causes of process variation are identified and, where appropriate, the sources of special causes are corrected to prevent future occurrences
- Quality and process performance measures are incorporated into the organization's measurement repository to support fact-based decision making in the future
- The performance of processes is controlled using statistical and other quantitative techniques
 - At maturity level 3, processes are only qualitatively predictable.

Quantitative Project Management

- Quantitative Management is tied to the organization's strategic goals for product quality, service quality, and process performance
- When higher degrees of quality and performance are demanded, the organization and projects must determine if they have the ability to improve the necessary processes to satisfy the increased demands

Achieving the necessary quality and process performance objectives requires stabilizing the processes or subprocesses that contribute most to the achievement of the objectives and reducing process variation to support the quantitative management objectives.

Process and Product Performance

 Process performance is a measure of the actual process results achieved

 Process performance is characterized by both process measures and product measures

Process measures include:

- ♦ Effort
- Cycle time
- Defect removal efficiency

Product measures include:
Reliability
Defect density
Response time
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Moving from Defined Processes to Quantitatively Managed Processes

- With defined processes, measures are collected and analyzed to understand and manage activities and results:
 - Threshold limits are set, but not using statistical and other quantitative methods
 - Exceeding threshold limits triggers actions
- With quantitative management
 - Analyses are concerned with addressing special causes of process variation
 - Measurements are analyzed quantitatively to
 - Understand process performance
 - Predict the achievement of product quality and service quality objectives

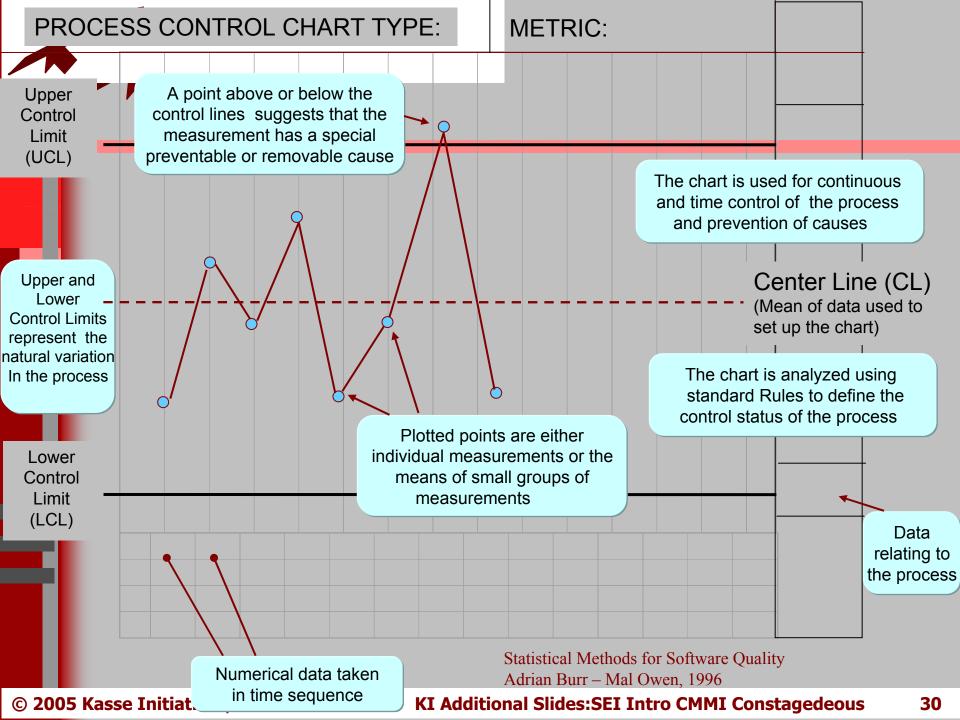
Quantitative Tools

There are a number of quantitative tools considered to be applicable to statistical process or quality control:

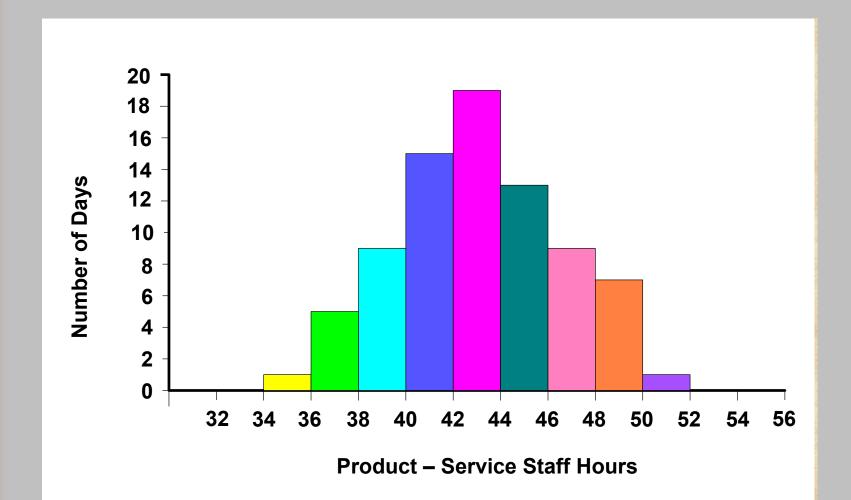
- Quantifying and Predicting Process Performance
 - Control Charts
 - Histograms
 - Run charts

Cause and Effect Relationships

- Scatter diagrams
- Cause-and-effect (fishbone) diagrams
- Bar charts
- Pareto charts
- Interrelationship Diagraph
- Kiviat Diagram







Quantitative Project Management Concepts References

Some sources that can help to really understand what is behind this statistical process control are:

- Onderstanding Variation by Donald Wheeler
- Statistical Methods for Software Quality by Adrian Burr and Mal Owen
- Measuring the Software Process by William Florac and Anita Carleton.



Voice of the Customer

Process Capability

Process capability is analyzed for those subprocesses and those measured attributes for which objectives have been set

A capable process is one that is satisfying its quality and process performance objectives and can be expected to satisfy those objectives in the future

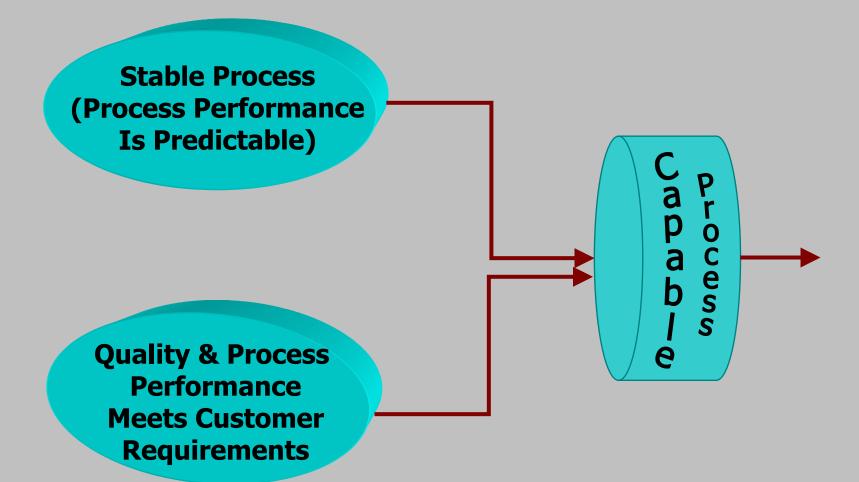
Voice of the Process

- Voice of the Process
 - The natural bounds and variation within those bounds of process performance
 - variation is within 3σ of the process mean
 - process is stable and does not exhibit any unlikely patterns or events

Voice of the Customer

- Voice of the Customer
 - The goals established for the product and process performance
 - product specifications
 - amount of downtime
 - mean time to failure
 - response time
 - management specifications
 - meeting the schedule
 - meeting the budget









Process Capability Prediction

Level	Process Characteristics	Predicted Performance
Optimizing	Focus is on continuous quantitative improvement	Probability
Quantitatively Managed	Process is measured and controlled	Frobability Time/\$/
Defined	Process is characterized for the organization and is proactive	Probability Target Wx
Managed	Process is characterized for projects and is often reactive	Probability
	Process is unpredictable, poorly controlled, and reactive	Time/\$/ DIA CMMI Conf - 2005 Reducing Variation - CMMI - 39

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The Process Capability Prediction figure provides a "process capability prediction" view of the CMMI and illustrates the theme of reduction of variation

- Initial level target dates of cost, schedule, performance and quality are often missed by wide variation.
- Managed level the variability of the actual results around the target decreases.

• **Defined** level - variability again decreases.

Target hits increase and the

♦ Target begins to move in toward the Y-axis due to reduced rework.

• Quantitatively Managed level - variability continues to decrease.

- Target results improve,
- Development time becomes shorter

Productivity and quality increase.



Optimizing level - defect prevention helps to reduce rework further and variation continues to be reduced.



There are also many different ways that the CMMI can help an organization that are not always obvious on the surface

Helping an organization to reduce variation as it improves in its process capability is a benefit of using the CMMI that all organizations should strive to utilize

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