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Measuring the Impact of RD and REQM CMMI Process Areas

Aldo Dagnino Director of Manufacturing Solutions







- Introduction
- CMMI Appraisal Results
- Methodology to Measure economic Benefits
- Conclusions

Why do Defects Occur?

- Poorly defined requirements approx 55%
- Poor design
- Coding issues
- Other

- approx 25%
- approx 15%

- approx 5%



 Poor specification, scoping, and communication of release requirements is the number 1 failure point in making quality, customer-centric software

Patton, R. (2001), Software Testing, SAMS Publishers, USA

Business Objective Guide to CMMI Appraisal

- Reduce the effort and cost of defect removal activities after system verification by 30% in Manufacturing Solutions Department
- The above business objective guided the scoping of the CMMI internal SAS appraisal.
 - The CMMI appraisal was focused on CMMI Level 2
 process areas
 - After conducting the appraisal, it became evident that a primary source of defect generation were the RD and REQM process areas



Chronology of Events





RD Specific Goals/Practices - Appraisal Results



Sas

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REQM Specific Goals/Practices – Appraisal Results





RD Specific Goals/Practices – Enhanced Process





REQM Specific Goals/Practices – Enhanced Process





RD - Before and After







REQM - Before and After





New RE Process







- Measurement Objective
 - To measure the defect removal effort in hours spent by software developers to fix defects identified, documented, and categorized in the SAS DEFECTS system
- Measures
 - # of defects in each category associated with RD and REQM
 - Actual development time associated with fixing each defect. Time includes developers' time and also subsequent tester's time to review the fixes
 - Cumulative time that accounts for all defect types across the whole project.



MA Process Area

- -2-
- Measurement Data Collection
 - Defects are identified by test team and documented in the DEFECTS database
 - Defect types are defined in a collaborative fashion between testers and developers
 - Time associated with defect removal will be recorded by developers in time-sheet database
 - Time associated with reviewing defect removal by testers will be recorded in time-sheet database
- Analysis of Measurement Data
 - Measurement data will be analyzed using the RE Economic Benefit Calculation explained later



MA Process Area



- Reporting of Measurement Data
 - Three primary reports will be generated
 - Histogram that presents the number of defects within their types at time t1 and at time t2
 - Cumulative defect removal time graphics for each defect type for time t1 and time t2
 - Histogram of total time and cost for all defect removal for time t1 and time t2

Defect Types Associated with Requirements Development

- Market Requirements Document (MRD)
 - Requirement not documented in MRD
 - Requirement not properly specified in MRD
 - Requirement creep in MRD
 - Development misunderstood requirement in MRD
- Product Requirements Specification (PRS)
 - Requirement not documented in PRS
 - Requirement not properly specified in PRS





- Change in requirement not documented in MRD
- Change in requirement not documented in PRS
- Change in requirement not properly documented in MRD
- Change in requirement not properly documented in PRS

Compare Defect Removal Effort and Cost



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RE Economic Benefit Calculation



t $_{2(k)}$ = time to fix defects of type "k" at time t₂



t $_{1 (k,i)}$ = time to fix defect of type "k" at time t and at occurrence i

t $_{2(k,j)}$ = time to fix defect of type "k" at time t $_{2}$ and at occurrence j

C = hourly average cost of development

 T_{Δ} = time differential between fixing all defect types at time 1 and at time 2

$$t_{1(k)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} [t_{1(k,i)}]$$
$$t_{2(k)} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} [t_{2(k,j)}]$$

$$T_{\Delta} = \sum_{k=1}^{s} [t_{(1,k)} - t_{(2,k)}]$$

Expected Economic Benefit = $T_{\Delta} * C$



Conclusions



- Having a quantitative business objective guiding the internal CMMI appraisal and process improvement activity is essential
- Use the Measurement and Analysis PA as a basis for measurement
- Start "small"
- Find "high impact" area that shows a "large" benefit

