



# lean

software development

## Stop-the-Line Quality

*Lessons from Lean*

# *The Toyoda's*



Sakichi Toyoda  
(1867-1930)

## Sakichi Toyoda (1867-1930)

- ✓ Extraordinary inventor of automated looms
- ✓ Crucial Idea: *Stop-the-Line*



Kiichiro Toyoda  
(1894-1952)

## Kiichiro Toyoda (1894-1952)

- ✓ Bet the family fortune on automotive manufacturing
- ✓ Crucial Idea: *Just-in-Time*



Eiji Toyoda  
(1913-Present)

## Eiji Toyoda (1913-Present)

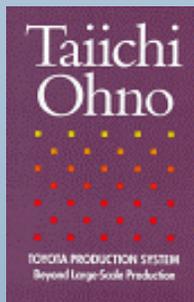
- ✓ 50 years of Toyota leadership
- ✓ Championed the development of *The Toyota Production System*





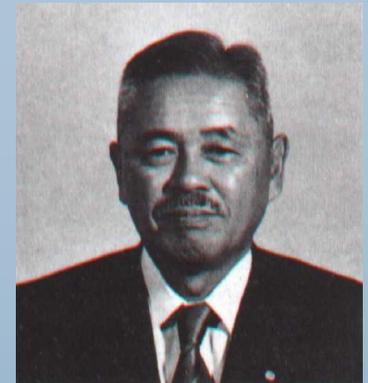
# *The Toyota Production System*

## Taiichi Ohno



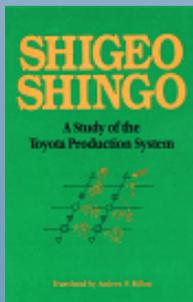
*The Toyota Production System*, 1988 (1978)

- ✓ Eliminate Waste
  - × Just-in-Time Flow
- ✓ Expose Problems
  - × Stop-the-Line Culture



**Taiichi Ohno**  
(1912-1990)

## Shigeo Shingo



*Study Of 'Toyota' Production System*, 1981

- ✓ Non-Stock Production
  - × Single Digit Setup
- ✓ Zero Inspection
  - × Mistake-Proof Every Step



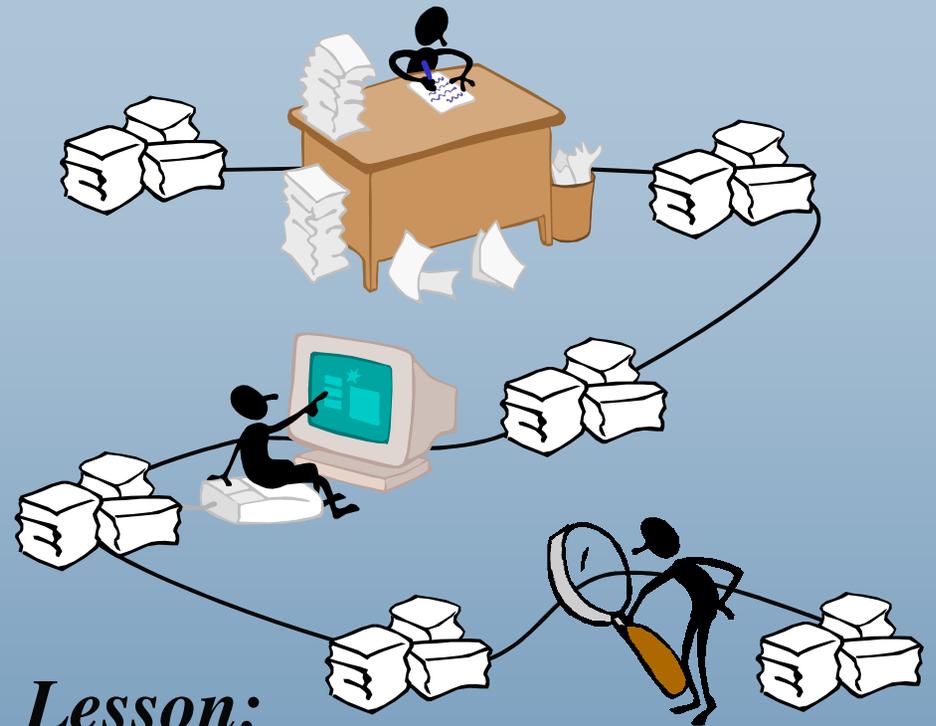
**Shigeo Shingo**  
(1909 – 1990)



# *Just-in-Time Flow*



***Lesson:***  
Stop trying to maximize  
machine productivity.



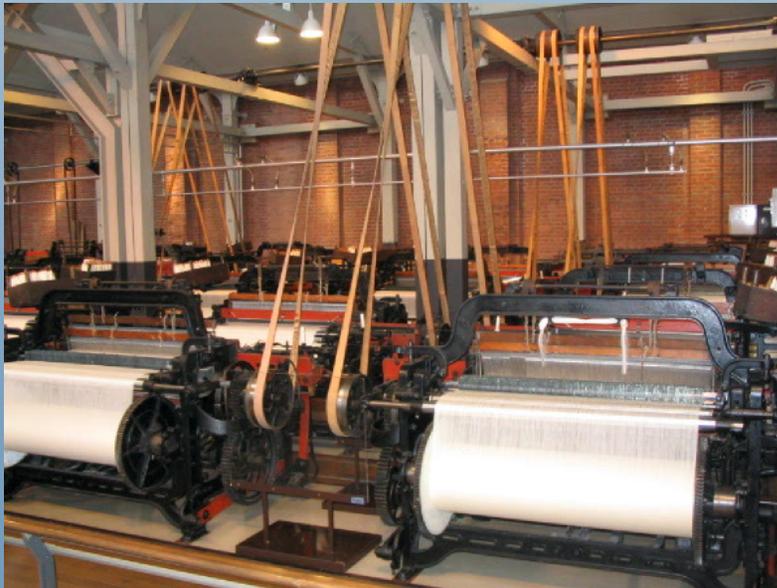
***Lesson:***  
Stop trying to maximize  
“resource” utilization.



# *Stop the Line Culture*

## **1920's:**

- ✓ Idea: Unattended looms
- ✓ Invention: Looms that stopped the moment a thread broke.



## ***Lessons:***

- ✓ The greatest productivity comes from not tolerating defects.
- ✓ Create ways to detect defects the moment they occur.



# *Engaged People*

*“Only after American carmakers had exhausted every other explanation for Toyota’s success – an undervalued yen, a docile workforce, Japanese culture, superior automation – were they finally able to admit that Toyota’s real advantage was its ability to harness the intellect of ‘ordinary’ employees.”*

“Management Innovation” by Gary Hamel,  
**Harvard Business Review**, February, 2006





# Systems Thinking

Software is rather useless  
– all by itself

Software is embedded

In hardware

In a process

In an activity



*The product [or process] must be developed as a **system**.*

The system is going to be around for a **LONG** time.

*Saving money in development at the expense of production makes no sense.*

60-80% of coding occurs after first release to production.

*Developing a change-tolerant system is fundamental.*



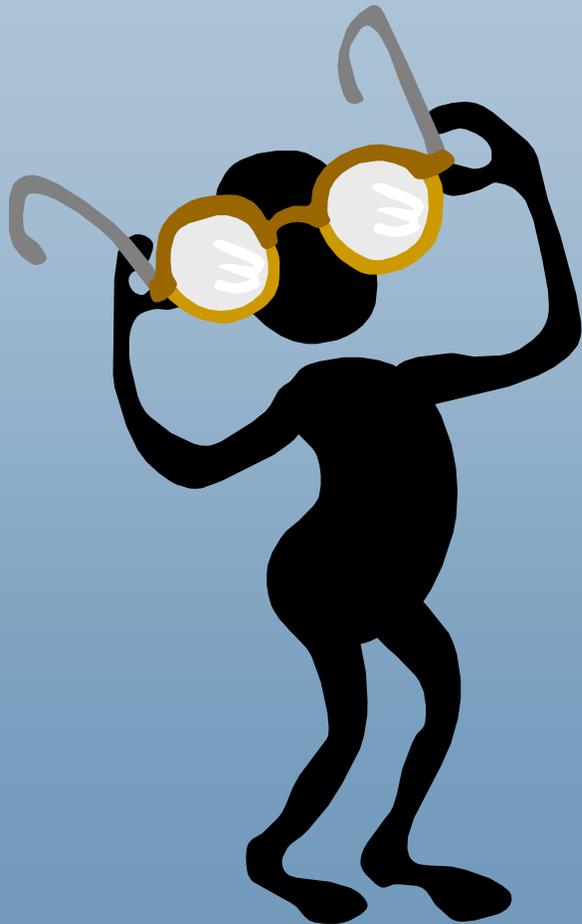
Dev

Production



# *Lesson 1: Learn to See Waste*

Put on Customer Glasses



**MUDA**

anything that  
does not add

**VALUE**

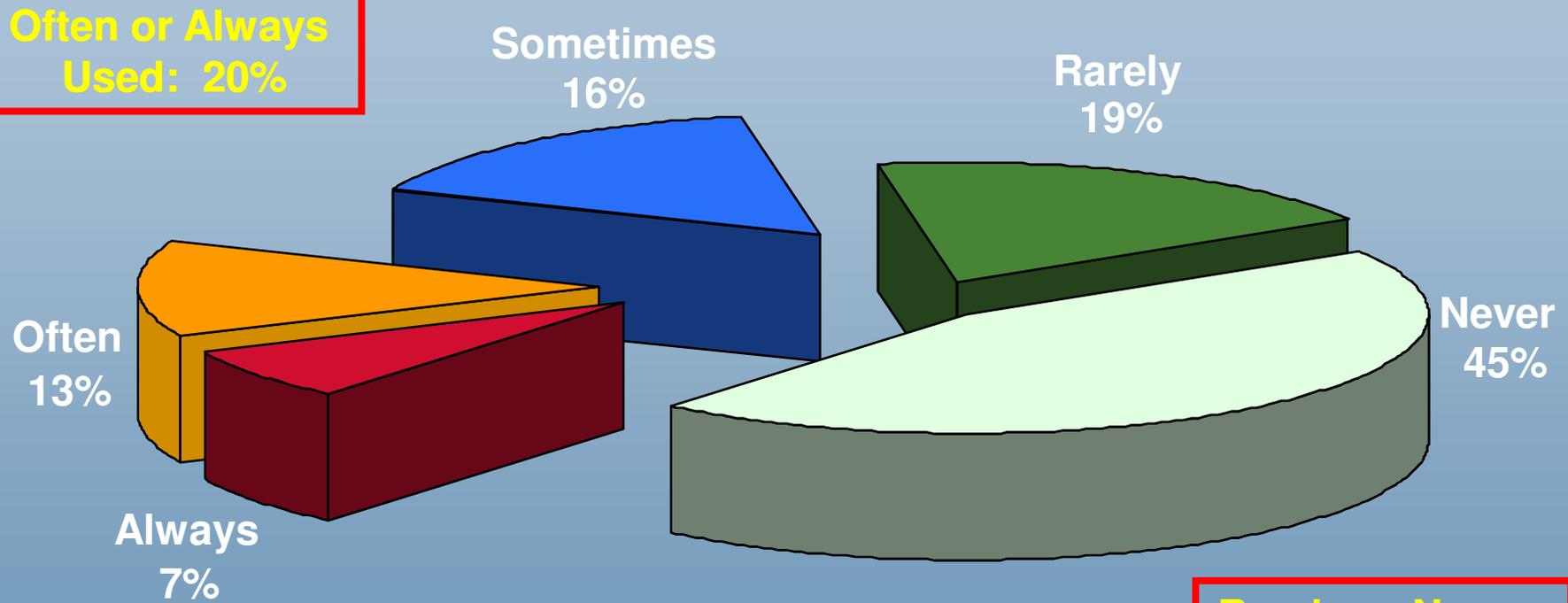
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# Myth: *Early Specification Reduces Waste*

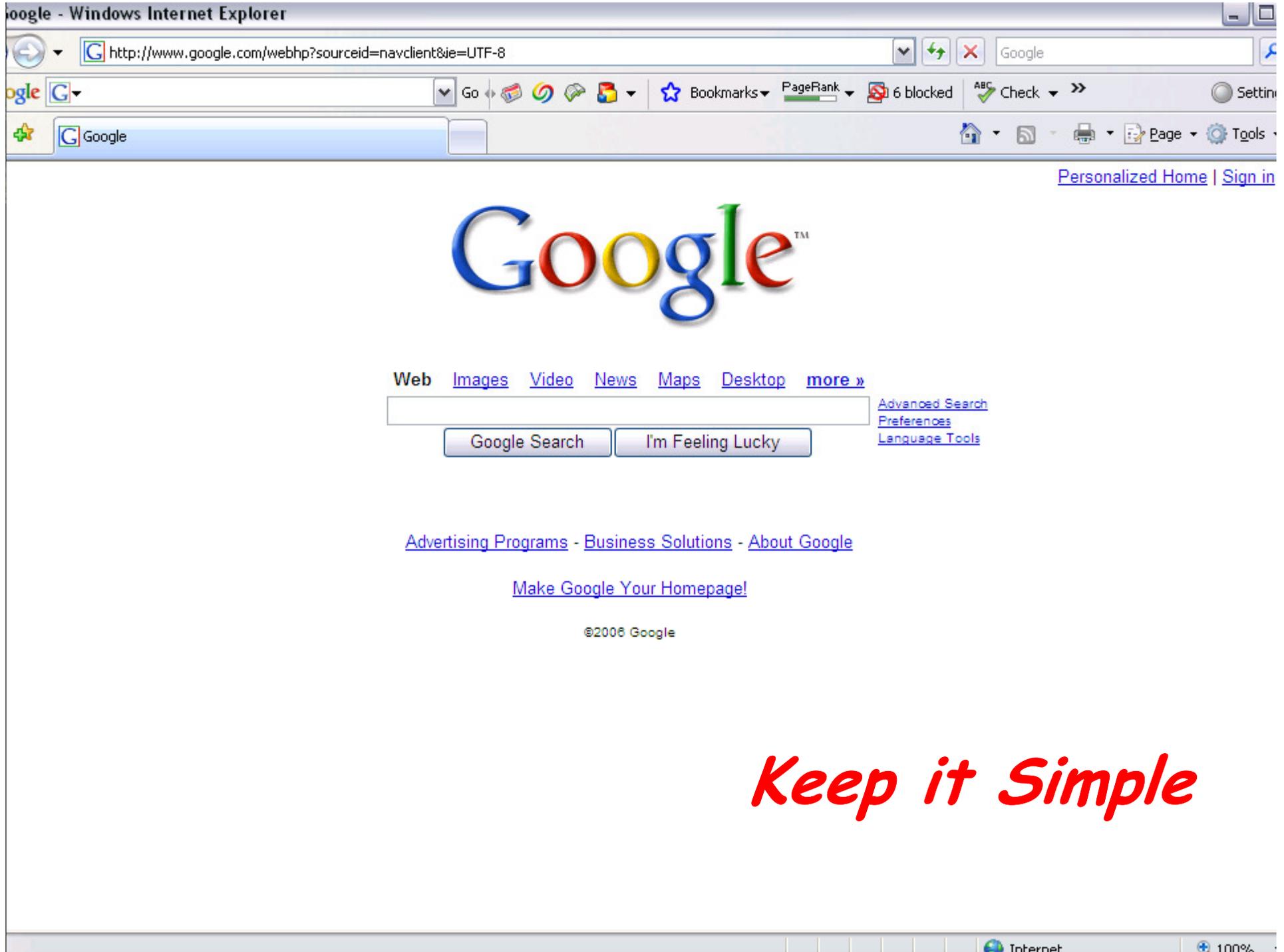
## Features and Functions Used in a Typical System

**Often or Always  
Used: 20%**



**Rarely or Never  
Used: 64%**

*Standish Group Study Reported at XP2002 by Jim Johnson, Chairman*



*Keep it Simple*



# *Reduce Risk*

## The Biggest Risk is Work-in-Process

- ✓ The **Big Bang** is Obsolete

## Sources of Risk

- ✓ Un-coded specifications
- ✓ Un-tested code
- ✓ Un-integrated code
- ✓ Code that has not been used in production



## The Best Risk Mitigation is Low Work-in-Process

- ✓ Test early, integrate often, fail fast.



# Lesson 2: *Don't Tolerate Defects*

## *There are Two Kinds of Inspection\**

1. Inspection to Find Defects – WASTE
2. Inspection to Prevent Defects – Essential



\* Shigeo Shingo

## *The Role of QA*

The job of QA is not to swat misquotes,  
The job of QA is to put up screens.

A quality process builds quality into the code

- ✓ If you routinely find defects during verification  
– your process is defective.





# *Where do defects come from?*

***90% of all defects caused by the system\****

1. They are not caused by individuals.
2. System problems are management problems.

\* Dr. W. Edwards Deming

## ***Change The System***

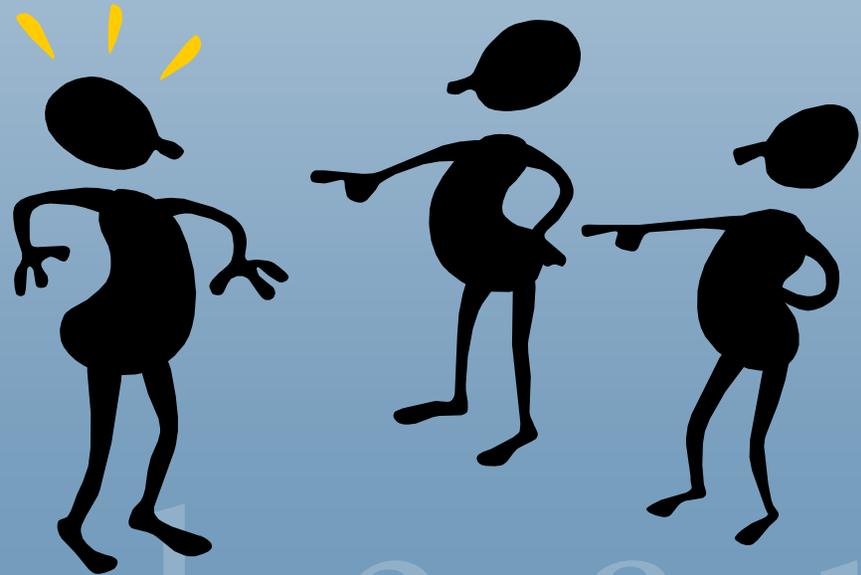
### **Mistake-Proof Every Step**

- ✓ Detect defects the moment they occur

### **Don't track defects on a list**

- ✓ Find them and fix them

### **Test FIRST**



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# Case Study

## *Mobile Spectrometer to Analyze Grain*

### Techniques:

- ✓ Trouble log with different behaviors depending on development or field platform and severity of error.
- ✓ Dual-targeting: Bracket HW-dependent code and run only with target HW, mock-out otherwise.
- ✓ Isolate HW driver code, use scripts to test it with HW
  - ✗ Became the HW acceptance tests
- ✓ Isolate and test domain-level code (eg communications)
- ✓ Special tests for unique domains (eg math algorithms)

### Result:

- ✓ In 3 years, only 51 defects (18 critical, 23 moderate, 10 cosmetic), with a maximum of 2 open at once!
- ✓ Productivity 3X similar embedded software teams.
- ✓ HW engineers trusted SW and used it to debug HW.



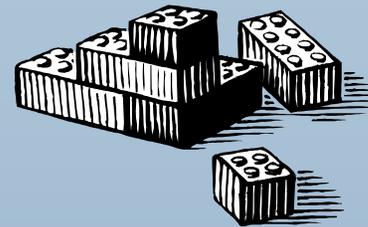
Taken from: **Taming the Embedded Tiger – Agile Test Techniques for Embedded Software**, Nancy Van Schooenderwoert & Ron Morsicato, ADC 2004 & **Embedded Agile Project by the Numbers with Nubies**, Nancy Van Schooenderwoert, Agile 2006



# *Building Block Disciplines*

## Development

- ✓ Coding Standards
- ✓ Configuration Management
  - × Tool
  - × Team Practices
- ✓ One Click Build
- ✓ Continuous Integration
- ✓ Automated Testing
  - × Unit Tests
  - × Acceptance Tests
  - × **STOP** if the tests don't pass
- ✓ Nested Synchronization



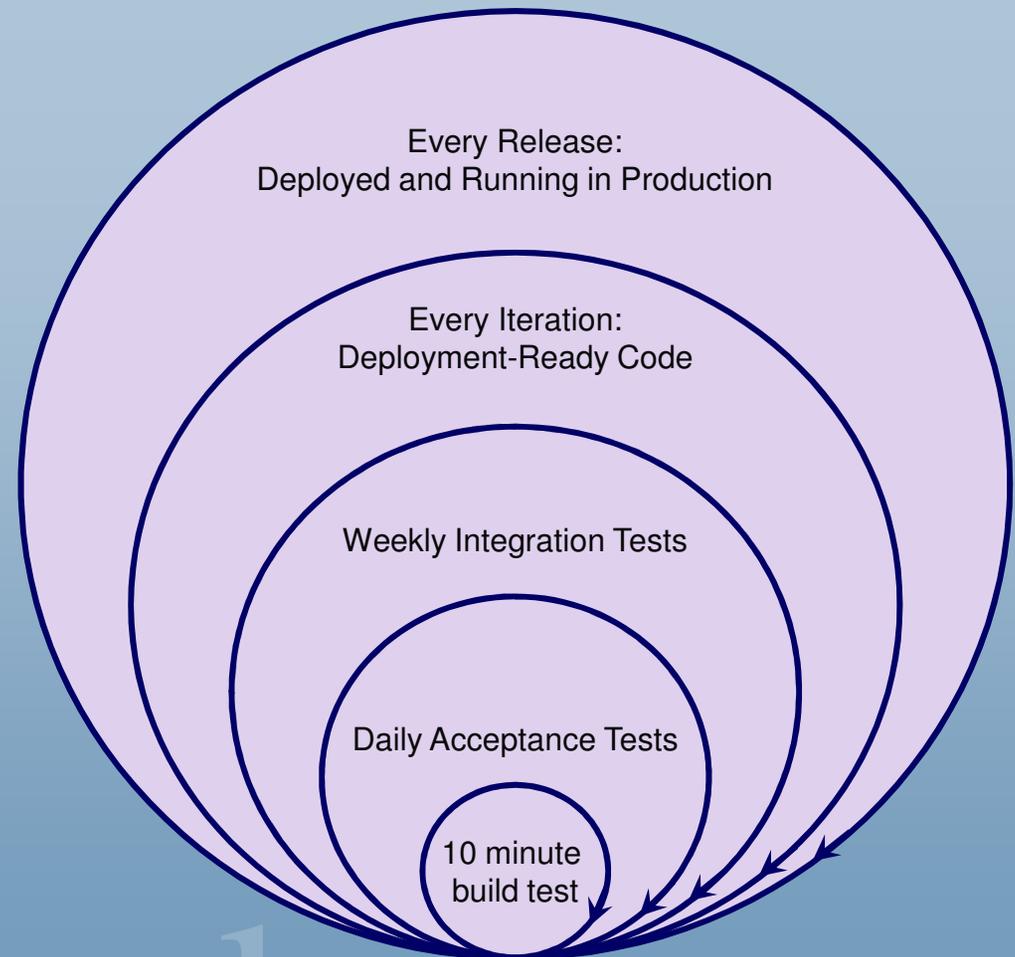
## Deployment

- ✓ Production-Hardy Code
- ✓ Automated Release Packages
- ✓ Automated Installation
- ✓ “Done” means the code is running live in production.



# Nested Synchronization

- ✓ Every few minutes
  - ✗ Build & run unit tests
  - ✗ **STOP** if the tests don't pass
- ✓ Every day
  - ✗ Run acceptance tests
  - ✗ **STOP** if the tests don't pass
- ✓ Every week
  - ✗ Run production testes
  - ✗ **STOP** if the tests don't pass
- ✓ Every iteration
  - ✗ Deployment-ready code
- ✓ Every Release
  - ✗ Deploy and run in production



**Make it Flawless**



# Types of Testing

## Business Facing

Manual:  
As Early as  
Practical

**Acceptance  
Tests**

Business Intent  
(Design of the Product)

**Usability  
Testing**

**Exploratory  
Testing**

**Unit  
Tests**

Developer Intent  
(Design of the Code)

**Property  
Testing**

Response,  
Security,  
Scaling,  
Resilience

**Critique Product**

Tool-Based:  
As Early as  
Possible

Automated:  
Every Day

From Brian Marick

**Support Programming**

Automated:  
Every Build

## Technology Facing



## *Myth: Automated Testing takes too much time/costs too much money*

Team struggling with legacy java code

10 defects / 1000 NCSS\*

Affected company's reputation and threatened survival

Adopted Test Driven Development

Defects dropped to <3 / 1000 NCSS

✓ Including all untouched legacy code

✓ 80-90% improvement in quality

Productivity more than tripled



\* Non-comment Source Statements-

--- From Mike Cohn



# *Test Driven Development*

Doesn't cost, it pays!

Is a design technique

✓ Cleaner Design

✗ Acceptance Test Driven Design

❖ Matches the design to the structure of the domain

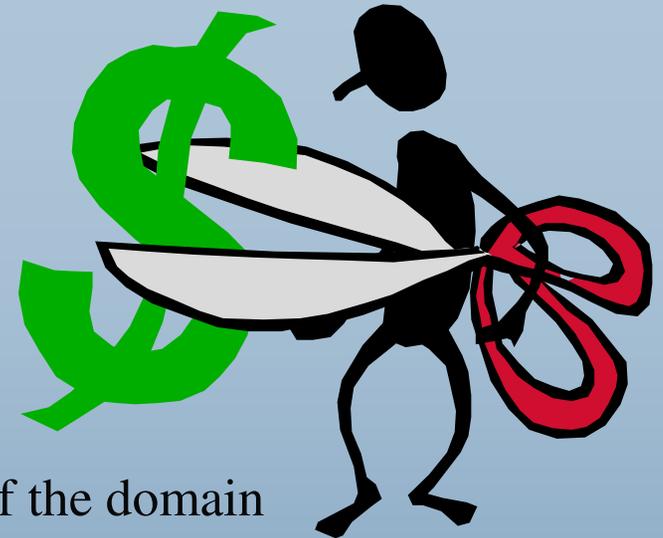
✗ Unit Test Driven Design

❖ Simpler, More Understandable Code

✓ Self-verifying

✓ Protects from unintended consequences

✗ For the life of the code



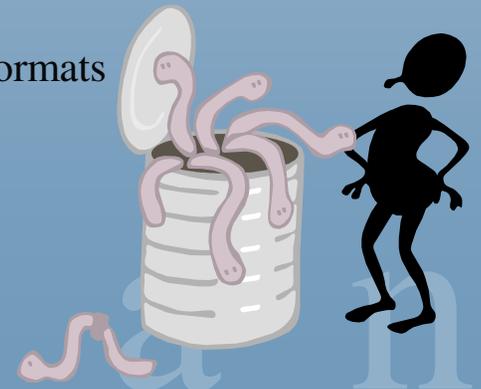


# *A Test Harness to Simulate Integration Testing*

- ✓ Create a harness to simulate the remote system at each integration point in the system under test.
- ✓ Design a devious harness with nasty, malicious behavior that will beat up the system.
- ✓ Try to provoke all possible failure modes in any remote system at all seven OSI layers.
- ✓ A single harness can work for many networked applications, simulating similar bad behavior.
- ✓ See **“Release It! Design and Deploy Production-Ready Software”** Michael Nygard, Pragmatic Press, 2007

## A harness for a Web Services call

- ✗ Refuse all connections
- ✗ Refuse all credentials
- ✗ Listen but time out
- ✗ Connect very slowly
- ✗ Send nothing but RESET's
- ✗ Accept connection but don't send data (or don't acknowledge data)
- ✗ Accept a request and send response headers but no body
- ✗ Report data received but never empty the buffer
- ✗ Send 1 byte of data every 30 sec.
- ✗ Send megabytes of data when kilobytes are expected
- ✗ Send unexpected formats
- ✗ Etc.





# Avoid Technical Debt



*Anything that makes code difficult to change  
(The usual excuse for batches & queues)*

## ✓ Complexity

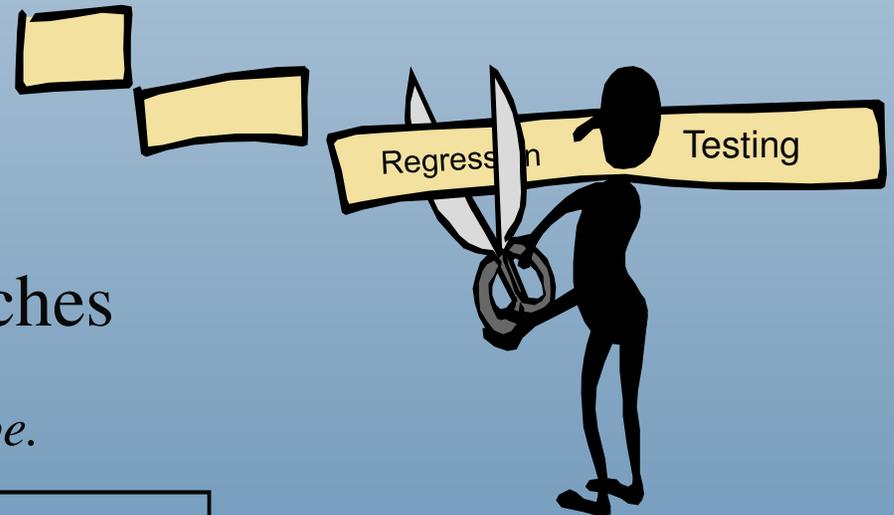
*The cost of complexity is exponential.*

## ✓ Regression Deficit

*Every time you add new features  
the regression test grows longer!*

## ✓ Unsynchronized Code Branches

*The longer two code branches remain  
apart, the more difficult merging will be.*



Perfection is **One-Piece-Flow:**  
*Any useful feature set – at any time – in any order*

**Let it Flow**

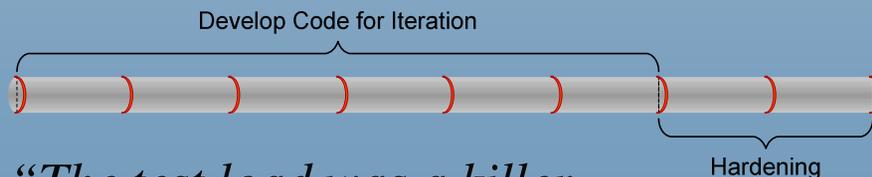


# Case Study: Rally Software Development

*“We found ourselves doing waterfall in time-boxed increments. During the first year we had a lot of technical debt.”*

## Testing:

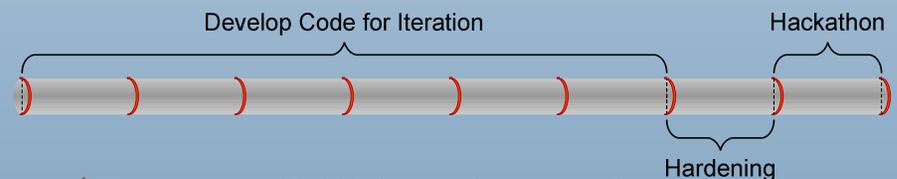
- ✓ JUnit for unit tests
- ✓ HTTPUnit for testing the GUI
  - ✗ Not capable of testing page flows
  - ✗ Most GUI testing manual
  - ✗ All acceptance testing manual
- ✓ 6 weeks to develop, 2 weeks to test, and not all testing was done.



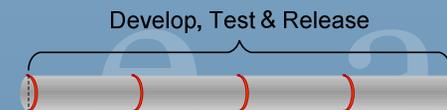
*“The test load was a killer, and it just kept going up.”*

Ryan Martens, CTO

- ✓ Gradually moved page flow platform to Spring and AJAX
  - ✗ Tested Spring with FIT & Fitnesse
  - ✗ Tested AJAX by using JIFFIE to bind Java to IE. Wrote tests in Java to test AJAX through the browser.
- ✓ Hardening was reduced to 1 week.



- ✓ Responsibilities changed:
  - ✗ Testers: FIT tables & JIFFIE tests
  - ✗ Developers: FIT fixtures, JUnit tests, and GUI test harness
- ✓ Now release monthly, pre-hardened!

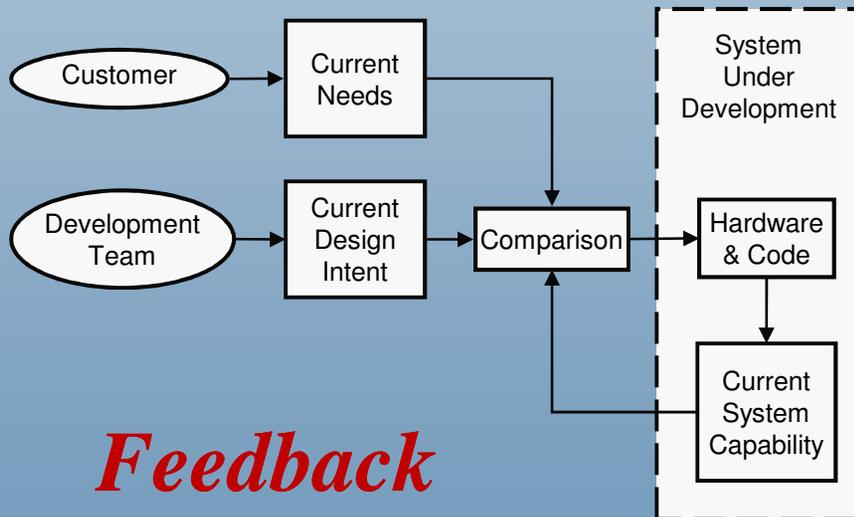




# Lesson 3: Focus on Learning

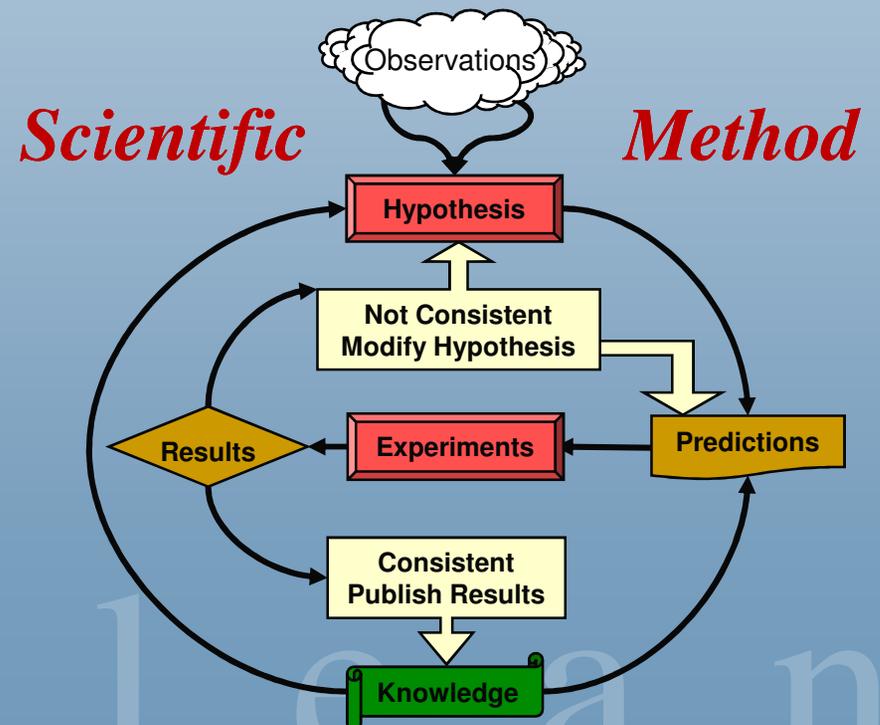
## *Cycles of Discovery*

Products emerge through iterations of learning.

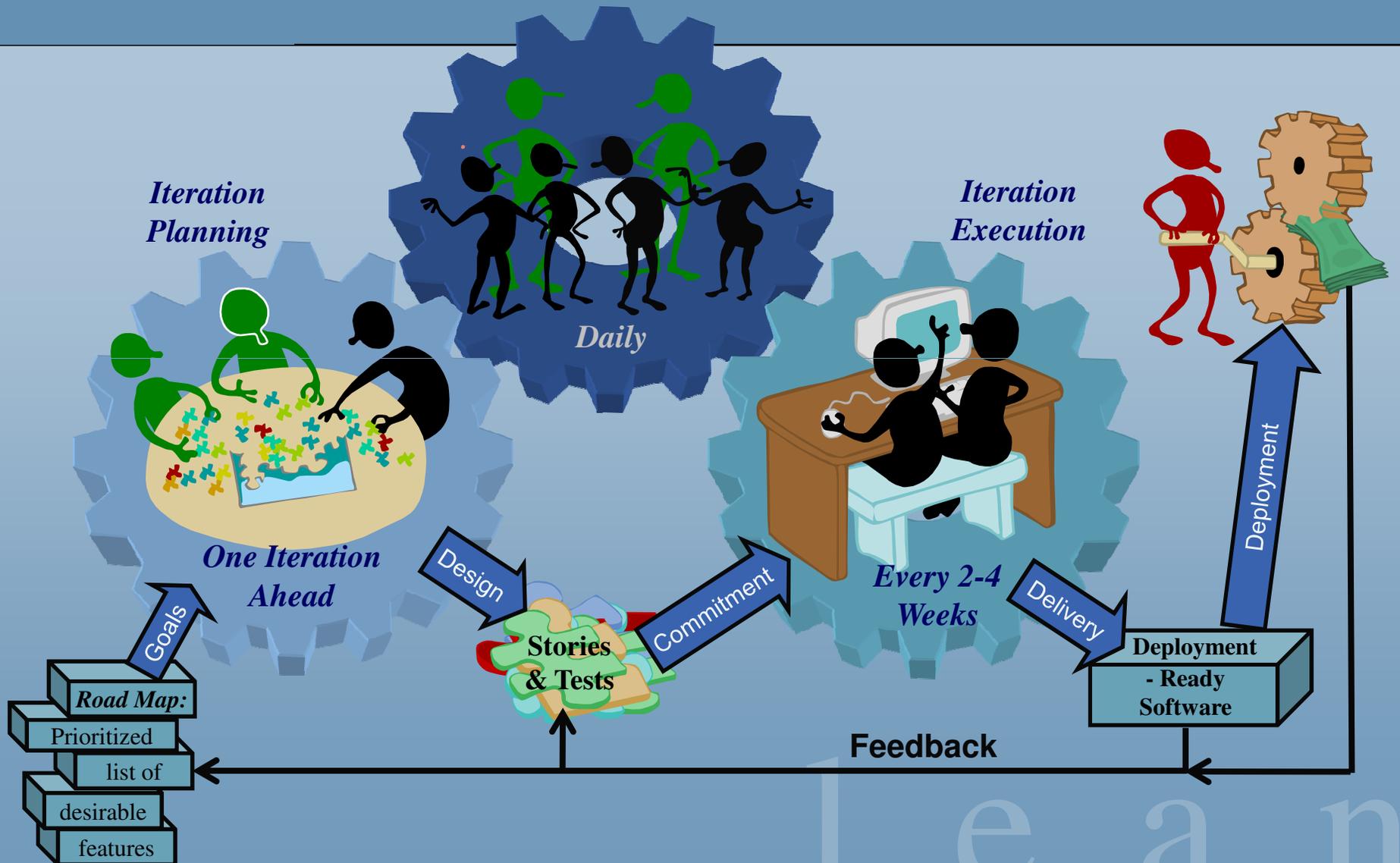


## *Relentless Improvement*

Engaged people design and improve their own processes.



# Iterative Development





# Relentless Improvement

## KAIZEN

Kai

改

Change

Zen

善

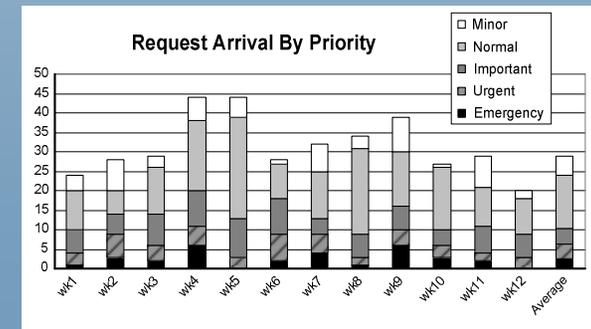
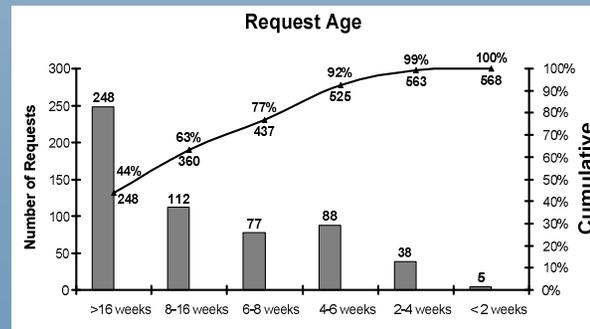
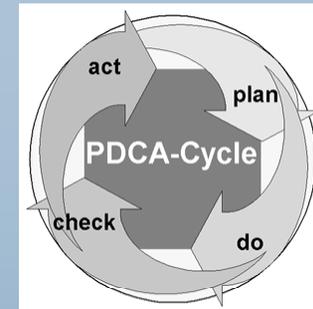
Good

### Regular Work Team Meetings

- ✓ Every week or
- ✓ Every iteration

### Data-Based Problem Analysis

- ✓ Don't guess
- ✓ Find and analyze the data
- ✓ Experiment!





# *Refactoring: Relentless Improvement of the Code Base*

## *Just-in-time NOT Just-in-Case*

- ✓ Start with what you know is needed now
- ✓ Add features only when you know you need them
- ✓ Refactor: Simplify the code based on what you know now

## Maintain a Simple, Clean Design

- ✓ No features ahead of their time
- ✓ No features after their time
- ✓ No Repetition

## Safety First!

- ✓ You can't refactor without test harnesses.



Time to Refactor



# Lesson 4

## Change the Measurements

Fujitsu took over help desk of BMI (airline) in 2001

- ✓ Fujitsu analyzed all calls
  - ✗ Found that 26% of calls were for printers
    - ❖ Could not print boarding passes / luggage tags
  - ✗ Quantified the cost of the calls
    - ❖ Tracked the time to fix the problems
    - ❖ Measured impact on business of the problem
  - ✗ Convinced BMI management to get better printers
    - ❖ Printer calls were down 80% in 18 months
    - ❖ Total calls were down 40% in 18 months
    - ❖ Major savings in flight operations



✓ What's Wrong With This Picture?

From "Lean Consumption"  
By James P. Womack & Daniel T. Jones  
*Harvard Business Review*, March 2005

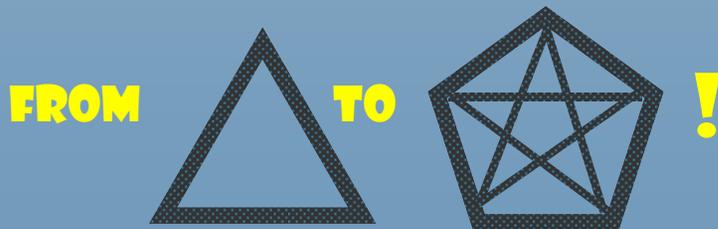
# Measure UP

## Decomposition

- ✓ You get what you measure
- ✓ You can't measure everything
- ✓ Stuff falls between the cracks
- ✓ You add more measurements
- ✓ You get local sub-optimization

## Example

- ✓ Measure Cost, Schedule, & Scope
  - ✗ Quality & Customer Satisfaction fall between the cracks
  - ✗ Measure these too!



## Aggregation

- ✓ You get what you measure
- ✓ You can't measure everything
- ✓ Stuff falls between the cracks
- ✓ You measure UP one level
- ✓ You get global optimization

## Example

- ✓ Measure Cost, Schedule, & Scope
  - ✗ Quality & Customer Satisfaction fall between the cracks
  - ✗ Measure Business Case Realization instead!





# Three System Measurements

## *Average Cycle Time*

- ✓ From Product Concept
- ✓ To First Release
- or
- ✓ From Feature Request
- ✓ To Feature Deployment
- or
- ✓ From Defect
- ✓ To Patch



## *The Business Case*

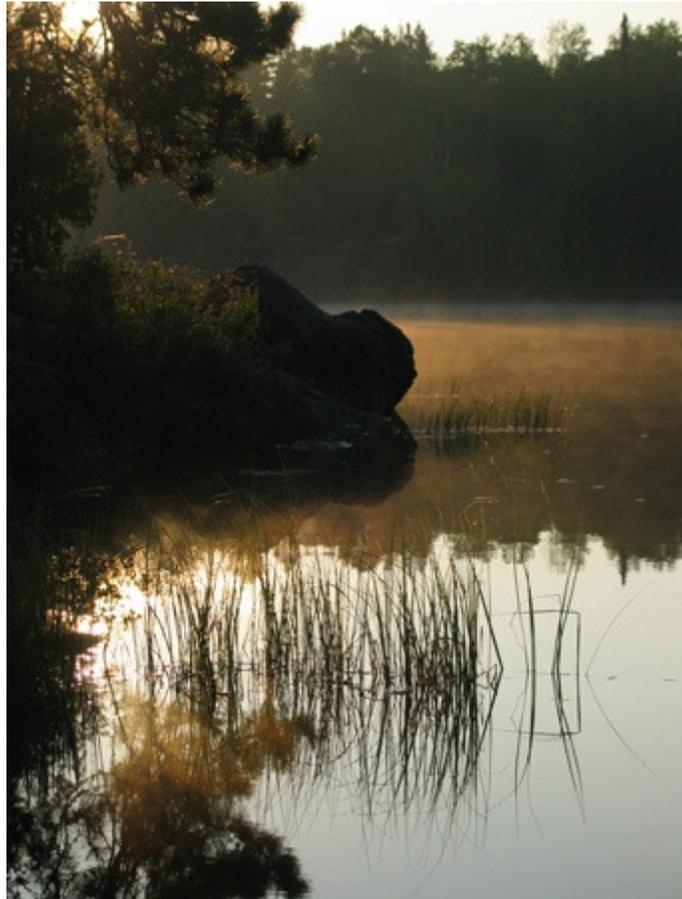
- ✓ P&L or
- ✓ ROI or
- ✓ Goal of the Investment



## *Customer Satisfaction*

- ✓ A measure of sustainability





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software development

## Thank You!