

Startups and Requirements (Keynote)

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ABSTRACT

Tech startups typically approach requirements gathering differently from the process that is used to develop requirements in existing businesses and for existing products. Many of these startups operate in "stealth mode", taking care to minimize the number of people with whom they share their innovative ideas. It's common for these startups to create a succession of early releases, and apply user feedback from those releases to evolve the features and functions of their products.

This talk describes various approaches used by tech startups to define product requirements, and contrasts those approaches with those used in more traditional requirements engineering activities.

BIOGRAPHY

Anthony I. (Tony) Wasserman is a Professor of Software Management Practice at Carnegie Mellon University - Silicon Valley, and the Executive Director of its Center for Open Source Investigation (COSI). In Spring, 2014, he was Shaw Visiting Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the National University of Singapore.

Tony is best known as the Founder and CEO of Interactive Development Environments (IDE), which built the innovative Software through Pictures (StP) multiuser modeling environment. IDE was one of the first companies to include open source software in a commercial software product. In 2000, Tony became VP of Bluestone Software, where he led the creation of the award-winning open source Total-e-Mobile

toolkit for building mobile web apps. Prior to that, he was a Professor at the University of California, San Francisco.

Tony is currently a Director of the Open Source Initiative, and a member of the Board of Advisors of Open Source for America. He is a member of the Executive Advisory Board of CollabNet, Inc.

He earned a Ph.D. in Computer Sciences from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and a B.A. in mathematics and physics from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a Life Fellow of the IEEE and a Fellow of the ACM. He was the 2012 recipient of the Distinguished Educator Award from the IEEE Technical Council on Software Engineering, and the 2013 recipient of the Influential Educator Award from the ACM Special Interest Committee on Software Engineering (SIGSOFT).

