The Buildmeister's Guide

Achieving Agile Software Delivery

Kevin A. Lee

Development organizations are being squeezed with ever increasing time-to-market, cost reduction and compliance pressures. To address these pressures many are changing their release cycles - delivering frequently, with smaller sets of functionality. In parallel they are striving to make their overriding development lifecycle more transparent, visible and auditable. The build process sits at the heart of this effort. To improve, organizations will need to systematically revisit the build process, to understand its value and improve their practices.

The Buildmeister's Guide researches and documents the build process in detail. It's aim is to increase awareness of the build process and to raise the level and quality of discussion that occurs around it. The book looks at how the build process affects and is affected by different software development languages and methods, and what intrinsic value a "well defined" build process can bring to an organization. It defines the set of skills and capabilities that implementers of the build process should possess, and also a framework for a generic "best practice" build process with tips and guidelines on how to implement it.

The Second Edition of The Buildmeister's Guide has been significantly rewritten and enhanced with new technical content. In particular, content related to Agile Software Delivery, its definition and how it can be achieved has been included in order to make the book more relevant, consistent and readable.

Kevin A. Lee has over 15 years of experience in implementing software development processes on projects of various sizes. He has held software development roles at large telecommunications and financial services organizations and now works as a Senior Technical Consultant specialising in Java Development, Application Lifecycle Management and Enterprise Integration. Kevin has written a number of books on the build process as well as many other articles and tutorials that have been published on the Internet. He also maintains the buildmeister.com website and contributes to a number of open source projects.

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