

What is SPM?

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Software Project Management

Abstract

I had read some article about SPM. It's very important to learn the software project management to our software engineering students. If you want to figure out software project management, you must first know what projects and what is project management. Then I will take you into the world of software project management.

Keywords: software project management, project, project management skills

1 Introduction

Software project management(SPM) is the art and science of planning and leading software projects. It is a sub-discipline of project management in which software projects are planned, implemented, monitored and controlled.

- What is a Project?
- What is Project Management?
- What is Software Project Management?

What is a Project: It is a temporary endeavor (having specific start and completion dates) undertaken to create a unique product or service.

What is Project Management: It is the discipline of planning, organizing, and managing resources to bring about the successful completion of specific project goals and objectives.

What is Software Project Management: A sub-discipline of project management in which software projects are planned, monitored and controlled.

2 History

In the 1970s and 1980s, the software industry grew very quickly, as computer companies quickly recognized the relatively low cost of software production compared to hardware production and circuitry. To manage new development efforts, companies applied the established project management methods, but project schedules slipped during test runs, especially when confusion occurred in the gray zone between the user specifications and the delivered software. To be able to avoid these problems, software project management methods focused on matching user requirements to delivered products, in a method known now as the waterfall model.

As the industry has matured, analysis of software project management failures has shown that the following are the most common causes:

1. Insufficient end-user involvement
2. Poor communication among customers, developers, users and project managers
3. Unrealistic or unarticulated project goals

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4. Inaccurate estimates of needed resources
5. Badly defined or incomplete system requirements and specifications
6. Poor reporting of the project's status Poorly managed risks
7. Use of immature technology
8. Inability to handle the project's complexity
9. Sloppy development practices
10. Stakeholder politics (e.g. absence of executive support, or
11. politics between the customer and end-users)
12. Commercial pressures

The first five items in the list above show the difficulties articulating the needs of the client in such a way that proper resources can deliver the proper project goals. Specific software project management tools are useful and often necessary, but the true art in software project management is applying the correct method and then using tools to support the method. Without a method, tools are worthless. Since the 1960s, several proprietary software project management methods have been developed by software manufacturers for their own use, while computer consulting firms have also developed similar methods for their clients. Today software project management methods are still evolving, but the current trend leads away from the waterfall model to a more cyclic project delivery model that imitates a software development process.[[Frese and Sauter 2014](#)]

3 Overview

So we can know SPM is a little complex and it is very important to us. If we want to develop a good software, we must learn the software project management well.

4 Project planning, monitoring and control

In computing, the term issue is a unit of work to accomplish an improvement in a system.[citation needed] An issue could be a bug, a requested feature, task, missing documentation, and so forth.

For example, OpenOffice.org used to call their modified version of Bugzilla IssueZilla. As of September 2010, they call their system Issue Tracker.

The word "issue" is also used as synonym for "problem," as in other English usage. Problems occur from time to time and fixing them in a timely fashion is essential to achieve correctness of a system and avoid delayed deliveries of products.

The purpose: To keep the team and management up to date on the project's progress and if the project deviates from the plan, then the project manager can take action to correct the problem.

Project monitoring and control involves status meetings to gather status from the team. When changes need to be made, change control is used to keep the products up to date.

5 Conclusion

Software project management is a deep knowledge of the subject. It contains planning, management, time-management, goals and testing. If we want to develop software we must learn software project management well.

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References

FRESE, R., AND SAUTER, V. 2014. *Improving your odds for software project success*. [1](#)