**Essay - Analyze Software Metering Class**

Brandon Trinkle

Arizona State University

IFT 380: Advanced Configuration Management

Shaun Usman

February 19, 2025

**Essay - Analyze Software Metering Class**

Effective software management is at the core for maintaining productivity and ensuring that IT resources are allocated efficiently. By analyzing application usage data, organizations can identify which software tools provide the most value and which ones may be unnecessary. In this report, I will present three key recommendations based on the collected data from our software metering results: discontinuing low-usage applications, prioritizing IT support and training for high-usage applications, and standardizing redundant software to improve efficiency and reduce costs.

The data analysis showed that several applications have been used fewer than ten times in total, with some recording a total usage duration of under 100 minutes. This minimal usage suggests that these applications would not be essential to users and could be selected for removal. By removing rarely used applications, organizations can reduce licensing costs, minimize maintenance/deployment efforts, and declutter user environments. Regular evaluations of application usage will help ensure that software resources remain aligned with actual user needs, preventing unnecessary software from occupying system resources and IT support time.

While some applications see minimal interaction, others are used multiple times per day, with some accumulating over 10,000 minutes of total usage. This would require more analysis, because the user may have left the program running unattended (unlikely in the virtual environment we are working in will log you out if inactivity was detected). However, these high-use applications, would appear to be critical to daily operations, and ensuring users have the necessary training and IT support can enhance productivity and reduce inefficiencies. Investing in training programs for frequently used applications will help users improve their proficiency, reducing errors and increasing efficiency. Additionally, prioritizing support for these applications can ensure that technical issues are resolved quickly. By focusing resources on the software that users rely on most, organizations can enhance efficiency and overall system performance. For example, we use Jira a lot at my job, we have a staff that manages Jira and supports with updates and resolving issues.

Another significant finding from the data is that multiple applications with similar functionalities are being used by different groups. For example, if two or more text editors or project management tools are in use, it may be beneficial to standardize on a single platform to streamline operations. Standardizing applications helps simplify IT management, reduce licensing costs, and create consistency across teams. By analyzing usage trends and selecting the most widely adopted tools, organizations can eliminate redundancy and improve collaboration. This approach ensures that resources are used effectively and that teams are working with familiar, well-supported tools.

Optimizing software deployment requires a strategic approach that balances cost efficiency with user productivity. The data supports three key actions: removing low-usage applications to reduce costs, investing in training and support for frequently used applications, and standardizing software tools to improve efficiency. Regularly analyzing software usage trends will enable organizations to make informed decisions about IT resource allocation, ensuring that software tools remain aligned with the needs of users while eliminating inefficiencies.

# References

Trinkle, B. (2025, Feburary 18). *Microsoft Teams*. Retrieved from Microsoft Teams.