



Extreme Time Spans

Does [Extreme Programming](#) have any named timespan that is smaller than a project but bigger than a task?

A project is made up of one or more releases or phases. In [Chrysler Comprehensive Compensation](#), the monthly project was a release or phase in the implementation of the Chrysler **Comprehensive Compensation** project.

A release has a bunch of [User Stories](#), chosen to provide [Business Value](#). Each release requires N iterations, where N is the number of weeks of work to implement the [User Stories](#), times the load factor, divided by number of weeks in an iteration. This is determined in [Commitment Schedule](#).

Thus, the [Commitment Schedule](#) defines what will go out in the next release. The project consists of the current [Commitment Schedule](#) plus a whole pile of [User Stories](#) that aren't committed to yet.

Each [Commitment Schedule](#) produces functionality with business value, but in the smallest chunk possible, since you only ever really learn once code is in production. In this way it is similar in philosophy to [Spike Solution](#), but at a business and architectural level.

An iteration is a collection of [User Stories](#), in the middle of some [Commitment Schedule](#), chosen (mostly) by the customer, in [Worst Things First](#) order. Developers implement [User Stories](#) by determining the [Engineering Tasks](#) that it takes to get the story done, implementing them, and running the [Acceptance Tests](#) that the users have defined to show that the story is correctly implemented.

-- [RonJeffries](#) [KentBeck](#)

For related discussion of scaling, see [Hundred Person Project](#), [Large Extreme Programming](#), [Extreme Programming May Scale Up](#), [Extreme Programming Roadmap](#)

[Category Extreme Programming](#) [Category Time](#)

Last edit January 2, 2005. See [github](#) about remodeling.