

Not all metrics are equally useful

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About me



- Lead Software Test Automation Engineer
- 5 years with EPAM
- RM
- There were some issues with low level of
 Defect containment, definition and
 calculation of metrics on my project.

Defect containment

Defect containment effectiveness (DCE)

Defect detection percentage (DDP)

Fault Detection Percentage (FDP)

The number of defects found by a test level, divided by the number found by that test level and any other means afterwards.



Phase 1. Information gathering.

What else can be measured with low defect containment?

60-70% DCE on my project with the desired >95%



Monthly report with bugs distributed by components / found by / priorities to define areas that most affect DCE.



Priority	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6
All bugs	29	13	3	6	0	24
Blocker Critical Major	6	3	1	1	0	11
Production bugs	0	2	0	6	0	24
AQA		_	_	_	_	_
Blocker	1	0	0	0	0	0
Critical	2	1	0	0	0	0
Major	3	2	1	0	0	0
Minor	12	3	2	0	0	0
Trivial	11	5	0	0	0	0
Total Unique Issues:	29	11	3	0	0	0
Prod						
Blocker	0	0	0	0	0	2
Critical	0	0	0	0	0	4
Major	0	0	0	1	0	5
Minor	0	2	0	2	0	6
Trivial	0	0	0	3	0	7
Total Unique Issues:	0	2	0	6	0	24

Findings and overhead

1: 60+ persons has an access to tickets. Each one should be guided by the same rules. There were 5 Development Team Leads that used Jira bugtickets to create their own boards and filters.

2: Product owners leave component field empty or set wrong component.

3: Product owners like to create PO/P1 bugs regarding minor issues that brings some inconvenience without significant business impact.

4: It takes 8+ man hours each month to review tickets and clarify "component" field.



Findings and solutions

1: "Symptom" field was added to Jira tickets with required state in addition to "Component" field.

2: Product bug template was created and presented to end users.

3: Additional questions were added to bug triage sessions.

4: The lack of functional requirements has been proven again. Additional business analyst capacity to create more detailed and well-developed requirements was added to the team.



Phase 2.
It doesn't work.

Let's find more metrics!



Import experience of our Western colleagues

1: From 1 to 3 one to one Skype sessions with each key person.

2: 20+ man hours of Delivery manager and 20+ man hours of key persons that were spent on meetings.



Import experience of our Western colleagues

1: Nice presentation.

2: The most frequently pronounced problem words were "Testing" and "Bugs".



What to do and how to live on?

1: Ask for help from the EPAM

Competency Center or some external

expert.

2: Workshop with an external expert using Lean methodology.



Lean

Lean manufacturing or lean production is a systematic method originating in the Japanese manufacturing industry for the minimization of waste (無駄) within a manufacturing system without sacrificing productivity, which can cause problems.



Results

1: 100+ Lean waste points were defined and presented to our customer. 90% caused by deviations from the chosen and declared SDLC and Agile processes.

2: BA Team Lead position was created in the project.

3: Up to 8 BAs for the ~60 FTE project.



Advices

1: Pay attention to basic deviations from classic SDLC and fix them.

2: Ask for external help.

3: Track time that was spent on metrics, workshops and meetings. Show all expenses to PM, DM and customer.

4: Don't worry.)))



Questions

