

File 20110325.0930: Issues in R”, from my perspective: (this was written in the waiting room of the veterinarian next to Animal ER, waiting for Marie to have her x-rays evaluated by Dr Lewis. She ended up having surgery to remove a long piece of yarn from her intestines.)

The programme manager, and hence by extension the government programme office, sees the following issues: budget, cost of certification [forced more by vendor OS product cycles, which are themselves forced by vendor hardware product life cycle, pincered from the other end by government insistence on OS certification, which is slow and affected by both CCTLS and CCRA/NIAP CCEVS], many site installations on hold waiting for a certified CDS before they can get ATO, a developer (D?) who sometimes does not work as quickly as the GPO would like, and developer engineering overhead costs.

The developer, on the other hand, sees a different set of issues: the same vendor OS product cycle problem as described above, but also software engineer hourly cost, overhead ‘tax’, award fees and the Contractor Performance Assessment Report (CPAR) rating, keeping engineers current, travel budget [always a problem], lots of installations all over the world, IV&V and government regression tester performance, opaque penetration tester minds, and the unique mode of operation of pen testers, which are like terminators: they absolutely will not stop—ever—until the project runs out of money.

References