

# EXECUTABLE REQUIREMENTS

Testing in the language of the business

Tim Wingfield

@timwingfield



Hockey, hockey, hockey,  
hockey...hockey all the  
time...



Saturday, January 15, 2011

Central OH  
Wendy  
Boys  
Kona  
Hockey  
local/regional speaker

# How many projects have you seen fail because of the code?

-Chad Fowler, SCNA 2010

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Dev1: If only we had better requirements.

Dev2: You guys have requirements? Wow.

Crap code ships often – internals of nHibernate?

If you beautifully code the wrong solution, who cares how beautiful it is?



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Can't express problem to the delivery team.  
“Passes down” their ideas  
Software is easy

Add a process for importing HR data. This will need to run about once each month.

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The process and how often.

# Functionality for printing receipts

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Do you want it to actually print receipts? What should be on those receipts?

Please have it load as  
fast as it can

# Just make it look nice

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Other end...the features filibuster: Need data import, user registration, high scalability, and a cafe-latte.

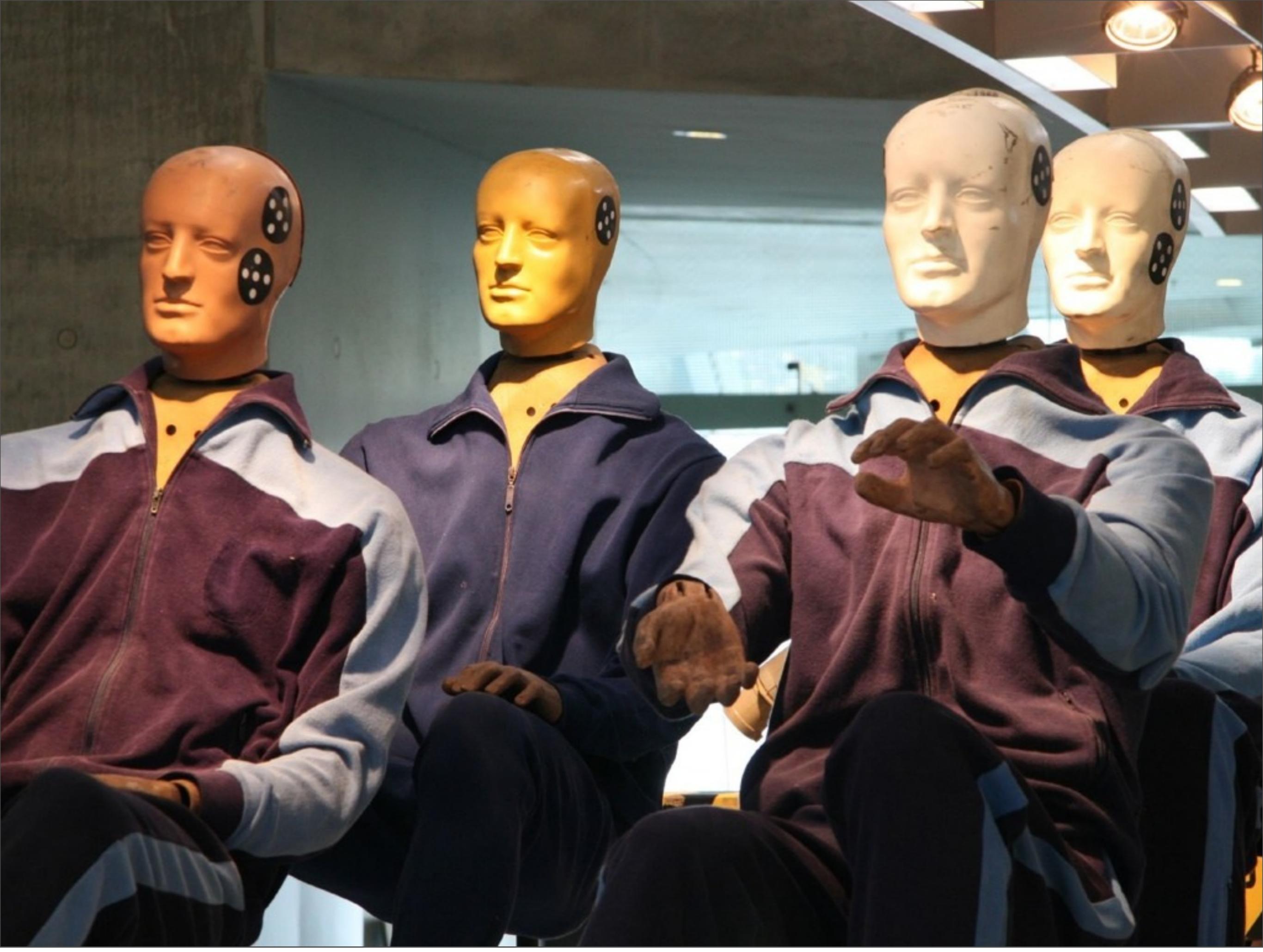


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Fear-mongoring – “Can’t change SQL trigger, will affect lots of ADO code, may too difficult to update the MVC models, and could keep us from re-implementing the flux capacitor”

Can’t, too difficult, major change

Solving, not listening – “Import Data from...”



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## Room for interpretation

“Fail Gail” – if you’re solely accountable (bottleneck) for quality nothing goes out the door  
Seen Kanban boards stack up for that reason  
Quality is on the whole team, not just the QA



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**Enter Behavior Driven Development**  
Define and implement behaviors of an application

Imagine a world where you as a developer get detailed requirements in a format and mechanism that is readable by the business facing people...

...completely devoid of  
ambiguity in terms of what the  
correct behavior is...

...and can also be used as an automated test within your team's continuous integration processes.



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**app is composed of the things that it does  
it's just a collection of behaviors**



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Limit up front planning. No BDUF.

Doesn't mean NO design up front – basic arch, framework decisions

Very Lean – Last responsible moment

This is Codemash...could've gone with “know when to say when” and add any random picture from the bar.



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**Very lean  
add value or remove cost or why do it?**

Who are our stakeholders?



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customer is always right...but sometimes room for improvement  
devs should be willing to challenge the story requests  
NOT fear mongering  
will the cost of impl justify the value?



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**Whole team!**

Dev, tester, BA, PO

Everyone responsible for quality

Everyone responsible for value

All together we plan out our stories



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Connextra style  
As as...  
I want...  
So that...

Introduces Context

# Given

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The context or the “As a” portion

# When

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The action, or the “I want”

# Then

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The outcome, or the “So that”

connextra == story  
composed of many g/w/t  
g/w/t == acceptance criteria  
acceptance criteria is agreed by team as story passes  
acceptance criteria marker for quality/value



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Customer based acceptance criteria  
coding against data and expectations  
inputs and outputs  
user adder example =>  $2+2=4$  is different from “As a mathematician...”  
Fit/Fitness are good ATDD tools.



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Engineering practice  
Emergent Design  
Tests the internals of your app.  
Not a replacement, it's a significant other  
TDD == unit/method tests, BDD == functional tests  
BDD drives app, TDD drives design



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Test behaviors. The end points or the hooks to your app.  
Think of executing specs as a user  
Not for internals – Validating a user example.  
Northwoods: Refactor to MVP, test the presenters



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**Java – JBehave**

**.Net – SpecFlow, MSpec, StoryTeller**

**javascript – jasmine, jspec**

**ruby – rspec**

lant  
sket

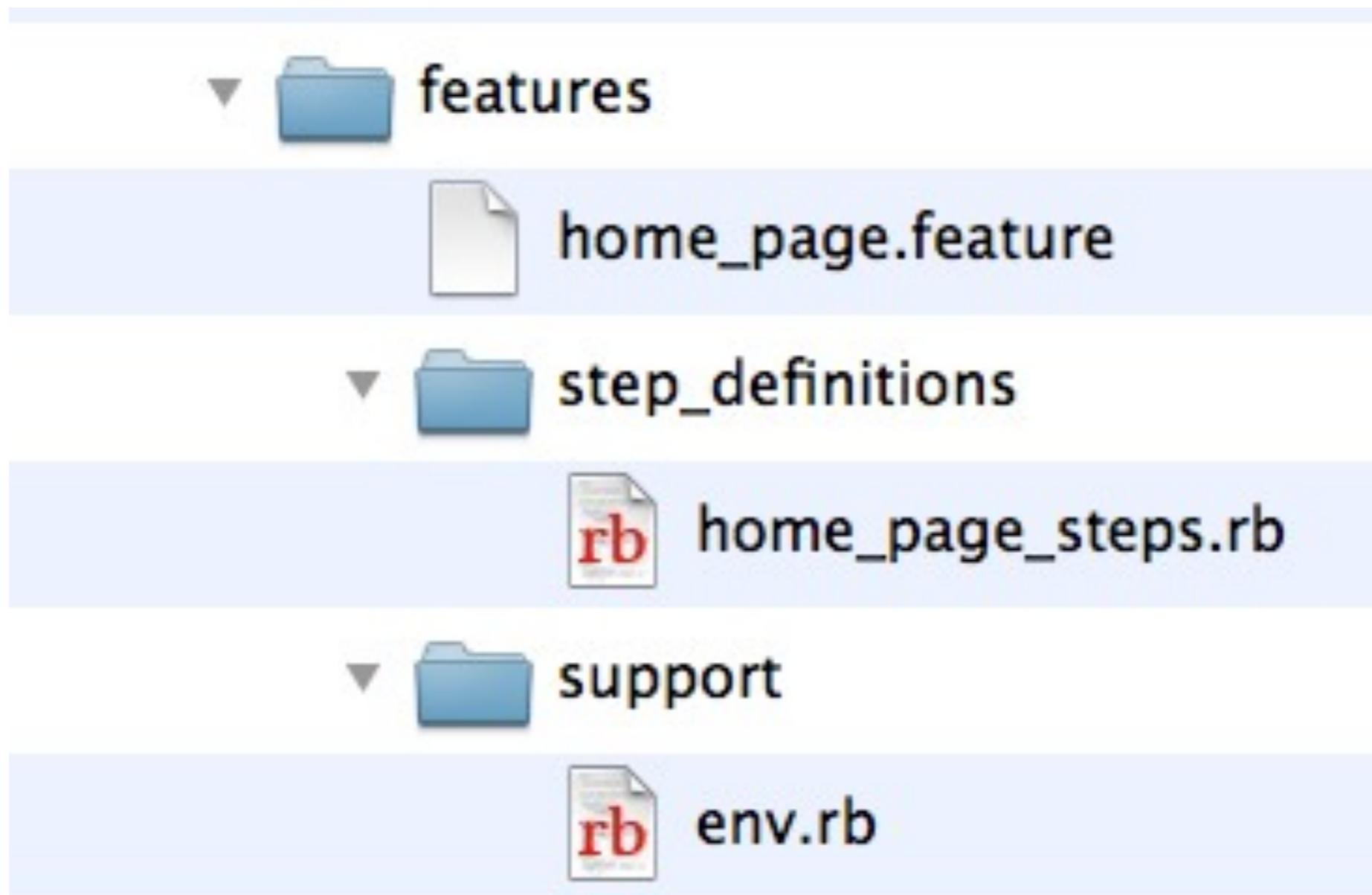
Cucumbers

2. 00 / basket

1

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Aslak Hellesoy  
2008 came from RSpec Story Runner  
Plain text specs  
Cuke4Duke and Cuke4Nuke



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Convention over configuration

.feature file

step\_definitions home\_page.steps.rb

Support – env.rb



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- Feature



- Feature
- Scenario



- Feature
- Scenario
- Given/When/Then



- Feature
- Scenario
- Given/When/Then
- And/But

A close-up photograph of a lime slice against a white background. The lime is cut in half, showing its green rind and the white, segmented flesh inside. Overlaid on the lime slice is the word "code" in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. The letters are slightly slanted, giving them a dynamic feel. The lime's texture and color provide a natural, organic contrast to the stark black text.

<code>

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Millennium Falcon



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**nothing is  
Tell Searls's story of scrapping the executable side**



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**Communication above all else  
whole team: TALK  
don't hoard knowledge**

# photos

guy in suit - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/mytudut/5198146890/>  
nerds - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/blyzz/5329090461/>  
stop sign - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/thecrazyfilmgirl/3248283617/>  
smart car - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/yourdon/3087402587/>  
books - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/hadevereux/4626037013/>  
yield sign - [http://www.flickr.com/photos/question\\_everything/4202305936/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/question_everything/4202305936/)  
party - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/st3f4n/4231173553/>

Jeremy Miller's InfoQ article - <http://www.infoq.com/news/2009/09/storyteller>

# Tim Wingfield

[tim@timwingfield.com](mailto:tim@timwingfield.com)

[blog.timwingfield.com](http://blog.timwingfield.com)

[@timwingfield](https://twitter.com/timwingfield)