

# The Importance Branching Model

*Among the branching models used in software configuration management, the branch-by-purpose model offers better support for parallel development efforts and improved control of both planned and emergency software releases.*

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If you want to improve software quality, you must first understand your software. What are its pieces? How are they organized and related to one another? If you do not understand your code base, your odds of updating it without breaking something are poor.

All too often, we see projects brought to their knees while trying to get the software out the door to testing groups or to customers for acceptance testing. The developers have worked feverishly to get the