Introduction to Extreme Programming

Brian Button
bbutton@objectmentor.com
Object Mentor, Inc



Overview

- Motivation
- Business Case
- Description
- Case Studies
- References



My Typical Client

- Manager doesn't trust programmers
 - always late
 - low quality
- Programmers don't trust manager
 - unreasonable expectations
 - always changing their minds
- Cube Farm
- Us versus Them
- Bad code



My Job

- Trust between management and programmers
 - Quick wins
 - Freedom
- Improve quality
 - Internal
 - External
- One Team
- Align authority with responsibility



My Goal

Communication



Traditional View of Development

\$10,000 Test

\$1,000 Implementation

\$100 Design

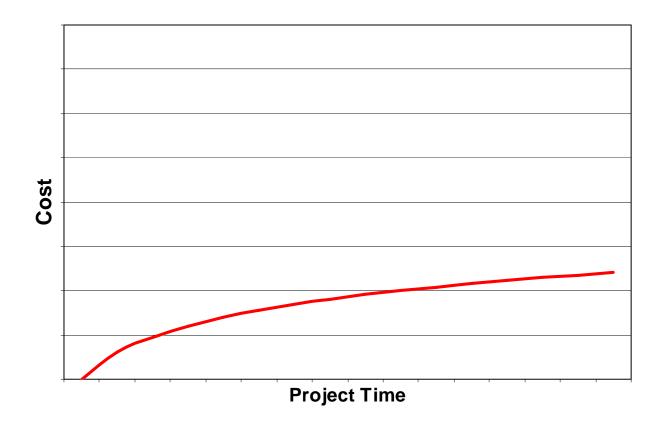
\$10 Analysis

\$1 Requirements

Cost of change thought to grow exponentially with time



What if ...



XP works to make this curve flat for most of a project?



Then I could ...

- Analyze and design one feature at a time
- Change my mind
- Delay decisions
- Work on most important feature
- Focus on customer-visible work rather than infrastructure
- Manage risk



Benefits

- Working system early, not designs on paper
- Quantifiable progress against project plan
- Flexibility to add, drop, or change features at (almost) any time
- Defer decisions until risk is reduced



What is XP?

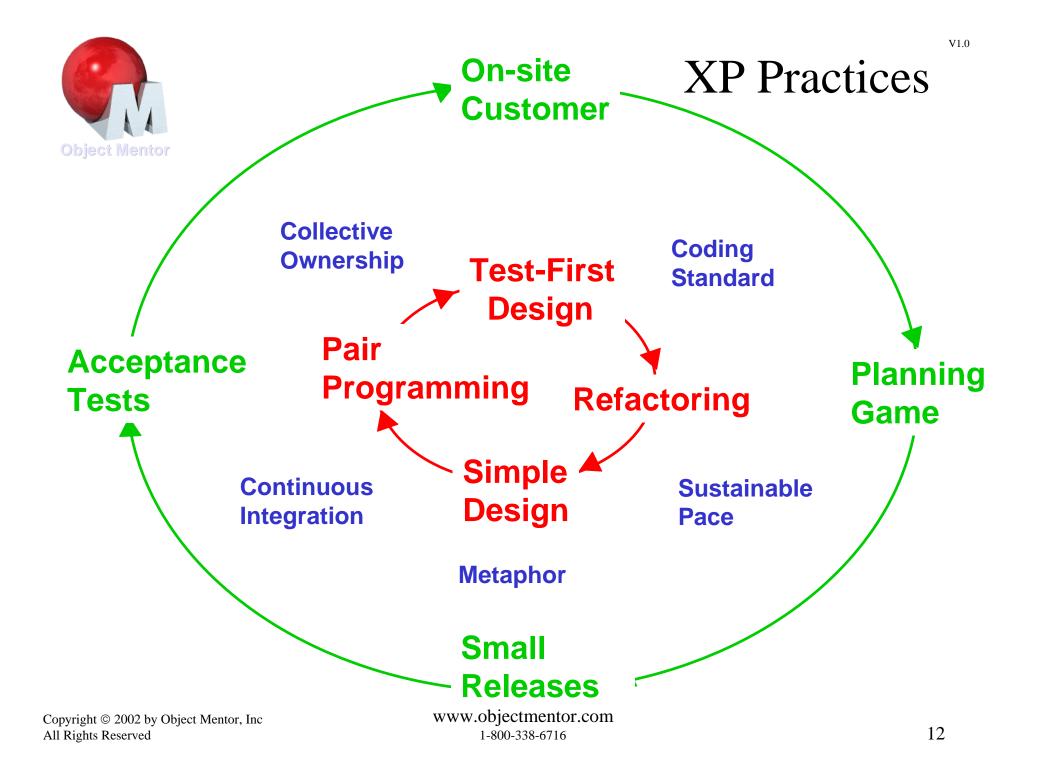
- An agile methodology for developing software:
 - with small-to-medium sized teams
 - with uncertain or rapidly changing requirements
 - at a sustainable rate
- "Agile?"
 - A "lightweight" body of methods for delivering software to customers
 - XP, Scrum, Crystal, DSDM, Adaptive Software Development,
 Feature-Driven Development



Agile Processes – an alternative

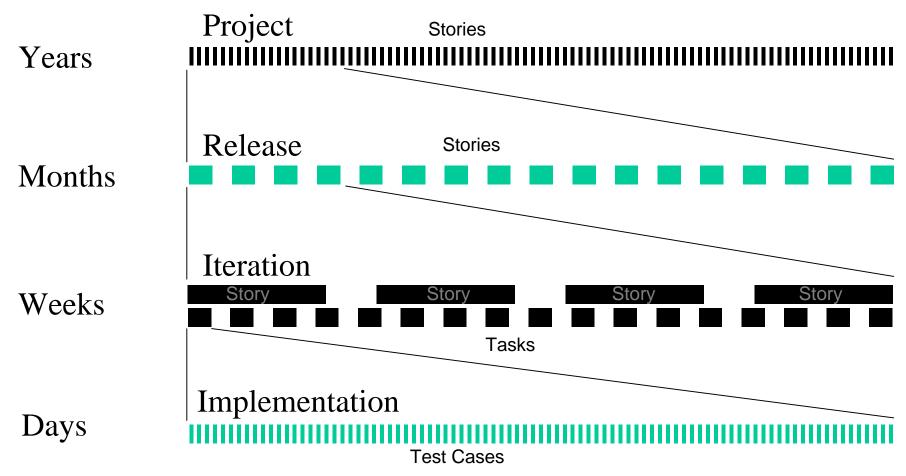
- The Agile Alliance Values:
 - Individuals and interactions over process and tools,
 - Working software over comprehensive documents,
 - Customer collaboration over contract negotiation,
 - Responding to change over following a plan.

» From: "The manifesto for Agile Software Development"





XP Process Overview





A Discipline...

- XP is a *discipline* of software development
- You must do the practices!
- The industry considers certain practices good
- We do them to extreme levels for extreme results
- Examples:
 - Code reviews and design reviews are good
 - Review all the time (Pair Programming)
 - Testing is good
 - Everybody tests all the time
 - Programmers (Unit Testing)
 - Customers (Acceptance Testing)



Success Story #1

- B2B settlement services
- Multiple, high risk clients
- Web based system
- ASP/Java/Oracle
- 25 person team
- Historically low quality and late

- Split into multiple teams
- Eliminated specialization
- Greenfield development
- Aggressive refactoring
- Short iterations
- Critical for their survival



Success Story #2

- Shrink Wrapped software
- 3 teams, 2 sites
- Heavy dependencies on outside groups
- Historically low quality and late
- Long test/fix cycles

- Heavy emphasis on incremental planning
- Data collection
- Lots of testing
- Jury still out
- January, 2002 Software Development magazine



Success Story #3

- R&D environment genetics
- Poor customer relationship
- Development took too long
- Low quality and late

- On site customer
- Quick wins
- Short iterations
- Customers delighted
- Can't keep up with developers



References

- www.xprogramming.com
- www.junit.org
- www.pairprogramming.org
- groups.yahoo.com/group/extremeprogramming
- Extreme Programming Explained, Kent Beck
- *Planning Extreme Programming*, Kent Beck, Martin Fowler
- Extreme Programming Installed, Ron Jeffries, Chet Hendrickson, Ann Anderson