

Thoughts on Software Process

by
Stephen McHenry

Topics



- Factors Affecting Software Process

Breadth of Distribution

- Personal Use
- A Few Friends
- Company Wide
- Intranet/Internet site
- A Few/Many Large Customers
- Shrink Wrap

Developer

- Personal
- IT Department
 - Build for internal use
- Engineering
 - Build for sale

Type of Software

- Systems Software
- Business Software
- Shrink-wrap Software

Impact of First Defect

- Stakes -

- Whoops – just kidding / Not serious
- Irritated users
- Financial Loss
 - Small – Quicken
 - Large – Financial trading, company financials, forecasting
- Loss of Critical Infrastructure
 - Utilities / Phone Systems
- Loss of Life
- Loss of Many Lives
 - ATC
 - Nuclear Missile Guidance

Cost of Defect Repair

- Hand distributed
- Web site
- Multiple copies
 - 10's, 100's or low 1000's
 - Shrink wrap – tens to hundreds of thousands
- Embedded
 - Single copy
 - Multiple copies

Deployment

- Interactive
- Web-based
- Application
- Batch Processing
- Embedded/Control

Stage of Company

- Does not apply to “personal use”
- Startup
- One shipping product
- One product with customs mods for customers
- Multiple shipping products
- Multiple products each with customs mods for customers
- Multiple divisions with shipping products

What Else?

