Inspection used in various ways

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Niels Malotaux



Project Coach

Helping projects and organizations very quickly to become

- More effective doing the right things better
- More efficient doing the right things better in less time Result Management
- Predictable delivering as predicted

Getting projects back on track,

Lean Quality Assurance

- What is Lean ?
- What is Quality ?
- How do you get Quality ?
- What is the required Quality level ?
- How do you measure Quality ?
- How to assure Quality ?

- Which process is causing these defects
- How can we change the process not to produce defects
- What could we do to make certain that what we do 'simply works'
- If what we deliver doesn't even simply work, we miss the opportunity to see what they really needed

Philip Crosby

[Quality is Still Free]

- Conventional wisdom says that error is inevitable
- As long as the performance standard requires it, then this self-fulfilling prophecy will come true
- Most people will say: People are humans and humans make mistakes
- And people do make mistakes, particularly those who do not become upset when they happen
- Do people have a built-in defect ratio ?
- Mistakes are caused by two factors: lack of knowledge and lack of attention
- Lack of attention is an attitude problem





• We meet the agreed requirements

or

- Have the requirements changed to what we and the customer really need
- We create requirements with care and we meet them with care
- Does you management take quality seriously?

Phil Crosby



• Causing a hassle other people have to live with

Who is the (main) customer of Testing and QA?

• Deming:

- Quality comes not from testing, but from improvement of the development process
- Testing does not improve quality, nor guarantee quality
- It's too late
- The quality, good or bad, is already in the product
- You cannot test quality into a product
- Who is the main customer of Testing and QA?
- What do we have to deliver to these customers? What are they *waiting for*?



Case: Can you teach Inspections ?

- Short intro
- Let's do it: baseline
 - Take a document
 - Reproduce one page
 - Do review
 - No issues
- One rule ('source')
 - Many issues



DesignLog

- In computer, not loose notes, not in e-mails, not handwritten
 - Text
 - Drawings!
 - Chapter per subject
 - Initially free-format
 - For all to see
- All concepts contemplated
 - Requirement
 - Reasoning
 - Assumptions
 - Questions
 - Calculations
 - Possible solutions
 - Selection criteria
 - Choices:
 - If rejected: why?
 - If chosen: why?
- Implementation specification



Results

- No code until design-log reviewed
- You're delaying my project !
- Example
- Solution
- Thanks, you saved my project
- Now we can review to check the design before implementation
- Did I do the same ?
- Telling people to change: resistance
- How to let people change themselves ...





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Case: Early Inspection on Requirements

Large e-business application with 8 requirements authors

- Each sent the first 8-10 requirements of estimated
 100 requirements per author
 (table format, about 2 requirements per page including all data)
- Initial reviews completed within a few hours of submission
- Authors integrated the suggestions and corrections, then continued to work
- Some authors chose additional reviews others did not
- Inspection performed on document to assess final quality level



Results Average major defects per requirement in initial review 8 Average major defects per requirement in final document 3 Time investment: 26 hr • 12 hours in initial review (1.5 hrs per author) About 8 hours in additional reviews 6 hours in final inspection (2 hrs, 2 checkers, plus prep and debrief) Major defects prevented: 5 per requirement in ~750 total Saved 5 x 750 x 10 hr = 37500 hr / 3 = 12500 x \$50 = \$625000



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Case: Test Cases

A tester's improvement writing successive test plans

- Early Inspection used on an existing project to improve test plan quality
- Test plan nearly "complete", so we simulated Early Inspection
- First round: inspected 6 randomly-selected test cases
- Author notes systematic defects in the results, reworks the document accordingly (~32 hrs)
- Second round: inspected 6 more test cases: quality vastly improved
- Test plan exits the process and goes into production
- The author goes on to write another test plan



Results

First round	6 major defects per test case
Second round	0.5 major defects per test case

- Time investment: 2 hours in initial review, 36 hours total in final formal inspection, excluding rework
 (2 inspections, 4 hrs each, 4 checkers, plus preparation and debrief)
- Historically about 25% of all defects found by testing were closed as "functions as designed", still 2-4 hrs spent on each to find out
- This test plan yielded over 1100 software defects with only 1 defect (0.1 %) closed as "functions as designed"
- Time saved on the project: 500 1000 hrs (25% x 1100 x 2-4 hrs)

Defect Prevention in action: First inspection of this tester's next test plan: 0.2 major defects per test case



- The most effective individual speed for 'checking a document against all related documents' in page/hr
- Not 'reading' speed, but rather correlation speed
- Failure to use it, gives 'bad estimate' for 'Remaining defects'
- 100~250 SLoC per hour
- 1 page of 300 words per hour ("logical page")







Ref. Dorothy Graham



- Inspection can find deep-seated defects
- <u>All of that type</u> can be corrected
- Needs optimum checking rate
- In the above case we are clearly taking a sample
- In the "shallow" case we were also taking a sample, however, we didn't feel it !



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