Practical Process Profiles – Process Optimisation – Reduced Risk

Team Based Business Design Improvement ©

Enterprise Based Business Design Improvement ©

Industry Based Business Design Improvement ©

Han van Loon.

Topic

Producing systems and software entails certain risks. Risks that occur become problems that can reduce profitability and may even cause business failures. This methodology reduces risk through Practical Process Profiles[1] and process optimisation. Reducing the risk means that less time is spent fixing problems and more time is spent profitably producing products (e.g. software).

ISO 15504 and its variants (Automotive SPICE etc.) specify a process dimension and a generic process capability dimension. Their aim is to assess organisations on the basis that higher process capability improves quality and reduces problems. Traditional maturity models (e.g. SEI CMMI®) specify additional processes for increasing maturity levels on the basis that the additional processes will detect and correct more problems. This approach is inefficient as it does not recognise that some processes have a greater effect on reducing problems than other processes in different enterprises and industries, and that it is possible to achieve better results with fewer processes of higher process capability. It also assumes that there are sufficient persons with expertise to make processes effective. This is not possible for small and medium enterprises with limited personnel, and introduces additional costs for large enterprises in training extra personnel to correctly implement the additional processes.

Han van Loon has created a methodology that provides a breakthrough in terms of specifying processes and capabilities. This methodology creates Practical Process Profiles that minimise the number of processes needed at the correct process capability level to reduce risk and optimise efficiency. It uses industry specific risks as the basis for building the profiles. The methodology has been used to cover safety and industry specific business risks. The basis for the methodology has been successfully proven in an ESA (European Space Agency) project. It produced profiles handling four different levels of safety critical software/systems.

For project team or business unit, this is called TBBDI Risk (Team Based Business Design Improvement - Risk). For an organisation it is called EBBDI (Enterprise Based Business Design Improvement) and for an industry is called IBBDI (Industry Based Business Design Improvement). At each level of use, it optimises processes to reduce business and industry specific risks, hence risks/problems are less likely to occur and the severity of consequences for multi-dimensional risks is reduced.

Benefits

The TBBDI Risk, EBBDI and IBBDI methodologies have the following benefits:

- Reduce process related risks. Handle safety, security and other industry specific risks.
- Practical process profiles that increase process (and hence business) efficiency. Superior to existing process profile approaches in process and assessment standards.
- Reduce number of processes required to achieve business aims while handling business risks.
- Process improvement and optimisation activity based on industry, enterprise and project specific risk reduction.

The methodology can be learnt at an introductory level through the author's workshops. The workshops cover:

- Introduction to the methodology.
  - Understanding how processes can reduce risk.
  - The importance of other factors to reducing risk (people, products). How to select and combine factors.
- Handling safety related and industry specific risks.
- Practical application of the methodology. Participants apply the methodology in a generic situation.
- Industry specific application. Participants will look at what is required to apply the methodology in their enterprise and industry (EBBDI, IBBDI).

People who will most benefit from learning the methodology include Quality Managers, Process Specialists, Process Assessors, Project Managers, Software Managers and Team Leaders, and personnel who have risk related responsibilities.

Workshops are currently being planned in association with iSQI in Germany. A certification process for practitioners wishing to apply this advanced methodology is planned.

Biography:

Han van Loon is an international management consultant and a Professor at Nottingham Trent University in the UK and the University of Business and International Studies in Geneva. Han teaches MBA courses and performs research into quality, knowledge, leadership and management.

Han's international management consulting business has clients in a variety of service, finance, insurance, aerospace, IT and software industries, across several countries and continents. He has extensive experience in system and software projects including agile development and outsourcing. He has expertise in implementing organizational change and improvement programs and projects for world class organisations. He is a published expert in process assessment and improvement, leadership and management.

Book:

Process Assessment and Improvement. A practical guide. Han van Loon. Springer. ISBN 0-387-23182-X. (Note: requires 2nd edition, due out in 2007)

Other Books by the same author.

Process Assessment and ISO15504. A reference book. Han van Loon. Springer. ISBN 0-387-23172-2

Reach for the STARS. Leadership and management in the new millennium. Han van Loon. ISBN 0-9758325-0-6 480 pages 39 €uro

Reach for the STARS. Pocket Guidebook. Han van Loon. ISBN 0-9758325-1-4. 126 pages. 11 €uro.

Organisation Contact Details:

Han van Loon

Leistungs Consult GmbH.
Walchwil, Switzerland.
Phone/fax +41 41 7580826 Mobile +41 79 2638039
Email: welcome@lc-stars.com
Web site: www.lc-stars.com

---

[1]