

Eliciting Requirements for Business Solution Specifications

Dramatically Increase the Quality of your Deliverables

This course delivers proven techniques for eliciting and documenting the functionality and constraints of the system. It builds on these methods, introducing techniques for specifying the business behavior of the system, including use cases. Complimentary techniques for modeling specifications that dramatically increase the quality of business analyst deliverables are also explained. The course moves participants beyond the conventional requirements definition practices that result in imprecise and inefficient software implementations.

Course Duration: 2 Day

Learning Objectives

- How to elicit and document stakeholder requests in the correct context
- How to transform stakeholder requests into traceable atomic requirements
- How to identify Use Cases needed to meet the requirements and write Use Case Specifications
- How to dramatically improve requirements deliverables through techniques consistency and completeness.

Syllabus

Module 1 – Peering into Requirements: Then and Now

WHY WE DO REQUIREMENTS

SOME HISTORY ON HOW REQUIREMENTS HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN PRODUCED

PROBLEMS WITH THOSE APPROACHES

Module 2 – Understanding the Complex World of Requirements

THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO REQUIREMENTS IS NOT WRONG - JUST INSUFFICIENT

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS SPECIFICATIONS

Module 3 – Voice of the Customer: Working with Stakeholder Requests

STAKEHOLDER REQUESTS & SETTING CONTEXT

ANALYSIS OF THESE REQUESTS

EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF AMBIGUITIES IN THIS LEVEL OF REQUEST

Module 4 - Refactoring Requirements

REFACTORING

ELICITATION TECHNIQUES

TRACEABILITY

VALIDATION OF ATOMIC REQUIREMENTS

SPECIFYING NON-FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

ARE THE REQUIREMENTS DONE?

Module 5 – Leveraging Solution Specifications

OVERVIEW OF SPECIFICATION PROCESS

THE FIRST LEVEL OF “HOW”

- Narrative Techniques, Logic Mining, Process Definitions, Business Rule Definition

Module 6 – Performing Task Design with Use Cases

IDENTIFYING USE CASES

SPECIFYING USE CASES

- What a Use Case Accomplishes (and what it doesn't)
- The basic pattern
- Elements of a Use Case
- Advanced Use Case Topics

ARE THE REQUIREMENTS DONE NOW?

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Remote Developers
- Role of the Developer
- Business Involvement from this time forward
- The BA as the “product designer”

Module 7 – Appreciating Modeled Specifications

WHY DO SPECIFICATIONS ANYWAY?

OTHER DIAGRAM TYPES

- Entity Diagram, Navigation Diagram, Scenario Diagram, Screen Mockup

USING NAVIGATION DIAGRAMS

Conventional Wisdom Begets Conventional Results

The traditional artifact-centric requirements training in the marketplace today doesn't sufficiently address the need for business analysts to retain ownership of the business concepts once they are implemented in an automation solution. Conventional thinking doesn't address the need for BAs to continue to be able to directly specify and maintain business processes, business rules and the underlying business terms that these depend upon. Conventional wisdom holds that, as business specifications move to the design function, IT processes transform the BA's work into a product that, if all goes well, delivers the outcome that the business desires. But this approach does nothing to preserve a company's ability to understand the business behavior internal to the delivered solution. This loss of fidelity to what the BA specified is the key barrier to the ability of organizations to innovate rapidly.

The Business Analysis Maturity Model

As organizations turn their attention to maturing their business analysts' skills it is important to develop a longer-term vision that lays out a roadmap towards increased business analysis capabilities that directly impact the business's bottom-line.

The Business Analysis Maturity Model (BAMM) provides a roadmap as well as guideposts along the way for capabilities to target at each level. Upward progression through the levels of the maturity model correlate directly to an organization's business responsiveness/agility and reduced rework, which in turn, results in lower costs for business operations and managing business and software change.

Moving the Business Analyst Beyond Conventional Requirements Analysis

Enterprise Agility's Business Analyst Training Courses and Certification are differentiated because they focus on the cross-disciplinary and interdependent skills necessary to create and maintain business specifications.

For more information on the BAMM, the Business Analysis Framework and the Enterprise Agility Business Specification Certification Program, visit: www.Enterprise-Agility.com.

The Enterprise Agility Advantage ►

Enterprise Agility is a company of senior business engineers, analysts and architects that help organizations transform their business through the use of a technology-independent Business Analysis Framework that is both business process and rules centric.

As a recognized leader in the areas of business process analysis, business rules management, requirements analysis management and business engineering, Enterprise Agility delivers cross-disciplinary training and hands-on mentoring to organizations. By leveraging these interlocking disciplines within the Business/IT Lifecycle as a cohesive service offering, we are able to move our clients beyond industry best practices and conventional wisdom.

The result is increased business agility and dramatic reductions in information technology costs.

For more information about this and other proven approaches that Enterprise Agility employs to help your organization become more agile and create a competitive marketplace advantage please contact David Heidt at 1-773-227-7110 ext. 106 or David.Heidt@Enterprise-Agility.com.



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