Software Product Lines: Reuse That Makes Business Sense

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Software Engineering Institute (SEI)

Department of Defense R&D Laboratory (FFRDC)

Created in 1984

Under contract to Carnegie Mellon University

Offices in Pittsburgh, PA; Washington, DC; and Frankfurt, Germany

SEI Mission: advance software and related disciplines to ensure the development and operation of systems with predictable and improved cost, schedule, and quality.







SEI Technical Program

Networked Systems Survivability

- Survivable Systems Engineering
- Survivable Enterprise Management
- CERT Coordination Center
- Network Situational Awareness
- Practices Development and Training

Product Line Systems

- Product Line Practice
- Software Architecture Technology
- Predictable Assembly from Certifiable Components

Dynamic Systems

- Performance-Critical Systems

Software Engineering Process Management

- Capability Maturity Model Integration
- Team Software Process
- Software Engineering Measurement and **Analysis**

Acquisition Support

New Research

- Independent R&D
- International Process Research Consortium
- Software Engineering for Computational Science and Engineering
- Ultra-Large-Scale Systems
- Integration of Software-Intensive Systems
 Mission Success in Complex Environments

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Mission of the SEI Product Line Systems Program

The Product Line Systems (PLS) Program

- creates, matures, applies, and transitions technology and practices
- to effect widespread product line practice, architecture-centric development and evolution, and predictable construction
- throughout the global software community.

With regard to its software product line effort

 Make product line development and acquisition a low-risk, high-return proposition for all organizations.

Our Customers and Collaborators

ABB

Daimler Chrysler

Caterpillar

Foliage

Intuit

NCR

Northrop Grumman

Pitney Bowes

Raytheon

RIM

Robert Bosch Co.

Siemens

Unisys

Visteon

LLNL

FAA

NASA: JSC, KSC, JPL

NASA: Goddard

NRO: CCT

JNIC

DMSO

US Army: FBCB2, CECOM, ATSC, FCS, AMTS

US Army: ASA(ALT), Aviation, TAPO, BC

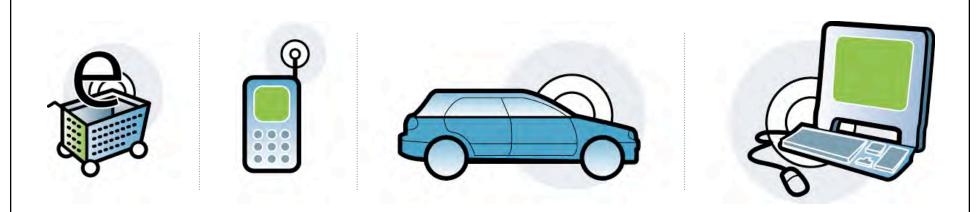
US Navy: Navsea, DDX, OAET, CLIP

US Air Force: F-22, JMPS, ESC



Philips Lucent AT&T **Hewlett Packard** Thomson-CSF **Ericsson** Schlumberger Nokia Telesoft S.p.A. Boeing CelsiusTech Avaya Fraunhofer IBM **Microsoft** Motorola Cummins, Inc. **General Motors Lockheed Martin** Salion, Inc. MarketMaker **Argon Engineering Agilent**

Business Success Requires Software Prowess



Software pervades every sector.

Software has become the bottom line for many organizations, even those who never envisioned themselves in the software business.

Cell Phone Today

~2 million lines of code

Cell Phone in 2010

~ 10 million lines of code

This year's cars

~35 million lines of code

Cars in 2010

~ 100 million lines of code

Universal Needs

Deploy new products (services) at a rapid pace

Accommodate a growing demand for new product features across a wide spectrum of feature categories

Connect products in increasingly unprecedented ways

Exploit a rapidly changing technology base

Gain a competitive edge

Universal Business Goals

High quality

Quick time to market

Market agility

Product alignment

Low cost production

Low cost maintenance

Mass customization

Mind share

require

IMPROVED
EFFICIENCY
AND
PRODUCTIVITY

Basic Goal



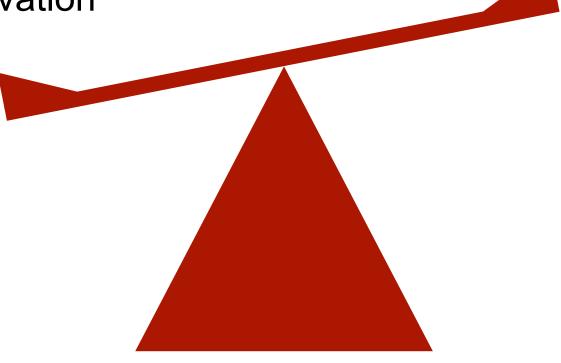
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Software (System) Strategies

Process improvement

Technology innovation

Reuse



Few Systems Are Unique



Most organizations produce families of similar systems, differentiated by features.

A reuse strategy makes sense.

Reuse: An Early Topic of Discussion

"My thesis is that the software industry is weakly founded, in part because of the absence of a software components sub-industry." [McIlroy, 1969]

"Most industry observers agree that improved software development productivity and product quality will bring an end to the software crisis. In such a world, reusable software would abound."

[Pressman, 1982]

"What is needed is the ability to create templates of program units that can be written just once and then tailored to particular needs at translation time. As we shall see, Ada provides a general and very powerful tool to do just this."

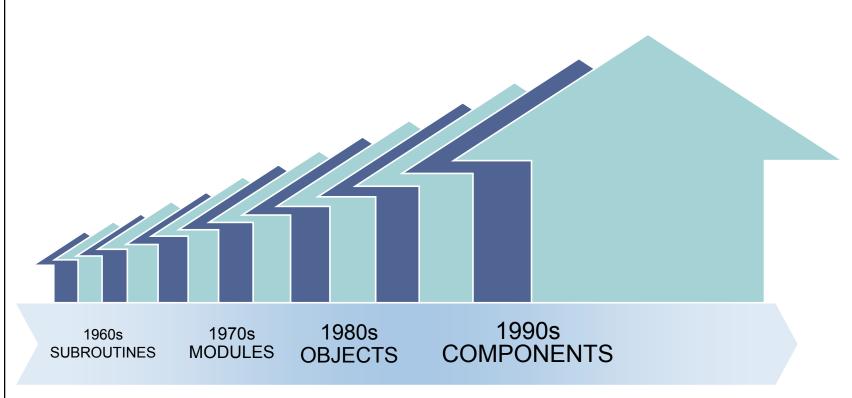
[Booch, 1986]

"If one accepts that reusability is essential to better software quality, the objectoriented approach provides a promising set of solutions." [Meyer, 1987]

"Reusable components would be schematized and placed in a large library that would act as a clearing house for reusable software, and royalties would be paid for use of reusable components."

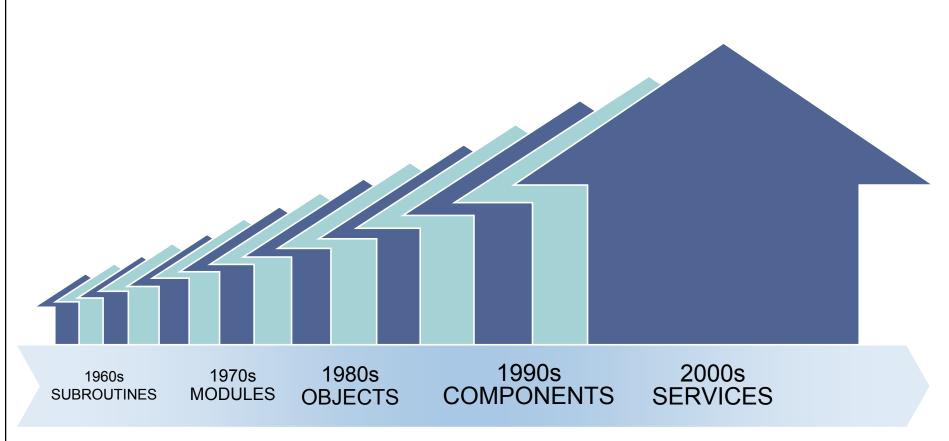
[Lubars, 1988]

Reuse History



Focus was small-grained, opportunistic, and technology-driven. Results did not meet business goals.

Reuse History



Focus was small-grained, opportunistic, and **technology-driven**. Results did not meet business goals.

The Real Truth About Reuse

Reuse means taking something developed for one system and using it in another.

"The XYZ System is built with 80% reuse."

A statement like this is vacuous.

- It is not clear what is being reused.
- It is not clear that the "reuse" has any benefit.

Reusing code or components without an architecture focus and without pre-planning results in

- short-term perceived win
- long-term costs and problems
- failure to meet business goals

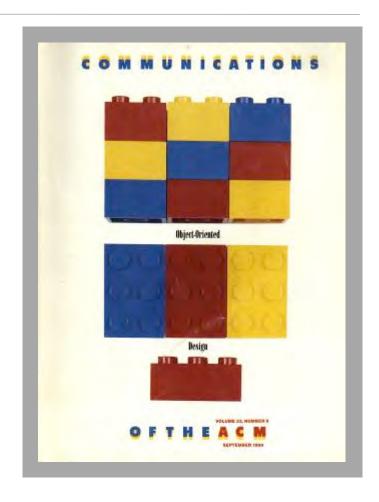
Software Reuse Fact And Fiction

The Fiction:

And then we'll be able to construct software systems by picking out parts and plugging them together, just like Legos...

The Fact:

It's more like having a bathtub full of Tinkertoys, Legos, Erector Set parts, Lincoln Logs, Block City, and six other incompatible kits -- picking out parts that fit specific functions and expecting them to fit together.



Imagine Strategic Reuse



Celsiustech: Ship System 2000

A family of 55 ship systems

- Need for developers dropped from 210 to roughly 30.
- Time to field decreased from about 9 years to about 3 years.
- Integration test of 1-1.5 million SLOC requires 1-2 people.
- Rehosting to a new platform/OS takes 3 months.
- Cost and schedule targets are predictably met.



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Cummins Inc.: Diesel Control Systems

Over 20 product groups with over 1,000 separate engine applications

- Product cycle time was slashed from 250 person-months to a few person-months.
- Build and integration time was reduced from one year to one week.
- Quality goals are exceeded.
- Customer satisfaction is high.
- Product schedules are met.

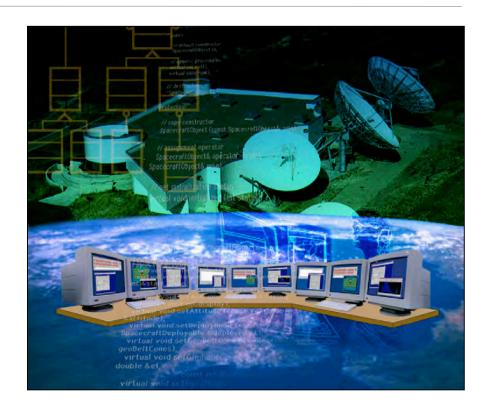


National Reconnaissance Office/ Raytheon: **Control Channel Toolkit**

Ground-based spacecraft command and control systems

- First system had 10 times fewer defects than usual.
- The incremental build time was reduced from months to weeks.
- The system development time and costs decreased by 50%.
- There was decreased product risk.

Software Engineering Institute



Market Maker GMBH: Merger

Internet-based stock market software

- Each product is "uniquely" configured.
- Putting up a customized system takes three days.



Nokia Mobile Phones

Product lines with 25-30 new products per year versus 5 per year originally.

Across products there are

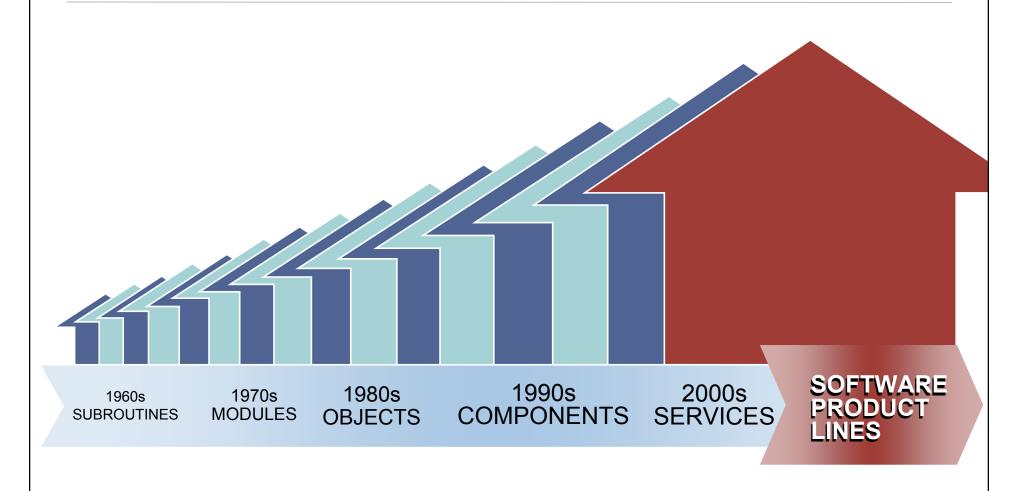
- varying number of keys
- varying display sizes
- varying sets of features
- 58 languages supported
- 130 countries served
- multiple protocols
- needs for backwards compatibility
- configurable features
- needs for product behavior
- change after release



How Did They Do It?



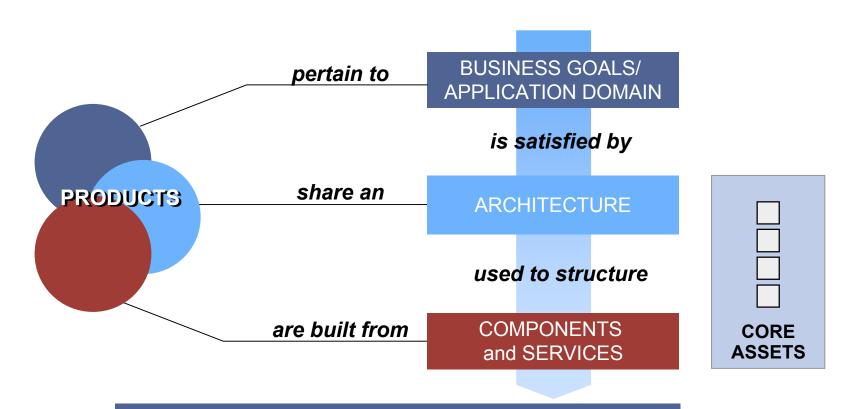
Reuse History: From Ad Hoc To Systematic



What Is A Software Product Line?

A software product line is a **set** of software-intensive systems sharing a **common**, **managed set** of **features** that satisfy the specific needs of a **particular market segment or mission** and that are **developed from a common set** of **core assets** in a **prescribed way**.

Software Product Lines



Product lines

- take economic advantage of commonality
- bound variation

How Do Product Lines Help?

Product lines amortize the investment in these and other *core assets:*

- requirements and requirements analysis
- domain model
- software architecture and design
- performance engineering
- documentation
- test plans, test cases, and test data
- people: their knowledge and skills
- processes, methods, and tools
- budgets, schedules, and work plans
- components and services



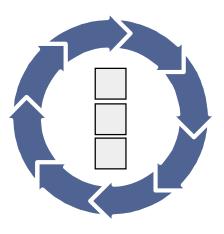
PRODUCT LINES = STRATEGIC REUSE

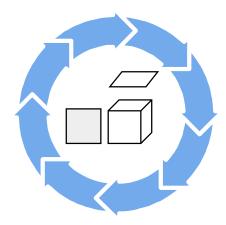
The Key Concepts

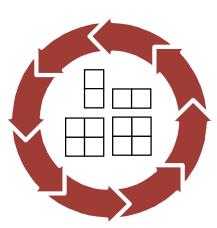
Use of a core asset base

in production

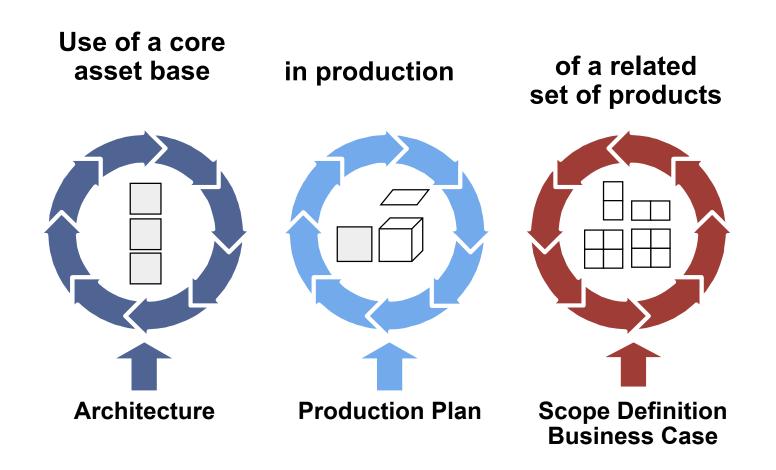
of a related set of products







The Key Concepts



Software Product Lines Are Not

Fortuitous small-grained reuse

• reuse libraries containing algorithms, modules, objects, or components

Single-system development with reuse

modifying code as necessary for the single system only

Just component-based or service-based development

 selecting components or services from an in-house library, the marketplace, or the Web with no architecture focus

Just versions of a single product

• rather, simultaneous release and support of multiple products

Just a configurable architecture

a good start, but only part of the reuse potential

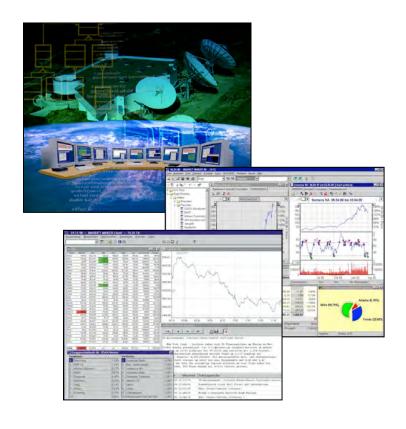
Just a set of technical standards

• constraining choices without an architecture-based reuse strategy

Software Product Lines Are

Software product lines involve strategic, planned reuse that yields predictable results.





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Widespread Use of Software Product Lines

Successful software product lines have been built for families of among other things

- mobile phones
- command and control ship systems
- ground-based spacecraft systems
- avionics systems
- command and control/situation awareness systems
- pagers
- engine control systems
- mass storage devices

- billing systems
- web-based retail systems
- printers
- consumer electronic products
- acquisition management enterprise systems
- financial and tax systems
- medical devices
- farm manager software

Specific Examples - 1



Feed control and farm management software



E-COM Technology Ltd.

Medical imaging workstations



Firmware for computer peripherals



5ESS telecommunications switch



Asea Brown Boveri

Gas turbines, train control, semantic graphics framework



Internet payment gateway infrastructure products

ERICSSON





Elevator control systems

NOKIA

Mobile phones, mobile browsers, telecom products for public, private and cellular networks



Computer printer servers, storage servers, network camera and scanner servers



Customized solutions for transportation industries



Software for engines, transmissions and controllers



RAID controller firmware for disk storage units



Interferometer product line

Specific Examples - 2

PHILIPS

High-end televisions, PKI telecommunications switching system, diagnostic imaging equipment



Commercial flight control system avionics, Common Army Avionics System (CAAS), U.S. Army helicopters



EPOC operating system



Test range facilities





Revenue acquisition management systems

TELVENT

Industrial supervisory control and business process management systems



BOSCH



Automotive gasoline systems

SIEMENS

Software for viewing and quantifying radiological images



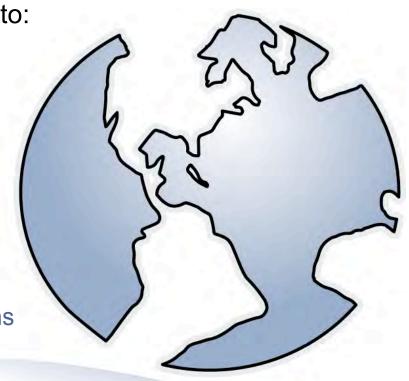




Real World Motivation

Organizations use product line practices to:

- achieve large scale productivity gains
- improve time to market
- maintain market presence
- sustain unprecedented growth
- achieve greater market agility
- compensate for an inability to hire
- enable mass customization
- get control of diverse product configurations
- improve product quality
- increase customer satisfaction
- increase predictability of cost, schedule, and quality



Example Organizational Benefits

Improved productivity

• by as much as 10x

Increased quality

• by as much as 10x

Decreased cost

• by as much as 60%

Decreased labor needs

• by as much as 87%

Decreased time to market (to field, to launch...)

• by as much as 98%

Ability to move into new markets

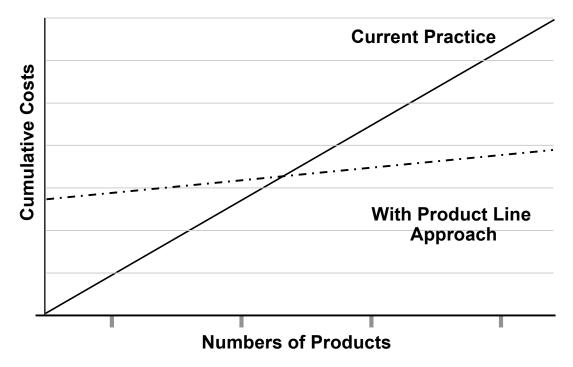
• in months, not years

Costs Of A Software Product Line

Core Assets	Costs	
Architecture	Must support variation inherent in the product line	
Software Components	Must be designed to be general without a loss of performance; must build in support for variation points	
Test Plans, Test Cases, Test Data	Must consider variation points and multiple instances of the product line	
Business Case and Market Analysis	Must address a family of software products, not just one product	
Project Plans	Must be generic or be made extensible to accommodate product variations	
Tools and Processes	Must be more robust	
People, Skills, Training	Must involve training and expertise centered around the assets and procedures associated with the product line	

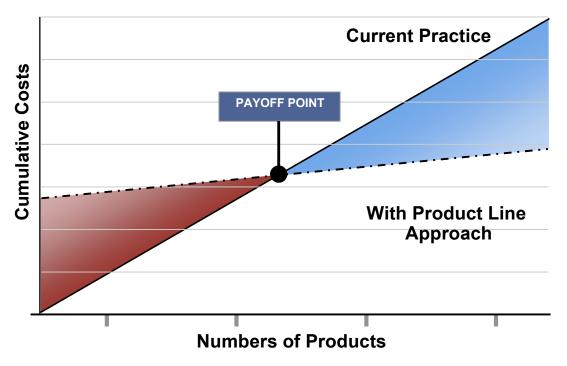


Economics Of Product Lines



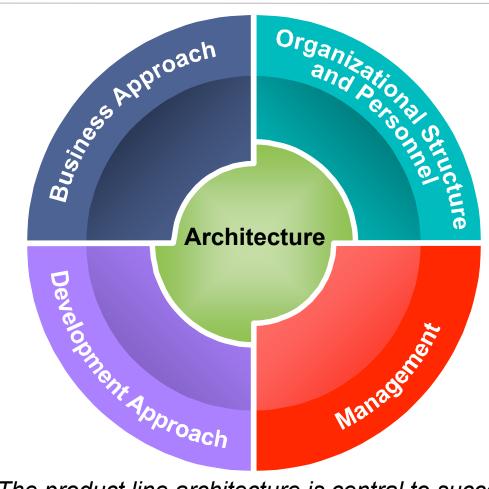
Weiss. D.M. & and Lai, C.T.R.. Software Product-Line Engineering: A Family-Based Software Development Process Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1999.

Economics Of Product Lines



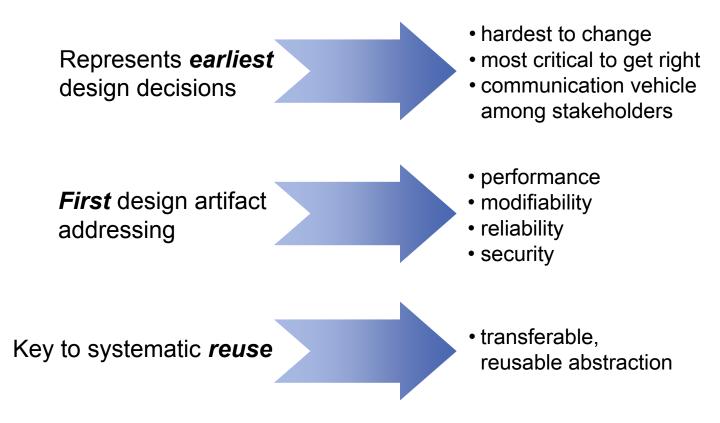
Weiss. D.M. & and Lai, C.T.R.. Software Product-Line Engineering: A Family-Based Software Development Process Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1999.

Necessary Changes



The product line architecture is central to success.

Why Is Software Architecture Important?



The right architecture paves the way for system success. The wrong architecture usually spells some form of disaster.

Product Line Practice

Contexts for product lines vary widely, based on

- nature of products
- nature of market or mission
- business goals
- organizational infrastructure
- workforce distribution
- process discipline
- artifact maturity

But there are universal essential activities and practices.

The SEI Framework For Software Product Line Practicesm

The SEI Framework for Software Product Line Practice is a conceptual framework that describes the essential activities and twenty-nine practice areas necessary for successful software product lines.

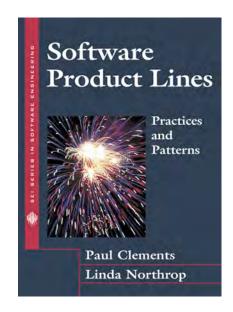
The Framework, originally conceived in 1998, is evolving based on the experience and information provided by the community.

Version 4.0 – in *Software Product Lines: Practices and Patterns*

Version 4.2 –

http://www.sei.cmu.edu/productlines/framework.html

Version 5.0 – available in early 2007



SEI Information Sources

Case studies, experience reports, and surveys

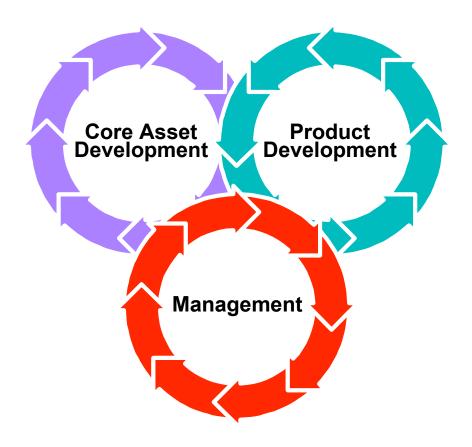


Workshops and conferences

Applied research

Collaborations with customers on actual product lines

The Three Essential Activities



Core Asset Development

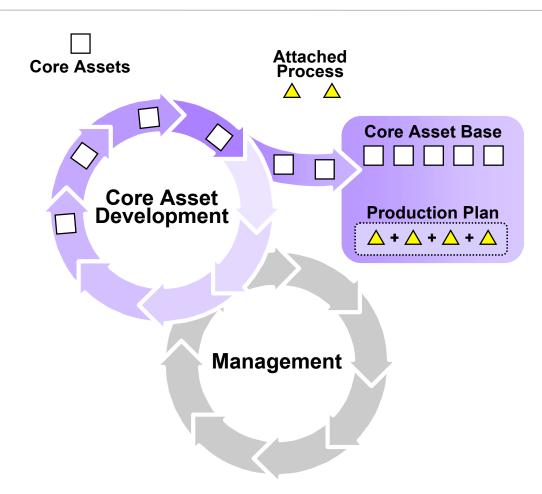
Product Constraints
Production Constraints
Production Strategy
Preexisting Assets

Production Plan

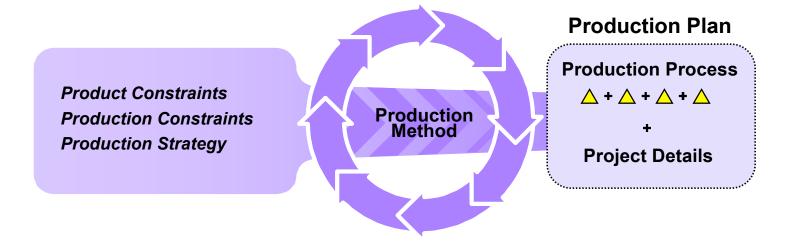
Management

Management

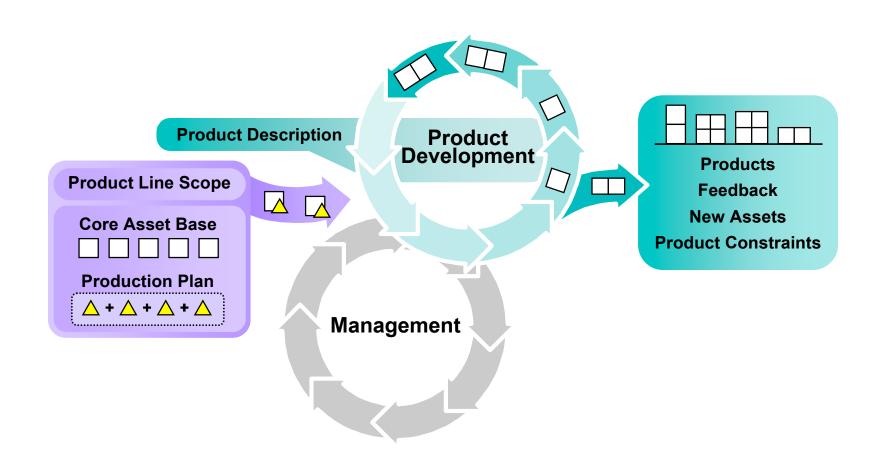
Attached Processes



Product Line Production Plan



Product Development



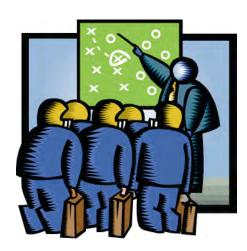
Management



Management

Management at multiple levels plays a critical role in the successful product line practice by

- achieving the right organizational structure
- allocating resources
- coordinating and supervising
- providing training
- rewarding employees appropriately
- developing and communicating an acquisition strategy
- managing external interfaces
- creating and implementing a product line adoption plan
- launching and institutionalizing the approach in a manner appropriate to the organization



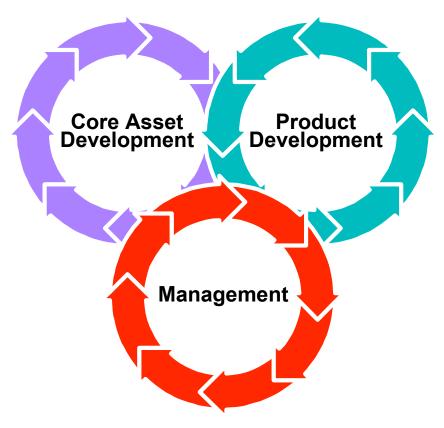
Managing A Software Product Line Requires Leadership

A key role for software product line management is that of champion.

A champion must

- set and maintain the vision
- ensure that the appropriate goals and measures are in place
- "sell" the product line up and down the chain
- sustain morale
- deflect potential derailments
- solicit feedback and continuously improve the approach

Essential Product Line Activities



Each of these is essential, as is the blending of all three.

Different Approaches - 1

Proactive: Develop the core assets first.

- Develop the scope first and use it as a "mission" statement.
- Products come to market quickly with minimum code writing.
- Requires upfront investment and predictive knowledge

Reactive: Start with one or more products.

- From them, generate the product line core assets and then future products; the scope evolves more dramatically.
- Much lower cost of entry
- The architecture and other core assets must be robust, extensible, and appropriate to future product line needs.

Different Approaches - 2

Incremental: In either a reactive or proactive approach, it is possible to develop the core asset base in stages, while planning from the beginning to develop a product line.

- Develop part of the core asset base, including the architecture and some of the components.
- Develop one or more products.
- Develop part of the rest of the core asset base.
- Develop more products.
- Evolve more of the core asset base.
- •

Alternate Terminology

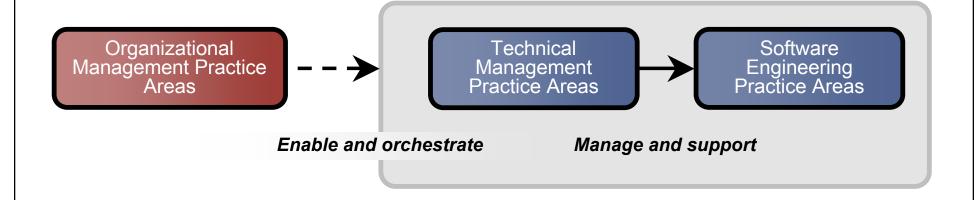
Our Terminology	Alternate Terminology	
Product Line	Product Family	
Software Core Assets	Platform	
Business Unit	Product Line	
Product	Customization	
Core Asset Development	Domain Engineering	
Product Development	Application Engineering	

Driving The Essential Activities

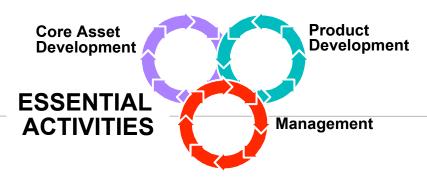
Beneath the level of the essential activities are essential practices that fall into practice areas.

A practice area is a body of work or a collection of activities that an organization must master to successfully carry out the essential work of a product line.

Three Categories Of Practice Areas

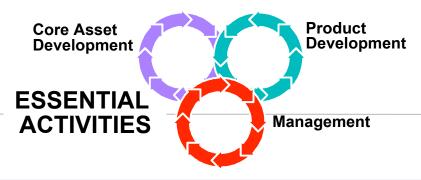


Framework



PRACTICE AREAS				
Software Engineering	Technical Management	Organizational Management		
Architecture Definition	Configuration Management	Building a Business Case		
Architecture Evaluation	Data Collection, Metrics, and Tracking	Customer Interface Management		
Component Development	Make/Buy/Mine/Commission Analysis	Developing an Acquisition Strategy		
COTS Utilization	Process Definition	Funding		
Mining Existing Assets	Scoping	Launching and Institutionalizing		
Requirements Engineering	Technical Planning	Market Analysis		
Software System Integration	Technical Risk Management	Operations		
Testing	Tool Support	Organizational Planning		
Understanding Relevant Domains		Organizational Risk Management		
	Structuring the Organization			
		Technology Forecasting		
		Training		

Framework Version 5.0



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Testing	Tool Support	Organizational Planning		
Understanding Relevant Domains	Key:	Organizational Risk Management		
	New Name and Substantial	Structuring the Organization		
	Change	Technology Forecasting		
		Training		

Framework Version 5.0



PRACTICE AREAS				
Software Engineering	Technical Management	Organizational Management		
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Software System Integration	Technical Planning	Market Analysis		
Testing	Technical Risk Management	Operations		
Understanding Relevant Domains	Tool Support	Organizational Planning		
Using Externally Available Software	Key:	Organizational Risk Management		
	New Name and Substantial Change	Structuring the Organization		
	Substantial Change	Technology Forecasting		
		Training		

Dilemma: How Do You Apply The 29 Practice Areas?

Organizations still have to figure out how to put the practice areas into play.

Twenty-nine is a big number.

Help To Make It Happen



PRACTICE AREAS

Software Engineering

Technical Management

Organizational Management

GUIDANCE



Case Studies





Patterns



Probe



Curriculum

Case Studies

CelsiusTech - CMU/SEI-96-TR-016

http://www.sei.cmu.edu/publications/documents/01.reports/96.tr.016.html

Cummins, Inc. Software Product Lines: Practices and Patterns

Market Maker Software Product Lines: Practices and Patterns

NRO/Raytheon - CMU/SEI-2001-TR-030

http://www.sei.cmu.edu/publications/documents/01.reports/02tr030.html

NUWC – CMU/SEI-2002-TN-018

http://www.sei.cmu.edu/publications/documents/02.reports/02tn018.html

Salion, Inc. - CMU/SEI-2002-TR-038

http://www.sei.cmu.edu/publications/documents/02.reports/02tr038.html

U.S. Army - CMU/SEI-2005-TR-019

http://www.sei.cmu.edu/publications/documents/05.reports/05tr019.html

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PRACTICE AREAS

Software Engineering

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Curriculum

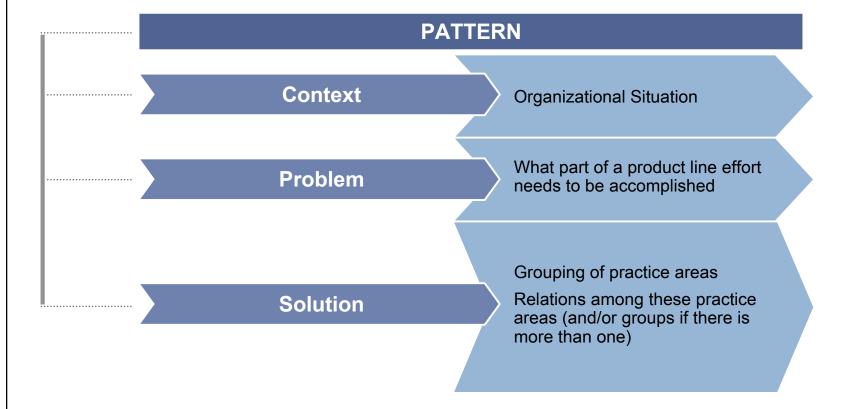
Patterns Can Help

Patterns are a way of expressing common context and problem-solution pairs.

Patterns have been found to be useful in building architecture, economics, software architecture, software design, software implementation, process improvement, and others.

Patterns assist in effecting a divide and conquer approach.

Software Product Line Practice Patterns



What To Build Pattern - 1

Name:

The *What to Build* pattern helps an organization determine what products ought to be in its software product line – what products to build.

Context:

An organization has decided to field a software product line and knows the general product area for the set of products.

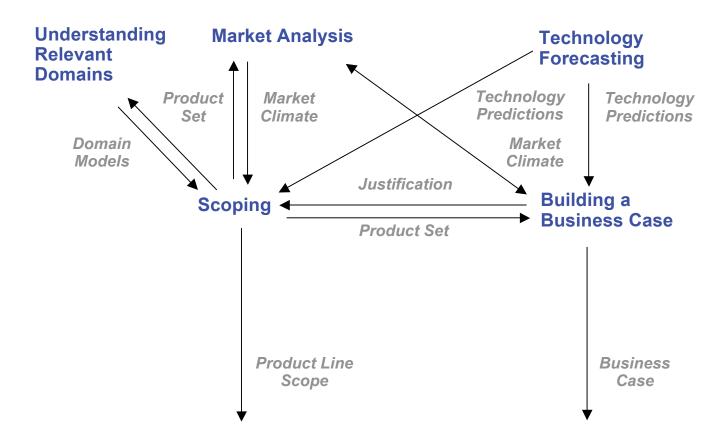
Problem:

To determine what products should be included in the product line

Solution:

Determining what to build requires information related to the product area, technology, and market; the business justification; and the process for describing the set of products to be included in the product line.

What To Build Pattern - 2



Dynamic Structure

Factory Pattern - 1

Name:

The *Factory* pattern is a composite pattern that describes the entire product line organization.

Context:

An organization is considering (or fielding) a product line.

Problem:

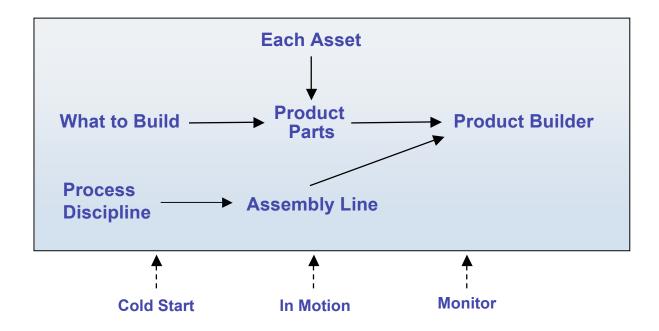
To map the entire product line effort

Solution:

Fielding a product line involves

- deciding what to build
- building and running the production capability
- preparing the organization
- designing and providing the product parts
- running the assembly line
- monitoring the process

Factory Pattern - 2



Informs and information flow

Supports

Dynamic Structure

Current Set Of Patterns

Pattern	Variants	
Assembly Line		
Cold Start	Warm Start	
Curriculum		
Each Asset	Each Asset Apprentice Evolve Each Asset	
Essentials Coverage		
Factory	Adoption Factory	
In Motion		
Monitor		
Process	Process Improvement	
Product Parts	Green Field Barren Field Plowed Field	
What to Build	Analysis Forced March	

Help To Make It Happen



PRACTICE AREAS

Software Engineering

Technical Management

Organizational Management

GUIDANCE



Case Studies





Patterns



Probe



Curriculum

What Is An SEI Product Line Technical Probe (PLTP)?

The SEI PLTP is a method for examining an organization's readiness to adopt or ability to succeed with a software product line approach.

- It is a diagnostic tool based on the SEI Framework for Software Product Line Practice.
- The 29 practice areas are the basis of data collection and analysis.



Help To Make It Happen



PRACTICE AREAS Software Engineering Technical Management Organizational Management GUIDANCE



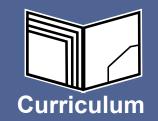




Patterns

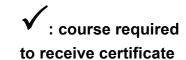


Probe



The SEI Software Product Line Curriculum

	Three Certificate Programs			
	Software Product Line Professional	PLTP Team Member	PLTP Leader	
Five Courses				
Software Product Lines	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Adopting Software Product Lines	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Developing Software Product Lines	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
PLTP Team Training		\checkmark	\checkmark	
PLTP Leader Training			\checkmark	
PLTP Lead Observation			\checkmark	



The Product Line Adoption Endgame

To have an operational software product line.

To do that, an organization must

- have
 - a core asset base
 - supportive processes and organizational structures
- develop products from that asset base in a way that achieves business goals
- improve and extend the software product line effort as long as it makes sense

Barriers To Product Line Adoption



Barriers To Product Line Adoption



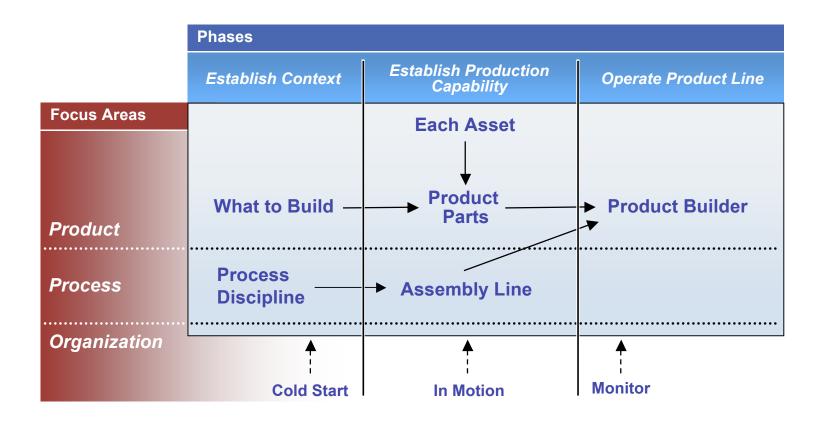
More Barriers

- Lack of knowledge
- Need for organizational change
- Cultural resistance
- Lack of sufficient management support
- Lack of necessary talent
- Incompatible development processes
- Globalization of workforce
- Stove-piped mentality
- No clear path to follow

Change management models are useful.

A product line adoption roadmap is helpful.

The SEI Adoption Factory Pattern





Associated Practice Areas

	Establish Context	Establish Production Capability	Operate Product Line
Product	Marketing Analysis Understanding Relevant Domains Technology Forecasting Building a Business Case Scoping	 Requirements Engineering Architecture Definition Architecture Evaluation Mining Existing Assets Component Development Using Externally Available Software Software System Integration Testing 	 Requirements Engineering Architecture Definition Architecture Evaluation Mining Existing Assets Component Development Using Externally Available Software Software System Integration Testing
Process	Process Discipline	 Make/Buy/Mine/Commission Configuration Management Tool Support Measurement and Tracking Technical Planning Technical Risk Management 	
Organization	 Launching and Institutionalizing Funding Structuring the Organization Operations Organizational Planning Customer Interface Management Organizational Risk Management Developing an Acquisition Strategy Training 	Launching and Institutionalizing Funding Structuring the Organization Operations Organizational Planning Customer Interface Management Organizational Risk Management Developing an Acquisition Strategy Training	Measurement and Tracking Technical Risk Management Organizational Risk Management Customer Interface Management Organizational Planning

The Entire Picture



PRACTICE AREAS

Software Engineering

Technical Management

Organizational Management

GUIDANCE



Case Studies





Probe



Curriculum

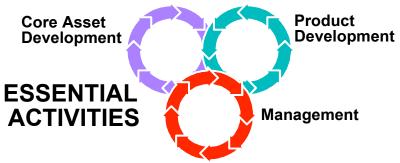
ADOPTION FACTORY

In A Nutshell

Software product lines epitomize the concept of strategic, planned reuse.

The product line concept is about more than a new technology. It is a new way of doing one's software business.

There are essential product line activities and practices areas as well as product line patterns to make the move to product lines more manageable.



PRACTICE AREAS Technical Management Organizational Management

Software Engineering

What's Different About Reuse With Software Product Lines?

- Business dimension
- Iteration
- Architecture focus
- Preplanning
- Process and product connection



At The Heart Of Successful Product Lines

- A pressing need that addresses the heart of the business
- Long and deep domain experience
- A legacy base from which to build
- Architectural excellence
- Process discipline
- Management commitment
- Loyalty to the product line as a single entity



Summary of SEI Contributions

Models and Guidance

- A Framework for Software Product Line PracticeSM
- Software Product Line Acquisition: A Companion to A Framework for Software Product Line Practice
- Product line practice patterns
- Product line adoption roadmap
- Pedagogical product line

Methods and Technology

- product line analysis
- architecture definition, documentation, evaluation (ATAM®), and recovery
- mining assets
- · production planning
- Structured Intuitive Product Line Economics (SIMPLE)
- Product Line Technical ProbeSM (PLTPSM)
- Product Line Quick Look (PLQL)
- Interactive workshops in product line measurement, variability management, product line management
- Prediction-enabled component technology

Book

Software Product Lines: Practices and Patterns

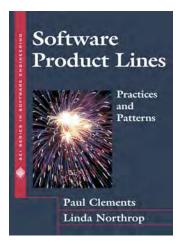
Curriculum and Certificate Programs

- Five courses and three certificate programs
- Product Line Executive Seminar

Conferences and Workshops

 SPLC 1, SPLC2, SPLC 2004; SPLC 2006; Workshops 1997 - 2005

Technical Reports, publications, and Web site



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Final Word

If properly managed, the benefits of a product line approach far exceed the costs.

Strategic software reuse through a well-managed product line approach achieves business goals for:

- efficiency
- time to market
- productivity
- quality
- agility



Software Product Lines:
Reuse That Makes Business Sense.

Questions – Now Or Later

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