

# *Value* Delivery in Systems Engineering

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**Quality Days Vienna**

**Presented on Tuesday 19 January 2016  
15:45 to 16:30**

**Slides Copy at [gilb.com](http://www.gilb.com)  
<http://www.gilb.com/dl869>**

## Engineering Quality into Software: Quantifying All Qualities in Requirements, Architecture and Project Management

- I will present a real engineering method for software development.
- It is based on the Planning Language ('Planguage').
- First we express all quality and value requirements as quantifications.
- Then we estimate all design and architecture suggestions in terms of their estimated impact on our quantified quality goals, on an Impact Estimation Table.
- Then we go into agile mode, with 'Evo' (the grandfather of agile methods)
  - and we decompose the architecture into weekly value delivery steps of measurable value.
- We feedback multiple quality & cost experience to the Impact Table.
- We learn from numeric deviation from expectations.
- We update our estimates of time/cost to all Goals met.
- We replace bad architecture with better.
- The method has decades of practical experience, like at HP, Intel, Citigroup

# The Main Ideas

- 1. EFFECT MANAGEMENT
  - Quantify values
- 2. PLAN MANAGEMENT
  - Quantify plans. Strategies on terms of values
- 3. PROFIT MANAGEMENT
  - Efficiency
- 4. RISKS MANAGEMENT.
  - Do a little, measure, adjust.
- 5. PRIORITIZATION:
  - Do highest efficiency first.

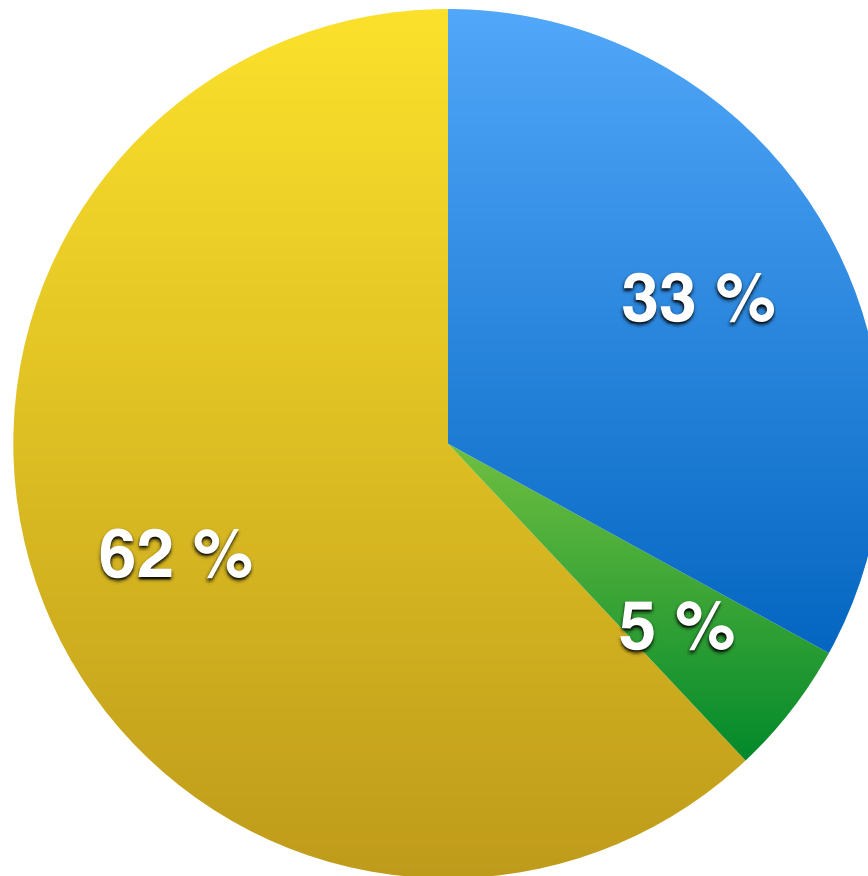
# Some Practical Cases from my practice

How to measure  
the clarity and other qualities  
of requirements, architectures  
and other software plans

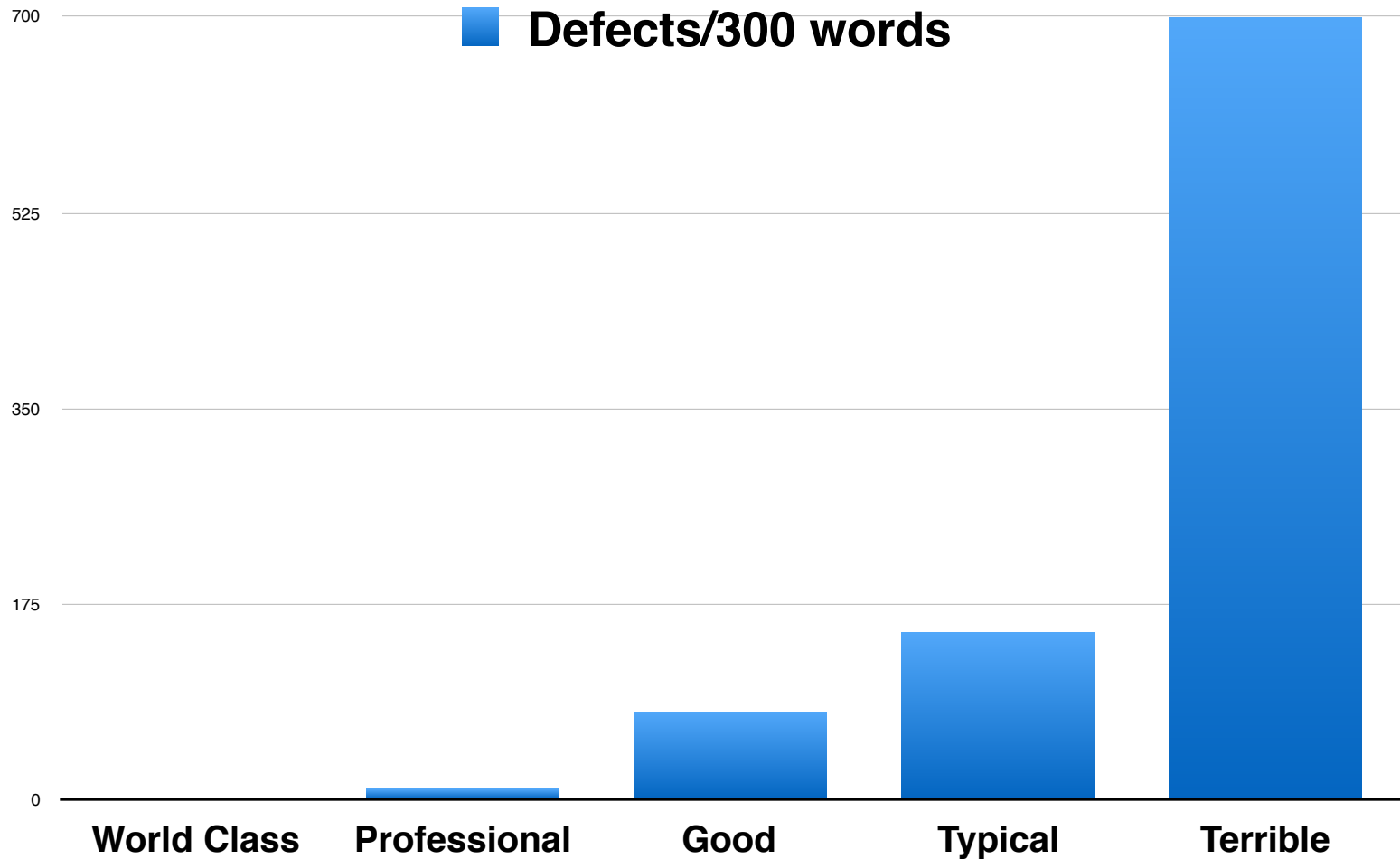
because then we can stop bad planning upstream (Lean!)

# % Intelligible Plans

● Major Defects    ● Minor Defects    ● Intelligible ?



# Planning Clarity Quantified



# The Spec QC Process



**“Agile Specification Quality Control:  
Shifting emphasis from cleanup to sampling defects”  
in Testing Experience, March 2009**  
[http://www.gilb.com/tiki-download\\_file.php?fileId=264](http://www.gilb.com/tiki-download_file.php?fileId=264)



## Da Vinci on The Rigor Needed for Creativity

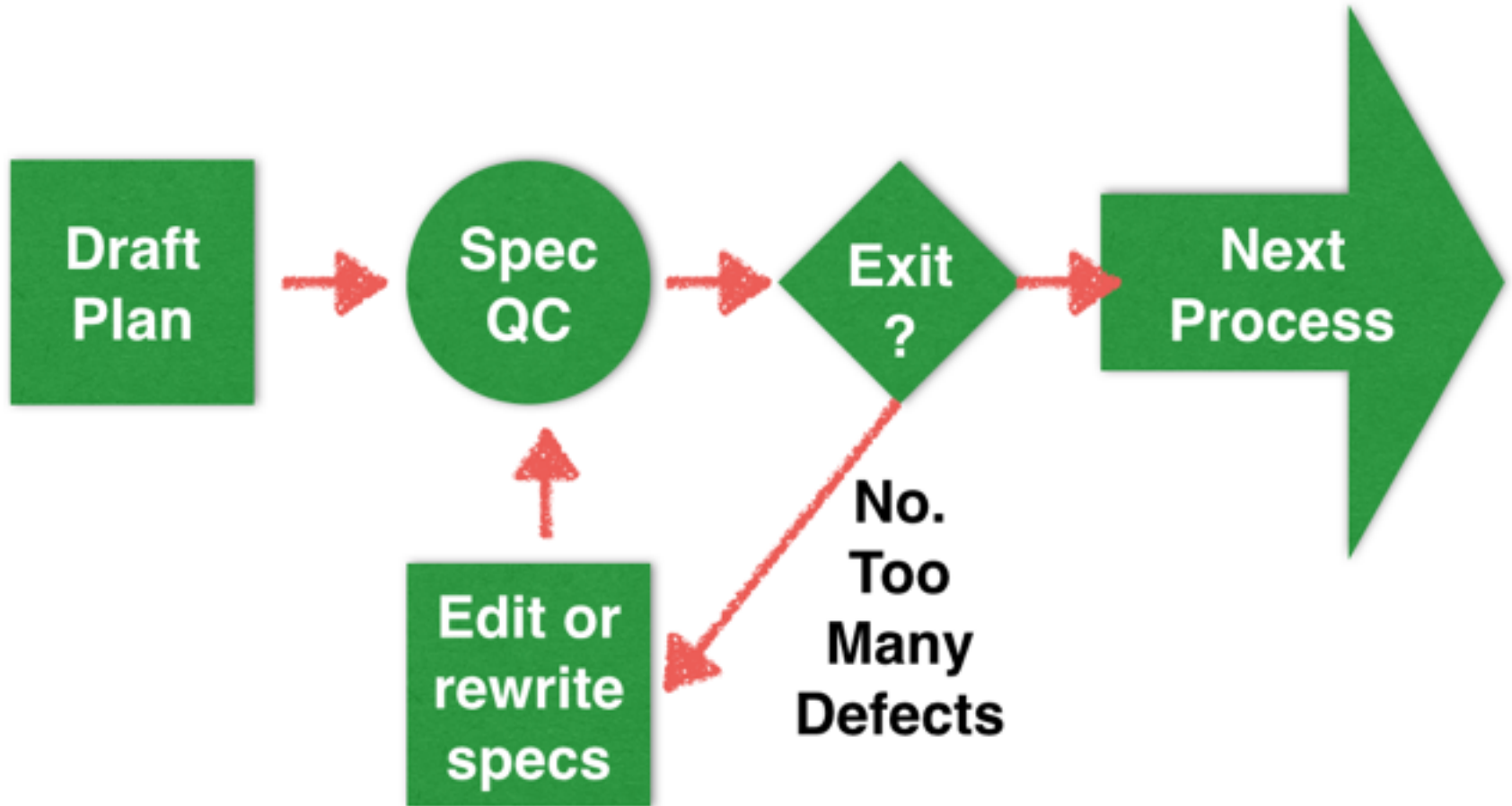
**“these rules will enable you to have a free and sound judgment:  
since good judgment is born of clear understanding,  
and a clear understanding comes of reasons derived from sound rules,  
and sound rules are the issue of sound experience –  
the common mother of all sciences and arts.”**

### **The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci. 18.**

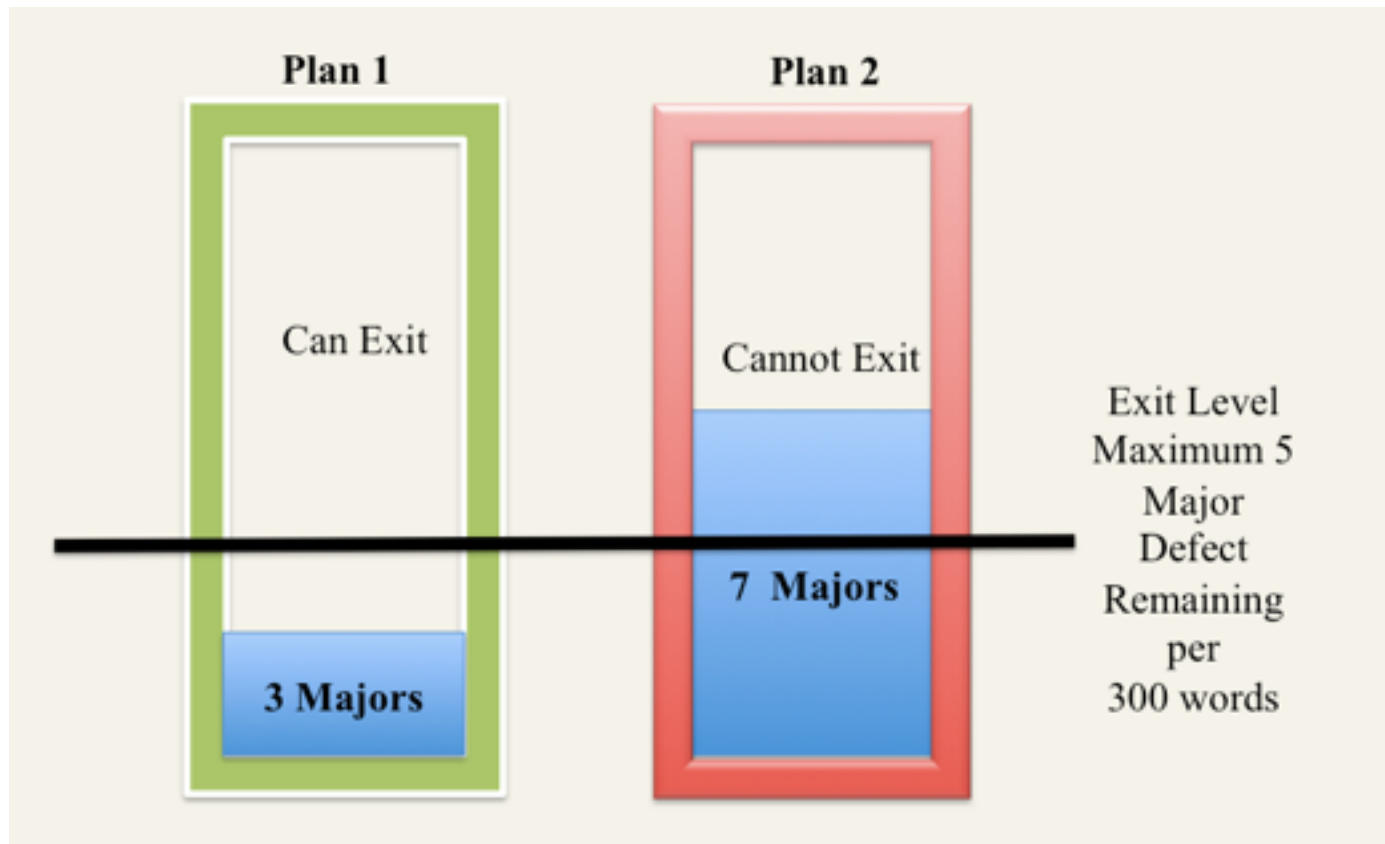
The point: we need clear rules for what is a good clear specs,  
and we need clear rules for when a spec can be used (‘Exit’),  
or must be improved (‘No Exit’)



# QC Process with Exit



# How clear must a plan be?

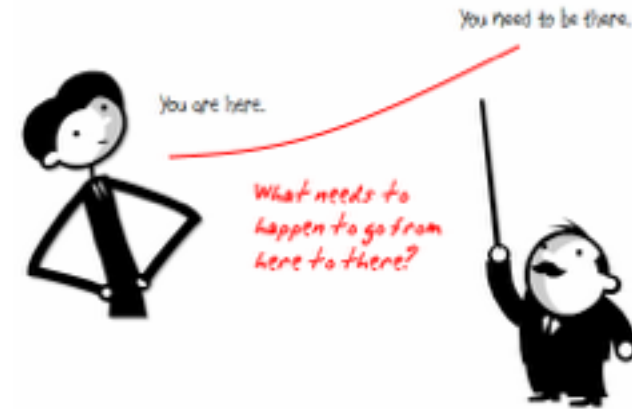


# Real Example

## “Platform Rationalisation Initiative”

### “Main Objectives.”

### London Multinational Bank



- Rationalize into a smaller number of core processing platforms. This cuts technology spend on duplicate platforms, and creates the opportunity for operational saves. Expected 60%-80% reduction in processing cost to Fixed Income Business levies.
- International Securities on one platform, Fixed Income and Equities (Institutional and PB).
- Global Processing consistency with single Operations In-Tray and associated workflow.
- Consistent financial processing on one Accounting engine, feeding a single sub-ledger across products.
- First step towards evolution of “Big Ideas” for Securities.
- Improved development environment, leading to increased capacity to enhance functionality in future.
- Removes duplicative spend on two back office platforms in support of mandatory message changes, etc.

# Basic QC Rules for Top Level Objectives

- **CLEAR:** Every word and phrase should be clear enough to allow objective test of a delivery. (we need to know exactly what is required and expected)
- **UNAMBIGUOUS:** Every word and phrase should be unambiguous to all potential intended readers. (no different than intended interpretations should be possible)
- **QUANTIFIED QUALITY:** all qualities (good things we want to improve) shall be expressed quantitatively.
- After we started the exercise I regretted not adding the usual rule:
- **4. NO DESIGN:** objectives shall not be expressed in terms of a design or architecture
  - (a ‘means’ to reach the ‘real’ objective), when it is possible and is our real intent, to express the improvements in terms of quality, performance, and cost that are expected, instead.



Potential consequence  
of major defects  
in architecture specs

## COUNT MAJOR 'DEFECTS' (RULES VIOLATIONS)

Rules Reminder:

1. Clear,
2. Unambiguous,
3. Quantified Qualities,
4. No Design/Architecture



- “Rationalize into a smaller number of core processing platforms. This cuts technology spend on duplicate platforms, and creates the opportunity for operational saves. Expected 60%-80% reduction in processing cost to Fixed Income Business lines.
- International Securities on one platform, Fixed Income and Equities (Institutional and PB).
- Global Processing consistency with single Operations In-Tray and associated workflow.
- Consistent financial processing on one Accounting engine, feeding a single sub-ledger across products.
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- Improved development environment, leading to increased capacity to enhance functionality in future.
- Removes duplicative spend on two back office platforms in support of mandatory message changes, etc.”

## LINK WORDS: OBJECTIVE:ARCHITECTURE

### RULE 4. No Design/Architecture



- Rationalize into a smaller number of core processing platforms. *This cuts technology spend* on duplicate platforms, and *creates the opportunity* for operational saves. Expected 60%-80% reduction in processing cost to Fixed Income Business lines.
- International Securities on one platform, Fixed Income and Equities (Institutional and PB).
- Global Processing consistency with single Operations In-Tray and associated workflow.
- Consistent financial processing on one Accounting engine, feeding a single sub-ledger across products.
- First step towards evolution of “Big Ideas” for Securities.
- *Improved development environment*, leading to increased capacity to enhance functionality in future.
- Removes duplicative spend on two back office platforms in support of mandatory message changes, etc.

# Agile Spec QC Results



- **Reported** major defects =
- Last week: 15, 17, 21
- **Today** =18, 15, 15, 13 others less

- Estimated appx. Total defects found by a small team (2-4 people) =  $36 \pm 6$ 
  - 2x highest found.
- Estimated appx. Total Majors in the 110 words =  $100 \pm 10$ 
  - (3x group total. 30% effectiveness of team)
- Estimated approximate total defects in normalized page (300 words) =  $280 \pm 20$ 
  - (Majors in 110 words x 3)





# How can we improve such bad specification? ('Planguage')



## Development Capacity:

Version: 3 Sept 2009 16:26

Type: Main <Complex/Elementary> Objective for a project.

Ambition Level: radically increase the capacity for developers to do defined tasks. <- Tsg

Scale: the Calendar Time for defined [Developers] to Successfully carry out defined [Tasks].

Owner: Tim Fxxx

Calendar Time: defined as: full working days within the start to delivery time frame.

Past [ 2009, {Bxx, Lxx, Gxx}, If QA Approved Processes used, Developer = Architect, Task = Draft Architecture ]      15 days  $\pm 4$  ?? <- Rob

Goal[ 2011, { Bxx, Lxx, Gxx }, If QA Approved Processes used, Developer = Architect, Task = Draft Architecture ]      1.5 days  $\pm 0.4$  ?? <- Rob

Justification: Really good architects are very scarce so we need to optimize their use.

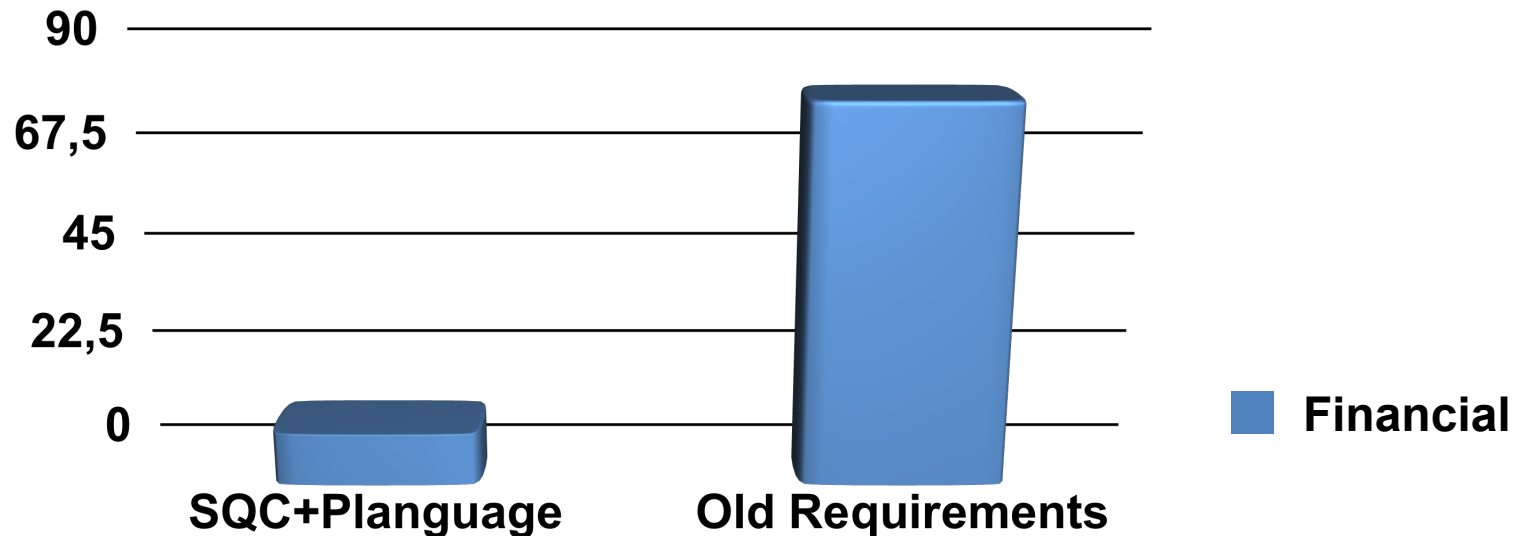
Risks: we use effort that should be directed to really high volume or even more critical areas (like Main Objective).

Reducing unintelligible IT requirements from 80/page to 10/page in 6 months

London, Citigroup

Spec QC/Extreme Inspection + Planguage Requirements

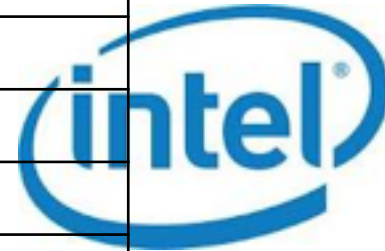
Major defects/page  
on 1st Quality Control



## Extreme Quality Management using Planguage and my Spec QC

Application of Specification Quality Control by a SW team resulted in the following defect density reduction in requirements over several months:

Rev.	# of Defects	# of Pages	Defects/ Page (DPP)	% Change in DPP
0.3	312	31	10.06	
0.5	209	44	4.75	-53%
0.6	247	60	4.12	-13%
0.7	114	33	3.45	-16%
0.8	45	38	1.18	-66%
1.0	10	45	0.22	-81%
Overall % change in DPP revision 0.3 to 1.0:				-98%



### Downstream benefits:

- Scope delivered at the Alpha milestone increased **300%**, released scope up 233%
- SW defects reduced by **~50%**
- Defects that did occur were resolved in far less time on average
- Teams typically exit with densities ranging from 5 majors per page (600 words) to 1 defect in a couple of pages.

# *Some Practical Tools*

## **“THIS STUFF WORKS”**

Erik Simmons, Intel in CE Foreword --->



- **A VALUE PLANNING LANGUAGE:**
  - Planguage (a *paper* on Planguage)
    - <http://www.gilb.com/dl831>
  - The Planguage Handbook “**Competitive Engineering**” (2005)
    - TEMPLATES, PRINCIPLES, TERMINOLOGY, PROCESSES, STANDARDS
  - “**Value Planning**” book (2016). Free book, cheap ‘appendix’ ++.
    - [LeanPub.com/ValuePlanning](http://LeanPub.com/ValuePlanning)

# 1999-2016 Observations by Erik Simmons, Intel: **It Scales**

January 8, 2016 Email.

**“Instead, I believe that the majority of what you have included for ideas, principles, etc. from CE and VP are in fact scale-free.**

**They are not dependent on project or organization size.**

**They are good heuristics for almost any project, and nearly universally applicable (nearly universal because I hear Koen in my head, and all is heuristic).**

**So, CE and VP are not about scaling so much as they should be taught and understood as scale-free.**

**Size is not a reason to choose (or not choose) to use CE, Evo, Planguage, etc.**

**As you quoted me in the paper – ‘this stuff works’ . It works on small projects.**

**It works on large projects.**

**Evo on a 5-person team is not really much different than Evo on a 100-person team, except there are more people.**

**The principles apply without alteration (or “scaling”).**

**Anyone who sees a random page of your new paper would probably not guess the topic is scaling (unless you happen to mention that in the text on that particular page). CE does not scale. It doesn’t need to.**

**Your work for decades has been focused on a very good set of these. SQC, for example, works on any size specification. It does not (need to) scale.”**



**“Some Advanced Tools and Principles for Scaling Agile Projects - Agile Engineering.”**

**40 practical Engineering ideas for scaling agile development successfully all the time.**

**A very short pdf paper, supported by references to necessary detail.**

**Not least the new LeanPub.com/ ValuePlanning book**

**<http://www.gilb.com/dl865>**

# Some More Practical Experiences with Value Engineering

# Quantifying Values and Solutions in 1 week

because then we can begin trying  
to delivery value the second week

# Startup Week: Process



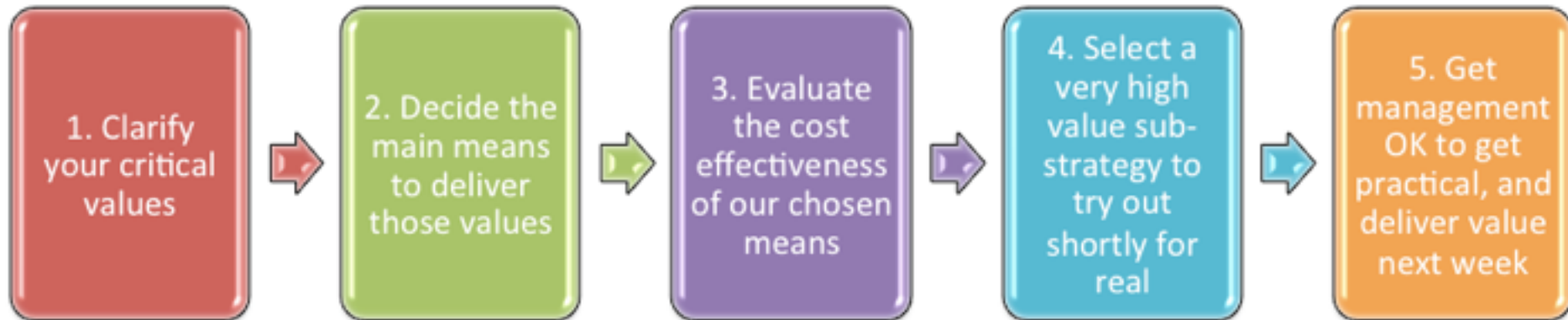
**An Agile Project Startup Week**

**Gilb's Mythodology Column**

**[www.gilb.com/dl568](http://www.gilb.com/dl568)**



# Startup Week Purposes

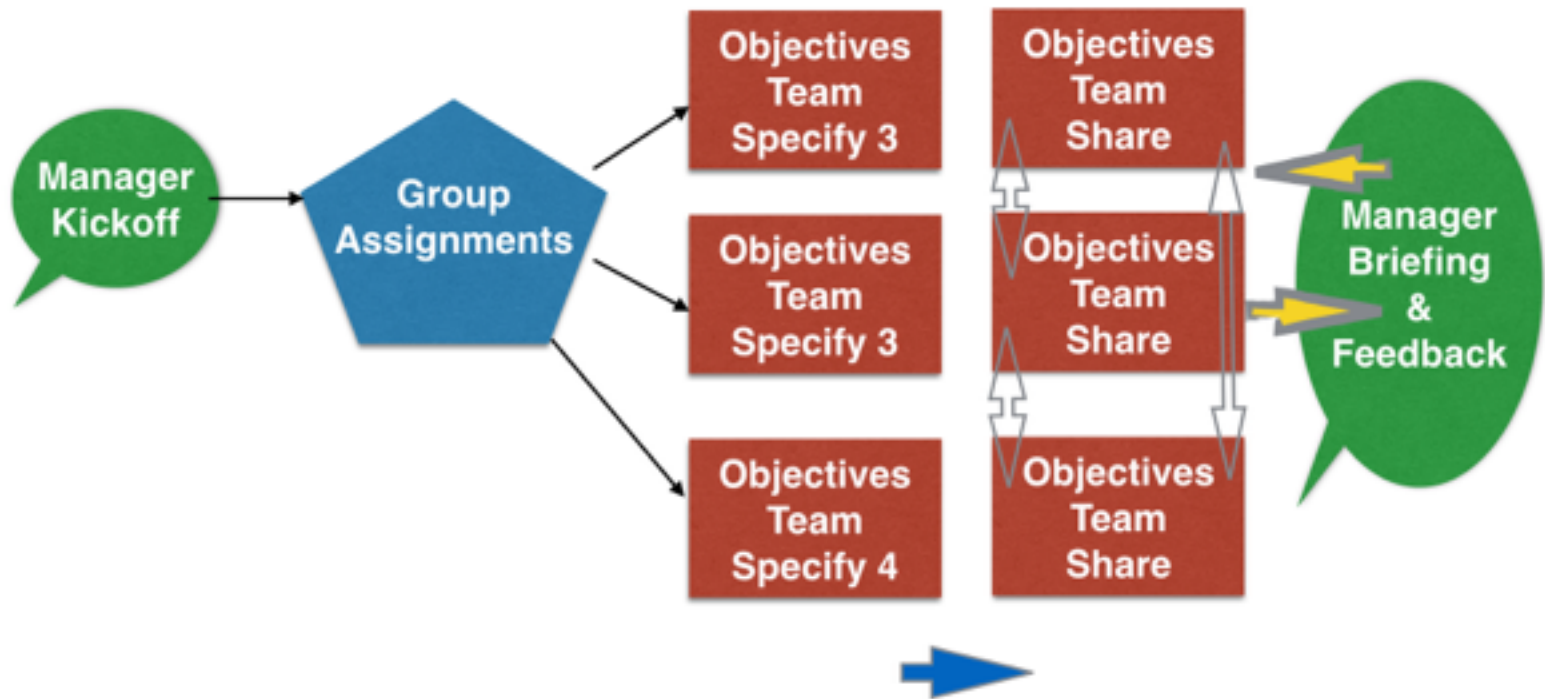


Evo Startup Standard, Jan 12 2013 <http://www.gilb.com/dl562>

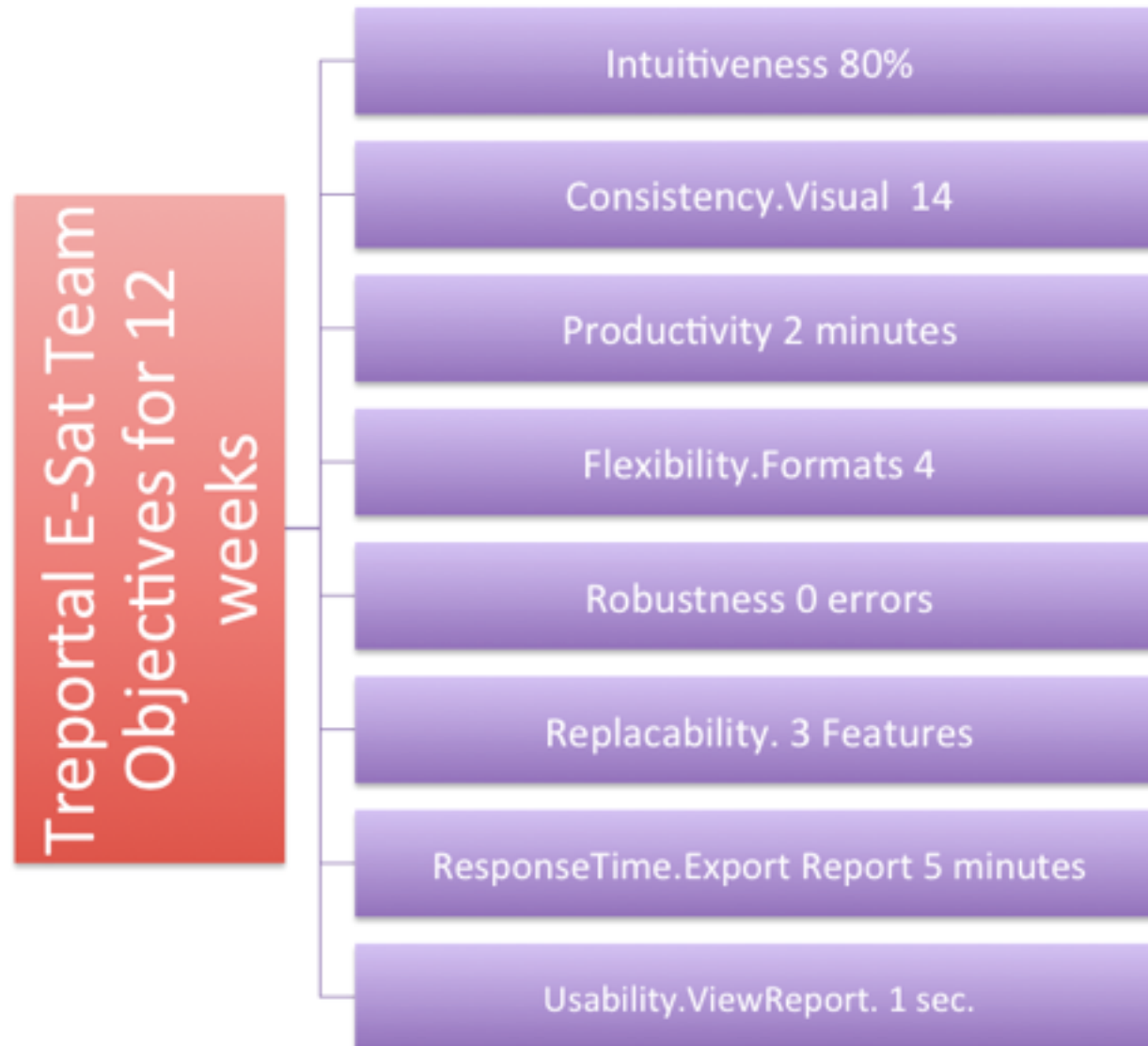
# The First Day of the Startup Process

## Top Ten Critical Values

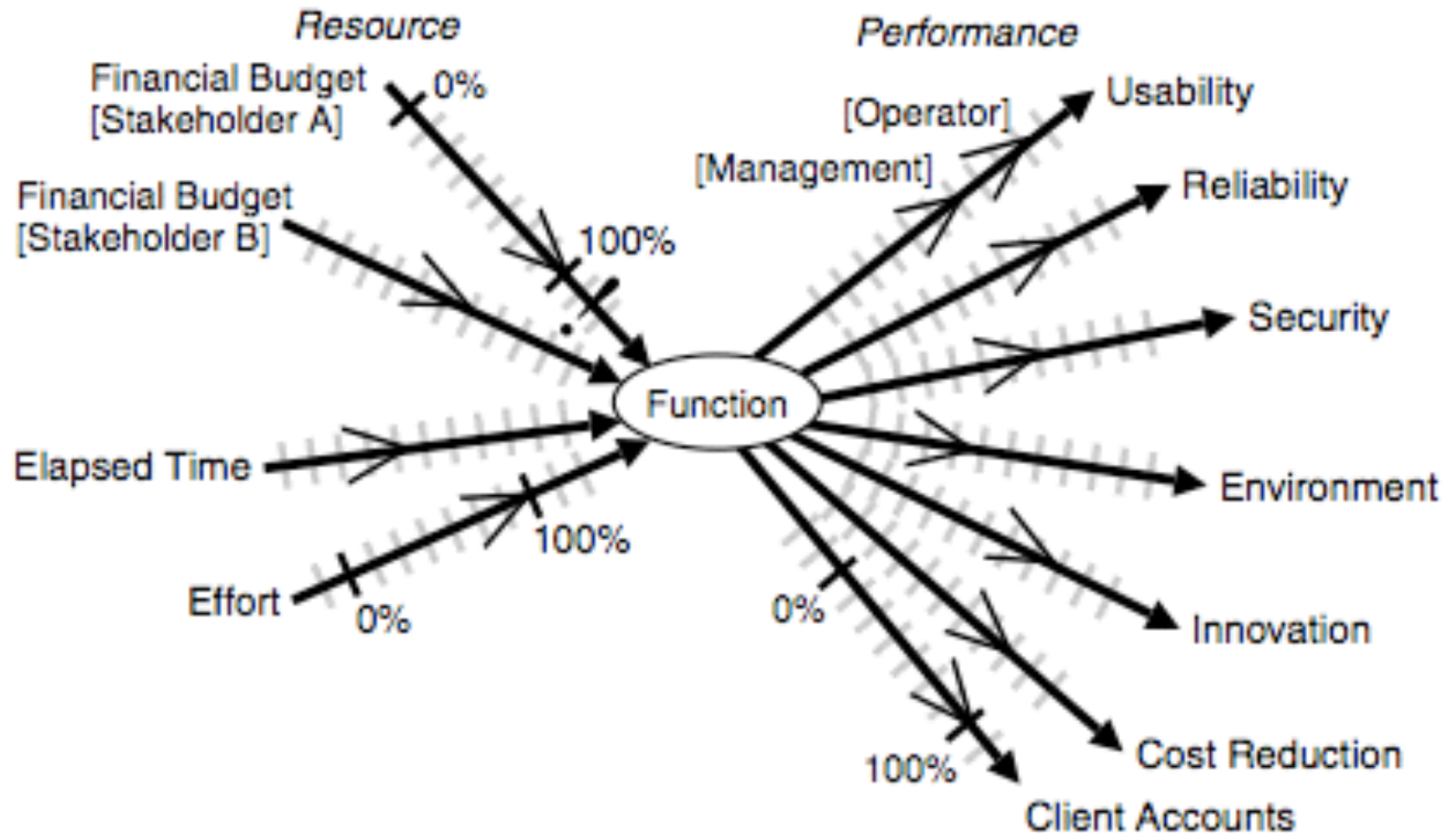
*a quantification process*



## Example of Top Ten Critical Objectives (Real Set, Conformat)

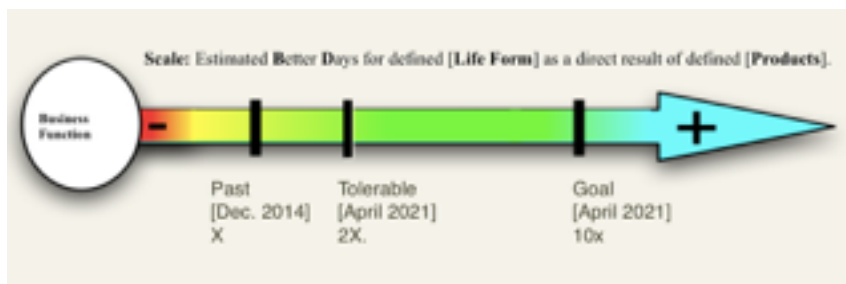
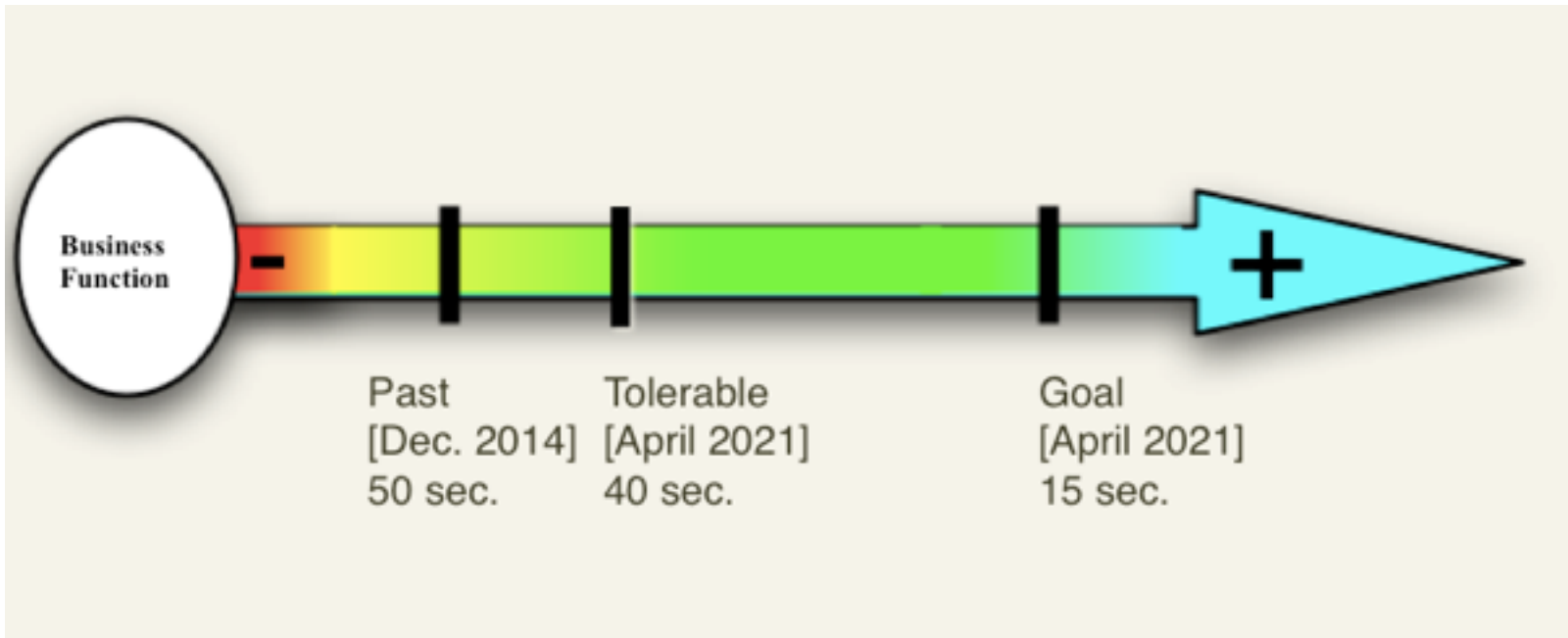


Many variable Critical Values to be managed at once



## THE QUANTIFICATION PRINCIPLE

Performance objectives,  
ranging from *core objectives* to 'any' detailed performance objective  
– where 'getting better-and-better in time' is implied –  
can *always* be defined using 'scales of measure'.



## Top 10 Large Bank Project Requirements

### Quantifying the most-critical project objectives on day 1, on 1 page

**P&L-Consistency&T P&L**: **Scale**: total adjustments btw Flash/Predict and Actual (T+1) signed off P&L. per day. **Past 60 Goal: 15**

**Speed-To-Deliver**: **Scale**: average Calendar days needed from New Idea Approved until Idea Operational, for given Tasks, on given Markets.

**Past** [2009, Market = EURex, Task =Bond Execution] **2-3 months ?**  
**Goal** [Deadline =End 20xz, Market = EURex, Task =Bond Execution] **5 days**

**Operational-Control**: **Scale**: % of trades per day, where the calculated economic difference between OUR CO and Marketplace/Clients, is less than “1 Yen”(or equivalent).

**Past** [April 20xx] **10%** change this to 90% NH **Goal** [Dec. 20xy] **100%**

**Operational-Control.Consistent**: **Scale**: % of defined [Trades] failing full STP across the transaction cycle. **Past** [April 20xx, Trades=Voice Trades] **95%**

**Past** [April 20xx, Trades=eTrades] **93%**

**Goal** [April 20xz, Trades=Voice Trades] **<95 ± 2%>**

**Goal** [April 20xz, Trades=eTrades] **98.5 ± 0.5 %**

**Operational-Control.Timely.End&OvernightP&L** **Scale**: number of times, per quarter, the P&L information is not delivered timely to the defined [Batch-Run].

**Past** [April 20xx, Batch-Run=Overnight] **1** **Goal** [Dec. 20xy, Batch-Run=Overnight] **<0.5>** **Past** [April 20xx, Batch-Run= T+1] **1** **Goal** [Dec. 20xy, Batch-Run=End-Of-Day, Delay<1hour] **1**

**Operational-Control.Timely.IntradayP&L** **Scale**: number of times per day the intraday P&L process is delayed more than 0.5 sec.

**Operational-Control.Timely.Trade-Bookings** **Scale**: number of trades per day that are not booked on trade date. **Past** [April 20xx] **20 ?**

**Front-Office-Trade-Management-Efficiency** **Scale**: Time from Ticket Launch to trade updating real-time risk view

**Past** [20xx, Function = Risk Mgt, Region = Global] ~ **80s +/- 45s ??**

**Goal** [End 20xz, Function = Risk Mgt, Region = Global] ~ **50% better?**

Managing Risk - Accurate - Consolidated - Real Time

**Risk.Cross-Product** **Scale**: % of financial products that risk metrics can be displayed in a single position blotter in a way appropriate for the trader (i.e. - around a benchmark vs. across the curve).

**Past** [April 20xx] **0% 95%**. **Goal** [Dec. 20xy] **100%**

**Risk.Low-latency** **Scale**: number of times per day the intraday risk metrics is delayed by more than 0.5 sec. **Past** [April 20xx, NA] **1%** **Past** [April 20xx, EMEA] **??%** **Past** [April 20xx, AP] **100%** **Goal** [Dec. 20xy] **0%**  
Risk.Accuracy

**Risk. user-configurable** **Scale**: ??? pretty binary - feature is there or not - how do we represent?

**Past** [April 20xx] **1%** **Goal** [Dec. 20xy] **0%**

**Operational Cost Efficiency** **Scale**: <Increased efficiency (Straight through processing STP Rates )>

**Cost-Per-Trade** **Scale**: % reduction in Cost-Per-Trade

**Goal** (EOY 20xy, cost type = I 1 - REGION = ALL) **Reduce cost by 60%** (BW)

**Goal** (EOY 20xy, cost type = I 2 - REGION = ALL) **Reduce cost by x %**

**Goal** (EOY 20xy, cost type = E 1 - REGION = ALL) **Reduce cost by x %**

**Goal** (EOY 20xy, cost type = E 2 - REGION = ALL) **Reduce cost by 100%**

**Goal** (EOY 20xy, cost type = E 3 - REGION = ALL) **Reduce cost by x %**

In addition to 'Core' specification,  
the Value Driven planning language allows you to specify many other value-related things  
in a single requirement

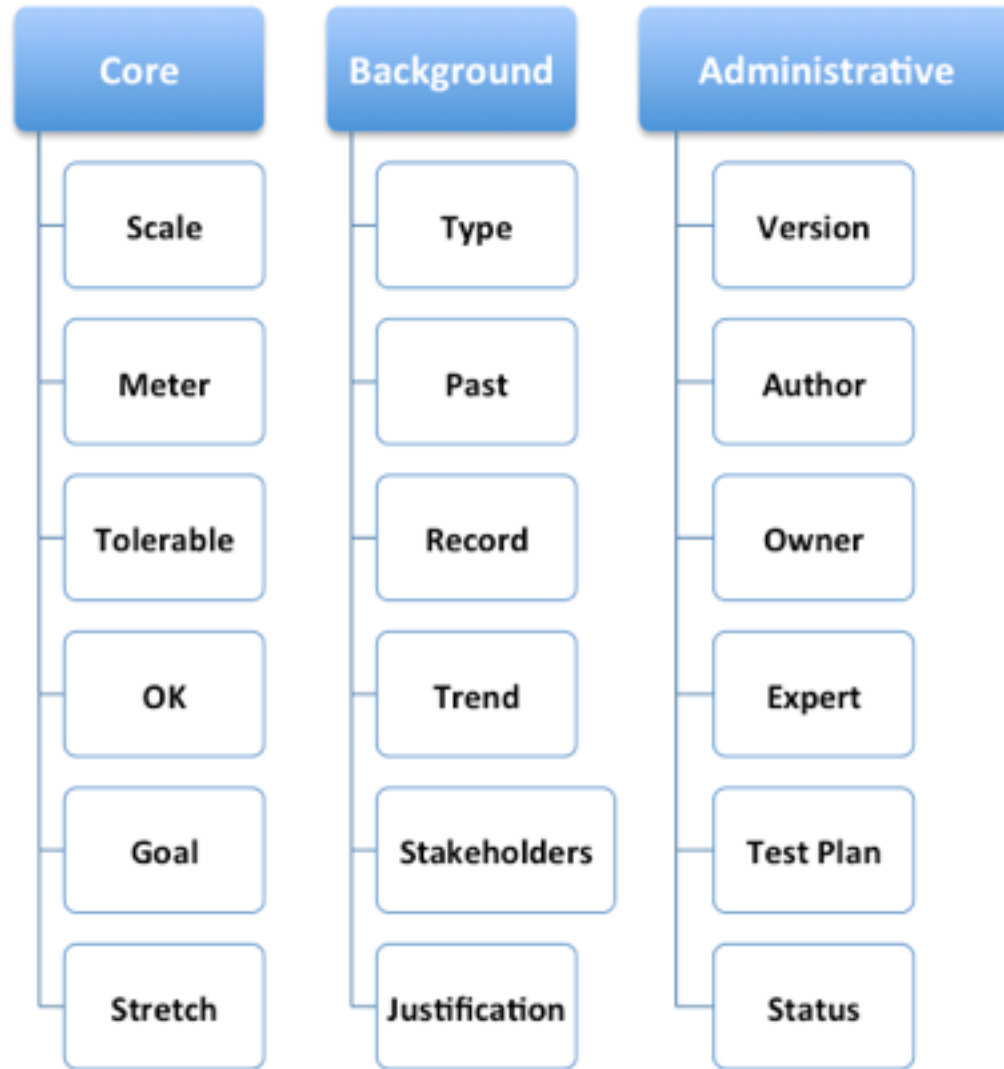


Figure: \*682. Some Examples Of Core, Background, And Administrative Parameters. (Source 'Value Planning' Diagram 4.3, Aug 2015)



## 20 Sept, 2011 Report on Gilb Evo method (Richard Smith, Citigroup)

### ON STABILITY OF 'REAL REQUIREMENTS' AND INSTABILITY OF 'DESIGN' AND 'ARCHITECTURE'



- <http://rsbtechnology.co.uk/blog:8>
- Back in 2004, I was employed by a large investment bank in their FX e-commerce IT department as a business analyst.
- The wider IT organisation used a complex waterfall-based project methodology that required use of an intranet application to manage and report progress.
- However, its main failings were that it almost totally missed the ability to track delivery of actual value improvements to a project's stakeholders, and the ability to react to changes in requirements and priority for the project's duration.
- The toolset generated lots of charts and stats that provided the illusion of risk control, but actually provided very little help to the analysts, developers and testers actually doing the work at the coal face.
- The proof is in the pudding;
  - I have used Evo (albeit in disguise sometimes) on two large, high-risk projects in front-office investment banking businesses, and several smaller tasks.
  - On the largest critical project, the original business functions & performance objective requirements document, which included no design, essentially remained unchanged over the 14 months the project took to deliver,
  - but the detailed designs (of the GUI, business logic, performance characteristics) changed many many times, guided by lessons learnt and feedback gained by delivering a succession of early deliveries to real users.
  - In the end, the new system responsible for 10s of USD billions of notional risk, successfully went live over over one weekend for 800 users worldwide, and was seen as a big success by the sponsoring stakeholders.

“ I attended a 3-day course with you and Kai whilst at Citigroup in 2006”<sup>32</sup>



# Richard Smith's Planning Tool which we are using on Courses, Startups. Great for 'First Week' and all later weeks followup



needsandmeans.mod.bz

Tom Gilb & K...ents-Material appleinsider.com Google Docs TOM'S NET Services Resources NORSKE STEDER Travel 4 TOM Social Sites NEWS ALLE AND

Startup Planning Course Doc - Dropbox Needs & Means - Demo

Specifications Impact Tables Documents Glossary Follow Me Help

Home / Impact Tables / IET-6PG8WPE

## BCS.Managing-Software-Technology

Requirements	BCS.Copies-Of-CE...	BCS.Evo-Process	BCS.Simple-Standards	BCS.Project-Star...	Sum
BCS.Software-Productivity Increase from 3.5 to 5 KNCSS By end of December 2015	0.4 KNCSS 27 % ↗ 27 %	2 KNCSS 133 % ↗ 180 %	0.2 KNCSS 13 % ↗ 173 %	0.5 KNCSS 33 % ↗ 206 %	206 %
BCS.Lead-Time Decrease from 20 to 10 Months By end of December 2015	0 Months 0 % ↗ 0 %	12 Months 120 % ↗ 120 %	2 Months 20 % ↗ 140 %	1 Months 10 % ↗ 130 %	150 %
BCS.TtoM-Predictability Decrease from 75 to 5 % By end of December 2016	0 % 0 % ↗ 0 %	50 % 71 % ↗ 71 %	10 % 14 % ↗ 85 %	5 % 7 % ↗ 92 %	92 %
BCS.Customer-Satisfaction Increase from 4 to 5 1 to 5 (5 best)	0 1 to 6... 0 % ↗ 0 %	1 1 to 6... 100 % ↗ 100 %	0.2 1 to 6... 20 % ↗ 120 %	0 1 to 6... 0 % ↗ 120 %	120 %

<https://app.needsandmeans.com>

# Early Experience of the 'Needs and Means' Tool

- Email January 11 2016
- **Double thumbs up for 'needs and means' (tool).**
- **I think every business, project, planning activity should use it!**
- **Time saver,**
- **and for me its amazing how you get the bigger picture instantly because it offers a real practical measure, unlike the usual hypothetical based tools that offer no measuring tool in addition.**
- **I mentioned to you the other day that it has ``unexpectedly`` automatically shaped job descriptions for incoming staff with realistic deadlines.**
- **So I'm working hard to finish the finance projections bit and we can see what the effects are.**
- **I am honoured to have my project be the first real case study on N&M**
- **[gottfriedosei.ofei@gmail.com](mailto:gottfriedosei.ofei@gmail.com),**
- **STARTUP ENTREPRENEUR, OSLO**
- **Incognito**



# Quantifying Critical Values

Safari File Edit View History Bookmarks Window Help

app.needsandmeans.com/iet/6TLBFMM?subpage=performance

Learning Capability

Type: Performance Requirement (by IncognitoToolkits Admin - 14 days ago)

Permalink 0.0.1

Gist: The ability of a student to learn what is taught in a given environment

Description: Learning Capability: refers to Incognito Toolkits' increasing a users ability to intuitively grasp and apply cross disciplinary c

Scale: Speed of attaining [Competence Level] by [Learner Type] with [Learning Basis] in given [Learning Environments]

Tolerable: Level: 2 Product Version Number [Competence Level = [Beginner]\*, [Intermediate], [Expert], [Advanced] , Learner Type = 1] [Highly Physical]

Test: Reference to Product Development and version 1 Alpha Tests with Kjeller Skole

Goal: Level: 1.1 Product Version Number [Competence Level = Intermediate, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All, Learning Environments = All] By

Wish: Level: 3 Product Version Number [Competence Level = All, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All, Learning Environments = All] By end of 20th

Multi-Sensory Experience

Type: Performance Requirement (by IncognitoToolkits Admin - 14 days ago)

Permalink 0.0.1

Gist: Number of human senses activated in the user at the same time

Description: All Incognito Toolkits should be able to activate more than one human sensory function at one time. This will make offering

Scale: Number of Senses Activated during [Learning Basis] by [Activity]

Tolerable: Level: 2 Number of Senses Activated at the same time [Learning Basis = Subject Interrelationships, Activity = Learning Tasks] By end of

Test: Reference to Product Development and version 1 Alpha Tests with Kjeller Skole

Goal: Level: 3 Number of Senses Activated at the same time [Learning Basis = Subject Interrelationships, Activity = Learning Tasks] By end of 25th

Wish: Level: 9 Number of Senses Activated at the same time [Learning Basis = Subject Interrelationships, Activity = Learning Tasks] By end of 20th

Participant Interest

Permalink

—Add Parameter

- Ambition Level
- Authority
- Baseline
- Budget
- Description
- Due
- Fail
- Gist
- Goal
- Impact
- Intended Readership
- Meter

+Scale Library

+Specification Rules

# Solution Specification and Evaluation

The screenshot shows a web application interface for managing requirements. The browser is Safari, and the URL is `app.needsandmeans.com/requirements?tab=requirementsDiagram&page=1`. The application has a top navigation bar with menu items like Duplicate, Choose Parent, Decompose, and Delete. The main content area displays a requirement titled "Rewards and Recognition" with a type of "Design Idea". It is part of "Top Level STRATEGIES". The requirement is authored by "IncognitoToolkits Tom" and has a version of "0.0.1". The Gist is "Users should get rewards and recognition through their use of Incognito Toolkits". The Source is "Gottfried". The Description is "The rewards and recognition can be in various forms that involve the use of peer recognition, mentorship programs in the form of rewards, award of Incognito 'ambassadorial' positions". The Source is "Gottfried". The Performance Impact is "115 ± 0 Number of Cultures (Credibility: 0.6)". The Content Delivery is "Number of Cultures Learnt by [Continent] with [Culture Type] by [Learner Type] with [Learning Basis]". The Tolerable is "100 Number of Cultures [Continent = All, Culture Type = All, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All]". The Goal is "194 Number of Cultures [Continent = All, Culture Type = All, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All]". The Source is "Gottfried". On the right side, there is a sidebar with a "Hide Sidebar" button and a list of parameters: Ambition Level, Authority, Baseline, Budget, Description, Due, Fail, Gist, Goal, Impact, Intended Readership, and Meter. Below the parameters is a section for "Specification Rules". A small chat window in the bottom right corner shows a profile picture and a message: "re: selecting arbitrary set of specs and actioning them together. Interesting ...".

**Rewards and Recognition**  
Type: Design Idea  
(by IncognitoToolkits Tom - for 11 dagar sidan) 0.0.1

Is Part Of: Top Level STRATEGIES Design Idea

Gist: Change... (by IncognitoToolkits Admin - for 25 dagar sidan) 0

Users should get rewards and recognition through their use of Incognito Toolkits

Source: Gottfried

Description: (by IncognitoToolkits Admin - for 25 dagar sidan) 0

The rewards and recognition can be in various forms that involve the use of peer recognition, mentorship programs in the form of rewards, award of Incognito "ambassadorial" positions

Source: Gottfried

Performance Impact: (by IncognitoToolkits Admin - for 24 dagar sidan) 0

Scale 115 ± 0 Number of Cultures (Credibility: 0.6 )

Level

Impact (Estimate):

Evidence: Based on projections made from previous testing. This symbolizes what we feel we can achieve based on that

Source: Gottfried

**Content Delivery**  
Number of Cultures Learnt by [Continent] with [Culture Type] by [Learner Type] with [Learning Basis]

**Tolerable:** 100 Number of Cultures [Continent = All, Culture Type = All, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All]

**Goal:** 194 Number of Cultures [Continent = All, Culture Type = All, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All]

**Specification Rules**

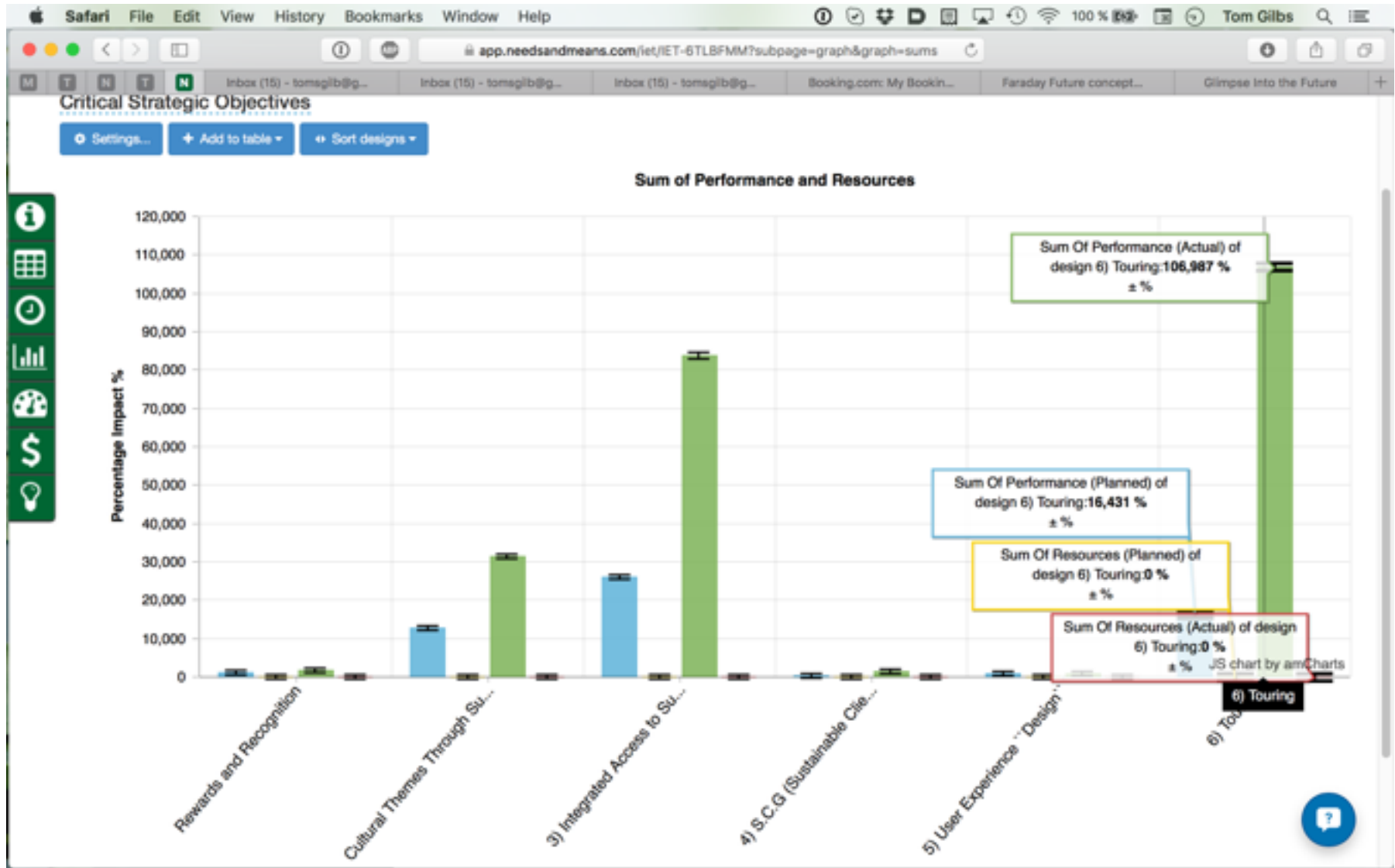
re: selecting arbitrary set of specs and actioning them together. Interesting ...

# Estimating Impacts of Architecture/ Solutions/Strategies

	Rewards and Reco...	Cultural Themes ...
<b>Requirements</b> <b>Created Value by Students</b> Tolerable: 110 → Goal: 3800 Number of S... Number of student art related produc... [Culture Type = , Learner Type = All, Learning basis = All, Learning Environments = All] 2017	<b>Rewards and Reco...</b> 2016 2017 154 ± 0 Number... Δ: 44 Number... Δ%: 1 ± 0 % 7%: 1 % (x 0.5)	<b>Cultural Themes ...</b> February 2016 December 2016 239890 ± 0 Number... Δ: 239780 Number... Δ%: 6498 ± 0 % 7%: 5198 % (x 0.8)
<b>Student Ownership</b> Tolerable: 600 → Goal: 1000 Total numbe... Ownership by [Learner Type] with per... [Learner Type = All, Learning Platforms = All] August 2016	1800 ± 0 Total ... Δ: 1200 Total ... Δ%: 300 ± 0 % 7%: 120 % (x 0.4)	24000 ± 0 Total ... Δ: 23400 Total ... Δ%: 5850 ± 0 % 7%: 4680 % (x 0.8)
<b>Learning Capability</b> Tolerable: 2 → Goal: 1.1 Product Ver... Speed of attaining [Competence Level... [Competence Level = Intermediate, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All, Learning Environments = All] 5th January 2016	2 ± 0 Produc... Δ: 0 Produc... Δ%: 0 ± 0 % 7%: 0 % (x 1.0)	1 ± 0 Produc... Δ: -1 Produc... Δ%: 111 ± 0 % 7%: 89 % (x 0.8)
<b>Participant Interest</b> Tolerable: 5 → Goal: 8 Times used ... Number of times product used per wee... [Daily Product Usage = Times used a dayTimes used a day,	16 ± 0 Times ... Δ: 11 Times ... Δ%: 367 ± 0 % 7%: 184 % (x 0.5)	3 ± 0 Times ... Δ: -2 Times ... Δ%: -67 ± 0 % 7%: 50 % (x 0.5)



# Visual Comparison of Strategies



# Quantify Values the First Week Start Delivering the next weeks

An Agile Project Startup Week:  
'Evo Start'  
Our Column in AgileRecord.com,  
as published 7 March 2013  
<http://www.gilb.com/dl568>

The Standard  
<http://www.gilb.com/dl562>  
This is a detailed standard for  
conducting an 'Evo' (Evolutionary  
Project Management, Gilb's Agile  
Method) as described in my book  
Competitive Engineering,  
Chapter 10  
[[http://www.gilb.com/tiki-  
download\\_file.php?fileId=77](http://www.gilb.com/tiki-download_file.php?fileId=77)]

Talk slides pdf from  
ACCU Conference April 9 2014  
90 minutes talk  
Includes Startup Planning for  
Business Startups, Confrontit, US  
DoD  
case, 2 Bank cases, Detailed  
Startup week outlines  
and links to sources.  
Bristol ACCU Conference  
<http://www.gilb.com/dl812>

## Gilb's Mythodology Column

# An Agile Project Startup Week: 'Evo Start'

by Tom & Kai Gilb

We would like to describe how we start up agile projects, which are completed using our 'Evo' (E) agile method (2, 3).

We have been using exactly this Project start-up method world-wide, in many companies, and for both software/IT projects and other systems engineering projects (like 25 (now) Boeing Aircraft Projects in 1990) for decades, and it works. It gives a flying start to the incremental value delivery process, starting with value delivery, the 2nd week.

This process is appropriate for any consequent agile process, such as our 'Evo', which is focussed on delivering real measurable stakeholder value incrementally, as opposed to the majority of current agile methods which are focussed on delivering code; but, which do not attempt to define or deliver real stakeholder value itself, directly.

One solution to the agile problem of 'code fever', which one of our multinational bank clients has recently adopted, for the wide variety of agile methods being used in the bank, is to suggest that the 'Evo' process (2) be added on top of their current agile process, for example on Scrum or/and XP. Evo then manages the stakeholder value, and Evo provides value design ideas to the code development team.

Evo will not only output ideas for code (a burn down stack), but will in fact output any (non-code) design ideas that will help deliver stakeholder value, such as training programmes, database

construction, or motivational tactics. Evo operates at the systems engineering level, as Scrum allows in principle.

The Evo startup week is a sort of feasibility study, in the sense of

- Day 1: Drafting a feasible set of top 10 quantified project value objectives
- Day 2: Drafting a top 10 architecture hypothesis set
- Day 3: Estimating the multiple effects of all architecture on all value objectives, and critical resource constraints (budget, deadline)
- Day 4: Suggesting initial value delivery steps, next week
- Day 5: Getting management approval to proceed with the second week, and to see if we can really deliver value to stakeholders.

The Evo week is intentionally time boxed (one week), no matter what the size of the project. This is done so that:

- We do not get into weeks and months of bureaucratic start up overhead, before we have to deliver real value to stakeholders
- We will focus on the critical top level objectives (2)
- The detailed design will emerge iteratively, as a result of value measurement, and feedback.

Figure 1: Two levels of team management, above a Scrum process. The 'Business level' on top of the stakeholder level is missing from this illustration here.

Page 29 Agile Record - [www.agilearecord.com](http://www.agilearecord.com)

# Startup Process Day 1 and 2

## • **Day 1: Project Objectives: The top few critical objectives quantified.**

- **Objective: Determine, clarify, agree critical few project objectives – results – end states**
- **Process:**
  - Analyze current documentation and slides, for expressed or implied objectives (often implied by designs or lower level objectives)
  - Develop list of Stakeholders and their needs and values
  - Brainstorm 'top ten' critical objectives names list. Agree they are top critical few.
  - Detail definition in language – meaning quantify and define clearly, unambiguously and in detail (a page)
  - Quality Control Objectives for Clarity: Major defect measurement. Exit if less than 1.0 majors per page
  - Quality Control Objective for Relevance: Review against higher level objectives than project final alignment
  - Define constraints – resources, traditions, policies, corporate IT architecture, hidden assumptions.
  - Define Issues – yet unresolved
  - Note we might well choose to do several things in parallel.
- **Output: A solid set of the top few critical objectives in quantified and measurable language. Stakeholder data specified.**
- **Participants: anybody who is concerned with the business results, the higher the management level the better.**
- **End of Day Process: meet 30 minutes with any responsible interested managers to present the outputs, and to get preliminary corrections and go-ahead.**
- **Note: this process is so critical and can be time consuming, so if necessary it can spill over to next day. Perhaps in parallel with startup of the strategy identification. Nothing is more critical or fundamental than doing this well.**

## • **Day 2: Project Strategies and Architecture: the top few critical strategies for reaching the critical objectives**

- **Objective: to identify the top 'ten' most critical strategic decisions or architectures; the ones that will contribute or enable us most, to reach our primary objective goal levels on time.**
- **Process:**
  - Analyze current documentation and slides to identify candidate strategies, implied or expressed.
  - Brainstorming of the 'names' of the specific strategy list, the top ten and a set of less powerful ideas (say 11-30)
  - Detail each top strategy sufficiently to understand impacts (costs, resources, time and costs)
  - Specify, for each strategy all critical related information (like stakeholders, risks, assumptions, constraints, etc.)
  - Quality Control for clarity – correct unclear items. Exit based on defect level, or not.
  - List the value created by each strategy in parallel with the top ten strategies to a high level of specification.
- **Output: A formal strategy specification, ready for evaluation, and decomposition and delivery of partial value results.**
- **Participants: system architects, project architects, strategy planners. And members of the project team who will be in on the entire weeks process. The major input here is technical and organizational strategy (the means to reach the objectives)**
- **End of Day Process: : meet 30 minutes with any responsible interested managers to present the outputs,**



## Startup Process Day 3 and 4

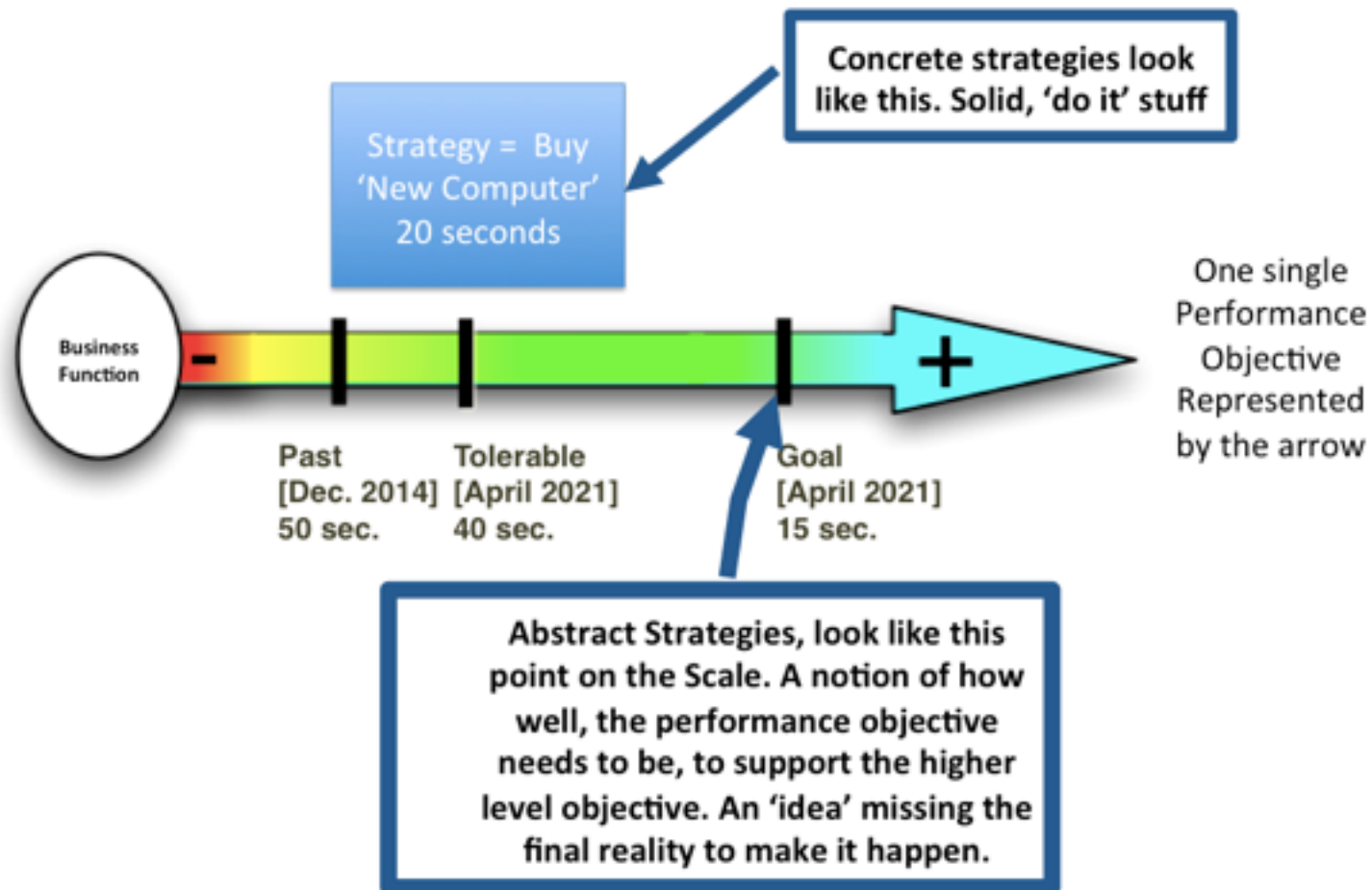
**Day 3: Evaluation of Strategies using Impact Estimation:** our best estimates with experience and risk. How sure are of the major strategy decisions.

- **Objective:** to estimate to primary effects and all side effects of all top critical strategies on all top critical objectives, and on some resources (time, cost, effort). The estimates will be backed up by evidence, or their credibility will be rated low.
- **Process:**
  - Using the objectives and strategies developed on first 2 days as inputs
  - Populate an Impact Estimation table (aka Value Decision Table) with estimates of the expected result of deploying defined strategies. Estimate main intended impacts
  - And all side effects (on other core objectives)
  - And on all resources (time, money, Effort)
  - Estimate  $\pm$  ranges
  - by evidence and sources for estimates
  - Minimum Credibility level
  - Quality Control the table again in 2 days (rules or ILI, FOL, for possible "it" (need standards))
  - Lots of parallel work needed and expected to do a good job.
- **Output:**
  - A fairly decent Impact Estimation table, possibly a several level set of them
  - This will help us to see the value of the strategies and will help to prioritize the value of the strategies.
- **Participants:** architects, planners, anybody with strong views on any of the strategies. The team for the week.
- **Note:** it might be necessary and desirable, now or later, to do this impact estimation process at 2 or 3 related levels (Business, Stakeholder, IT, etc.) over time to see the relationship clearly. This might require some efforts and be done parallel or later.
- **End of Day Process:** meet 30 minutes with any responsible interested managers to present the outputs, and to get preliminary corrections and go-ahead.

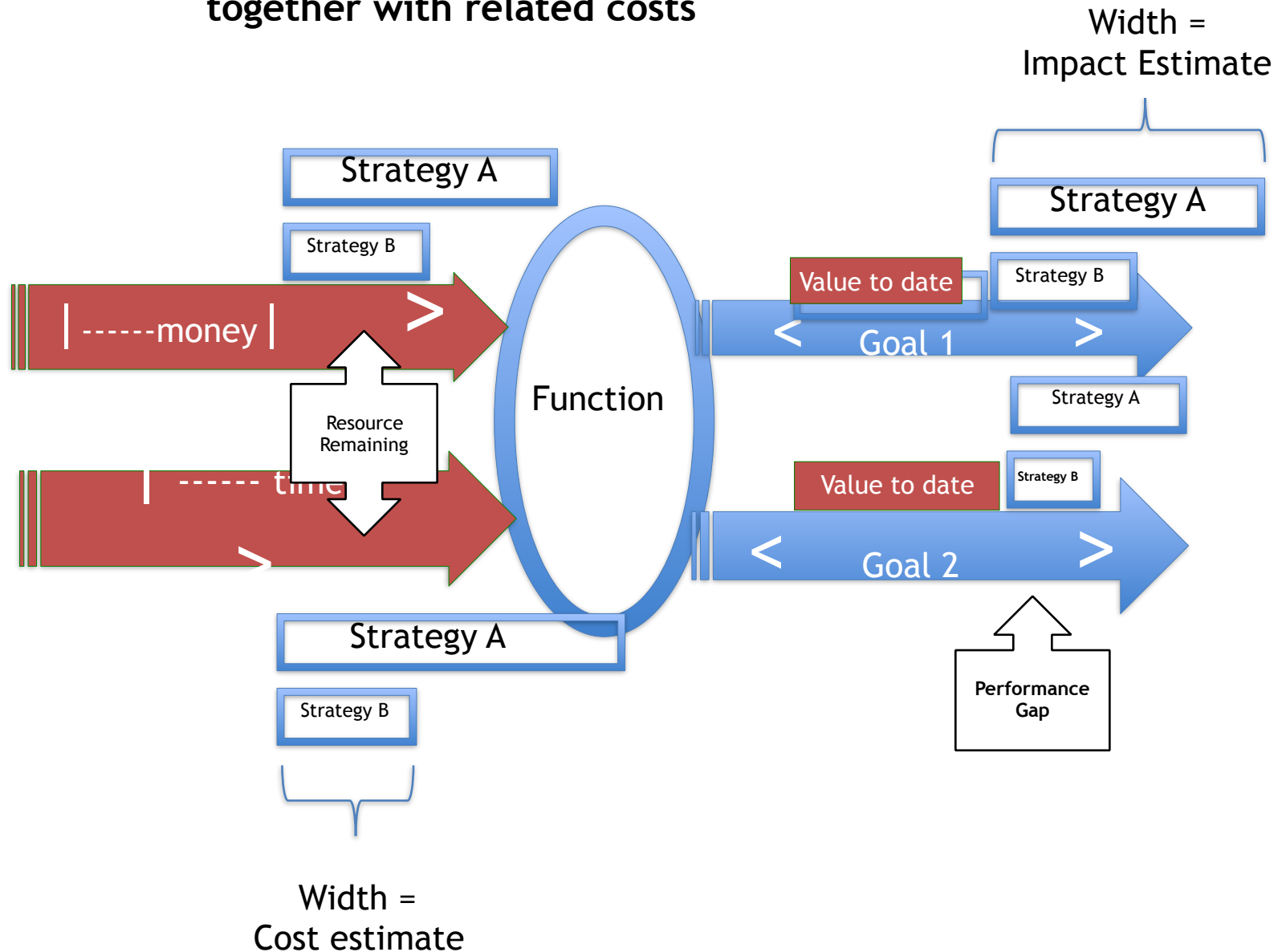
**Day 4: Evolutionary Step Decomposition:** what are the high value short term value delivery steps we can execute.

- **Objective:** to identify near term candidates for real value delivery to real stakeholders. What can we do for real next week!
- **Process:**
  - Identify highest value (costs, benefits) strategies and sub-sets of strategies
  - Decompose into doable subsets in weekly to monthly cycles of result delivery
  - Plan the near steps (1 or more) in detail so that we are ready to execute the step in practice.
    - Who does it, main responsible, team.
    - Expected measurable results and costs
    - Stakeholder involved in receiving
    - Test process (for value)
- **Output:** 1 or more potential steps for value delivery to some stakeholders, a plan good enough to approve and execute in practice.
- **Participants:** Project Management, architects prepared to decompose architecture in practice. The weeks team for this start up study.
- **End of Day Process:** meet 30 minutes with any responsible interested managers to present the outputs, and to get preliminary

# Abstract and Concrete Value Strategies



# Estimating the Power of suggested architecture together with related costs



## Day 3 of Project Startup

- How do the strategies/ architecture
- deliver value for your quantified value requirements?

Strategies	Identify Binding Compliance Requirements Strategy	System Control Strategy	System Implementation Strategy	Find Services That Meet Our Goals Strategy	Use The Lowest Cost Provider Strategy
Goals					
Security Administration Compliance 25 % → 90 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	50 %	0 %
Security Administration Performance 24 hrs → 4 hrs	75 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	0 %
Security Administration Availability 10 hrs → 24 hrs	0 %	0 %	0 %	100 %	0 %
Security Administration Cost 100 % → 60 %	50 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %
Total Percentage Impact	225 %	300 %	300 %	350 %	100 %
Evidence	ISAG Gap Analysis Oct. 03	John Collins	John Collins	John Collins	John Collins
Cost to Implement Strategy	15 man days (US\$ 5,550)	15 man days (US\$ 5,550)	15 man days (US\$ 5,550)	15 man days (US\$ 5,550)	1man day (US\$ 1,110)
Credibility	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.75	0.9
Cost Adjusted Percentage Impact	202.5 %	180 %	180 %	262.5 %	90 %

Citigroup, London

Figure 4. Acer Project: Impact Estimation Table.

# A Real London Impact Estimation Table

Made one day, to get £50,000,000 next day

		..... <b>Deliverables</b>						
		Telephony	Modularity	Tools	User Experience	GUI & Graphics	Security	Enterprise
<b>Business Objective</b>								
Time to Market		10%	10%	15%	0%	0%	0%	5%
Product Range		0%	30%	5%	10%	5%	5%	0%
Platform Technology		10%	0%	0%	5%	0%	10%	5%
Units		15%	5%	5%	0%	0%	10%	10%
Operator Preference		10%	5%	5%	10%	10%	20%	10%
Commoditization		10%	-20%	15%	0%	0%	5%	5%
Duplication		10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	5%
Competitiveness		15%	10%	10%	10%	20%	10%	10%
User Experience		0%	20%	0%	30%	10%	0%	0%
Downstream Cost Saving		5%	10%	0%	10%	0%	0%	5%
Other Country		5%	10%	0%	10%	5%	0%	0%
Total Contribution		90%	80%	55%	85%	50%	65%	55%
Cost (£M)		0.49	1.92	0.81	1.21	2.68	0.79	0.60
Contribution to Cost Ratio		<b>184</b>	42	68	70	19	82	92

# Day 5: Boss Says 'Go' (next week only)

- Boss approves doing the next week
  - This is normally used to present the plan to management and get approval to go forward the next week.
  - In our case we have chosen a 4 days model due to Easter Holidays. So we have to find another way to present and approve.
  - **Objective:** To present the entire set of plans to responsible executives and discuss them, with approval if possible, or approve with changes.
  - **Process:**
    - Present all planned outputs
    - Discuss them and answer questions
    - Take corrections
    - Get approval for the next implementation step.
  - **Output:** Approval for next implementation step, corrections
  - **Participants:** project team + key manager above the project manager.
  - **End of Day Process:** none, unless corrections needed before execute OK.
    - Possible corrections and ready to execute a delivery step next week
  -

# Selling ‘Value’ to your IT Boss

- Value Planning (Using ‘Planguage’)
  - Links directly to management’s values and plans
  - Is visible and measurable **evidence** of IT value to the organization
  - Is some methods for **very early** increments of value delivery (weeks not years)
  - Is **intelligible** to ‘your boss’ (is not IT technology,
  - it is **results** that make everybody look like good managers.
  - Can be used to manage outsourcing **contracts**: no value, no pay.

# ‘Just do’ing ‘Value’: *(nobody can stop you)*

- Whenever you encounter **value-talk** at meetings and in documents
  - Quantify it
- Whenever you are selling or being sold ‘technology’
  - Quantify (estimate, measure, contract for) **specific value delivery**
    - NOT: “*it is cutting edge technology*” (Management BS)
      - <http://www.gilb.com/dl465>
    - BUT “*It will deliver 50-70% of the Productivity Goal by next year, contractually guaranteed.*”
- **Measure the BS Level, and don’t accept it:**
  - *Is 100 fudge words per page in requirements OK to hand on to the rest of the organization?*

<http://www.gilb.com/dl465>



# 12 Tough Questions

# Involving Management

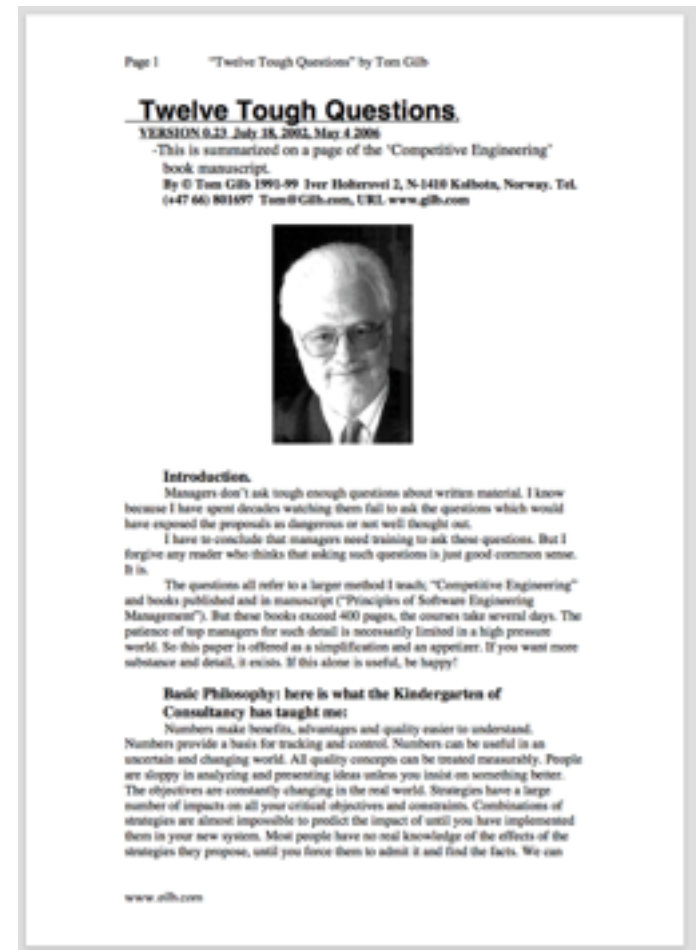
- **The 12 Tough questions**
  - **Are a way to get managers interested in metrics**
  - **They lead directly**
    - **to quantified management objectives**
    - **to quantified project and product requirements**
    - **to the use of impact estimation tables evaluating alternative solutions quantitatively**

# **TWELVE TOUGH QUESTIONS**

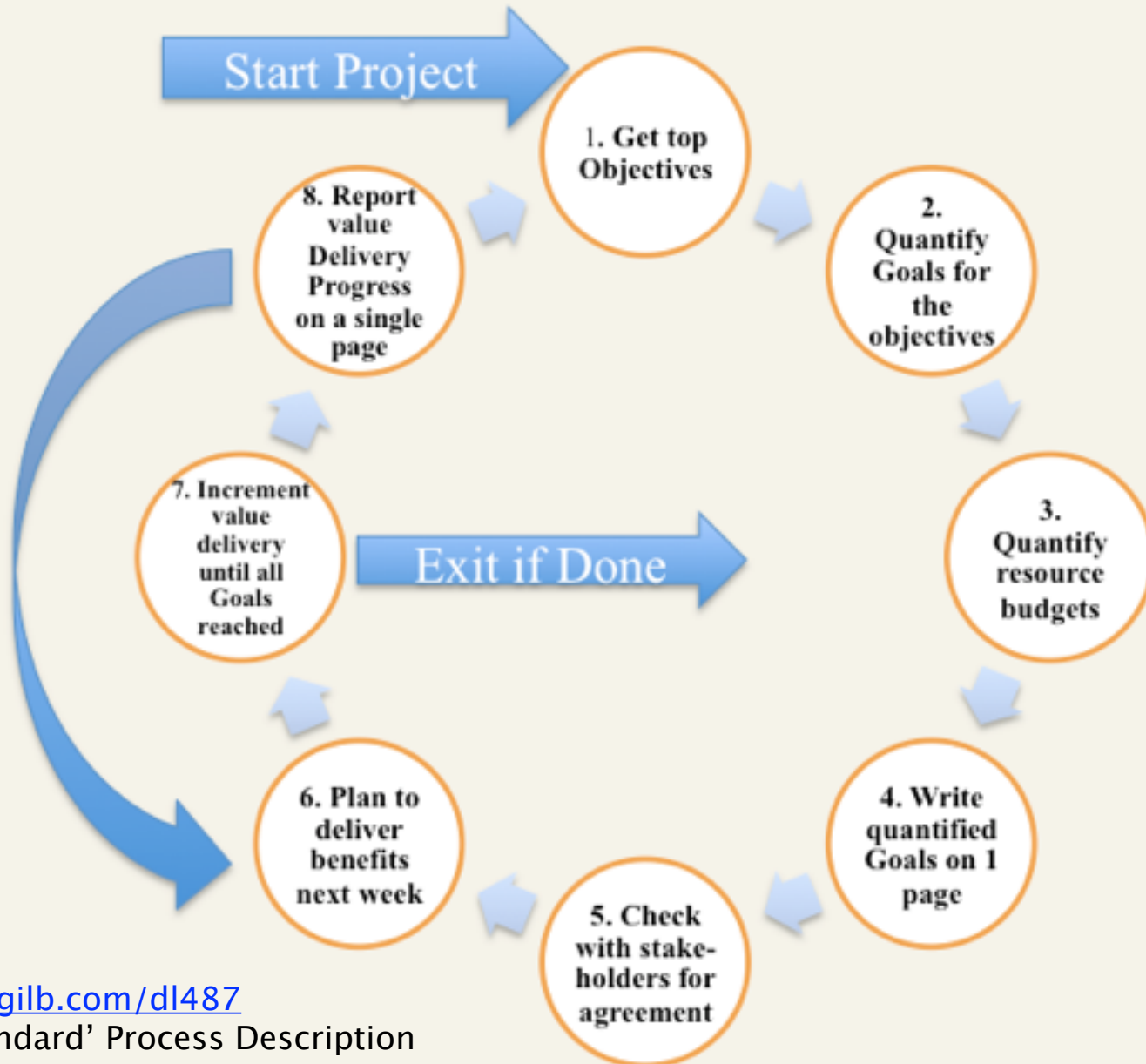
- **1. Why isn't the improvement quantified?**
- **2. What is degree of the risk or uncertainty and why?**
- **3. Are you sure? If not, why not?**
- **4. Where did you get that from? How can I check it out?**
- **5. How does your idea affect my goals, measurably?**
- **6. Did we forget anything critical to survival?**
- **7. How do you know it works that way? Did it before?**
- **8. Have we got a complete solution? Are all objectives satisfied?**
- **9. Are we planning to do the 'profitable things' first?**
- **10. Who is responsible for failure or success?**
- **11. How can we be sure the plan is working, during the project, early?**
- **12. Is it 'no cure, no pay' in a contract? Why not?**

# Longer explanation of these simple but powerful value questions

- 12 tough questions paper
- [http://www.gilb.com/tiki-download\\_file.php?fileId=24](http://www.gilb.com/tiki-download_file.php?fileId=24)

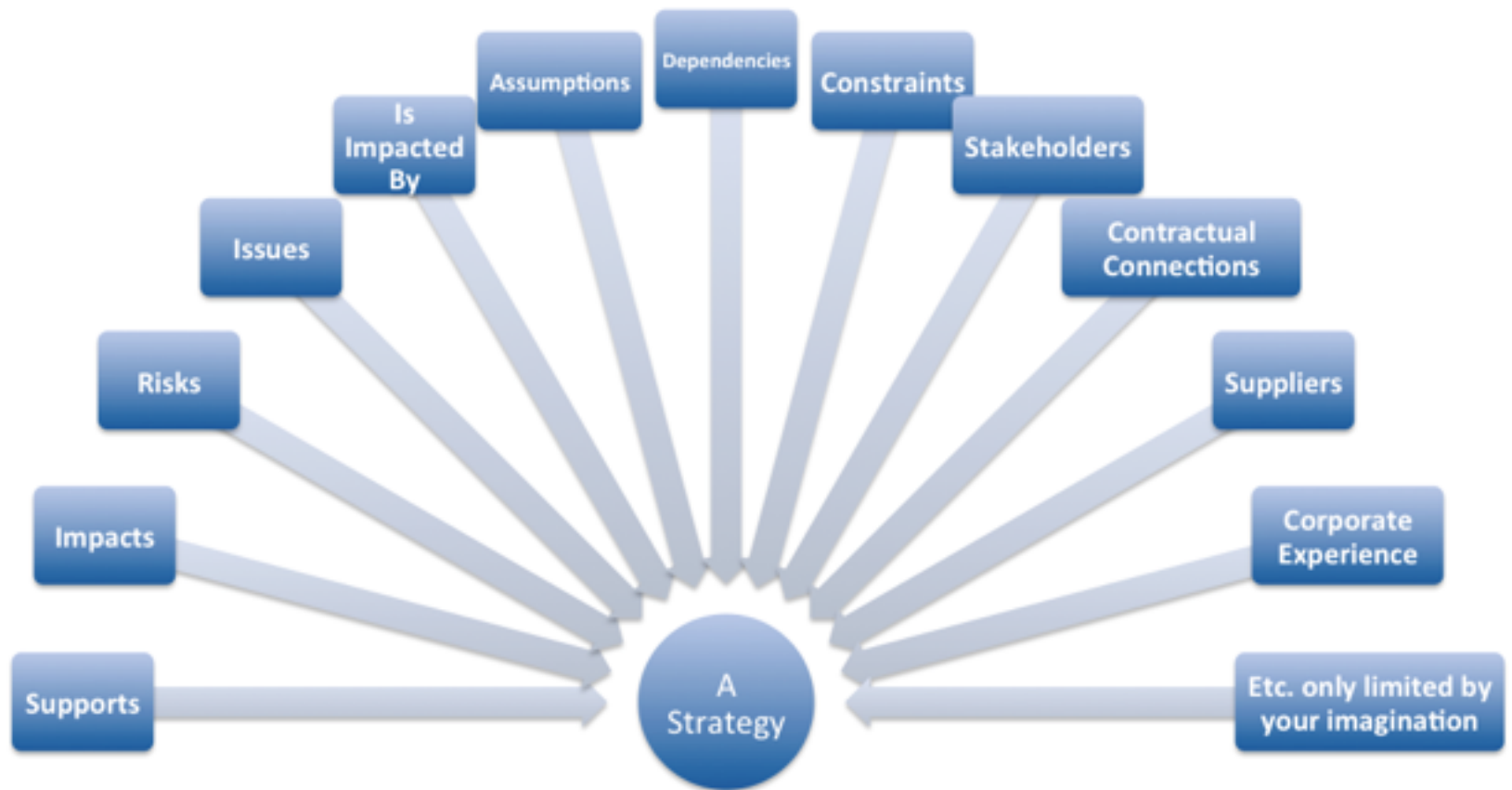


# A View of the 'Evo' Agile for values Project Management Process



# Some Deeper aspects of Value Engineering

# Design Strategy Relationships



# A Basic Solution with options for Background info on right side

The screenshot shows a web application interface for requirements management. The main content area displays a design idea titled "Cultural Themes Through Sustainable Approaches" with a type of "Design Idea" and a value of "0.0.1". It is part of "Top Level STRATEGIES". The description states: "The application of cultural themes may take different forms so long as it is based on culture and has sustainable approach...". The source is "Gottfried". The performance impact is "100 ± 0 Number of Cultures (Credibility: 1)". The content delivery is "Number of Cultures Learnt by [Continent] with [Culture Type] by [Learner Type] with [Learning Basis]". The tolerable is "100 Number of Cultures [Continent = All, Culture Type = All, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All]". The goal is "194 Number of Cultures [Continent = All, Culture Type = All, Learner Type = All, Learning Basis = All]". The evidence is "Applies to all (may need to revise the scale if this proves to be a problem)".

On the right side, there is a sidebar with a "Hide Sidebar" button. It contains a section "Add Parameter" with a list of parameters: Ambition Level, Authority, Baseline, Budget, Description, Due, Fail, Goal, Readiness, and Meter. Below this is a section "Specification Rules".

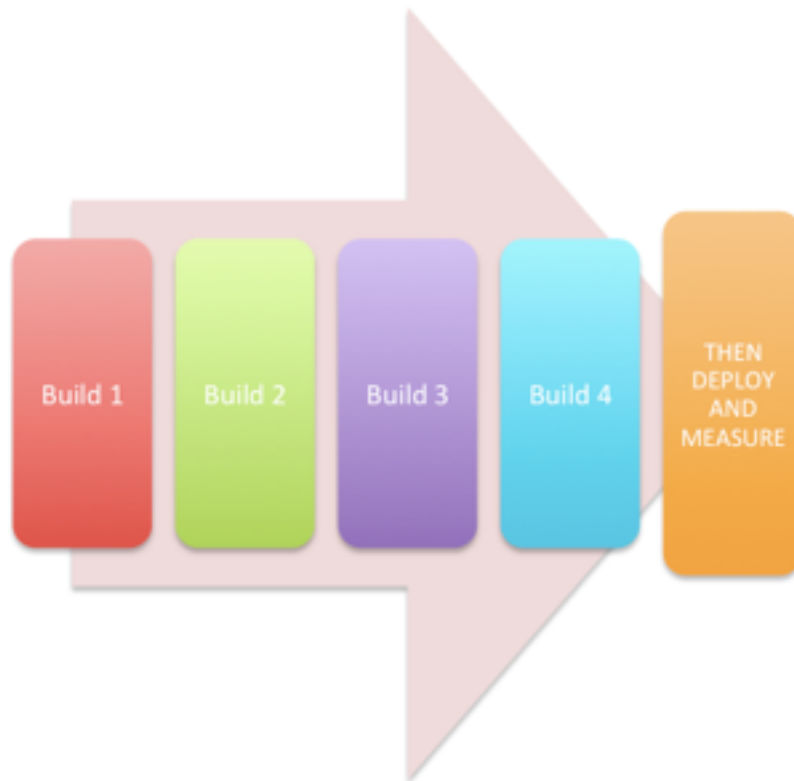
A blue arrow points from the "Add Parameter" section to the "Performance Impact" section, with the text "+++".

A comment bubble at the bottom right says: "re: selecting arbitrary set of specs and actioning them together. Interesting ...".

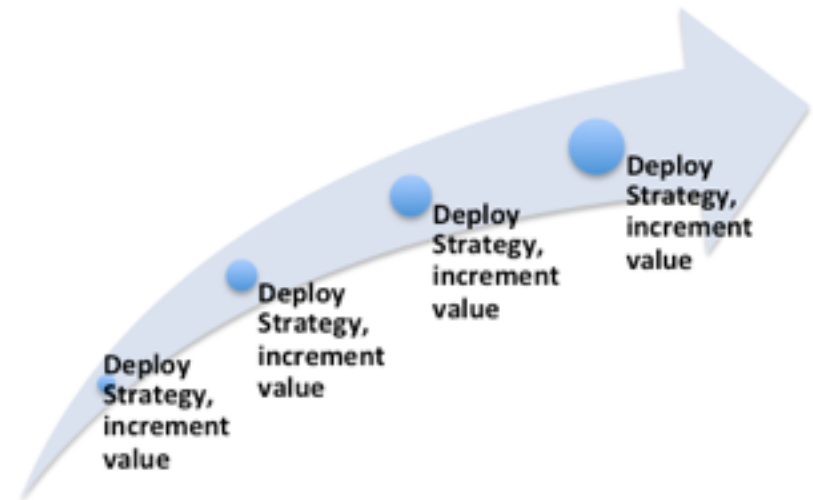


# Value Decomposition by delivery and learn , not build and hope

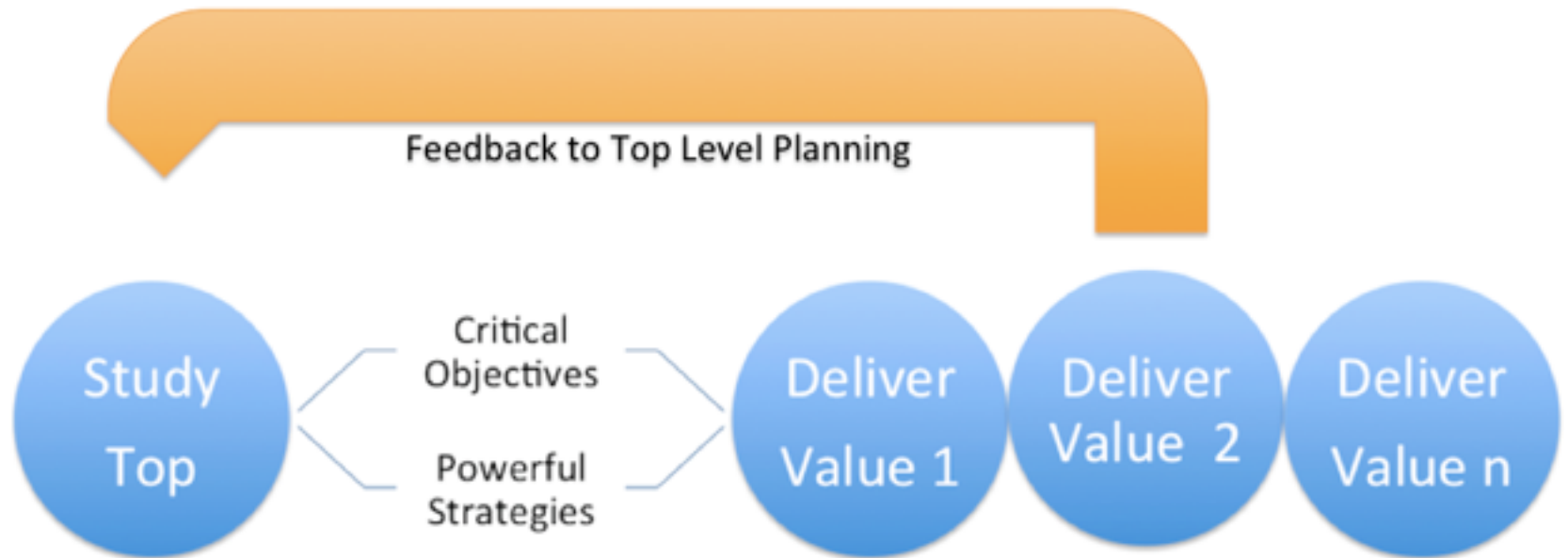
**Not decomposition for this**



**More like this**

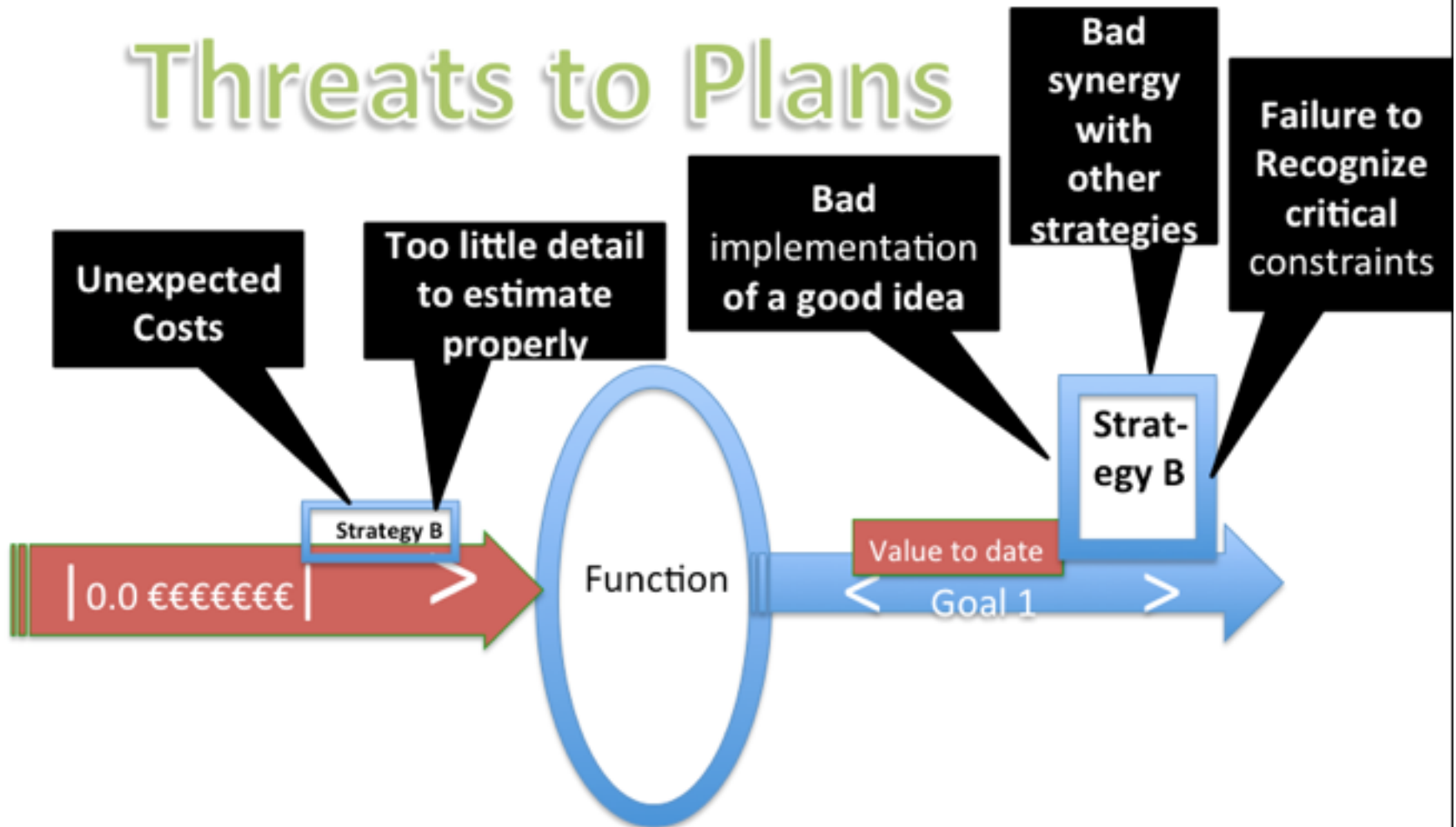


# Value Delivery Cycle Decomposition ('Evo')

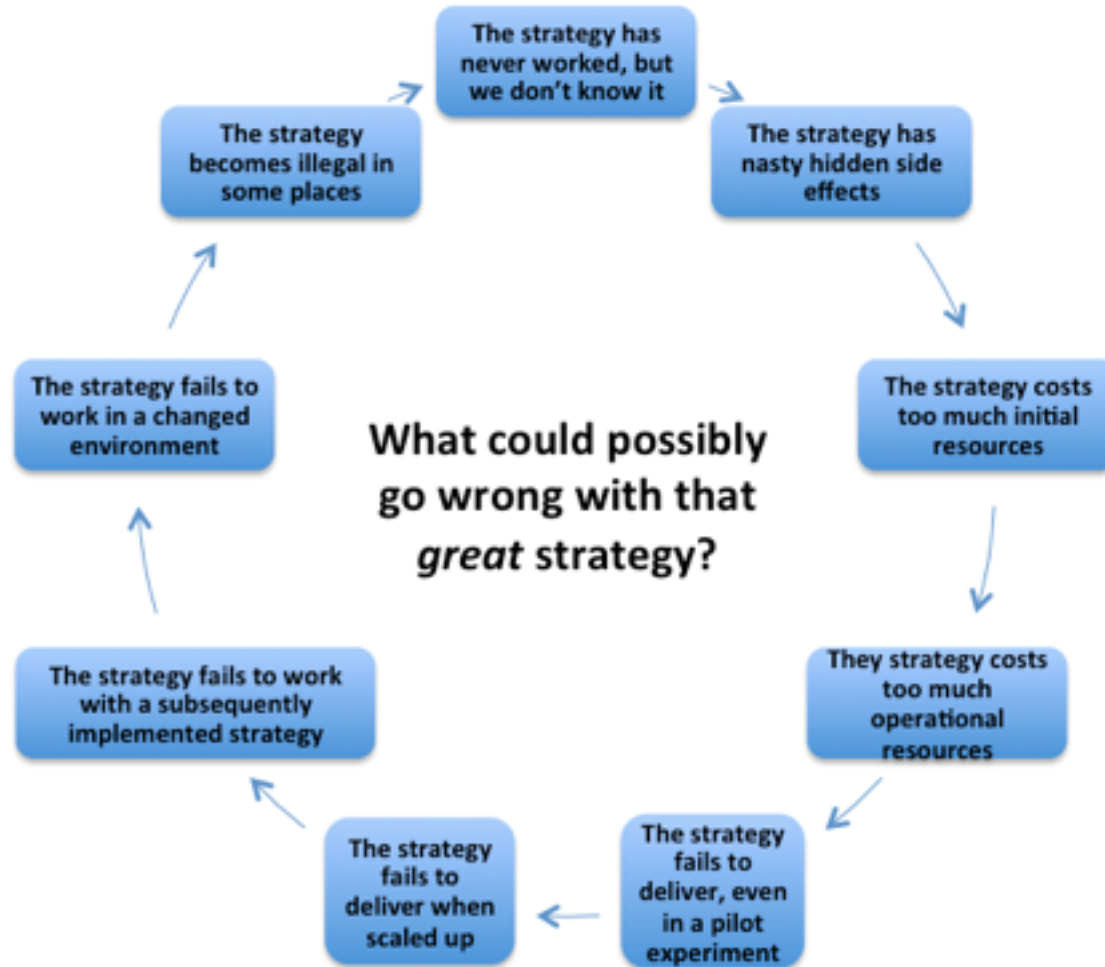


# Various Risks to Plans

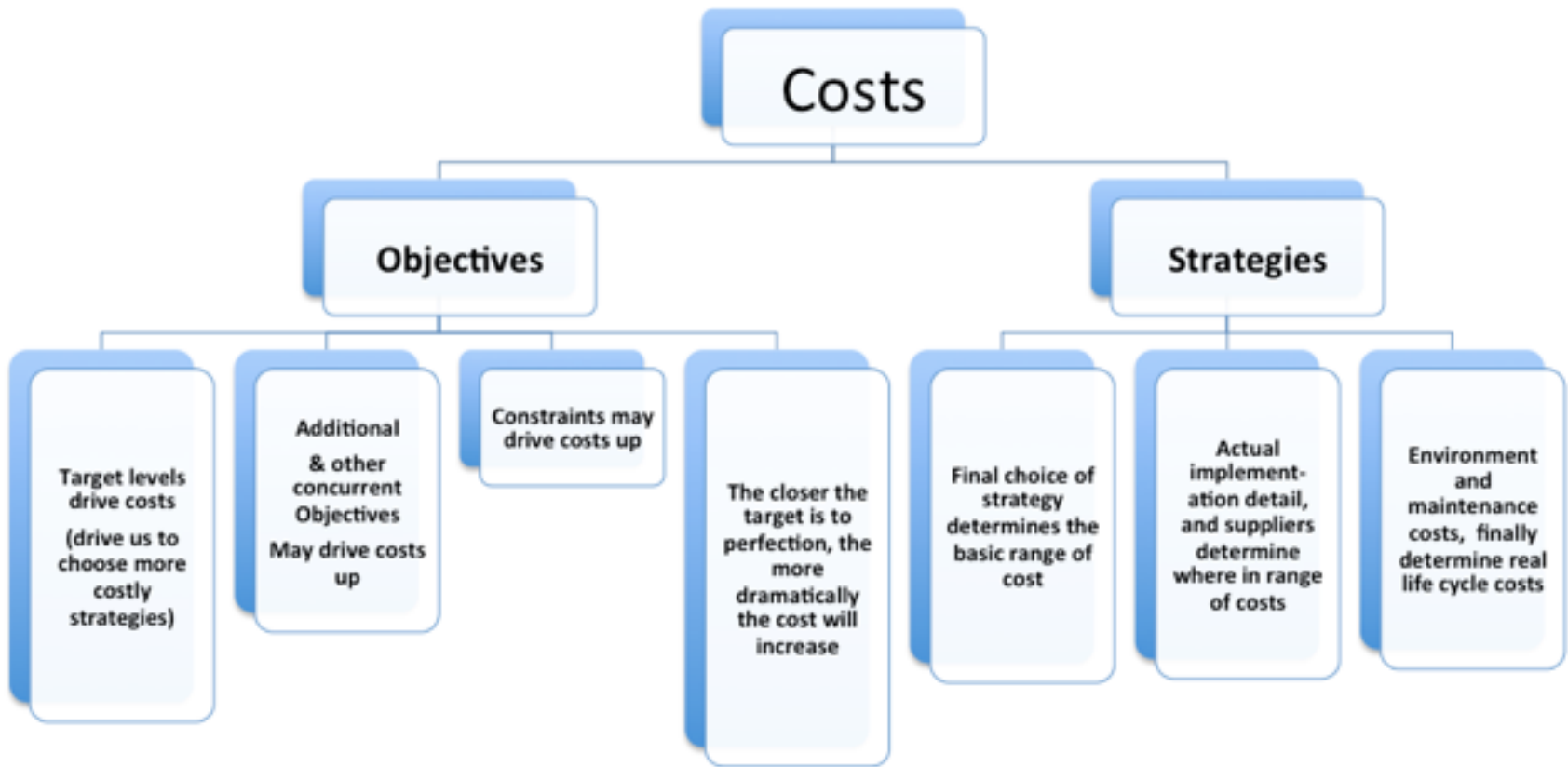
## Threats to Plans



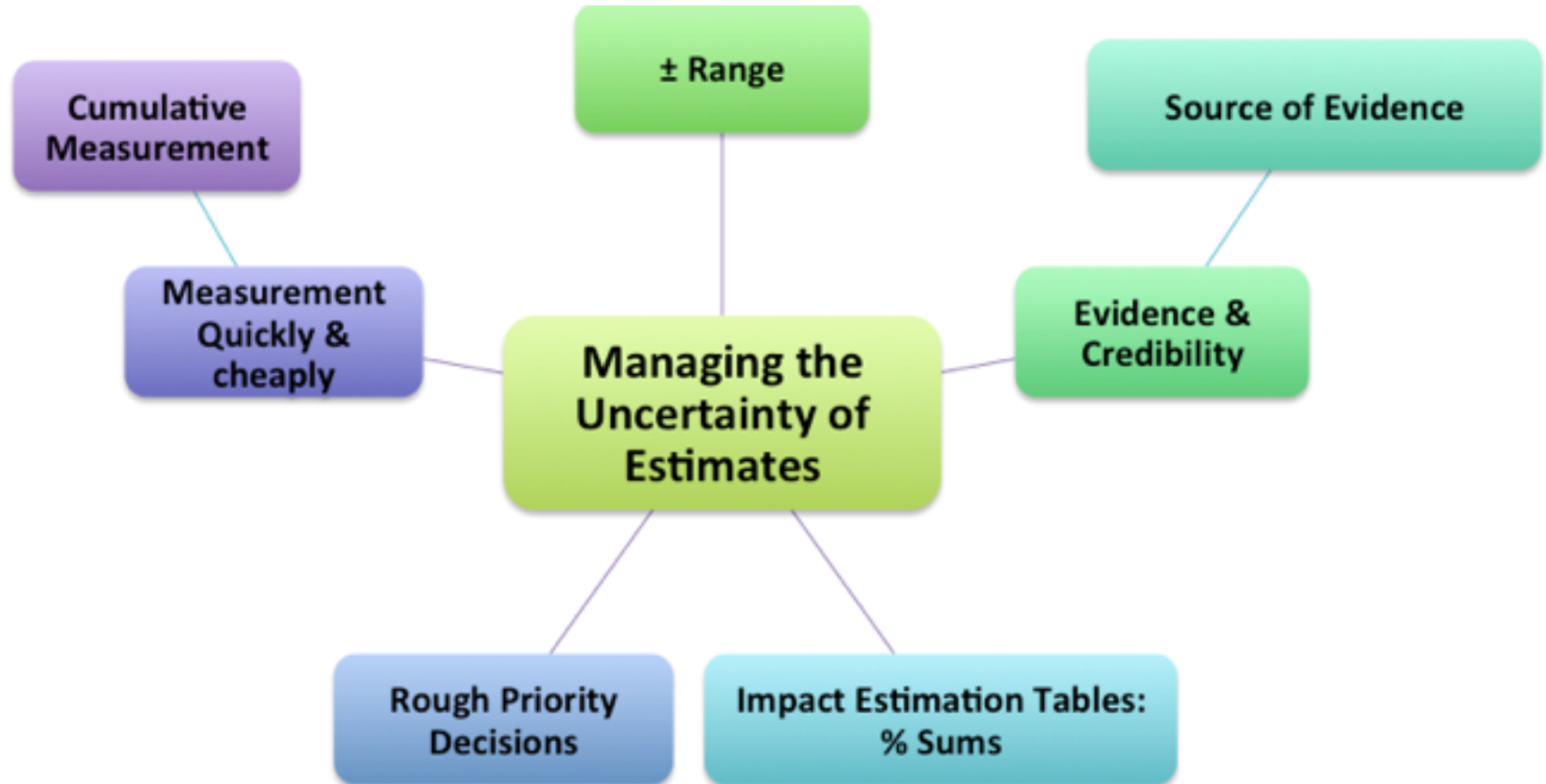
# Design Strategy Risks



# Cost Risks



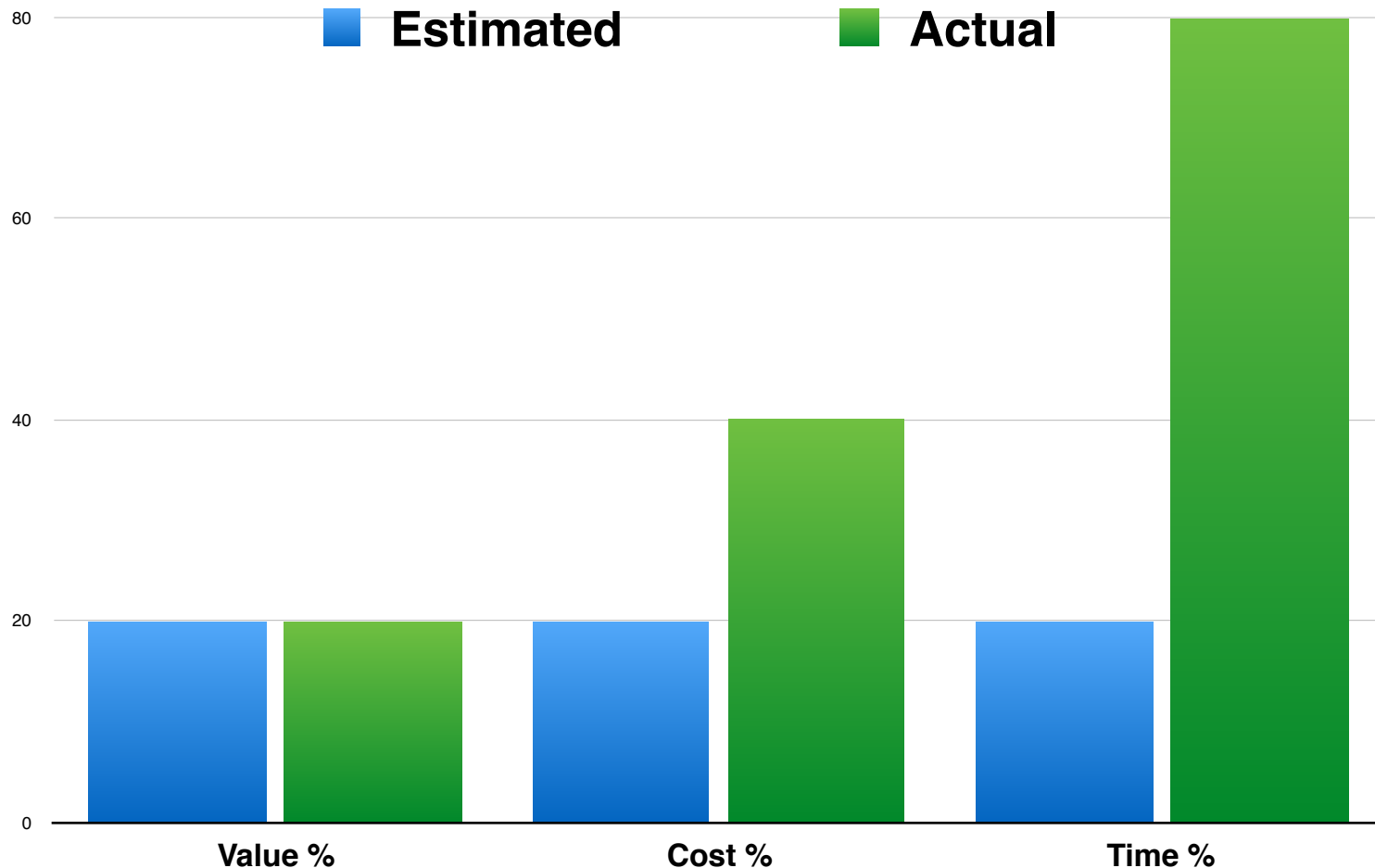
# Risk Tools in Impact Estimation



20% Snapshot:

Design to Cost Dynamically.

**The point being that unexpected residual resources may force you to choose unexpectedly different architecture, in order to achieve deadline and budget**



# **SUMMARY:**

## **The Fundamental Principles of Value-Driven IT Systems ‘Engineering’.**

- 1. Values are multiple and simultaneous: unavoidable.**
- 2. All technical solutions contain multiple values and costs.**
- 3. All values and costs have unknowns, uncertainties and risks.**
- 4. Value delivery must work incrementally, with feedback and change.**



# Free Book Core

- [Leanpub.com/ValuePlanning](http://Leanpub.com/ValuePlanning)
- 
- Aimed at ‘management’
  - (not IT or Engineers)
- and German Edition
- [leanpub.com/ValuePlanningDeutsch](http://leanpub.com/ValuePlanningDeutsch)



# The End of slides

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