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Software Engineering Institute
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890



Lessons Learned from Adopting CMMI for Small Organizations

*Sponsored by the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile
Research, Development & Engineering Center
(AMRDEC) Software Engineering Directorate (SED)*

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Agenda

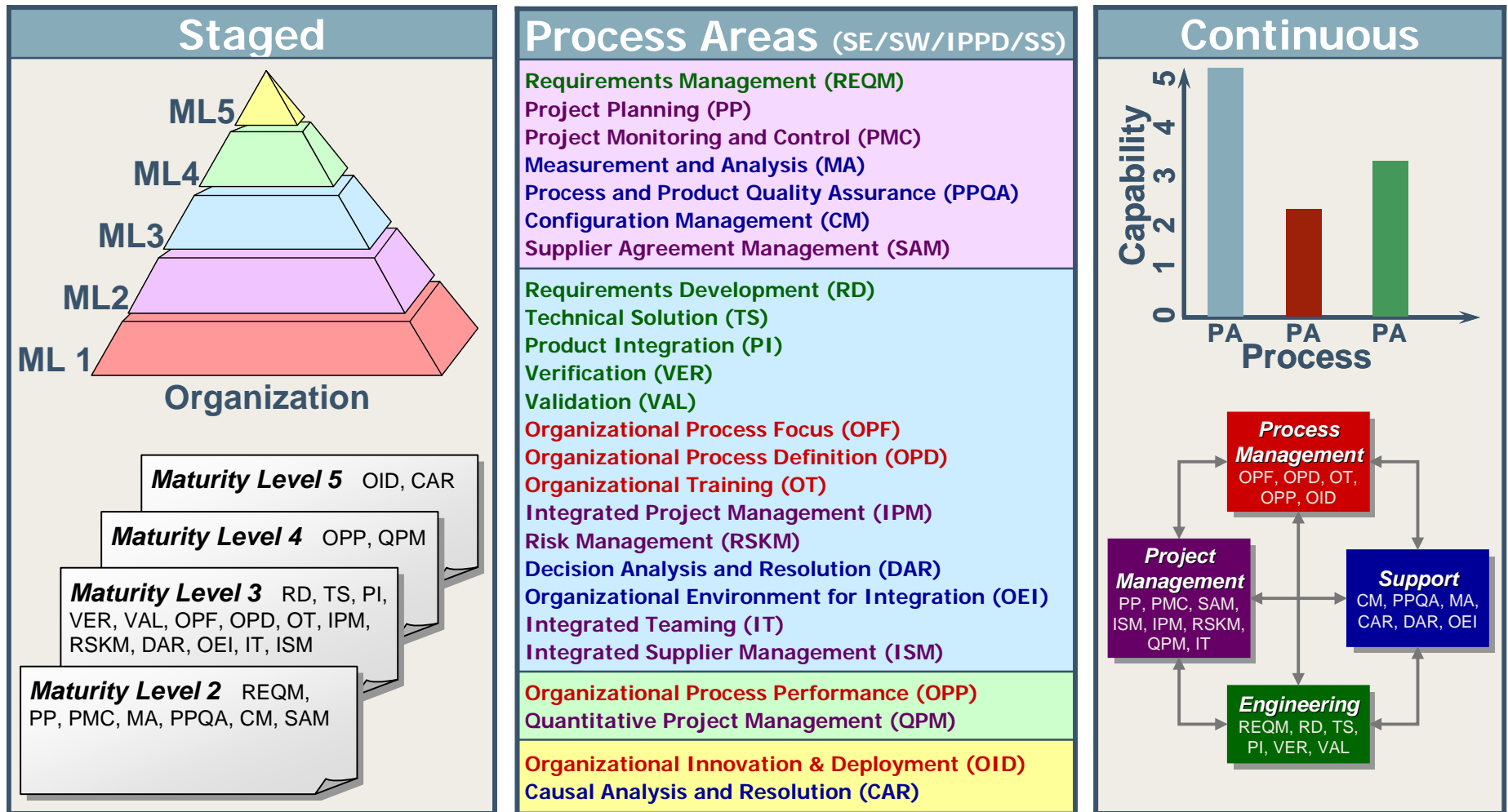
- CMMI Overview
- Pilot Overview
- Adoption of CMMI by ASI and Lessons Learned
- How Pilot Artifacts Can Help Small Businesses



What is the CMMI Model?

- CMMI Is a Process-Improvement Model that provides a set of Best Practices that address productivity, performance, costs, and stakeholder satisfaction
- CMMI Is *NOT* a set of “Bolt-On Processes” that last only as long as the wheel is squeaking. CMMI provides a consistent, enduring framework that accommodates new initiatives
- CMMI focuses on the total-system problem, unlike other predecessor CMMs
- CMMI facilitates enterprise-wide process improvement, unlike single-discipline models

CMMI In A Nutshell



- *Two Representations Per CMMI Model*
- *One Appraisal Method (SCAMPISM)*



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Pilot Overview



Pilot Project Overview

A joint project performed by the partnership between the Software Engineering Institute (SEI) and AMRDEC SED to establish the **technical feasibility** of developing guidance and other special-purpose transition mechanisms to support adoption of CMMI by **small and medium enterprises** (25 to 250 employees in Huntsville)

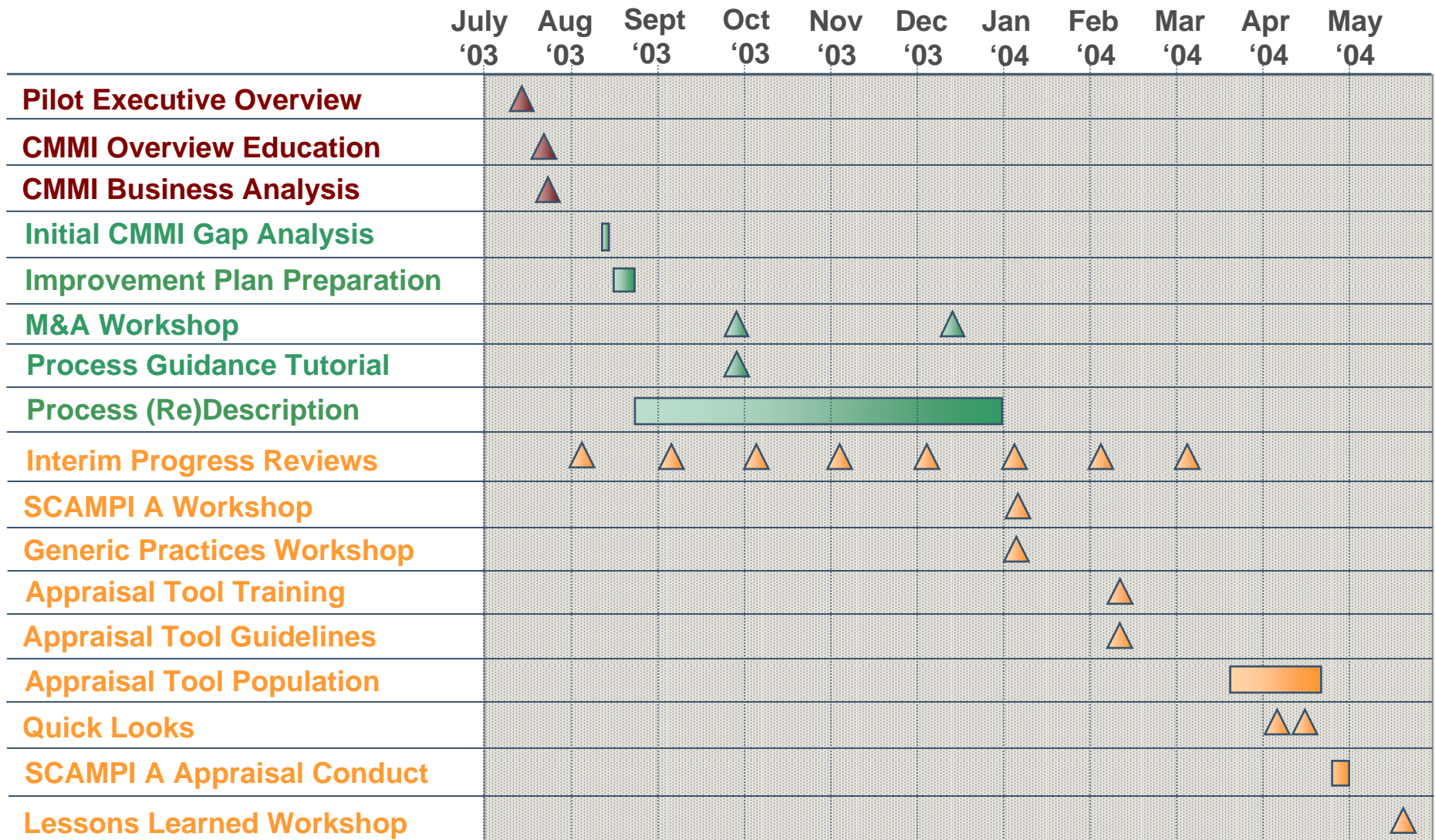
Selected 2 Pilot companies: Analytical Services, Inc. (ASI) and Cirrus Technology, Inc. (CTI)

- Presentation today focuses on ASI lessons learned

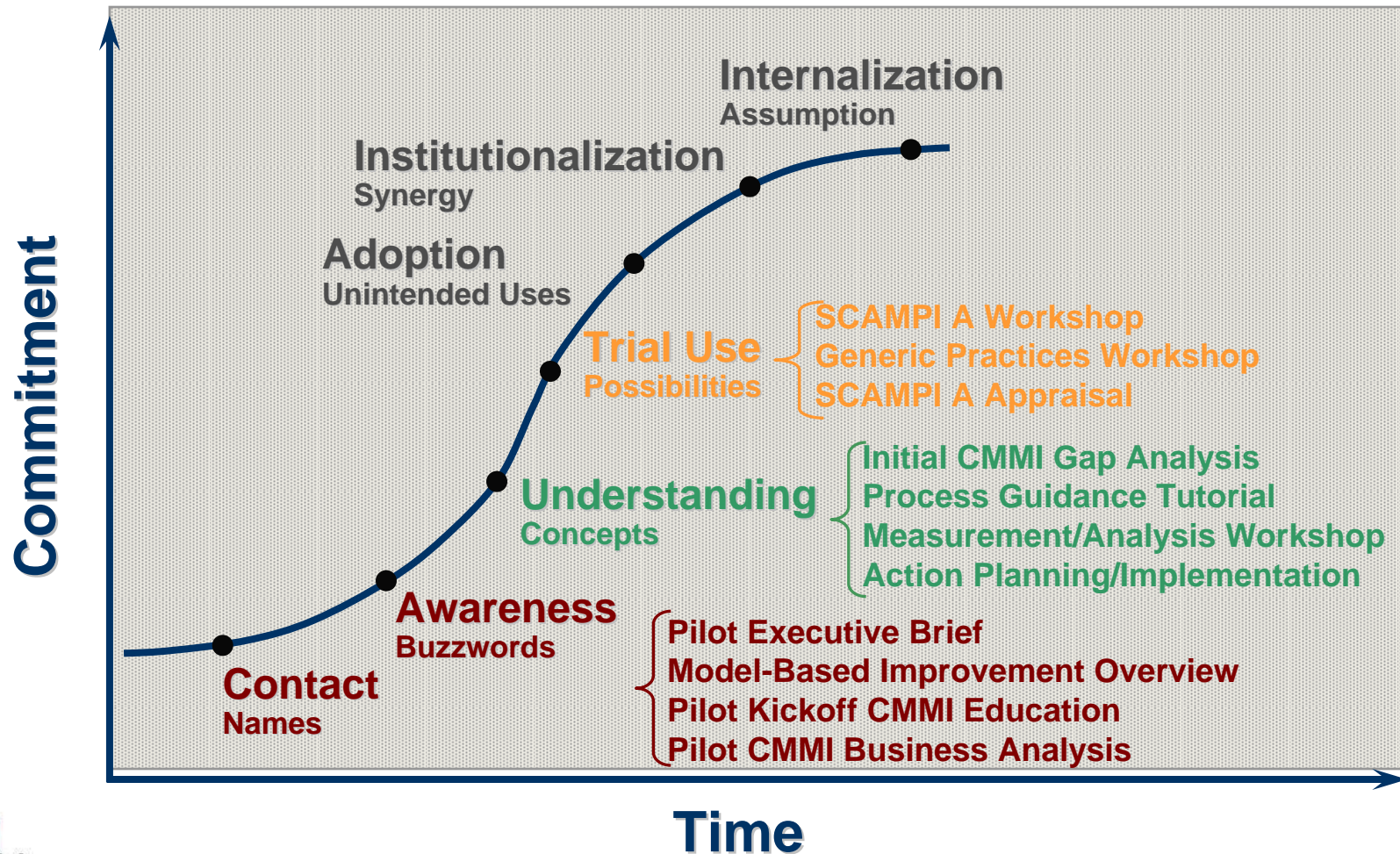
Pilot artifacts will be available at the SEI website by the end of the year

- Toolkit
- Experience reports (one for each company)

CMMI Small Business Pilot Schedule



Summary of Materials Provided by Pilot





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Adoption of CMMI by ASI and Lessons Learned





Jack Conway

Vice President Systems Management
CMMI Pilot Project Coordinator

Analytical Services, Inc.
Huntsville, Alabama





Company Profile

Analytical Services, Inc.

- Management and Technical Services Company
- Incorporated in 1992
- Hispanic, Woman-Owned, Small Disadvantaged Business
- ISO 9001:2000 Registered/Successful CMMI SCAMPI A Appraisal
- Top Secret Facility

**Information
Technology**

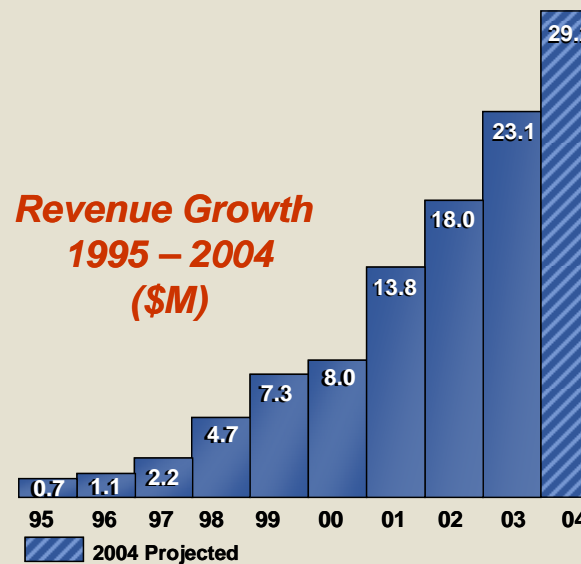
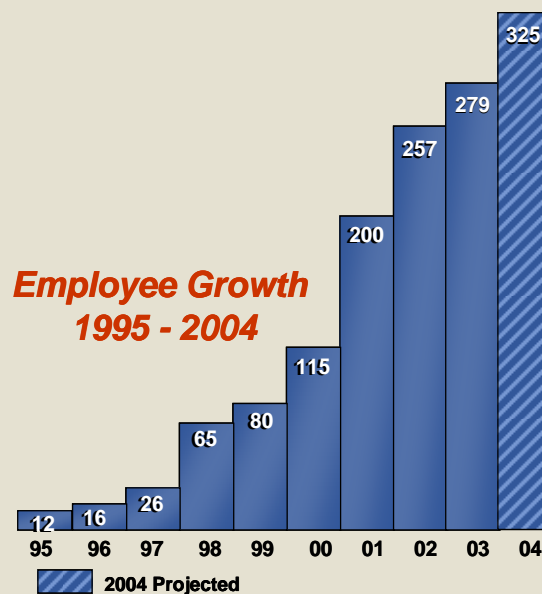
**Systems Engineering/
Program Management**

Core

Competencies

**Engineering and
Scientific Analysis**

**Professional and
Organizational Development**





About ASI

- **Customer base:**

- Army
- Air Force
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)
- Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS)
- Missile Defense Agency (MDA)
- Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)

2003 - NASA's Woman Owned Business of the Year

2002 - BBB Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics

2001 - National Minority Business of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration in Washington D.C.





ASI's Process Improvement History

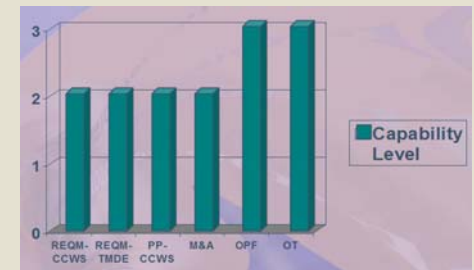
Development of our Quality System

- Until '02, written corporate policies - few written processes
- 2002 - Began investigation of Quality Systems – ISO 9001-2000
 - Worked with consultants from local university
 - Mentor Protégé Program provided guidance
- Nov '02 – Mar '03 - Established Quality Management System (QMS)
- Feb '03 - Pre- Assessment NQA Audit (external)
- Mar '03 - External certification audit for ISO 9001-2000 Registration -NQA
- May '03 - Selected to participate in CMMI Small Business Pilot Project
- Jun '03 - ISO Audit - 3 Month Registration Surveillance Audit
- Aug '03 - Initiated CMMI Pilot Project – (Continuous Representation)
- Apr '04 - ISO Audit - 2nd Surveillance Audit
- Apr/May '04 - Completed Pilot - SCAMPI A Appraisal of 5 process areas.
 - Achieved Target Capability Level Profile
- Oct '04 - ISO Audit - Oct '04 - 3rd Surveillance Audit

ASI CMMI Adoption



- Selected to participate in CMMI Small Business Pilot Project – May '03
- Initiated CMMI Pilot Project – Aug '03
 - Project Planning (PP)
 - Requirements Management (REQM)
 - Measurement and Analysis (M&A)
- Completed Pilot in May '04 – Culminated with SCAMPI A Appraisal
- Appraisal of 5 process areas with addition of:
 - Organizational Training (OT)
 - Organizational Process Focus (OPF)
- Achieved Target Capability Level Profile





ASI Adoption Objectives

- Must be affordable!
- Fit with Quality Management System (QMS)
- Adopt without dedicated overhead
- Useful for mission objectives and customer work
- Non interference with customer projects
- Recognized by customers
- Benefits and measurable pay-off
- Achievable within time frame
- Broader application than just software
- Long term benefit
- Additional revenue



Adoption Approach

Used for Pilot Project

- Assigned to single business unit with multiple direct customer programs.
- Focus on systems engineering and application development
- Multi-level team: technical, managers, quality coordinator and executive.
- Develop processes to address real situations, using real data
- Listen to the consultants!
- Experiment with tools offered.
- Action, action, action.
- Stay on schedule!
- Regular sessions – weekly phone cons/monthly sessions.
- Use action lists and minutes to hold ourselves accountable
- Readjust when overcome by events.

Adoption Activities & Statistics

ASI Pilot Program

| | Total | Team Mtngs. | Telecons | Process Develop | Training & Awareness | Implementation | Appraisal Prep | Appraisal |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Exec. Lead | 286 | 96 | 80 | 40 | 24 | 10 | 20 | 16 |
| PM | 240 | 80 | 60 | 40 | 24 | 20 | 12 | 4 |
| PM | 252 | 96 | 80 | 40 | | 20 | 12 | 4 |
| SW Eng. | 312 | 96 | 80 | 60 | | 30 | 40 | 6 |
| Prog Analyst | 144 | 60 | 50 | 20 | | 10 | | 4 |
| SW Developer | 124 | 60 | 50 | | | 10 | | 4 |
| SW Eng. | 134 | 80 | 50 | | | | | 4 |
| QA | 206 | 60 | 50 | | 24 | | 40 | 32 |
| QA | 50 | 30 | 20 | | | | | |
| Prog Control | 30 | | | | | 20 | 4 | 6 |
| SW Developer | 42 | | | | 12 | 30 | | |
| Executive | 76 | 35 | | | | 33 | 4 | 4 |
| Workforce | 45 | 25 | | | | | | 20 |
| Total Hours | 1941 | 718 | 520 | 200 | 84 | 183 | 132 | 104 |
| % of Hours | | 37% | 27% | 10% | 4% | 9% | 7% | 5% |
| Total Cost | \$138,833 | \$52,219 | \$36,662 | \$15,621 | \$5,510 | \$13,348 | \$8,753 | \$6,719 |
| % of Cost | | 38% | 26% | 11% | 4% | 10% | 6% | 5% |



Benefits from CMMI Adoption

- Participation in Pilot extremely beneficial for ASI
- CMMI Adoption has been worth investment
 - CMMI adoption enhanced and improved our QMS
 - Natural follow-on to ISO and provides continuous improvement
 - Improved ability to organize and communicate status of projects to customers and other stakeholders
 - Addresses customer projects with processes
 - Reduced training time for new employee
 - Prevented requirements creep and ensured on-time and below budget project completion
 - Supports company objectives
 - Provides path for taking the company to the next level





Lessons Learned – Small Business Implementation

- Small Business needs to realize pay off quickly
- Customer driven requirements are significant (de)motivator
- Small businesses do not have staff dedicated solely to CMMI implementation – customer requirements take priority and can cause delays
- There is not a lot of functional organization to leverage from in a small business
- CMMI is easier to interpret for product development than for services – Small Businesses are typically more service oriented



Lessons Learned –Small Business Implementation

- ISO 9001-2000 and CMMI can be compatible and complementary
- “The customer rules” – Many small organizations adopt/adapt business practices directly from their customers or primes
- State of company quality systems has major impact on implementation effort, for good or ill
- Less formal organizational structure means fewer barriers to “knock down”; leadership involvement is not difficult to obtain
- Just In Time Training is critical for small organizations
- Eliminating intimidation factor of CMMI is essential



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How Pilot Artifacts Can Help Small Businesses



Using CMMI in Small Businesses

- CMMI Provides a Set of Best Practices From Which Small Businesses Can Benefit
- The Continuous Representation of the CMMI Allows Small Companies to Focus on Improvements That Have the Highest Payoff for the Company
- Aligning Improvement With Business Goals Is Particularly Important for Small Businesses
- Simple CMMI-Based Improvements Can Have a Significant Impact in Small Organizations
- “Changing” the Practices Isn’t Necessary in Most Cases; Finding Alternative Practices Is Often Relevant
- Both CMMI and SCAMPI A Scale Down to Fit Small Settings

✓ ***The Greatest Challenge for Small Businesses Is the Affordability of Subject Matter Experts, and the Implementation and Appraisal Costs***



How the Pilot Artifacts Can Help Small Businesses

Three artifacts from the pilot will be available on the SEI website

- Toolkit
- 2 Experience reports

The CMMI for Small Business Pilot artifacts should prove useful in helping small businesses

- Focus their improvement efforts
- Figure out how and where to get started
- Tie their improvements to business goals
- Train their staff
- Realize payoffs early in the improvement
- Improve their ability to prepare for appraisals



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