The Archeology of Legacy Systems

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Agenda

- Circumstances
- Goals
- Methods
- Work products
- Process issues

Circumstances

Loss of support

Reorganization

Disaster recovery

Goals

Bug fixes

Enhancements

• Migration



Methods - User interviews

User types

- Functions
- Workflow steps
- Permissions
- Locations

Methods - User interviews

Scenarios

- Typical
- Extraordinary
- Periodic

Methods - User interviews

• Data

- Normal
- Invalid
- Boundary
- Environment

User interface

- Data feeds
- Input forms
- Windows
- Web pages
- Reports
- Electronic output

Middle tier

- Processes
- Data objects
- Workflow
- Administration and security
- Replication

Hardware

- Data servers
- File servers
- Internet servers
- Firewall

Environment

- Operating system
- Browser
- Office tools
- Custom applications

Database

- Tables
- Stored procedures
- Triggers
- Caches
- Open servers

Work products - Requirements documentation

• Design requirements

- Functionality
- Performance
- Security
- Acceptance criteria

Work products - Requirements documentation

Use cases

- "Game show"
- "Soap opera"
- "Historical novel"

Work products System documentation

User interface

- User type list
- User interface component inventory
- User interface elements inventory
- Data elements specifications
- Control elements specifications
- Message list

Work products System documentation

- Middle tier / hardware / environment
 - Data itinerary
 - Program rules list
 - Operations guides
 - Standards documents

Work products System documentation

Database

- System architecture schema
- Data dictionary
- Procedure inventory
- Data model
- Data flow schema

Process issues

Roles and responsibilities

- Product manager
- Project manager
- User experts
- Developers

Documentation maintenance

- Repository
- Resources





The Accidental Project Manager

Surviving the Transition from Techie to Manager

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