



SOFTWARE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT NETWORK

OCTOBER
2003 EVENT

Topic	Process Engineering Modeling.
Presenter	<p><u>Vivianne Suen</u> <u>SPEM – The Metamodel</u> System Analyst, Osellus</p>
Summary	<p>In the current landscape, there exist many competing software development processes and methodologies. As our knowledge and experience in the area of process engineering grows, a pressing need for process standards has emerged. Various standards currently exist to define different processes and methodologies, maturity or capability models, quality standards, and appraisal methods. However, there remains no common notation for defining software development processes. In this spirit, the OMG has recently defined and adopted an extension of UML designed for process engineering – the Software Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM).</p> <p>As a metamodel, SPEM applies the basic concepts of UML to the thorny problem of software development process definition. Software Process Engineering (SPE) has long been a difficult task, and even now is not a universal discipline, and has few supporting standards. Part of the problem is that there are no agreed-upon models or methodologies for SPE. Another issue is that processes are by nature highly situational, and many people now believe that the “one-process-fits-all” approach to software development is no longer appropriate. Furthermore, software development processes in particular have a uniqueness and complexity which makes it impossible to draw upon the knowledge base in other domains (for example, manufacturing process engineering). SPEM is a start at tackling this problem, by defining an abstract framework for modeling any and all processes.</p> <p>This presentation will introduce the SPEM metamodel, and give detailed examples of SPEM-based process models. The challenges particular to software development process definition will be explored, with an eye to how SPEM seeks to resolve them. The concepts of process automation and model-based process management will also be introduced. The applicability of SPEM to various industry process improvement initiatives will also be discussed, with particular attention to SEI-CMM. The presentation will be followed by a hands-on process modeling exercise and tutorial which will introduce participants to common process engineering techniques and strategies.</p>
Biography	<p>Vivienne Suen is a System Analyst with Osellus Inc., and contributed to the design and architecture of one of the first SPEM implementations. Prior to joining Osellus, she has worked for six years in software development, on projects ranging from eBusiness to telecom. Vivienne specializes in UML design, and has first-hand and in-depth knowledge of many software development and engineering processes and methodologies. She was an active participant in the finalization of SPEM 1.0 and is currently working to define enhancements to SPEM. Vivienne holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science from the University of Western Ontario.</p>
Date / Time	<p>Wed., 29th Oct. 2003 13:00 – 16:00 (Doors open at 12:30)</p>
Location	<p>Canada Life Building, IBM Mobility Centre, 330 University Ave., 2nd Floor Subway: Osgoode; Parking at Queen & University</p>
Registration	<p>http://www.TorontoSPIN.com \$10.00 at the door, Check with security</p>
Future Events	<p>TBD</p>