

Leadership Message

As I look back at the past few years, we at Toronto SPIN, have a lot to be proud of. A team of volunteers, on their 'spare' time, introduced programs like our regular newsletter, Free Event Passes, the first ever Networking Event, and a Volunteer Summer BBQ event at which top volunteers were recognized for their contributions through TSPIN Trophy Awards.



Rekha Kulshreshtha

As we look forward to the coming months and years, the team has many initiatives underway that will make us an even stronger and exciting team to be part of. Some examples are:

- Multi-location Meetings – recognizing the commuting challenge we all face, look for events being held in different parts of the Greater Toronto Area
- Academic Link – mirroring our link to Carnegie Mellon University and the Software Engineering Institute, watch for a growing relationship between Toronto SPIN and our local universities
- Website Transformation – planning for a complete transformation of our external and internal website has already started – the result will be awesome!

I often ask myself why I continue to volunteer for Toronto SPIN. Like most people, I enjoy the chance to work with a great group of volunteers. Additionally, the chance to be President and lead the organizational direction has been an excellent experience – leading a volunteer organization is very different from leading paid employees. Recently I qualified to be part of IBM's Corporate Service Corps, and I was able to use my TSPIN reference in my application. At times, I have shown up at a client site for a first meeting, where they already knew my name because of my TSPIN role! And finally, in these economic times, it is always nice to know that I am working closely with a community of professionals with similar skills – which gives me a sense of increased job resiliency.

If you're reading this, you have some interest in what we do as an organization. I encourage you to get more involved in our process improvement community by coming to our events, contributing articles to this newsletter, using our social networking tools to engage other members or joining the volunteer team.

Rekha Kulshreshtha
TSPIN President

What's Inside

This edition of Toronto SPINner includes...

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Please submit any feedback on this newsletter as well as articles and digital photographs for consideration in future issues to communications@torontospin.com. This edition of the newsletter along with past issues are available online at <http://www.torontospin.com/torontospin/press.shtml>.

New! An Announcements section has been added to our [Press & Media page](#) online.

Special Feature Article

SPICE up your Enterprise



An organization's success or failure is first and foremost assessed by their bottom line (profit or loss) and for publically owned companies by the value of their stock. Too much loss and the organization is looking at bankruptcy, which, despite the much publicized cases of this (past?) recession is not an everyday occurrence. Leaders in organizations that are functioning spend time wondering "how are we doing compared to our competitors?", "Are our process, methods and tools effective", "Could we be better?", etc. There is a multitude of methods, standards, models, tools and last but not least consultants ready to help the beleaguered company leader.



For the most part the standards, methods and models cover more or less the same ground often with emphases on different aspects of the organization. Various attempts have been made to integrate models. The best known attempt is of course the Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) which

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TSPIN Current News

Elections to the Steering Committee: Call for Nominations

The time has come to establish the first ever elected steering committee for Toronto SPIN. Up to now the committee has consisted of interested individuals who have attended at least 3 steering committee meetings and been active in the organization. Given that Toronto SPIN is now stable with an ever increasing number of volunteers, our constitution was changed to require elections.

The steering committee must consist of between 4 – 12 members. In order to ensure continuity half the members will be elected each year. Since this is the first election we need to elect 4-6 individuals for two year terms and the remaining 6 for a 1-year term. Three positions on the committee – those of president, secretary, and treasurer are identified and must be filled. In other words we need to elect:

- President for a two-year term
- Secretary for a two-year term
- Treasurer for a two-year term
- 3 members for two-year terms
- 6 members for one-year terms.

Terms run from August 1 to July 31 the following year.

Steering Committee Members are expected to serve in at least one leadership role during their term. A leadership role can be a Sub-Committee Lead, a Sub-Committee Backup or a Special Project Lead (events, elections, surveys, etc.)

Nominations are open until Feb 28., so if you would like to serve in any of the above positions or know someone who is diffident about nominating themselves, please drop an e-mail to **Rekha** (rekhak@ca.ibm.com), **Renay** (renay.langdon@scotiabank.com), or **myself** (winifred.menezes@ieee.org).



*Winifred Menezes
TSPIN Election Team Lead*



Stay tuned to our Events page for upcoming events in 2010...

[Click for details](#)

Spotlight On...



Sachin Quadros, Toronto SPIN Treasurer

I first got involved with Toronto SPIN... as a member of the Finance Sub-Committee in December 2006.

In my spare time... I like to read fiction. My favorite author is Wilbur Smith. He spins beautiful tales about Africa and its people. My dream is to see the whole African continent.

My favourite food is... butter chicken.

On my last vacation... I visited India. It was an eye opener. It made me realize why everyone is talking about the rapid strides that the country is making, how the 'have's' and 'have not's' co-exist. Also made me realize how lucky we Canadians are to be living in this great country.

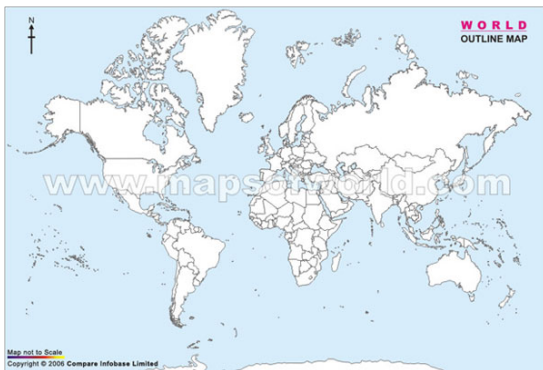
At home on weekend mornings... sipping a hot cup of tea with family, playing with my two year old, while my black lab is ready for a morning siesta after a long walk.

Special Feature Article continued from page 1

integrated the CMM for Software (SW-CMM), the CMM for Systems engineering (SE-CMM) and the CMM for Integrated Product Development (CMM-IPD). All integration attempts struggle with the conflicting goals of sufficient coverage and keeping the model lean. The newest CMMI solution is constellations, where several areas are common to the 3 constellations that exist now (CMMI for DEvelopment, CMMI for ACquisition and CMMI for SerViCes).

Another attempt called the Enterprise SPICE project is much more ambitious. This project is staffed and run entirely by volunteers, and the goal is to integrate selected models and standards into a single enterprise improvement model. But first, why “SPICE”? SPICE stands for Software Process Improvement and Capability dEtermination, a project that started in the 1990s (the last century!) and eventually resulted in an international standard ISO/IEC 15504 – Information Technology – Process Assessment which is the international standard that sets requirements for assessment methods, and for the reference models used when assessing process capability. (CMMI is a reference model and has its own assessment method, which with a couple of additions is compliant with ISO/IEC 15504). Since the standard actually contains an exemplar model, a number of industry specific reference models have been, or are being created. The most well known of these is “Automotive SPICE”, which is used predominantly by the European automotive industry.

So the aim of the Enterprise SPICE project is to create an integrated standards based enterprise model. The project was launched with a call for volunteers in the fall of 2007. There are currently over 100 volunteers world- wide working in one or more of the following teams: Advisory Board, Author Team, Assessment Team, or Review Team. The project is governed by an elected Advisory Board and an agreed upon charter. Interestingly there are 3 Canadians on the Advisory Board and 4 Canadian in total in the project.



Enterprise SPICE participation by country: Australia (2), Austria (1), Brazil (8), Canada (4), Chile (1), Colombia (2), Finland (2), France (2), Germany (15), Hong Kong (1), Hungary (3), India (5), Italy (3), Lithuania (1), Luxembourg (1), Netherlands (1), New Zealand (1), Portugal (3), Romania (1), Russia (1), Singapore (1), South Africa (1), Spain (3), Sweden (2), Switzerland (2), Turkey (1), United Kingdom (4), United States (36), Uruguay (1).

The first release of the model is imminent. The Author team is currently adjudicating over 500 comments that were received during the review period. The processes covered by this release of Enterprise SPICE are shown below grouped into three categories.

Integrated Enterprise Management Investment Management Human Resource Management Enterprise Architecture	Business Relationship Management Supplier Agreement Management Tendering/Insourcing Project Management Risk Management	S a f e t y a n d S e c u r i t y
Life Cycle Category (8 processes)		
Needs Requirements Design Deployment, Transition, and Disposal Integration Design Implementation Evaluation Operation and Support		
Support Category (11 processes)		
Alternatives Analysis Quality Assurance and Management Change and Configuration Management Information Management Knowledge Management	Measurement and Analysis Work Environment Process Definition Process Improvement Training Research and Innovation	

These 29 processes are based on the following source standards and models:

- FAA-iCMM (baseline model, integrating ISO 9001, ISO/IEC 12207, ISO/IEC 15288, ISO/IEC 15504, Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, CMMI, EIA 731, previous CMMs, MIL-STD-882C, MIL-STD-882D, IEC 61508: DEF STAN 00-56, ISO 17799, ISO 15408, ISO/IEC 21827, NIST 800-30);
- ITIL;
- ISO/IEC 20000;
- CobIT;
- People-CMM;
- ITIM, ISO 14000.
- Additional references include eSCM models and PMI standards and documents.

The next phase of the project will focus on piloting the model, i.e. using it in assessments and on developing training. Visit www.enterprisespice.com to find out more about the project (or contact me). Also it is still possible to join this exciting project, so do consider joining and swelling the Canadian numbers.

*Winifred Menezes
Certified SCAMPI A/B/C and High Maturity Lead Appraiser, Intro to
CMMI Instructor
Winifred.Menezes@ieee.org*

What's Goin' On?

This calendar is published as a courtesy to our members. Please note that Toronto SPIN does not officially endorse these events run by other organizations.

April 25-30, 2010 – [Software Test Analysis & Review Conference \(Orlando, FL\)](#)

March 22-25, 2010 – [SEPG North America 2010 \(Savannah, GA\)](#) Register by February 19 and save \$200!

News from SEI



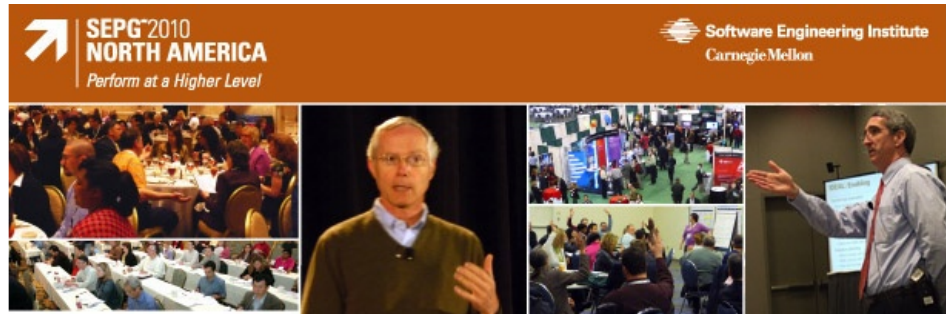
Early Bird Deadline for SEPG North America 2010 is nearing

Hear from industry-leading experts, get the latest research, discuss current hot topics, and take back ideas and solutions that you can implement into your organization. Join us at SEPG North America 2010 in Savannah from March 22-25, 2010.

There's still time to receive the Early Bird discount for SEPG North America 2010.

[Register by February 19 and save \\$200.](#)

Groups can take advantage of savings too with 10-20% off registration price.



Upcoming Webinars



Join us for a Webinar on February 23:



What to Expect from CMMI Version 1.3

Reserve Webinar seat now at:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/167185497>

Presenter: Mike Phillips

The next release of the CMMI Product Suite—an approach that provides organizations with the essential elements of effective processes that ultimately improve their performance—is expected in November 2010. This Version 1.3 (V1.3) release includes improvements to CMMI for Development (CMMI-DEV), CMMI for Acquisition (CMMI-ACQ), and CMMI for Services (CMMI-SVC) models all during the same development cycle. This cycle also includes improvements to the appraisal method (SCAMPI) and CMMI-related training. The improvements planned for CMMI models do not require major changes or retraining for those currently using CMMI.

Title: What to Expect from CMMI Version 1.3

Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Time: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM EST

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

Join us for a Webinar on February 25 -- CMMI for Services Reserve Webinar seat now at:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/994159584>

Presenter: Eileen Forrester

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EST

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

2010 Software Best Practices Webinar Series

Upcoming sessions:

Practical Approaches to Managing Risk in Outsourcing
February 12, 2010

Improving Performance Through Effective Application of IT Service Management models
February 16, 2010

Productivity of Software Maintenance
February 17, 2010

Transforming IT Management to Achieve Dramatic Business Success - 25% More Work or Less Cost! (Part #1 - Managing Application Support to Yield Your Desired Business Outcomes)
February 18, 2010

Check out the [full list](#) and [register here!](#)

Toronto SPIN Volunteer Team

Toronto SPIN would not exist without the support and dedication of volunteers. Many thanks to all our volunteers who contribute their time to making Toronto SPIN the success that it is today.

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities with Toronto SPIN, please send an email to volunteers@torontospin.com. You will be invited to attend a one-hour volunteer orientation session that will give you a full overview of how Toronto SPIN is organized so you can determine if, and how, you want to participate.



*Renay Langdon
TSPIN Volunteer
Sub-Committee Lead*

Call for Sponsorship Volunteers

The Sponsorship Sub-Committee is currently in the process of on-boarding various types of sponsors and needs your help! If you are interested in developing relationships, working with our sponsors, and developing new types of sponsorship opportunities, please join us.

Our current responsibilities include:

- Building and managing relationships with Toronto SPIN sponsors
- Management of the Toronto SPIN sponsorship program and process
- Development of new types of sponsorship
- Maintaining sponsorship materials, including a brochure, benefit package, and web pages

Note that the majority of our meetings take place via teleconference call, so your physical location is not a consideration. We have a number of volunteers that live outside the Greater Toronto Area. If you are interested, please send an email to volunteers@torontospin.com. You will be invited to attend a one-hour volunteer orientation teleconference that will give you a full overview of how Toronto SPIN is organized so

Our Current Volunteer Team

Steering Committee

Andrew Gurudata	Telus Mobility
Doris Concepcion	IBM
Erika Vintan	Bank of Montreal
Kirk Zapa	KAYZET Inc.
Rekha Kulshreshtha	IBM
Renay Langdon	Scotiabank
Ruben Montero	IBM
Sachin Quadros	Ontario Power Generation
Vivienne Suen	IBM
Winifred Menezes	Freya Consulting Ltd.

Volunteer Members

Ali Khan	York University
Anurag Shrivastava	Ivey School of Business
Cristina Dumitrescu	Tucows Inc.
Emmanuel Gonnet	Gem Up Consulting
Jenna Munro	IBM
Joyce MacDonald	Gregory Consulting Ltd.
Juana Zegarra	CGI Inc.
Lynne McCombes	MKS
Margaret Rowan	Bank of Montreal
Sanford Hersh	Computer Elations Inc.
Simon Kalechstein	IBM
Susan Muckle	Ontario Energy Board
Venkat Ramaseshan	IBM

*Renay Langdon
TSPIN Volunteer Sub-Committee Lead*

you can determine how you want to participate.

*Renay Langdon
Sponsorship Sub-Committee Lead*

Need More?

Here are some helpful references:

Social Networking

For TSPIN members to contact and communicate with each other, we've set up [an official Toronto SPIN group on LinkedIn](#). Members of this group will be able to start a discussion, submit a news article and view job posting.

Toronto 'SPINner' Online

Did you know that this newsletter and past issues of this monthly newsletter [are available online](#)?

Speaker Presentations from Past Events

Remember that final speaker presentations [are available on our website](#) for your reference.

Register for Upcoming Events

Submit your registrations for upcoming events [on our website](#).