

The Testers of 2010

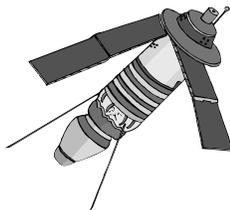


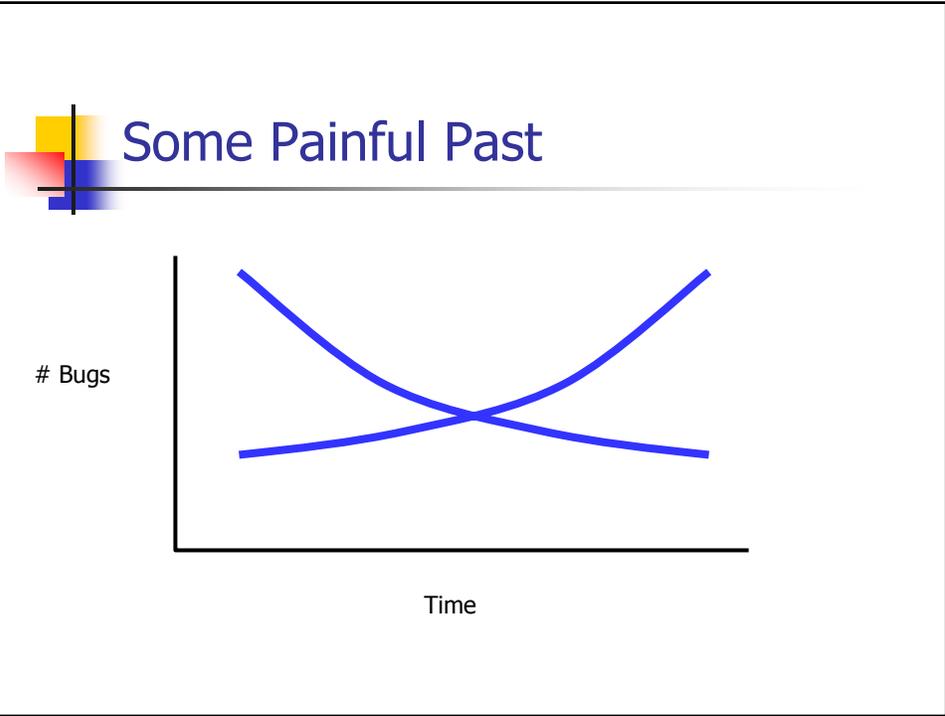
Harry Robinson, Test Architect
Microsoft Engineering Excellence Group



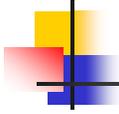
The Past

- 1989: Paris computer charges 41,000 with murder & prostitution.
- 1993: Clementine satellite -- lost and gone forever.
- 1995: American Airlines and the frequent flyer bug.

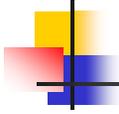
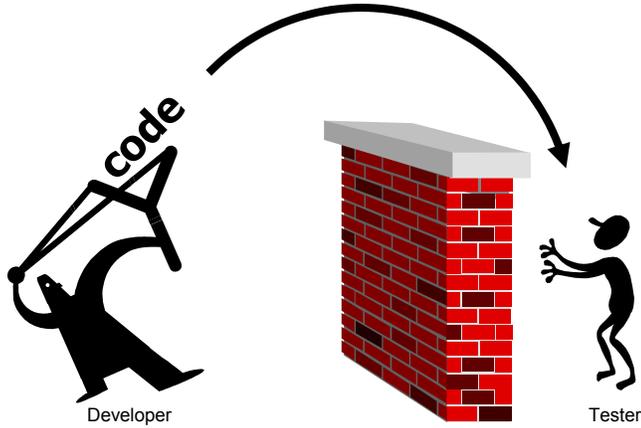




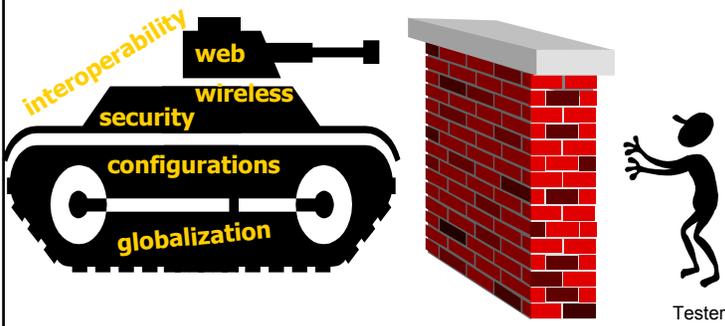
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- ## The Present
- “only about one-fifth of the organizations could adhere to ... their allocated testing budget”
 - “more than one third of the organizations are still doing ad-hoc testing”
 - “‘big bang’ was the most popular integration testing approach”
 - “the most evident barrier to using software testing methodologies ... was found to be a lack of expertise among the practitioners”
- From **A Preliminary Survey on Software Testing Practices in Australia**
S.P. Ng, T. Murnane, K. Reed, D. Grant, T.Y. Chen
Proceedings of the 2004 Australian Software Engineering Conference

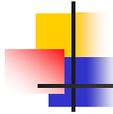


In Short, It is a Bad Situation...



...That is Only Getting Worse





Re-thinking Assumptions

Assumptions about

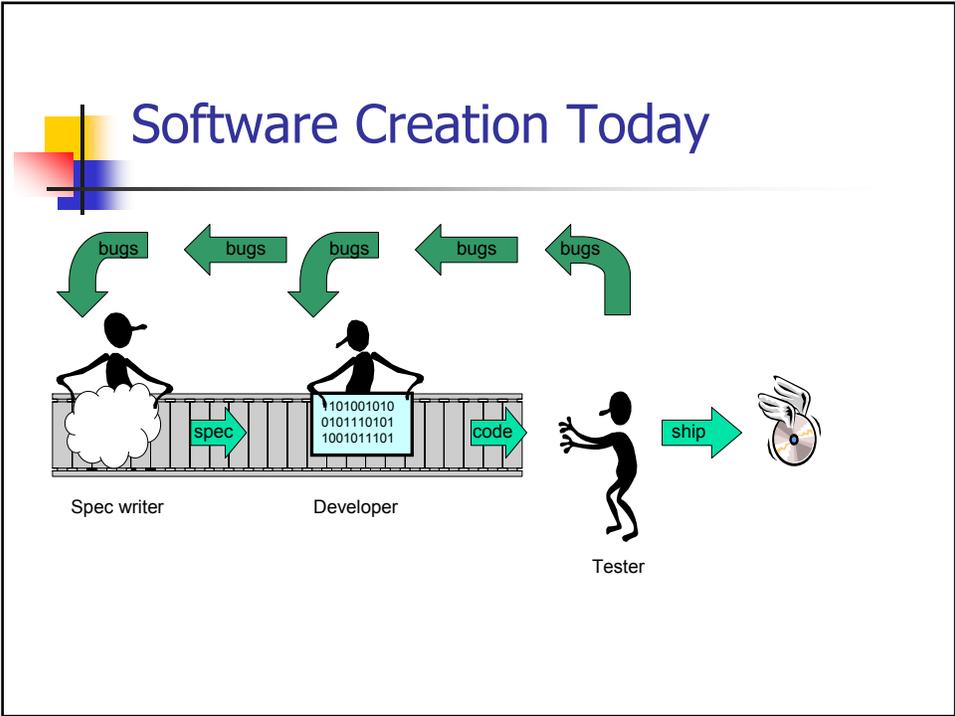
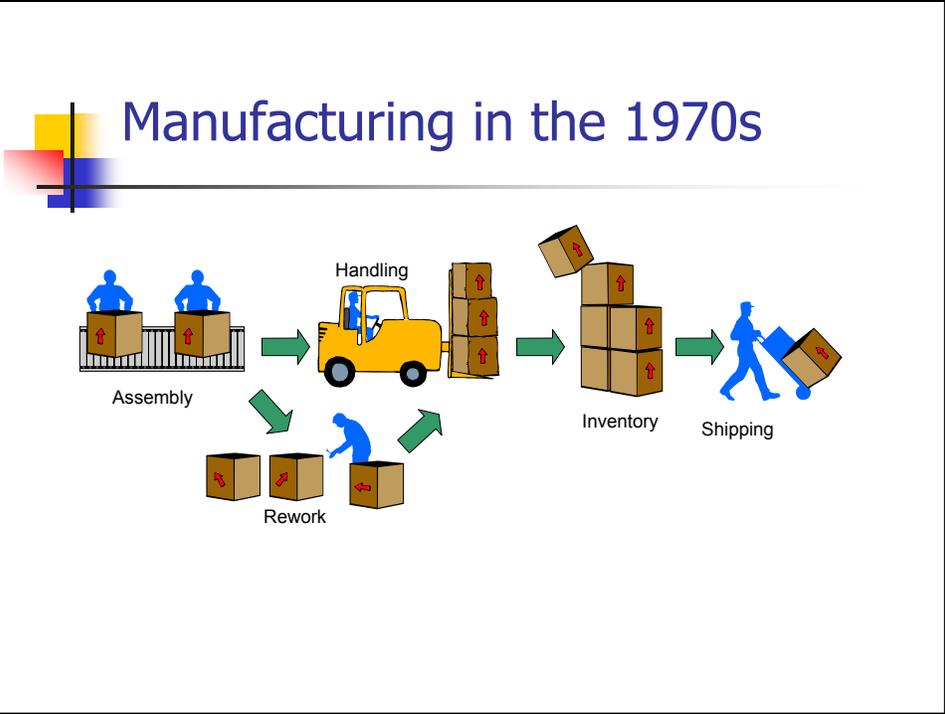
- How people will use your product
- The likelihood of failure
- The impact of failure
- The cost of a bug
- How much testing is "enough"

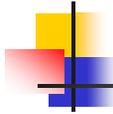


A Historical Perspective

"I see software as in a position very similar to the automotive industry in the 1970s and 1980s. Up to that point, the US carmakers dominated the global market for automobiles, but, frankly, they built and sold low quality cars."

- Rex Black, author of
"Managing the Testing Process"





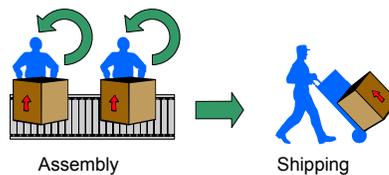
A Perspective on Our Situation

“By applying ideas from people like Juran and Deming, the Japanese carmakers showed the world that it was possible to have high quality cars without high price tags.”

- Rex Black

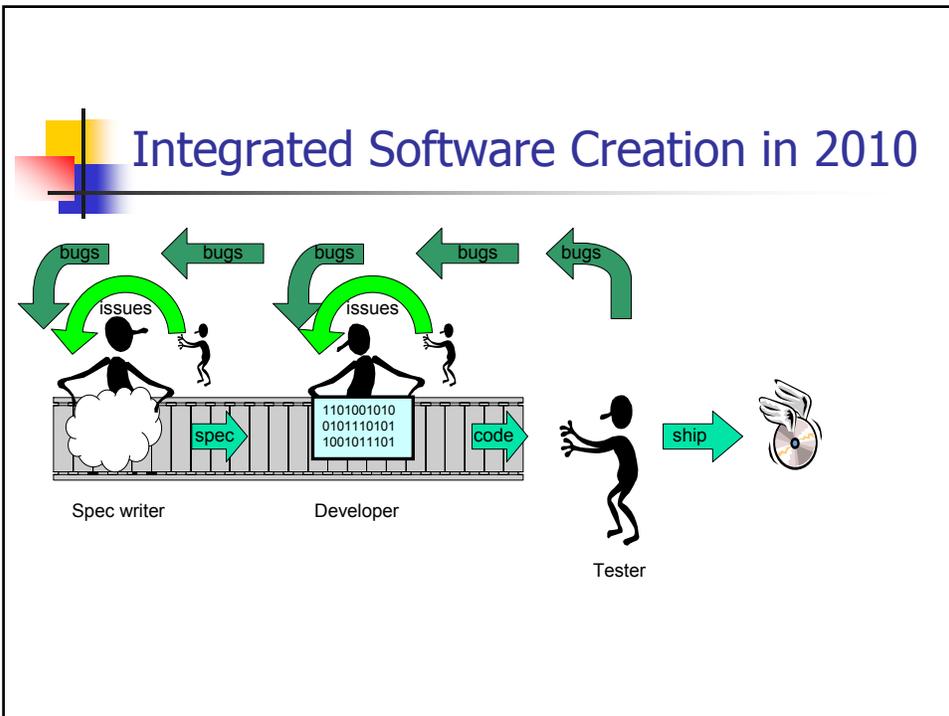


Lean Production in the 1980s

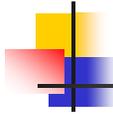


Assembly

Shipping



- ## The Testers of 2010
- Will think strategically
 - Will be hard to tell from developers
 - Must work alongside development
 - Involved early in the project



The Testers of 2010 (cont'd)

- Focus on prevention
- Will be fewer in number than today
- Will be tool-rich
- Will emphasize agility and quick feedback

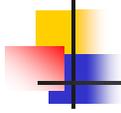


What Can You Do to Prepare?

- Learn more about testing tools & methods
- Learn more about development
- Learn more about requirements
- Learn more about system thinking
- Get actively dissatisfied with the status quo

- And then do something about it.

The best way to predict the future is to invent it.
– Alan Kay



Thanks!

(And good luck!)