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Building Quality into Safety Critical Applications

組み込みソフトウェアの性能、品質の向上 - セーフティクリティカル産業から学んだ事例 教訓

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“You can't control what you can't measure”

Tom DeMarco



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Agenda

- Introduction
- Building Safety Critical Software
 - A focus on the Avionics approach
- Conclusion

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Introduction



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Safety Critical Systems – a definition

- A system is 'safe' when it does not endanger human life or the environment
- A safety critical system is one whose action, or inaction, may cause death, dismemberment or injury
- Examples:
 - Brake-by-wire system
 - Cardiac Defibrillator
 - Fly-by-wire system

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Implementing a Safety critical system

- Safety critical computer systems have both hardware and software components
- Overall system must be reliable and fail safe
- Reliability:
 - Measure of how long system must operate correctly without failure
- Fail safe:
 - Does NOT mean that system is safe from failure!
 - Means that should a failure occur, the system design ensures that the failure does not affect safety, i.e. system should FAIL SAFELY

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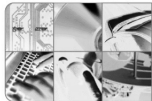
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Designing Reliable Hardware & Software

- **Hardware**
 - Techniques and criteria for building reliable hardware well understood (e.g. use of redundancy)
 - Common for industry regulations to define specific design, implementation and test criteria for hardware
- **Software**
 - Similar criteria for software rarely exist
 - As our dependency on computers increase, so does our sensitivity to Computer Error

Industry Response to proliferation of computer systems

- **Growing number of guidelines addressing safety critical software development, e.g.:**
 - RTCA DO-178B "Software Considerations in Airborne System and Equipment Certification"; Aerospace
 - MISRA "Development Guidelines for Vehicle Based Software", Automotive
 - FDA "General Principles of Software Validation; Final Guidance for Industry and FDA Staff", Medical
- **Common themes in approach used by most safety critical industries**



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Building Safety Critical Software

A focus on the Avionics approach



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General Approach Shared by Safety Critical Industries

- **Producing high quality software requires high quality processes**
- **Have a quality management system (e.g. ISO 9000)**
- **Perform hazard analysis to determine safety integrity level**
- **Define development process appropriate for safety level, e.g.:**
 - H/W & S/W Architectural Design (level & type of redundancy, etc.)
 - Choice of implementation language
 - V & V activities
 - Choice of tools
- **Make product measurements**

Unique aspects of Avionics approach

- **Approach to V&V identified to FAA prior to development**
- **Process documented throughout**
- **Software lifecycle data submitted to authorities to obtain certification 'credit'**
- **Software verification activities are described independently from software verification tools**
- **Intent is that focus is on verification process first, and process automation second**
- **Three lessons to learn from this approach**

Lesson One

- **Execute functional tests as normal**
- **Repeat, making CodeTEST coverage measurements**
- **Analyze coverage results, and for functions where coverage < 100%, determine cause:**
 - Missing requirements?
 - Missing test cases?
 - Dead or unreachable code?
- **Improve test effectiveness by updating requirements, test cases or code**
- **Repeat**



The state of industry ...

- In summarizing his findings from working with many companies, Richard Bender revealed the following figures:
 - Current best practice in industry
 - Code Coverage > 70%, with 95% of bugs being found before shipment
 - Average test results before shipping
 - Code Coverage < 35%, with > 25% of bugs being found in the field



Ref: Development Dilemmas and the SEI Model – case studies in Software Process Development, presented by Chuck House to the 9th IEEE International Software Quality Week, San Francisco May 23rd, 1996

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Lesson Two



- There is no “one size fits all” coverage analysis metric – choice of coverage is based on how safety critical software is

S/W Level	Failure causes system to fail, resulting in ...	Coverage Req'd
A	catastrophic failure for aircraft	MCDC, DC & SC
B	hazardous/severe failure condition for aircraft	DC & SC
C	Major failure condition for aircraft	SC
D	Minor failure condition for aircraft	N/A
E	No effect on aircraft	N/A

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Lesson Three

- To have high quality code, you need high quality tools
- Tool qualification process used in Avionics to ensure that a tool provides confidence at least equivalent to processes eliminated, reduced or automated



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Golden Rule

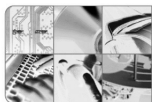
- "Automation is a great idea. To make it a good investment, as well, the secret is to think about testing first and automation second."



Bach, James: Testing Automation Snake Oil, www.satisfice.com/articles/test_automation_snake_oil.pdf

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Conclusion

Building quality into safety critical systems

- Safety critical industries publish software development guidelines seeking to ensure systems meet specific reliability objectives, and they are fail safe
- Challenge is to build-in software reliability by reducing or eliminating defects using advanced testing and analysis techniques
- Much can be learned from Software V&V Techniques used by avionics industry
- Use of Coverage Analysis early and often in development process has demonstrated significant impact on reducing defects
- Coverage Analysis does not replace other good processes and practices, but is added and integrated with them

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Not Just Aerospace ...

- A large system vendor on east coast of US introduced Coverage Analysis early and often in their development, resulting in:
 - 50% reduction in bugs found service
 - 95% reduction in system test time!
 - 23% reduction in total development time

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Questions?



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