SPIN NEWSLETTER

Software Engineering Institute — Carnegie Mellon

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SPIN
Software and Systems Process
Improvement Network

SPIN Newsletter . . . Part Two

Welcome to the second issue of the SPIN Newsletter, a quarterly publication that includes information highlighting you–the global community of SPIN members! I received good feedback from many of you on the inaugural SPIN Newsletter and I wanted to say "thank you". Please keep the recommendations and ideas coming in! If you missed the first issue of the newsletter, it can be downloaded from the Software Engineering Institute SPIN Web site at *www.sei.cmu.edu/go/spins*.

In this edition, "SPIN This" covers a great collaboration between SPINs in New York City, Boston, North Jersey, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. The interview highlights how they have been working together and the benefits they have seen. The "SPIN Spotlight" interview features the Boston SPIN. We take at look at how they are run and how they have changed over time. Lastly, the "Feature Article," is a publication by the Software Engineering Institute's Jim McHale. Jim covers the *TSP-Based CMMI Accelerated Improvement Method (TCAIM).* The TSP initiative team at the SEI, in conjunction with Tec de Monterrey, the leading technical university in Mexico, and the Mexican federal government initiative called Prosoft, have undertaken a joint project to develop and pilot a method to install the Team Software Process (TSP) in small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as the cornerstone of rapid and inexpensive implementation of CMMI-compliant processes.

As many have of you have seen over the last year, the SEI has developed a new SPIN Branding. This is the branding that you see on this newsletter. I request that all SPINs adopt this branding to show a uniform network. We can even assist in providing downloadable templates specific to your city. If you are partial to the branding your SPIN currently has I ask that you at least place the new branding somewhere on your web site. For those chapters who have already made the switch, thank you!

I hope you all have a great summer. As always, if there is anything I can do to help your SPIN, or if you have any questions regarding the work of the SEI, please contact me at the information presented on the left.

Thank you,

Shane McGraw, SEI SPIN Coordinator

SPIN This: A Unique Collaboration

By: Shane McGraw

The goal of SPIN is to have an open exchange of ideas, information, and mutual support. I could not fi nd a better example of meeting this purpose than the collaboration that takes place between a number of SPIN's in the northeastern United States. This group consists of the following SPIN Chapters: New York City, North Jersey, Boston, Philadelphia and, the most recent addition, Baltimore. Each month the SPIN leaders hold a conference call and discuss all things SPIN-related! I recently joined this monthly conference call and was really impressed with the information sharing that takes place. Through these exchanges, I have learned a lot about these chapters and hopefully they have learned a little more about the Software Engineering Institute! Below is the transcript of one conversation I sat in on with Ellen Stieve of the New York City SPIN and Jim Withall of the Boston SPIN. Jim serves as Membership Chair for Boston chapter. Ellen came up with the idea for the conference calls and has taken the lead in making sure that all participants stay connected. I would encourage and I can envision other regions following their lead and collaborating with neighboring SPIN chapters!

Shane McGraw (SM): Ellen, when and how did you come up with the idea for this collaboration?

Ellen Stieve (ES): Our collaboration began about a year and a half ago. That is about when I joined the New York City SPIN. After a few months of attending SPIN meetings, I joined the NYC SPIN executive committee. At one of our meetings, I asked our other members if we communicate with other SPIN chapters and the answer was surprisingly no. After I heard that, I said I would be happy to take the lead and I reached out to the chapters in our region. I looked at it as a way to share lessons learned. I knew we could all benefit from it. The original group was New York, North Jersey, Philadelphia and Boston. We originally had four people on the call now we have eight people attend. We also recently welcomed the Baltimore SPIN to the group.

SM: What benefits have the various SPINs seen from this collaboration?

ES: We have all shared a lot of information and our calls cover a number of topics that we all benefit from. Some examples are:

- Speakers recommendations
- How we solicit members
- How we can share common documents (like sponsorship templates)
- Webcasting
- Communication vehicles such as blogging
- Surveying our members
- Marketing our programs

Three of our SPINs (North Jersey, NYC and Philadelphia) also play a role in organizing a yearly event, the Software Process Symposium.

Lastly, I would say we share a camaraderie that we all go through a lot of similar issues and it is helpful to hear how we each address them.

SM: How is your communication arranged?

ES: Our calls are monthly because we all have our regular jobs that take most of our time. I just setup a bridge number from my organization for everyone to call in it. Sometimes our calls are 7:00 a.m. and sometimes 7:00 p.m. It just depends on our busy schedules!

SM: Jim how did you become involved in this collaboration?

Jim Withall (JW): I became aware of this collaboration at the Boston SPIN Steering Committee meeting. I stepped in for another member of our group who was representing us on the call. As the Membership Chair for the last ten years for our SPIN, it feels like a good fit for to be a part of the call.

SM: What type of information do you share?

JW: Our calls tend to focus on three important areas:

1. Programs and speakers

2. Sponsorship & funding

3. Meeting logistics

But specifically, I discuss my experiences over

the years. Examples would be how we utilize the size of our membership to potential sponsors. We currently have over 1,000 members. We also have roundtable meetings prior to our meeting presentations, so people with like interests can get together and discuss issues.

The call is helpful because we get the sense that we're not alone. We have similar interests so the information sharing on the areas I mentioned earlier is invaluable.

SM: What keeps you involved in SPIN?

JW: There are numerous things that keep me coming back. Among them are:

- Educational opportunities
- Technology changes
- A great group of people to work with
- Everything local and little to no expense
- Being a member of a professional association

SEPG℠ CONFERENCE SERIES

SEPG North America
San Jose, California
March 23–26, 2009
www.sei.cmu.edu/sepgna

SEPG Europe
Location and Dates TBD

SEPG Latin America
Mar del Plata, Argentina
November 12–14, 2008
www.esi.es/SEPGLA

SEPG Australia
Melbourne, Australia
August 18–21, 2008
www.sepgaust.com.au

SEPG North America Conference 2009 Calls for Participation

Call for Keynote Nominations

Open through August 1 2008
www.sei.cmu.edu/sepg/2008/news_2009.html

Call for Topics

Open through August 1 2008
www.sei.cmu.edu/sepg/2008/news_2009.html

Submit an Abstract

Open through August 15, 2008
www.sei.cmu.edu/sepgna

Review Abstracts

This year SPIN members selected to review abstracts will constitute the Review Board for SPIN
(formerly Program Committee Members)
Open through August 15, 2008
www.sei.cmu.edu/sepgna

SPIN Spotlight: Boston
By: Shane McGraw

In this second edition of the SPIN Spotlight, I caught up with Sean Gaines of A TurnKey Website.com, Donna Johnson of Logos International, Inc. and Michele Gross of Nuance Communication, Inc. , all committee members of the Boston Software and Systems Process Improvement Network. They discussed their roles, the history of and how their committees run the SPIN. Boston was one of the fi rst SPIN chapters established in the world. The Boston SPIN, formally chartered in 1992, set the following objectives for itself in the software community:

- Advance the quality of software.
- Improve software productivity.
- Promote software process maturity.
- Transfer software improvement knowledge and innovation to all participants.
- Share lessons learned among participants and other SPIN organizations.
- Promote cooperation between industry, academia, and government with respect to software process improvement technology.

For eighteen years, the Boston SPIN has continued to evolve and change with the times. They are a great example of how a SPIN can have longevity! I would like to thank Sean, Donna and Michelle for sharing their experiences with me. The transcript of our interview begins with Sean Gaines.

Shane McGraw (SM): What is your current role in the Boston SPIN and what responsibilities do you have?

Sean F. Gaines (SFG): I have been chair of our steering committee for the past two years. My primary responsibilities are organizing and facilitating our Steering Committee meetings. In addition, I update and present the "Welcome to Boston-SPIN" slideshow used at the opening of each of our SPIN meetings to introduce our speakers. However, as Chair, I also inherit the responsibilities of any and all positions that are not fi lled through our volunteer process. Like running a small business, the Chair has to ensure that nothing "falls through the crack". Therefore, last year I needed to assume the Sponsor Program role. This year I continued to lead our Sponsor Program, plus I inherited the Webmaster role as well.

SM: How has taking over these additional roles worked out with your other responsibilities?

SFG: Fortunately, the roles I inherited were "shoes that fit well". I found it easy to present the value of supporting Boston-SPIN to potential sponsors, and I believe my innate enthusiasm helped to close the deals. Throughout my engineering career, peers have always encouraged me to consider "moving into sales" - which is a comment that when taken out of context, could sound a bit like a back-handed compliment, coming from one engineer to another.   But they were right – I do have a natural fl air for sales, and I do enjoy being the "deal closer". In addition to some difficult negotiating to secure a continued commitment from MITRE to host our meeting, I was able to bring in new sponsors to fi ll our needs. We currently have six sponsors that support us in various ways. They are:

- Mitre (meeting space)
- Microsoft Technology Centers (fi nancial donor)
- AccuRev, Inc. (copying services)
- Domino's Pizza (food)
- Chaco Canyon Consulting (web hosting)
- Rally Software Development Corporation (fi nancial donor)

However, I think my success in this role reduced the focus of the Steering Committee to fi nd a new volunteer to take over the Sponsor Program, so I ended up having to continue the role this year as well. Then, due of the nature of the business I own (A TurnKey Website. com), when a new webmaster was needed - I couldn't resist volunteering to help with that role as well.

But of course now I ask myself: What was I thinking? I have come to the realization that the focus of the Chair position should be the delegation of duties to other volunteers. Trying to help out too much, by taking on too many roles, undermines the need to recruit new volunteers and potentially leads to an overload of responsibilities. In retrospect it seems rather obvious,

but I encourage other SPIN chapters to learn from my lesson: the Chair should focus on recruiting new volunteers and delegating responsibilities to avoid the risk of overload.

SM: What SPIN-related accomplishment(s) are you most proud of?

SFG: I would say three things:

- increasing our membership and attendance
- ensuring our financial viability
- improving our leadership's and member's morale/enthusiasm

In the beginning of this season our membership topped the 1,000 mark for the first time in our SPIN's history, and it continues to grow. Plus, our first meeting of the season was so popular that with an attendance of over 100, it was literally "standing room only" for the late arrivals.

By accepting "services in kind" from sponsors we also were able to dramatically reduce operating expenses, which has proven to be a significant factor in our financial well being. Of course we still need to recruit financial sponsors to help with things like reimbursing speakers for expenses. But, so many of our speakers offer to creatively cover their expenses themselves (as their contribution to Boston-SPIN, and for the privilege of speaking to our membership) that even that need in our budget was reduced.

I also believe that recently we were able to recognize that the success of our Boston-SPIN chapter is the direct result of the efforts from an excellent team of contributors to the Steering Committee. Repeatedly speakers have complimented us for the outstanding professionalism of our meetings and presentations. It has been nice to know that we put on a good show! My sincere appreciation goes out to all of those who helped us provide the very best to our membership.

SM: How has the Boston SPIN changed during your involvement? What improvements have you helped implement?

SFG: The only significant changes have been in what I refer to as "the packaging" of the event. Specifically, by actively recruiting a new sponsor (Domino's Pizza) I was able to help solve the "dinner dilemma" without increasing expenses. When a meeting starts at 6:00 and doesn't end until 8:30, if you don't provide food it is difficult for folks to decide between going to a meeting and eating dinner. Providing plenty of pizza at our meetings has certainly improved attendance, and morale.

I think the other difference is the style of our introduction announcements. I have tried to both entertain and empower the group with a not-so-soft reminder that SPIN is a grass-roots organization, run by volunteers. As I emphasize the perks of SPIN, networking, knowledge sharing and free pizza, I also tease the crowd by asking them "what have you done for Boston-SPIN lately". By simply asking members to help build our membership through one-on-one invitations to their peers, we have enjoyed an influx of new members at every meeting. By trying to add some humor to the introductions, and mentioning how they can go home and tell their families "I know it may be hard to believe, but I had fun at that engineering meeting" - it makes people want to come back. And most importantly – they come back with their friends, they make new friends and they get great lectures from outstanding speakers. It's a perfect package that's hard to find in too many engineering circuits. We have fun, and it shows!

SM: What was your role in the start-up of the Boston SPIN? What is your role now?

Donna Johnson (DJ): I was one of the original members of our steering committee. We had heard about SPINs at one of the early SEPG North America conferences and thought it was a great idea. So we set up a committee and picked representatives from different sectors including academia, industry (large and small, commercial and government contractor), and government (DoD)). We wanted to attract all communities. We first established a charter that has helped us with consistency over the years. It gives us something to fall back on when needed. We also chose to pursue non-profit status, which has saved us from paying taxes on our sponsor contributions. As a result, we have been able to allocate all our funds for purely SPIN activities.

Over the years, I have held numerous roles including four years as SPIN Chair, two years as Vice-Chair, and another two years as Program Chair. Currently I serve as the SEI contact for the SPIN.

SM: How have you seen the Boston SPIN evolve over the years?

DJ: SPIN started out very differently than it is today. There was a heavier load on volunteers because we had to physically do the networking ourselves to spread the word about SPIN, and we had to coordinate our activities one-on-one via telephone – there was no widespread web/internet usage to advertise and no email to reach the membership or to conduct committee business. We posted meeting notices in area companies and advertised meetings in the local IEEE newsletter and other professional venues. Our original membership list was built through word of mouth. Now we have more than 1,000 members with two email mailing lists. One is our membership list which we use strictly for our meeting announcements and the other is "SPIN Plus". This list contains the members who want to be contacted about events outside

of Boston SPIN meetings. Also, we started with only two sponsors: GTE (now General Dynamics) provided all the resources for us (food, meeting space, reproduction, mailings, staff support), and Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom Air Force Base provided financial sponsorship. Now we have six sponsors that enable us to provide even more services to our members.

SM: Donna, since you have been involved with the Boston SPIN for a number of years, what advice would you have for a new SPIN chapter?

DJ: I would offer a few things:

- Be consistent with your meeting time and location. This allows people to book their schedule ahead of time.

- Look for conferences coming to your city. It is a chance to tap into a pool of well-known speakers.

- Think about taking the summer months off. Warm, summer-like weather affects meeting attendance as much as bad weather does.

- Our elected officials serve on a yearly basis so we have a summer dinner meeting for the outgoing and incoming committee members. It is a good way to pass the torch for the next year.

- Have greeters at your meetings. Greeters can locate new people and make them feel welcome. Approximately, 30% of the people attending our meetings each month are new, so encouraging them to return is important.

- Lastly, offer free refreshments (if you can afford them)!

SM: After sixteen years, why do you stay involved in SPIN?

DJ: SPIN holds a special place for me because I was involved in its inception. We had a great group of volunteers when we started, and we continued to work closely together for another two years to plan for the 1995 SEPG North America conference, which Boston SPIN hosted. SPIN keeps me plugged into the process improvement community and up-to-date with industry trends.

SM: Are your speakers mostly local or national?

Michelle Gross (MG): Most of our speakers are local to the Boston area. We are fortunate to be located near several high-quality educational institutions, and we also have an active community of high-technology workers. From time to time, we host a speaker from out of town. These are usually well known speakers, who may be published, or speak frequently at industry conferences.

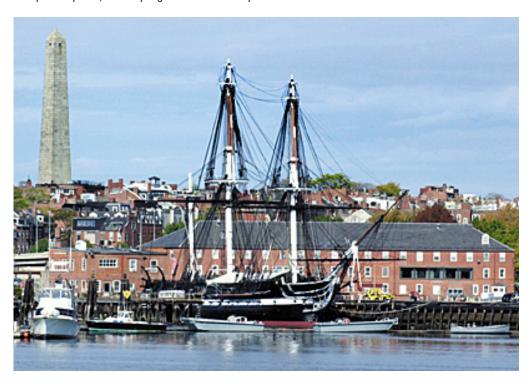**SM:** What are some of the Boston SPIN's most popular meeting topics?

MG: I try to find speakers with diverse backgrounds to present at our meetings, to avoid repetition of topics and trendy subject matter. I attempt to find a "good" speaker rather than a "good" topic. A good speaker will keep the crowd engaged and make them want to return to hear other speakers. We try to stay informed about hot topics in process improvement and software development, and seek out speakers who can address those topics. During my term as Program Chairperson, SPIN has hosted speakers on Agile development, Project Management (PMI), RUP, Multi-model Usage and Software Configuration Management, among others. We try to represent many different points of view and philosophies, so our program offers variety and attracts a broad and diversified audience.

SM: How do you recruit a speaker?

MG: Often I hear about speakers from fellow SPIN members and others in our industry. The reputation of SPIN has helped. When I ask someone to speak at a SPIN meeting, many speakers mention they are already familiar with what SPIN is and are excited to have the opportunity to join us. It also happens that speakers approach us and offer to speak. If we request a speaker who must travel a distance to join us, we will usually cover travel expenses; if a speaker requests to speak, they will most likely cover their own costs. Boston hosts a number of national conferences, and I try to line up speakers while they are here already giving other presentations. We have been fortunate to find a number of high-quality speakers, and we rarely experience low periods of interest or lack of inquiry.

SM: How far in advance do your plan your meeting topics?

MG: We attempt to schedule the program for the next year about half way through the current season. By the time the season resumes in the fall, most speaking engagements are filled. In September, people can check the calendar on our website to see programs scheduled for the year ahead.

Feature Article:
By: James McHale

TSP-Based CMMI Accelerated Improvement Method (TCAIM)

James McHale is a Senior Member of the Technical Staff at Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute. Prior to joining the SEI in 1999, Mr. McHale spent more than 20 years in industry as a software engineer, software architect, team leader, and manager in automated control systems of such diverse applications as transportation, steel processing, robotics, electrical power control and distribution, and computer music. He currently teaches Introduction to CMMI and the entire range of Personal Software Process (PSP) and Team Software Process (TSP) classes for SEI, and also is a candidate SCAMPI Lead Appraiser. Currently he is leading a team that is developing guidance for small- and medium-sized organizations to use the TSP as the core technology for achieving CMMI maturity level 3 reliably within 18 months.

The TSP initiative team at the SEI, in conjunction with Tec de Monterrey, the leading technical university in Mexico, and the Mexican federal government initiative called Prosoft, have undertaken a joint project to develop and pilot a method to install the Team Software Process (TSP) in small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as the cornerstone of rapid and inexpensive implementation of CMMI-compliant processes. The project's name, TSP-Based CMMI Accelerated Improvement Method (TCAIM), points towards its clear goal – to install TSP in a SME and successfully complete a SCAMPI appraisal at CMMI ML3 in 18 months. This article will give you some background on the project and where it is headed.

History

The average time for organizations to move from CMMI ML1 to ML3 is approximately 38 months, about 19 months per individual maturity level, assuming that CMMI implementation resembles the last-published figures for the SW-CMM published in March 2006.[1] Even those numbers were a vast improvement from the early days of the SW-CMM (pre-1992), when it took 39 or 40 months on average to move between adjacent maturity levels. However there doesn't seem to be a lot of room to improve on those numbers using conventional improvement approaches.

In the latter days of SW-CMM, three independent groups at the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) had the idea to use TSP as the basis of their improvement efforts. Since a majority of CMM practices specify (as do CMMI practices today) what development teams should do, and TSP is in many ways simply a self-consistent, proven high-performance instantiation of those practices,[2] it seemed to those groups that implementing TSP on those teams would save a lot of time and effort that might otherwise be invested in addressing the balance of their target practice profile (in all cases, SW-CMM ML3). In addition, two of the three groups had the brainstorm that TSP project management practices could also apply to the work of the process group itself. So after suitable training, those groups spent about a week "launching"

their process groups with the express purpose of addressing those ML3 practices not already addressed by TSP or other existing organizational practices.

The results were remarkable. All three groups, the System Support Activities (SSAs) for AV-8B, P-3C, and E-2C, exceeded their ML3 goal by achieving SW-CMM ML4 – and all in less than 36 months. By comparison, the average times between levels adds up to 52 months in the CMM Maturity Profile. Also, they did this while exceeding all regular performance expectations. (Two of these three organizations are described in reference 3.)

This all occurred as the SW-CMM was going into the sunset and being replaced by CMMI. SEI produced a TSP-CMMI mapping[3] similar to the one used successfully by the NAVAIR teams back in 2004,[4] but organizations new to TSP, especially smaller ones similar to those that the Mexican government has targeted for assistance, often struggle to make the connections to CMMI. At least part of the reason for this may be that the vast majority of CMMI success examples publicly available are from successful large organizations, leaving a vacuum that SMEs have difficulty in filling.

Taking AIM at Rapid CMMI-Based Improvement

The approach for TCAIM work resembles a common "conventional improvement approach":

- Perform a CMMI ML3 gap-analysis on the proposed approach, similar to a SCAMPI C with heavy emphasis on artifacts that is not present in existing mappings

- Generate process improvement proposals (PIPs) that characterize the gap and propose potential solutions

- Develop proposed solutions, including implementation guidance

- Review the proposed solutions and verify that they meet the CMMI intent

- Pilot the solutions

- Evaluate pilot project results and update

Note that CMMI maturity levels 4 and 5 are not a specific goal for this project, at least for the short term. While some organizations consider higher maturity a differentiator, for instance during competitive commercial situations where the minimum requirement is ML3, TSP has its own impressive body of evidence,[5, 6] that indicates that individual projects can achieve high performance without necessarily needing a high maturity organizational appraisal. However because it focuses almost exclusively on projects, TSP practices sometimes have difficulty surviving organizational stresses (changing managers, reorganizations, etc.) unless institutionalized by CMMI or some other strong organizational process management framework.

Having a "standard" TSP-based implementation for CMMI has many potential benefits, some of which may not be apparent upon initial consideration. For instance, one of the traditional issues with CMMI implementation in SMEs is the cost of formal SCAMPI appraisals. While the development of SCAMPI B- and C-class appraisals has helped this situation somewhat, it can still be cost-prohibitive to do an early SCAMPI-C to vet an approach, with a mid-term SCAMPI-B to verify implementation, and finally a SCAMPI-A to confirm a maturity level. However by developing a standard set of artifacts with a practice-by-practice mapping to CMMI (sometimes called the PIID or process implementation indicator document), both preparation effort and on-site time should be greatly reduced, and allow the SCAMPI appraisal team to operate close to an ideal verification appraisal mode rather than having to perform expensive discovery of artifacts.

Another non-obvious benefit of the TCAIM approach derives from using the NAVAIR-piloted idea to run the process improvement effort itself as a TSP project. This project typically kicks off ("launches" in TSP terms) sometime after the initial development project TSP pilots in an organization. TSP does not completely replace an organization's existing practices, but rather figures out how to fit itself around and into that existing system. This process discovers process implementation issues quickly and in terms that readily define what an acceptable solution looks like. Many engineering process groups (EPGs), even with the aid of a competent internal or external consultant, have spent weeks and months thrashing over dozens of such questions sometimes without even agreeing on which ones to do first. The TSP EPG begins its life with a targeted set of real-world issues and an idea of what the solutions will look like. This usually leads to huge cycle-time improvement in terms of being ready for an appraisal event like a SCAMPI-A or -B.

Another benefit of the TCAIM approach, arguably the most important one, is that TSP produces measurable, significant performance improvements on development projects starting with the very first project. The following references, which can be found at the TSP website (www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp) along with many presentations from SEPG and CMMI conferences, cite many hard examples of improved productivity, cycle time, and quality, and perhaps just as many softer examples of improved morale, attitude, and personnel retention.

Summary

When an organization consistently delivers to its customers a fully-functional product with very few defects, on-time and while staying within its own budget – that seems like a good recipe for business success. TSP teams make this happen on individual projects. CMMI installs and sustains such best practices across an organization. Combining these technologies into a seamless package that can be rapidly implemented by the small-to-medium-sized organization is the goal that we have taken aim at with TCAIM.

References

1 – March 2006 SW-CMM Process Maturity Profile. (*http://www.sei.cmu.edu/appraisal-program/profile/pdf/SW-CMM/2006marSwCMM.pdf*)
2 – Relating the Team Software Process (TSP) to the Capability Maturity Model for Software (SW-CMM), CMU/SEI-2002-TR-008. (*http://www.sei.cmu.edu/pub/documents/02.reports/pdf/02tr008.pdf*)
3 – Mapping TSP to CMMI, CMU/SEI-2004-TR-024. (*http://www.sei.cmu.edu/pub/documents/04.reports/pdf/04tr014.pdf*)
4 – Case Study: Accelerating Process Improvement by Integrating the TSP and CMMI. (*http://www.sei.cmu.edu/pub/documents/05.reports/pdf/05sr012.pdf*)
5 – The Team Software Process (TSP): An Overview and Preliminary Results of Using Disciplined Practices, CMU/SEI-2000-TR-015. (*http://www.sei.cmu.edu/pub/documents/00.reports/pdf/00tr015.pdf*)
6 – The Team Software Process (TSP) in Practice: A Summary of Recent Results, CMU/SEI-2003-TR-014. (*http://www.sei.cmu.edu/pub/documents/03.reports/pdf/03tr014.pdf*)

If you have any questions concerning this article, Jim McHale can be contacted at: *jdm@sei.cmu.edu*

TSP SYMPOSIUM 2008

3rd Annual Software Engineering Institute (SEI) Team Software Process (TSP) Symposium

September 22–25, 2008 • Hilton Phoenix East/Mesa, Mesa, Arizona

www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp/symposium.html

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Ivette García, Directora General Adjunta de Economía Digital de Mexico
Watts Humphrey, SEI Fellow • **Jim Sartain**, Senior Director of Software Quality from Adobe Systems

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Team Software Process (TSP) Important Web sites

Introducing into an Organization: *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp/introducing.html*

Getting Started: *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp/get-started.html*

Publications: *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp/publications.html*

Training: *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp/training.html*

SEI Membership | Carnegie Mellon

Did you know that as an active SPIN participant, you can receive a $200 discount on SEI Membership?

SEI Membership brings together an extraordinary peer group of individuals from government, industry, and academia who help define the cutting edge in software engineering. By taking advantage of SEI news and information, courses, videos, and networking and collaboration opportunities, our members are the f irst to learn about high-payoff software engineering technology and practices.

- Unparalleled connection to the SEI
- Receive the latest publications and news from the SEI
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- Discounts on registration for the SEPG Conference Series - the premier global conference series on software and systems process managementOur 2,000 SEI members receive all of these benefits, and much more.

Our 2,000 SEI members receive all of these benefits, and much more.

The SEI is the only one of the United States' 37 Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) that offers membership to the public. As an active SPIN Member, you can receive all the benefits for only $150 (with a $200 yearly renewal). Contact the SEI's SPIN Coordinator, Mr. Shane McGraw (*spin@sei.cmu.edu*), to confirm your eligibility for this discount. Take advantage of this unique opportunity!

Visit: *www.sei.cmu.edu/membership* for more information on SEI Membership and join today!

Process Improvement and SPIN-related Web Sites

SPIN Directory (US): *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/collaborating/spins/spins.us.active.html*

SPIN Directory (International): *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/collaborating/spins/spins.intl.active.html*

SPIN Meeting Calendar: *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/collaborating/spins/calendar.html*

SPIN WIKI: *http://seispin.wikispaces.com/*

SEPG Conference Series: *http://www.sei.cmu.edu/sepg/index.html*

Scribd CMMI Group: *http://www.scribd.com/groups/view/5679-cmmi*

CMMI Yahoo Discussion Group: *http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/cmmi_process_improvement/*

Software Engineering Information Repository: *https://seir.sei.cmu.edu/seir/*

BSCW Shared Workspace: *https://bscw.sei.cmu.edu/pub/bscw.cgi/0/79783*

Interested in Starting or Joining a SPIN?

How do I start a SPIN?

The SEI can help you find others in your region, start a planning committee, and support your development of a charter. Visit www.sei.cmu.edu/go/spins, and click "Start a SPIN."

How do I join an existing SPIN?

Visit www.sei.cmu.edu/go/spins. Under "Directory of SPINs," you can view lists of U.S. and international SPINs. Contact the point of contact listed for your local SPIN to get more information.

SEI Webinar Series for the SPIN Community

As the SPIN Coordinator for the SEI, I would like to increase the number of SEI staff presenting to the SPIN community. Travel costs and time often deter our staff from getting out to SPIN's; so, we have decided to purchase a webinar provider. This tool will allow us to provide web-based lectures or seminars to our 129 SPIN chapters simultaneously without leaving the office. This tool will also allow us to tailor presentations to meet your chapter's specific needs.

In May, I held a demonstration showing the webinar capabilities for a number of you and I believe we all saw great value in this technology. We will start offering two webinars a month on our various technologies. These meetings will be open to anyone in your SPIN chapter. Also, each presentation will be recorded and made available on the *SPIN Wiki* for playback at any time. If you miss one and would like the file just let me know.

Look for a calendar of webinar dates and times coming from the SEI soon.

Please contact me at *spin@sei.cmu.edu* if you have a question or would like to schedule a webinar for your SPIN.