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President's Note



IFPUG is driven by people – both members and non-members. Whether you are a member or non-member

we are connected through the common thread of software measurement which binds us together into a community. The backbone of our community is the volunteers who maintain and administer the programs that have made IFPUG the premier software measurement association. Our volunteers are truly international coming from almost all continents and all types of organizations (corporate, academia, government and consulting), a true patchwork quilt.

Because IFPUG is driven by volunteers, each volunteer has a chance to make his or her mark on the organization. By making their mark they have the ability to reap the benefits of involvement both in terms of altruism (giving back to the metrics community) and well as greater

opportunities to meet and network with others in our field. At the same time, the effort of our volunteers has a synergistic impact on our organization. The Certified Function Point Specialist (CFPS) and Certified Software Measurement Specialist (CSMS) programs are two examples of the programs created and maintained by IFPUG volunteers.

Once upon a time I heard someone say that IFPUG was clique'ish, that it was hard to get involved and meet people. While I do not think it was true then, I know it is not true now. Get involved; volunteer (see the website for a volunteer form). IFPUG is about the people in the software measurement world, you are part of that community. Step right up, there is plenty of room at the table.

Upcoming Events

- **2006 International Software Measurement & Analysis (ISMA) Conference, sponsored by IFPUG**
September 10-15, San Diego, CA
[Click Here for Workshop Agenda!](#)
[Click Here for Conference Agenda!](#)
[Click Here to Register!](#)



- **Certified Function Point Specialist Exam**

**September 11, 8:00 am,
San Diego, CA**

**September 12, 8:00 am,
San Diego, CA**

- **Certified Software Measurement Specialist Exam**

**September 10, 6:00 pm,
San Diego, CA**

**September 11, 11:00 am,
San Diego, CA**

2006 Functional Sizing Summit Report

The first ever Functional Sizing Summit, sponsored by the International Function Point Users Group (IFPUG), opened to great fanfare on the morning of March 28, 2006 on the banks of the Charles River in Cambridge, Massachusetts. IFPUG President Mauricio Aguiar welcomed participants who had traveled from across the United States as well as Brazil, Denmark, Italy, Pakistan, Finland, Austria, Canada, and Korea. Mr. Aguiar encouraged everyone to enjoy themselves while taking full advantage of the unique learning experiences available during this event. He also introduced two new Committee Chairs – Pam Simonovich of the Education Committee, and Deborah Harris of the Conference Committee.

The opening seminars were IFPUG Vice President Tom Cagley's "Turning Perfectly Good Words Into Numbers" and Total Metrics President Pam Morris' "Would You Survive a Function Point Audit?" Tom

brought us back to the days of diagramming sentences, and applying that methodology to creating an initial stab at estimating function points at the early requirements stage. He also provided the opportunity for those with the Certified Function Point Specialist (CFPS) achievement to gain certification extension credits (CEC). Pam shared the 'Terms-of-Reference' that need to be in place before a function point audit starts to ensure that suppliers are not unfairly assessed and clients receive what they paid for.

These discussions were followed by Dr. Charley Tichenor's "The Management Science of Function Point Analysis" and Raymond Boehm's "Measuring Software Size Without Function Points." Charley, an Operations Research Analyst at the Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, mapped statistical concepts to function point analysis for those who are new to this measure. Raymond, founder of Software Composition Technologies, presented several alternative sizing methods, including use cases, application and object points, and other internet and web-related measures.

A quick lunch of sandwiches and salad followed the inaugural seminars. The host facility, Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cambridge, Massachusetts provided those attending the FSS with a view of the Charles River. With temperatures that were unusually mild for March in New England, participants enjoyed catching a glimpse of crew teams and other water sport enthusiasts during the break.



The afternoon began with Luca Santillo's "Counting Function Points for Websites – Known Issues and New Guidelines" and Jeffrey Gordon's "A UML Approach to Estimate Total Effort for Programming or Database Software Projects." Luca's self-explanatory presentation was also CEC-qualified. Jeff's talk introduced Interaction Points, which is UML-based and derived from function points.

Dwayne Pepper's "Applications of Statistical Thinking in Function Point Usage" illustrated the corporate cultural nuances that surface when introducing function point-based process monitoring and how this intersects with the widespread value of understanding data via statistical thinking. While Bill Hufschmidt's "Outsourcing, Insourcing, Offshoring: Sizing for Survival" demonstrated how companies can save via offshore outsourcing, how companies have used sizing metrics to influence decisions, and the framework that can be constructed to ask the right questions, collect the right data quickly, and how to report it.

The afternoon ended with Saad Abrar Khan's demonstration of supporting better software development project management in his "Automated Sizing for Effort Estimation" presentation followed by Royce Edward's "Function Point Counting Patterns." Royce taught attendees about patterns and pattern languages, how to leverage pattern-related work that has already been done in the software community to produce faster and more consistent counts, and

how to develop function point counting patterns for their organizations.

Fellow functional sizers started Wednesday as seasoned FSS-ers, after spending a full first day in several workshops, and the evening enjoying dinner and other evening activities in nearby Harvard Square, Central Square, or venturing out into nearby Boston.

David Garmus of The David Consulting Group presented "Function Points Assist in Managing Development Costs" providing new metrics on average hours per function point of enhancement projects and average support provided for corrective maintenance per FTE. Christine Green presented "Mindmapping – the Perfect Match to Function Points & Requirements Gathering," introducing Tony Buzan's concept of note-taking utilizing only key words and images, applying it to whiteboard documentation with clients.

The Birds of Feather discussion forums consisted of five groups, on the following topics: Project Governance (Pam Morris), Code Data (Bonnie Brown), Counting Web Applications (Sherry Ferrell), Importance of Benchmark Data (Dave Garmus), and (Carol Dekkers). Summit attendees selected a topic of interest, and participated in a facilitated discussion.

Rather than having a vendor showcase, summit organizers offered company sponsorships of the two tracks. Q/P Management Group, Inc. sponsored Track A on both Tuesday and Wednesday, while Total Metrics sponsored Track B on Tuesday. During Wednesday's lunch,



Pam Morris of Total Metrics raffled a bottle of Australian wine. The winner was Traci Thompson from United Space Alliance, who quickly gained several new friends wanting to share the bottle of cabernet.

Wednesday afternoon began with another CEC-qualified presentation – Bonnie Brown's "Framework for Functional Sizing." Bonnie, of the IFPUG Counting Practices Committee, provided an overview of the document of the same name and Don Beckett's "Function Points for Estimating: Strengths and Weaknesses." Don expounded on the estimating conundrum (cost/effort, schedule, and functionality) and the effects of trade-off scenarios with respect to functional size variation.

Up next were Carol Dekkers' "Estimating before Requirements – Functional Size Shortcuts Lead the Way" and Sergio de Quintal Brigido's CEC-qualified "Function Point Audit Guidelines." Carol presented several heuristics that may be used to "guesstimate" size before determining functional requirements. Sergio showed participants a set of guidelines that can be used when auditing, or validating a function point count in order to reduce the level of uncertainty and variance associated with using different counters.

The final presentations of the Functional Sizing Summit were Pekka Forselius' "Faster and More Accurate Functional Size Measurement by KISS – Keeping It Simple" and David Herron's "Function Point Lite – Is It a Statistically Valid Method of Counting." Pekka, of the Software Technology Transfer Finland Oy,

shared the results of a study in which one can quickly measure software size using a limited set of rules that is consistent as an effort barometer. David, of the David Consulting Group, provided the results of a study determining the statistical variability and effort differential between conducting a full count and using the Function Point Lite™ approach.

The Summit closed with remarks from Mauricio Aguiar, thanking all presenters, participants, and organizers. As promised, this was an especially interactive event, in which audience members fully engaged with speakers on hot topics in the functional measurement arena. Mauricio invited all to return, when we host the Second Functional Sizing Summit in Vancouver, British Columbia in Spring 2007!

But, hopefully we won't have to wait a full year to reconvene. We'd love to see you at our First Annual International Software Measurement and Analysis (ISMA) Conference, September 10 – 15, 2006 in San Diego, California, USA! The conference will feature keynote speakers Watts Humphrey and Manfred Bundschuh, and a first-time workshop/keynote presentation combo by Stephen Few. For more information, please visit our website at www.ifpug.org.

IFPUG in India

An initiative to create a chapter of India Function Point User's Group was kick-started in December 2005 at Chennai. Various organizations were contacted and five of them evinced keen interest in taking this forward. These include



Electronic Data Systems, Polaris Software Labs Limited, iNautix Technologies India Private Limited, Tata Consultancy Services and Cognizant Technology Solutions. The project plans for the chapter are currently under review. Work is on to set up an internet site for the chapter and register this body as a formal society in India. The first event of the chapter would be conducting of the CFPS exam at Chennai on June 17th. Proctors for this exam would be from the organizations that have volunteered as the members.

New IFPUG Chapter in Spain

With the major objective to promote function point utilization a new IFPUG chapter was created in Spain, Spanish Function Point Users Group (SFPUG). Members of several Universities and companies are joining this chapter. Chapter's president, Juan J. Cuadrado Gallego, is based on Madrid at Universidad de Alcalá. At this moment the chapter is working in organizing the first CFPS exam in Spain. If you want to have more information about SFPUG please visit : <http://www.uhu.es/sfpug/>.

From the Management Reporting Committee...

In case you haven't heard the news, the Management Reporting Committee (MRC) announced the first recipients of the Certified Software Measurement Specialist at the Spring Workshops in Cambridge. Despite attempts by Katrina to derail the rollout of the CSMS, the first six certifications were declared, some

within a day of candidates passing the exam. This inaugural class of CSMS achievers are:

Barbara Beech	Bill Hufschmidt
Heidi Belkofer	Janet Russac
Joe Schofield	Shari Cartwright

The MRC is especially grateful to IFPUG members in Italy who spent months translating the Guidelines to Software Measurement and the CSMS exam. The CSMS exam was offered in Italy in May and successful candidates notified to proceed with their "packet" creation. Similar translation efforts are underway in Brazil.

The MRC is sponsoring additional CSMS exam offerings at the ISMA Conference in San Diego, and, will be reviewing packets for those candidates that have already passed the exam portion of this two-step certification. Heidi Belkofer, Barbara Beech, Betsy Clark, Dawn Coley, Bill Hufschmidt, Greg Allen, John Sautter, Al Hoefler, and I (Joe Schofield) look forward to seeing you in September. Check the Conference agenda to locate a convenient time to take the exam and any potential preparatory classes. All current published information concerning the new certification process can be found at <http://www.ifpug.org/certification/csms.htm>.

The MRC wishes you a safe and productive summer until we see you at the ISMA Conference.

Counting Practices Committee

Staffing Changes

Valerie Marthaler (USA, The David Consulting Group) resigned as Chair of



the CPC. She joined the committee in 1998 and has been the longest serving CPC chair ever (1999-2006). Under her leadership the CPC released CPM 4.2 (2004), updated Case Studies, and produced a large number of papers (on Code Data, Logical Files, Shared Data, Enhancements, and the Uniqueness of Elementary Processes/Multiple Media). Valerie continues to serve as a member on the CPC.

The IFPUG Board of Directors nominated Adri Timp (Netherlands, Interpay) as new Chair, and Bonnie Brown (USA, EDS) as Vice Chair. Adri has been on the CPC since 1994; Bonnie since 2000.

The CPC is pleased that Peter Thomas (United Kingdom, IBM) has recently become a new member on the committee. The other members of the CPC are Jay Fischer (USA, JRF Consulting), David Garmus (USA, The David Consulting Group), Martin d'Souza (New Zealand), Eddy van Vliet (Netherlands, York International).

Accomplishments

May 25 thru June 1, 2006 the CPC met in Detroit, Michigan. The CPC has made considerable progress in transforming part 1 of the CPM (which contains the Rules and Procedures) into the editorial format required by ISO. Although significant progress has been made, there is still much work to be done in this process.

Further the CPC finalized the paper Elementary Process Complexity rules. This paper describes the DET and FTR rules in a more generic way resulting in

consistent DET and FTR rules across all transactional function types (EI, EO, EQ). Existing DET Rules will be used as examples to illustrate specific items that can be counted as DETs. This change results in a simplification of the rules, but will have no impact on the complexity of the associated transactions. The paper is not intended to be published separately, but the results will be incorporated into the new CPM.

The CPC has completed its analysis of the feedback the IFPUG membership provided in December 2005/January 2006 on "Practical Guidelines for Identifying Unique Elementary Processes", addressing, among other subjects, the multiple media issue (i.e., don't count extra functions when there are more physical involved for a transaction). In general the feedback on this paper was very positive and is being used to clarify the paper in preparation for inclusion in the CPM. According to the CPM Update Process, the next step is to perform an impact study. Within a couple of weeks IFPUG members will be receiving a letter asking for volunteers to participate in the impact study. At the upcoming 2006 Annual Conference, the CPC plans to deliver a presentation on the final proposal which will initiate the formal beginning of the impact study. The results of the impact study will be communicated in the next version of the CPM, when the results become a formal part of the CPM.

