Multiple Media Update

Mary Bradley, Multiple Media Study Group Chair

The Multiple Media Study Group (MMSG) held our most recent meeting in Las Vegas in September. The group is a highly qualified, well-rounded representation of the issues involving multiple media and consists of Chris Kohnz, Martin D’Souza, Steve Keim, Robyn Lawrie, Bill Ravensberg and is led by Mary Bradley.

Recently Ian Brown resigned from the Group and all of us are grateful to Ian for all his hard work in forming the group and developing the original project plan.

Currently the group is working toward creating a Study to help IFPUG understand the issues and impact of the different views of counting multiple media. We are defining Study goals, determining requirements, and planning the strategy of distribution.

Once the Study is prepared, we will be sending a request to all CFPSs to participate. We will also be looking for volunteers to translate the Study from English to make it easier for non-English speakers.

Some of the things we will want to know are how you count multiple media now, what impact the Counting Practices Committee Multiple Media Guidelines Paper will have on your counts, and business purpose you use your counts for, in addition to some questions about you, your counting experience, and your organization.

If you are interested in being a translator for the Multiple Media Study, or have any questions about the effort, please contact Mary Bradley at MSB2@compuserve.com. Please make sure to put “MMSG” in the subject line.

Members of the Certification and New Environments Committees are currently helping the MMSG develop questions that will help determine the impact on each participant’s counting with and without using the CPC Multiple Media Guidelines Paper.

The planned completion date for the Study is Spring 2008. It is our intent to keep you informed and involved every step of the way.
Another IFPUG election has come and gone. If you are a voting member and passed up the chance to vote, you missed a chance to help determine the future of IFPUG. The Board wishes to thank all those who ran for the Board, all who submitted nominations, and all the voting members for participating in the election process.

This year a slate of eight well-qualified candidates was nominated by the membership to fill five openings on the Board.

President Mauricio Aguiar was pleased to announce the results of the 2007 Board of Directors election at the ISMA Conference in Las Vegas at the Annual Meeting on September 13, 2007.

Mary Dale (Q/P Management), Bruce Rogora (Pershing), Loredana Frallicciardi (CSC ITALIA) and Mary Bradley (MSB2) were reelected to the Board. Joseph Schofield (Sandia National Las) was elected to his first term. Board members serve a term of three years.

During the Board’s annual meeting Bruce Rogora was elected to serve as Vice President. IFPUG’s 2007 – 2008 Board will be composed of:

- Thomas Cagley – President
- Bruce Rogora – Vice President
- Mauricio Aguiar – Immediate Past President
- Mary Dale – Treasurer
- Chris Kohnz – Secretary and Director, Communications and Marketing
- Loredana Frallicciardi – Director, Applied Programs
- Joseph Schofield – Director, Conference and Education
- Mary Bradley – Director, Counting Standards
- Marcio Silveira – Director, International / Organizational Affairs

Regrettably, Ian Brown (Secretary and Director, Communications and Marketing) did not run for re-election and will be leaving the Board this year.

The Board members will assume their new positions November 1, 2007. All of the Board members who are taking on new positions started training for their new responsibilities immediately after the election results were announced.

Contact information for Board members is on the IFPUG website.
### Software Industry Events

November 1, 8, 13, 15, and 29  **Software Best Practices Conferences**  Multiple Locations  [www.itmpi.org](http://www.itmpi.org)

November 12-15  **National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) CMMI Technology Conference and User Group**  Denver, CO  [www.ndia.org](http://www.ndia.org)

November 12-16  **International Conference on Software Process Improvement (ICSPI)**  Orlando, FL  [www.icspi.com](http://www.icspi.com)

November 12-16  **Quality Assurance Institute (QAI) Annual Software Testing Conference**  Orlando, FL  [www.qaiworldwide.org](http://www.qaiworldwide.org)

#### November 2007

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- NDIA CMMI User Conference
  - Denver, CO  [www.ndia.org](http://www.ndia.org)
- ICSPI Annual Conference
  - Orlando, FL  [www.icspi.com](http://www.icspi.com)
- QAI Testing Conference
  - Orlando, FL
- Software BP Conference
  - Fort Lauderdale, FL

#### December 2007

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- December 3-6  **Better Software Agile Development Practices**  Orlando, FL  [www.sqe.com/agiledevpractices](http://www.sqe.com/agiledevpractices)
Counting On You

The focus is of this section is Q&A on function point counting or measurement issues, helpful hints on counting function points, or other helpful tips and hints from the world of software measurement and function points.

IFPUG relies on YOU, the IFPUG community, for this content (yet another way for you to participate)! So if you have something you’d like to share or questions you would like answered, send them to CMC@ifpug.org.

How to Handle Validation?

There are two questions here, both are related to entry validation when maintaining information: 1. (Parcel management) User requirement specifies that a parcel ID (bar code) should be numeric and satisfy some rules such as odd-even validation. So in the Add Parcel external input, there will be a validation for parcel ID when a user enters parcel ID either by hand input or by bar code scan. 2. When adding a parcel, the employee who collected the parcel will be entered as field of the parcel information. When employee ID, another field, is input, the system will execute an query to validate the employee. Should this be an implied EQ?

In Response to Validation

In both instances you are talking about the same transaction, an EI, which is adding a parcel. As part of that process the business requires that you validate the barcode, and the ID of the employee who collected the parcel.

All of this checking and any other validation, calculation, and updating that the process must do to satisfy the business rules associated with adding a parcel are all part of a single transaction, the EI.

The retrieval of the validation information is a function of the EI. You do not have any EO’s or EQ’s in this instance, implied or otherwise.

Validation Response Validated

All validation that are part of the data entry are counted as part of the data entry functionality. You don’t count the validations separately.

So parcel ID validation is part of the entry screen. Same holds good for the employee ID validation.

None of them are implied EQ.

Editor’s Note: What the analyst likely has here is an additional file type referenced (FTR) to the Add Parcel input transaction.
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- Design & Architecture
- Development & Deployment
- Test & Evaluation
- Process Improvement
- Measurement & Reporting
- Configuration Management
- Defect Tracking
- Security

StickyMinds.com
Our IFPUG Workshops and the 2nd Annual International Software Measurement & Analysis Conference were held at the Flamingo Las Vegas September 9-14, 2007. The conference portion of the program officially opened with keynote speaker Stephen Few, Principal, Perceptual Edge with “Show me the Numbers” to a full house. Stephen was first scheduled to join us in New Orleans, cancelled because of Hurricane Katrina; he then graciously agreed to join us in 2006. As many of you know, a medical emergency caused Stephen to cancel last year. The third time was obviously the charm! Almost every single feedback form we received said, “Well worth waiting for!” Other comments on Stephen’s presentation... “Great speaker, good topic, valuable information.” “Very strong performance and message. I will use many of these tips.” “A well-organized, informative and entertaining presentation - one of the best in years!”

Wrapping up the featured speaker lineup was the fabulous Ms. Sabrina Jackson, Sabrina Jackson Enterprises. Sabrina brought us True Colors. The conference abstract read, “Prepare to laugh and learn a lot!” What an understatement! Sabrina’s lively, engaging personality and thought-provoking messages literally brought the house down. Even though this was her second time with us, it is abundantly clear that she will always be welcomed back with open arms. This says it the best, “Beyond excellent. As wonderful the second time as the first. Thank you!”

In addition to our keynote and featured presenters, we had the privilege of hosting 24 fantastic speakers who covered a variety of topics including function point analysis, metrics, software estimation, process improvement and project management. For those of you who had the misfortune of missing the live event, CDs of the conference proceedings are available through contacting the IFPUG office at 609-799-4900 or ifpug@ifpug.org.

We want to thank the following sponsors and exhibitors for their continued support. Charismatek Software Metrics Pty, Ltd., Prometric, David Consulting Group and Q/P Management Group and Ti Metricas, Ltda.

Third time’s a charm as Stephen Few shows us the numbers

This year’s keynote speakers at the ISMA Conference brought tremendous value, insight, and fun to the attendees.

Deborah Harris, Conference Committee Chair

ISMA attendees listen to Rick Hefner with rapt attention.

Tania Skinner receives DCG’s award for Best Paper at ISMA.
Committees at Work

IFPUG could not exist or succeed without the hard-working, dedicated volunteers that make up our various committees. We do not always see everything these committees do, so this section is intended to provide some insight into current activities.

Conference Committee


Yes, we are starting early! As a matter of fact, we are excited to announce that Capers Jones has already accepted our invitation to deliver the keynote address in DC.

Along with our keynote and featured speakers, our attendees tell us that they want to hear “real world” challenges, opportunities and successes from people like them, people from a variety of industries and segments of the user community that are willing to share their stories. For instance…Do you have what could be considered a unique set of applications that challenged your ability to apply the IFPUG counting guidelines? Have you overcome resistance to implementing a measurement program in your organization? Do you have a CTO that values and supports your measurement and analysis efforts that can teach others how to gain that same type of support? Has your company strived for and achieved a particular CMMI Level? If so, how did you do it? Have you utilized a method of estimating software projects that has been especially successful?

If you have answered yes to any one of these questions, you have a story that should be told at the ISMA Conference in DC. Look for the Call for Participation the week of October 22 and submit your abstract via the online collection form.

Education Committee

For as long as I can remember, IFPUG has held two events each year—one in the fall and one in the spring. In recent years the fall event has hosted both the workshops and the annual conference, while the spring has mainly featured IFPUG workshops (although the past two years also introduced the Functional Sizing Summit). Unfortunately attendance at the Spring Workshops has declined over the past few years, due in large part to the proliferation of regional exams, so the Board of Directors has decided to move to a format that focuses on one event per year, held in the fall, featuring both the ISMA Conference and the IFPUG Workshops.

So while this gives us some breathing room in terms of preparing for the next event, the Education Committee has had plenty to do. We have been busy finalizing the official “Education Committee Activities” from our most recent Las Vegas event; including evaluating workshops, reviewing your evaluations of the workshops, and your input to possible future workshops. The class suggestions from student feedback forms are used as the primary input to the design of future classes.

Other potential workshop opportunities occur right within our IFPUG community. They include:

- Working with the Management Reporting Committee discussing the potential workshop offerings in
Committees at Work (continued)

Education Committee (continued from page 7)

preparation for the new “Body of Knowledge” and CSMS certification.

- Continuing to promote the work of the IT Performance Committee by offering a workshop developed and taught by the ITPC at each annual event.

- Approaching the New Environments Committee about utilizing their expertise in this area and the potential for some new, exciting workshops.

- Combining forces with the Conference committee on the distance learning aspect, in which we are currently evaluating ways of extending the concept to workshops as well.

- Working with the Certification Committee to support the Certification Extension program training needs. This will open up all sorts of training opportunities that go beyond the confines of our annual workshops.

- Partnering with the CMC to investigate how we might more effectively market IFPUG-sponsored training.

Other goals of the committee include generating more interest from the academic community. As a start, we offered special promotions for the Las Vegas event to surrounding Universities. This is a topic we continue to discuss. We would also like to extend this idea to the government as well. Our upcoming workshops in the Washington D.C. area should provide for us the perfect opportunity.

We are always open to new ideas. At the 2007 Spring Workshops we offered a variety of ½ day workshops; this seemed to have generated some interest but we would love to hear your feedback. As always, we are interested in the topics you want to learn about; please let us know!

Certification Committee

The online CFPS exam in English should be available by mid-2008, with other languages to follow soon after...

Currently, Prometric has 3,000 test centers around the world and plans to nearly double the number of centers over the coming year. These centers are used to service IT clients such as Oracle, Microsoft, and Project Management Institute. IFPUG’s paper-based CFPS Exam has proven to be a reliable and accurate tool for assessing members’ FPA knowledge and skills. However, the Exam is only available at limited times during the year and at limited locations. Constraints also exist on the availability of the exam in languages other than English.

Prometric has the delivery experience and infrastructure to enable consistent and secure testing on a global basis.

The Certification Committee is very pleased to announce the partnership between IFPUG and Prometric, the global leader in technology based assessment services, for the purpose of automating the CFPS Exam.

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Prometric has the delivery experience and infrastructure to enable consistent and secure testing on a global basis.

Certification Committee Chair Kriste Lawrence discusses CFPS exam automation with New Environments Committee Chair Steve Woodward

Certification Committee Chair Melinda Ayers, Certification Committee

 educational Affairs, the BOD and Certification. The coming months will bring activities for architecting and constructing the exam, beta testing, documenting administrative processes, and lots of communication.
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<td>November 5, 2007</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Universidad de Alcalá, Edificio Politécnico Despacho O-246 Carretera de Barcelona Km. 31,7. 28805 – Alcalá de Henares</td>
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<td>Sydney, Australia</td>
<td>November 14, 2007</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Price Waterhouse Coopers Building 201 Sussex St.</td>
<td>Maria Patane 612 9799 8021 <a href="mailto:maria.patane@tafensw.edu.au">maria.patane@tafensw.edu.au</a></td>
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<td>Bangalore, India</td>
<td>December 12, 2007</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Exam Hall (Staff Canteen) Indian Institute of Management - Bangalore Bannerghatta Road</td>
<td>Shipra Pandey 91-80-40257854 <a href="mailto:indiafpd@in.ibm.com">indiafpd@in.ibm.com</a></td>
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<td>Rio de Janiero, Brazil</td>
<td>December 15, 2007</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Hotel Gloria Rua do Russel 632 Gloria</td>
<td>Mauricio Aguiar 55 11 3721 7036 <a href="mailto:mauricio@metricas.com.br">mauricio@metricas.com.br</a></td>
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<td>9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Mauricio Aguiar 55 11 3721 7036 <a href="mailto:mauricio@metricas.com.br">mauricio@metricas.com.br</a></td>
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<td>Hotel Park Suites ITC Rua Fidencio Ramos 420 Vila Olimpia</td>
<td>Mauricio Aguiar 55 11 3721 7036 <a href="mailto:mauricio@metricas.com.br">mauricio@metricas.com.br</a></td>
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<td>Gurgaon, India</td>
<td>January 7, 2008</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Reliance Data Services A-1 Jay Plaza, Ground Floor, Old DLF Colony, Sec-14 M G Road</td>
<td>Rajiv Kumar 91.124.2847354 <a href="mailto:rajivkum@in.ibm.com">rajivkum@in.ibm.com</a></td>
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IFPUG on the Road

Twice a year IFPUG packs up its marketing material, trade show booth, and publications and takes its show on the road. Part of our outreach effort involves attending other industry conferences as a sponsor/exhibitor and taking our message about the power of function points to attendees at these events. In recent years we have had a presence at the SEPG conference (sponsored by the Software Engineering Institute) and the Better Software Conference & Expo (sponsored by Software Quality Engineering). With around 2,000 people at the former and over 500 at the latter, these events provide an excellent opportunity to get the word out about function points—especially to people outside of IFPUG’s typical audience.

Over the past few events, we have seen a significant increase in interest in function points. Booth traffic has noticeably increased year over year at each event. More and more frequently, function points are introduced in track presentations or tutorials, and as a result people come by the IFPUG booth to “find out what this function point thing is all about.” Others come by to play the booth bingo game, and get caught up in a discussion with IFPUG representatives about the need for consistent software sizing methodologies. Yes, size does matter people! Sometimes a random person will even stroll past the booth, stop, and ask, “So what is it you are selling here?” We offer function points, cheap—buy one get one free!

Other members of the IFPUG community that attend these events have noticed a similar trend. Michael Harris of DCG noted, “The interest in return on investment calculation for process improvement is very high among attendees…The increasing interest in measurement and comparison is certain to raise the profile of function points.” Roger Heller of QPMG commented, “We’ve been doing this conference for over 10 years. I’ve noticed over the past couple of conferences there is more interest in FPA. I think the most significant turnaround is that the attendees recognize that sizing is important and that having one mechanism to size both traditional business applications and non-traditional (such as embedded software) helps to reduce their costs and requires only a single skill set. Function points fulfill that need, now it is necessary to get the word out.”

Which is precisely what IFPUG will continue to do. We have plans to attend SEPG 2008 in Tampa this March, as well as the 2008 Better Software Conference & Expo in Las Vegas. You, too, can help this cause by submitting high quality abstracts, papers, and presentations for consideration at these conferences. In order for function points to continue to spread, and IFPUG as an organization to grow, we need to get the word out about what they are, how they are used, and how effective they can be. So we’ll see you in Tampa and Las Vegas…and, of course, in Washington, DC next September for the 2008 International Software Measurement & Analysis Conference!
INTERNATIONAL FUNCTION POINT USERS GROUP
Membership Application

Company/Organization/Individual ____________________________________________________________

Mailing & Billing Address _______________________________________________________________________

City _______________________________________________________________________________________

State/Province ______________________________________________________________________________

Country _____________________________________________________________________________________

Zip/Postal Code ______________________________________________________________________________

Telephone (_______) ________________________________ Fax (_______) _______________________________

E-Mail _______________________________________________________________________________________

Where did you hear about IFPUG? _______________________________________________________________________

Indicate Your Membership Choices (Membership year runs July 1 – June 30)

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Contact Names/Addresses
(For Corporate Memberships Only)

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   Country: _____________________________________________
   Phone: (_______) ________________________________
   Fax: (_______)_________________________________
   E-Mail: _____________________________________________

2. Name: ______________________________________
   Address: ______________________________________
   City: _________________________________________
   State/Province: ____________Zip/Postal Code: _____
   Country: ______________________________________
   Phone: (_______) _______________________________
   Fax: (_______)_________________________________
   E-Mail: _______________________________________

(Worldwide Corporate Applicants Please List Additional Contacts on the Reverse)

Method of Payment
(Check One)

☐ Check/Money Order ☐ Charge To:
☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ American Express
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Exp. Date __________________________
Signature __________________________

IMPORTANT! All International Payments must be in the form of a U.S. Draft drawn on a U.S. Bank. Annual Membership dues payment must accompany application. Purchase orders are not accepted.

Payments to the International Function Point Users Group are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. However, they may be deductible under other provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

You can also join Online at: www.ifpug.org

Return to: IFPUG • 191 Clarksville Road • Princeton Junction, NJ 08550 • Phone: 609-799-4900 • Fax: 609-799-7032
IFPUG is a non-profit, member governed organization. The mission of IFPUG is to be a recognized leader in promoting and encouraging the effective management of application software development and maintenance activities through the use of Function Point Analysis and other software measurement techniques. IFPUG also provides a forum for networking and information exchange that promotes and encourages the use of software product and process metrics. IFPUG is the governing body for the Certified Function Point Specialist (CFPS) and Certified Software Measurement Specialist (CSMS).

International Function Point Users Group
191 Clarksville Road
Princeton Junction, NJ 08550
Phone: 609-799-4900
Fax: 609-799-7032
E-mail: ifpug@ifpug.org

A World of Information
Volume 1, Issue 3
October 2007

2008 International Software Measurement and Analysis Conference

Save the Date!
September 14 - 19, 2008
Westin Arlington Gateway Hotel
Washington, DC

Join us for the premier software measurement conference!