

Just Enough Requirements Mgmt.

"Al Davis takes for his subject the largely unexplored middle ground between the requirements purists and the requirements cowboys. Since it's this middle ground where real work gets done, his guidance is both useful and welcome."

—Tom DeMarco, coauthor of *Peopleware*

"If you repeatedly find yourself having troubles managing requirements for your information system development projects, or if you have a hard time communicating with your marketing or business departments or even with your customers, this book will undoubtedly make your day."

—Valentin Crettaz
Val's Blog, javaranch.com

"No-one else, perhaps, could take a long view of the passionate arguments between traditionalists, formalists, and agile methods people, or of the differing viewpoints of developers, managers, and marketing. . . .

. . . it takes a light, informed, politically-skilful and industrially-informed look at the problem of doing just enough. This is very timely, given the 'heavy RE' versus 'agile methods' debate: and Davis succeeds in pointing out where the balance lies. Davis writes in a fresh and engaging way, telling stories from his long and varied experience as a consultant (and researcher).

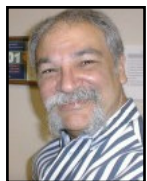
"Davis has come up with yet another good, practical book for industry."

—Ian Alexander, *Requireonautics Quarterly*

"Having a list of requirements solves many problems, but it misses a major purpose of creating requirements in the first place. We create requirements to address needs, or markets. Without a thorough understanding of those needs, we are wasting our time."

—from the preface

About the Author



Alan M. Davis is a prolific author with more than 25 years' experience consulting for more than 100 major corporations worldwide including Boeing, Cigna Insurance, Federal Express, General Electric, and the Software Productivity Consortium. He is currently a professor of information systems at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and serves as editor of the *Journal of Systems and Software*. Visit <http://web.uccs.edu/adavis>.

Partial Contents

- 1: Introduction**
 - Requirements
 - Requirements Management
 - Just Enough
 - The Context of Requirements
- 2: Requirements Elicitation**
 - Definitions and Terminology
 - Why Do Elicitation?
 - Elicitation Techniques
 - The Result of Elicitation
- 3: Requirements Triage**
 - Definitions and Terminology
 - Why Do Triage?
 - Basic Triage Techniques
 - Advanced Triage Techniques
- 4: Requirements Specification**
 - Definitions & Terminology
 - Classic Requirements Documentation Styles
 - The Content of a Requirements Document
 - The Role of a Requirements Document
- 5: Requirements Change**
 - Where Do Changes Come From?
 - How to Keep Track of Requested Changes
 - Choices for Handling the Changes
 - The CCB Meeting
- 6: Summary**
 - Elicitation
 - Triage
 - Requirements Specification
 - Requirements Change Management
- APPENDIX A: Quick Recipes**
 - Brainstorm
 - Decide What Is or What Isn't a Requirement
 - Decide What to Build
 - Produce a Requirements Document
 - Assess the Quality of a Requirements Document
 - Baseline the Requirements
 - Ensure That Everybody Knows the Requirements
 - Handle New Requirements After Baselineing
 - Handle Multiple Customers
- APPENDIX B: A Set of Documented Requirements**
- References and Additional Readings**
- Index**

Just Enough Requirements Management

Where Software Development Meets Marketing

by Alan M. Davis



ISBN: 978-0-932633-64-4
©2005 256 pages softcover
\$39.95 (includes \$6 UPS in US)

Take On "Just Enough" Software Requirements Without Blowing Your Deadlines and Budgets

If you develop software without understanding the requirements, you're wasting your time.

On the other hand, if a project spends too much time trying to understand the requirements, it will end up late and/or over-budget. And products that are created by such projects can be just as unsuccessful as those that fail to meet the basic requirements.

Instead, every company must make a reasonable trade-off between what's required and what time and resources are available.

Finding the right balance for your project may depend on many factors, including the corporate culture, the time-to-market pressure, and the criticality of the application. That is why requirements management—

gathering requirements, identifying the "right" ones to satisfy, and documenting them—is essential.

Just Enough Requirements Management shows you how to discover, prune, and document requirements when you are subjected to tight schedule constraints. You'll apply just enough process to minimize risks while still achieving desired outcomes. You'll determine how many requirements are just enough to satisfy your customers while still meeting your goals for schedule, budget, and resources.

If your project has insufficient resources to satisfy all the requirements of your customers, you must read *Just Enough Requirements Management*.

Read more about this book at www.dorsethouse.com/books/jerm.html