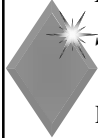


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Unit 2



# IEEE/EIA 12207


## Software Life Cycle Processes

Prepared by:  
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January 1998

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2



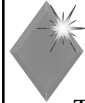
# Unit 2 - ISO/IEC 12207

- History
  - Purpose of 12207
  - History of 12207
- Key concepts
- ISO/IEC 12207 processes

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3




# Purpose of 12207

- To establish a common framework for the life cycle of software
  - Acquire, supply, develop, operate, and maintain software
    - Undertakes broader scope than previous standards
  - Manage, control, and improve the framework
    - Recognizes that software is part of a system and that a project is part of an enterprise
- To establish a basis for world trade in software

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4



# Motivations for 12207

Previous standards ...

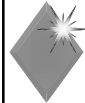
- ... focused on the single contract or project in isolation
- ... described a single monolithic process
- ... failed to encourage investment in the discipline and capitalization of processes
- ... induced 20-50% added costs in documentation and formal reviews

Adapted from a slide by Perry DeWeese

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5




# Unit 2 - ISO/IEC 12207

- History
- Key concepts
- ISO/IEC 12207 processes

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6




# Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Process/activity/task hierarchy

- Processes are subdivided into cohesive **activities**.
- Activities are subdivided into **tasks**.
- You may think of tasks as being the *specifications* for the execution of an activity.
- A task may be a self-declaration of intent, a requirement, a recommendation, or a permissible action.

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7




### Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Processes and parties

- ◆ Identification of processes is based on two principles:
  - ◆ **Modularity**: Processes should be cohesive and should have *low coupling* to other.
  - ◆ **Responsibility**: Each process should be executable by a *single party*.
- ◆ A particular *organization* may become the party responsible for executing a process

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8




### Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Continuing responsibilities

- ◆ The activities and tasks of a 12207 process are not steps to be performed.
- ◆ 12207 does not require that the activities and tasks are to be performed in any particular order.
- ◆ The activities and tasks of 12207 are **continuing responsibilities** whose execution is assigned for the duration of the process.

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9




### Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Categories of processes

- ◆ **Primary**:
  - ◆ Acquisition, Supply
  - ◆ Development, Operation, Maintenance
- ◆ **Supporting**: processes used as “subroutines” by other processes
- ◆ **Organizational**: processes inherent to the organization and “instantiated” by the project
- ◆ Also, a special *tailoring* process

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10




### Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Integral evaluation

- ◆ Evaluation is not a distinct process or activity.
- ◆ Evaluation is treated as an *internal, integral* task of many activities in the standard.
- ◆ In general, the evaluations have stated purposes and stated criteria.
- ◆ Other processes may supplement internal evaluations: Verification, Validation, Joint Review, Audit, Quality Assurance, Improvement.

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11




### Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Temporal issues

- ◆ The standard does not specify a life cycle *model*, e.g. waterfall, spiral, etc.
- ◆ The standard does not place ordering dependencies or time dependencies on the tasks → that is the job of the chosen life cycle model and the project plan.
- ◆ Tasks may be iterated, repeated, recursively invoked, etc.

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12




### Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Approach to documentation

- ◆ The standard requires some outputs to be documented.
- ◆ The standard does not prescribe format, media, or content of the documentation.
- ◆ The Documentation Process permits the user to make these decisions.

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13




### Key concept of ISO/IEC 12207: Approach to baselining

- ◆ Standard differentiates between *items* and *configuration items* (CI). The CM process can handle both, but the latter are handled more rigorously.
- ◆ A **baseline** is a formally approved version of a CI. Baselines (as clarified by the IEEE/EIA version) are established by the primary processes, not by the CM process.

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14




### Unit 2 - ISO/IEC 12207

- ◆ History
- ◆ Key concepts
- ◆ *ISO/IEC 12207 processes*

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15




### ISO/IEC 12207 processes

- ◆ Primary
- ◆ Supporting
- ◆ Organizational

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16



### ISO/IEC 12207 processes: Primary processes


- ◆ Primary processes are executed by parties who initiate or perform major roles in the software life cycle:

- ◆ Acquisition
- ◆ Supply
- ◆ Development
- ◆ Operation
- ◆ Maintenance

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17



### ISO/IEC 12207 processes: Supporting processes

- ◆ A supporting process supports another process as an integral part with a distinct purpose:


- ◆ Documentation
- ◆ Configuration Management
- ◆ Quality Assurance
- ◆ Verification
- ◆ Validation
- ◆ Joint Review
- ◆ Audit
- ◆ Problem Resolution

- ◆ But *fundamental responsibility* remains integral to the *primary* process.

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18



### ISO/IEC 12207 processes: Organizational processes


- ◆ Organizational processes inherently exist outside the scope of the project but *instances* of them are employed by the project:

- ◆ Management
- ◆ Infrastructure
- ◆ Improvement
- ◆ Training

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19



*ISO/IEC 12207 processes:*

*Tailoring process*

- ◆ A special case
- ◆ The tailoring process is used to tailor the standard for usage on a particular project.
- ◆ Tailoring permits deletion of any process, activity or task.
- ◆ (Tailoring is discouraged in the IEEE/EIA adaptation of the standard.)

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