

Advanced Use Cases for PM's and BA's - 2 Day Workshop -

Background and Objectives

The most challenging aspect of building successful software applications is clearly understanding and specifying the requirements that an application must satisfy. Use case modeling is an increasingly popular and almost mandatory approach for identifying and defining requirements for software applications of all types. Organizations are frequently employing use cases to define requirements. Unfortunately, those involved in producing use cases are not receiving clear instruction in how to gather, analyze, document and validate requirements using use case methodology.

The Advanced Use Cases for PM's and BA's seminar provides participants with an intensive presentation of the use case modeling approach to developing software requirements. Participants will learn practical, proven use case design techniques that can be immediately applied to projects in their work environments. The proper deployment of use cases can be a valuable validation tool when requirements gathering professional employ proper use case methods, techniques and guidelines. If you don't take specific use case design steps explained in this seminar, the result can be over-engineered, poorly-constructed use cases that have a damaging, counterproductive impact on your requirements definition process. This interactive seminar is packed with detailed exercises, sample use cases (both good and bad), interactive workshops, checklists and guidelines that provide the basics of modeling and writing effective use cases. Participants also gain more advanced techniques to successfully employing use cases to define better requirements.

What You Will Learn

- Proven use case best practices
- How to avoid the common use case modeling pitfalls
- How capture and document real-world requirements with use cases
- How to apply a step-by-step approach to develop use cases for any project life cycle
- How to document use cases
- How to write publication-quality use cases
- How use cases help mitigate common requirements definition problems

Special Workshop Features

- A seminar manual
- Hands-on exercises with solutions
- Write complete industrial-strength use cases
- Answers to dozens of use case FAQ's
- Magic Questions Use Case Questions You Should Know

Who Should Attend

This workshop is intended for project managers, business analysts, systems analysts, developers, consultants, and other software professionals who want to learn how to successfully incorporate use case modeling into the requirements definition process. No formal prerequisite is necessary for this seminar.

Seminar Agenda

Requirements Basics

- What's a requirement?
- Different types of requirements
- Industry statistics & perspectives
- Common problems in defining requirements
- Characteristics of good requirements

Use Case Basics

- So what's a use case?
- How use cases differ from traditional requirements
- When use cases add value
- When use cases don't add value
- How use cases are related to requirements
- Components of a use case model
- Why use case models work so well

The Structure of a Use Case

- Sample documentation styles

- Stakeholders, interests & goals
- Actor identification guidelines
- Getting the right level of detail
- Guidelines for naming use cases
- Identifying preconditions & post-conditions
- Use case triggers
- Use case scenarios

Writing the Main Success Scenario

- Purpose of the main success scenario
- Rules the main success scenario must conform to
- Different kinds of action steps
- Guidelines for writing action steps
- Dealing with technology issues
- Guidelines for refining use cases
- Relationships to activity diagrams

Use Case Do's & Don'ts

- Understanding what makes a good use case
- Avoiding the five most common use case mistakes
- Use case best practices reference guide

Use Case Documentation

- Incorporating use cases into traditional requirements documents
- Relating use cases to diagrams & other types of requirements documentation
- How much detail is enough?
- How to deal with business rules
- How to deal with user interfaces
- Use case templates
- Prioritization techniques
- Use case traceability techniques

Writing Alternate Scenarios

- Purpose of extension/alternate scenarios
- Rules for extension/alternate scenarios
- Documentation styles for writing extensions
- Guidelines for writing effective extension scenarios

- Role Maps
- Recommended process for developing extension/alternate scenarios

Use Case Diagrams

- Different types of use case diagrams
- Guidelines for using diagrams
- Business versus system use cases
- UML relationships: communicates, include, extend, generalization

Use Case Organization & Decomposition

- Recommendations for organizing use cases
- Guidelines for simplifying use cases
- Reusing use cases
- Linking use cases together

Use Case Implementation Issues

- Use case strategies for waterfall life cycles
- Use case strategies for rapid deployment life cycles
- Who participates in use case modeling?
- Critical success factors
- Guidelines for effective use case meetings
- Asking the right questions
- Developing your questioning skills
- Facilitation tips
- Mapping to class diagrams and ERD's
- Validating use cases
- Estimating with use cases
- Use case tool support

When are you done?