

## Tips for Testers

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SIGiST 4<sup>th</sup> March 2004

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## Testing – an impossible task?

- Background
  - ⇒ UK financial services sector experiences
  - ⇒ Applying good practice in the real world
- Tips for Test Managers
  - ✓ Never set an impossible task
  - ✓ Enable fellow testers to be accountable to you
  - ⇒ 2 Catch-22s in way of example...

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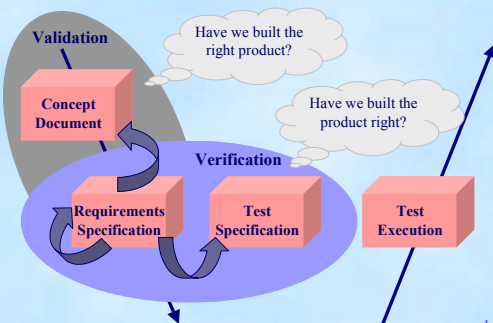
## Catch-22

- The air force doctor could consider grounding a pilot provided the pilot asked him to.
- “Catch-22. Anyone who wants to get out of combat duty isn't really crazy”  
Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*, 54



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## Making the case for reviews...



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### Catch-22

- Example: an organisation does not see benefit in investing in reviews.
- Severe budget constraints
- Test Manager: “The benefit of investing up to 15% of the development budget in reviews will far outweigh the costs”.
- Development Manager: “Show me evidence [here](#)”.

- Start with:
  - ✓ Informal Reviews
    - ⇒ Unplanned
    - ⇒ Undocumented
  - ✓ Walkthroughs
    - ⇒ Informative
- With evidence, follow on:
  - ✓ More formal reviews

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### Catch-22

- Poorer quality = more testing
- Poorer quality = more issues raised
- BUT more issues raised = less testing time!

- Generic test process
  - ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Stage: Agree completion criteria
  - ✓ Last Stage: Check for completion
  - ✓ Change is OK providing it is managed

Source: Grove Consultants

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### Generic Test Process

Adapted from BS7925-2

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### Links

- BS7925-2
  - ⇒ [www.testingstandards.co.uk](http://www.testingstandards.co.uk)
- Slides
  - ⇒ [www.aquacomputing.com/presentations.htm](http://www.aquacomputing.com/presentations.htm)
- more Catch-22s
  - ⇒ [fergus@aquacomputing.com](mailto:fergus@aquacomputing.com)

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