

▶ Ideas, views & insights

▶ Create a sense of urgency and work collaboratively.

● A response to a 'CIO' article by Michael Hugos, 'Move it or lose it' (5/4/06), about the agile and innovative use of IT.

Reading Michael Hugos' recent article "Move It Or Lose" (5/4/2006), I was struck by how many of his points I agree with.

As the Managing Director of a 'smallish' Australian e-business & IT services company, I share his passion for "designing and building IT systems that drive business success."

And our approach to IT systems development shares many of the characteristics he mentions. For instance, we create a sense of urgency by bringing IT and 'the business' together to work collaboratively, and while keeping the total picture in mind we identify the most important business and customer requirements, and build those first, and quickly.

Ancillary requirements - "the icing" rather than "the cake" - can be determined after receiving actual customer feedback, and be included in a subsequent enhanced release. (The initial release provides a robust architectural foundation for future releases.)

This staged, incremental approach to development not only acts as a catalyst for innovation; it can also significantly reduce the risk of project failure and reduce project costs.

Recent headlines seem littered with news about failed IT projects, but I believe that there are some factors which significantly increase the likelihood of project success: smaller projects are more likely to succeed, so break larger projects into smaller ones; creeping or changing scope needs to be managed and controlled; and seek to reduce project complexity and simplify wherever possible.

So Michael, I don't think you or your process is "overly demanding and unreasonable", just "focused"!

Shouldn't you find out more?

To arrange a discussion about how we can help your business achieve more from your e-business initiatives and IT projects, you can contact us on **03 8686 9966** or via our website, www.4LOOP.com.au

There is a better way.

