Keynote Speech

Knowledge Sharing in Software Development

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Abstract—In software development, a huge amount of knowledge needs to be shared between architects and developers, developers and testers, configuration managers and integration testers, and so on. Since all these people want to develop, test, architect software, and are reluctant to document it, a lot of this knowledge remains tacit. This is the more so in agile environments, where there is an inherent tension between top-down development guidance through specifications and other means, and a bottom-up development and delivery of new features. In multi-site development, such may easily lead to mutual misunderstandings, an increase in errors and problem reports, and wasting resources on rework. I will report on knowledge sharing challenges we encountered in industry, in particular in a large multi-site development organization that develops software for the printing industry.

Biography—Hans van Vliet is Professor in Software Engineering at the VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands, since 1986. He got his PhD from the University of Amsterdam. His research interests include software architecture, knowledge management in software development, global software development, and empirical software engineering. Before joining the VU University, he worked as a researcher at the Centrum voor Wiskunde en Informatica (CWI, Amsterdam). He spent a year as a visiting researcher at the IBM Almaden Research Center in San Jose, California. He co-authored over 140 refereed articles. He is the author of *Software Engineering: Principles and Practice*, published by Wiley (3rd Edition, 2008). He is a member of IFIP Working Group 2.10 on software architecture, and the Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Systems and Software*. 