



What Factors Lead to Industrial Success or Failure with MDE?

EA-MDE is a new interdisciplinary initiative led by Lancaster University that is trying to understand why some companies succeed with MDE whereas others fail. The key observation of EA-MDE is that ***the factors relating to whether new technologies succeed or fail are more often social or organizational rather than technical.*** This is true as well for MDE – anecdotal evidence from practitioners suggest reasons for MDE use such as “It allows me to hire fresh-out grad students and make them productive with very little training,” or “My hard-core C hacker team just didn’t want to draw diagrams!”

The aims of the EA-MDE project are to:

1. To understand and document how MDE is currently being applied in industry;
2. To identify the most important factors affecting its success/failure, concentrating on both social and technical factors
3. To grow a network of researchers interested in MDE evaluation techniques.

The philosophy behind EA-MDE is to work closely with industry and academics to achieve these goals. Furthermore, the project takes a fundamentally interdisciplinary approach and will work with social scientists such as psychologists and ethnographers to observe, evaluate and analyze what is happening with MDE in industry.

EA-MDE would like to hear from any practitioners or researchers who would like to get involved with understanding whether and how MDE works, in any of the following capacities:

- industry professionals with experiences to contribute
- academics who would like to work with us to achieve the aims above
- anyone else with ideas to contribute!

More information about the project can be found by contacting Prof. Jon Whittle or John Hutchinson at Lancaster University (whittle@comp.lancs.ac.uk | j.hutchinson@lancaster.ac.uk) or by contacting any of its advisory board members: Bran Selic, Robert France, Stuart Kent, Veronique Normand & Francis Bordeleau. Alternatively, visit the EA-MDE web site: www.comp.lancs.ac.uk/~eamde