Increasing the Efficiency of your Automotive Software Development

Trend Study 2005

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During the second quarter of 2004 Arthur D. Little conducted research into how automotive companies can improve the efficiency of their embedded software development processes

Background and objectives of this study

- This study is a follow up to our 2002 automotive electronics trend study with 55 companies which demonstrated that both E/E and Software are going to dramatically reshape the automotive landscape until 2010
- With software taking on a more important role in the performance and differentiation of electronics systems, our OEM and Tier 1 clients have increasingly asked us to focus on helping them improve the efficiency of their embedded software development processes
- The objectives of this study where to :
  - 1. Understand the key challenges in embedded software development faced by both automotive manufacturers and suppliers
  - 2. Identify the most important efficiency improvement levers at their disposal and the ways to operate them



### 1

In developing our understanding of improving embedded SW development efficiency, we have benefited from a number of different sources

Study Sources	Participating Companies
<ul> <li>In-depth interviews conducted with 18 companies representing different parts of the automotive E-E value chain <ul> <li>Study of improving internal development processes (participation from 13 companies)</li> <li>Study of delocalization and off-shoring issues (participation from 7 suppliers)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Desk top research of relevant industry and technology data, and related studies by Arthur D. Little (e.g. recent SW flashing study conducted with both car and truck OEMs)</li> <li>Arthur D. Little internal experts on automotive software development</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>AUDI</li> <li>BMW</li> <li>DaimlerChrysler</li> <li>Volvo Bus</li> <li>Volvo Car</li> <li>Volvo Trucks</li> <li>Volkswagen</li> <li>Brose</li> <li>Continental</li> <li>Delphi</li> <li>Freescale</li> <li>Hella</li> <li>Johnson Control</li> <li>Mecel</li> <li>Siemens VDO</li> <li>Visteon</li> <li>Webasto</li> <li>ZF</li> </ul>

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### Automotive companies are under severe pressure to increase the efficiency of their embedded software development as part of their electronic systems

#### **Current Situation**

- Software and electronics play an increasingly important role to realize innovations in the automotive industry. During the last years, the number of ECUs and the complexity of electronic architectures has constantly risen, reaching a peak of more than 70 ECUs per vehicle with the current upper-premium class models such as Mercedes S-class, BMW 7-series and Volkswagen Phaeton and a share of electronics and software on automobile value added of up to 25 30% and more.
- At the same time, in a race to introduce new features and technologies not always recognized from a customer perspective as providing real added customer value the industry had tough times to maintain the vehicle quality and sometimes failed in doing so. Not only did quality problems increase, but also development and validation costs of electronic systems.
- Reduced complexity simpler architectures with less ECUs (we talk approx. 20 within specific vehicle domains), a standardized software architecture (mainly driven through the AUTOSAR initiative) and a more focused approach towards customer requirements seem to be the industry's answers to tackle these problems.
- On the other hand, while software-based functionality will further increase, cost pressure is also increasing. This will not only make some estimates on future automotive software market figures obsolete, but also put additional pressure on engineering to increase their development efficiency. While OEMs need to focus on standardization, automation and frontloading of their development processes, suppliers need to increase software/module re-use, further optimize and support their processes and de-localize development activities where appropriate.

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### Our study identifies three efficiency improvement levers : Standardization, Automation and Delocalization

#### Levers to increase automotive software development efficiency

- Standardization of architecture, system and module re-use, and a higher automation and tool support are the first two important levers to reduce software development costs.
  - Our analysis among OEMs and suppliers demonstrates that huge savings potentials in the development process are still not realized overall, participants to this study estimate a potential reduction of total man-hours per project of around 30% to be feasible.
  - However, our own project experience shows that, by applying state-of-the-art methods and tools, e.g. model-based specification, automatic code generation, and a strict requirements management, savings of up to 50% can be realized within a 2 years time-frame. While complexity (Lines of Code) doubled at the same time, the overall productivity in automotive software development therefore increased by 300% and the number of bugs in integration testing on ECU level has been reduced by up to 90%.
- Delocalization of embedded systems development to low cost engineering countries is another big lever to improve development efficiency. It has already been executed successfully by a number of automotive companies and will most likely further increase.
  - In this study, we have analyzed the approach of seven leading suppliers (total number of software developers > 6,000) and found that software development labor costs can be reduced in a range of 30-50%.
  - However, as delocalization of embedded systems development also bears certain risks, it has to be planned and executed carefully. The preferred and most successful way here is not to outsource to third parties, but to set-up and seamlessly integrate own subsidiaries located abroad.

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### Software is a key driver in the race to develop automotive innovations faster, cheaper and better



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### **Arthur D Little**

Improving Effiency of SW Development



# Some studies forecast a share of software on automobile value for the year 2010 of € 100 bn and estimate the volume in 2000 by € 25 bn – these numbers seem to be far too high

Estimated volume	Plausibility check			
€ 25 bn from software (ca. 5% vehicle value) in 2000¹)	<ul> <li>              100,000 software (and function) developers (at a maximum cost of € 250,000 per annum/developer) working in 2000 for the automotive industry is not a plausible figure      </li> <li>             A comparison:         <ul> <li>             Total number of software developers at Siemens VDO, Delphi, Continental, Visteon, Johnson Control, ZF: about 6,000 people. Share of software development costs on revenues: &lt;&lt;5%<sup>2)</sup> </li> </ul> </li> <li>         Microsoft turnover in 2000: ~\$23 bn     </li> </ul>			
€100 bn from software in 2010 <sup>1)</sup>	This figure seems also not plausible, since it represents: $ \stackrel{\circ}{=} 400,000 $ software developers in 2010 $ \stackrel{\circ}{=} 50\% $ of the world market for software in 2003 <sup>3)</sup>			
1) Source: HVB/Mercer 2) Source: ADL Benchmarking Study 2004 3) Source: EITO 2004: Global Power of Software: € 200 bn				

## However, with the proportion of electronics in a vehicle continuing to rise, the share contributed by software on the value added will double by 2010



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Levers to Increase Efficiency

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Automotive companies typically use three main levers to improve the efficiency of their software development processes





### Our study demonstrates that standardization of SW architectures and re-use of components bear huge potential

Value Driver	Design requirements	Approaches
<ul> <li>Premium price</li> <li>Residual value</li> <li>Extra equipment strategies</li> <li>Development costs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Brand-specific functionality</li> <li>High service ability also late in product life cycles</li> <li>Flexibility of system concept</li> <li>Economics of scale/re-use</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Standard Software Architecture</li> <li>Basic platform with standard applications</li> <li>Brand-specific module offerings</li> <li>Clearly defined interfaces (Make-or-Buy)</li> <li>Downsizing concept – comprehensive application concept for different segments</li> </ul>
Purchasing costs	<ul> <li>Hardware-independent design</li> <li>No monopolies, increased competition</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>HW Abstraction</li> <li>SW versions compatible with different hardware and software configurations</li> </ul>
<ul><li>Warranty costs</li><li>Update costs</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Quality proof - systems Fault tolerance in the system</li> <li>Software download</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Standard processes &amp; Re-use</li> <li>Disentangle development &amp; diagnosis</li> <li>Re-use (e. g. SW libraries)</li> <li>Process standards (testing for error cases, coding, flashing, diagnosis, etc.)</li> </ul>

Study participants stated an average reduction potential of 15 to 20% (man-hours per project) by increasing the degree of standardization compared to today

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**Arthur D Little** 



# However, OEMs need to adapt their development processes to be able to take full advantage of "plug&play" architectures allowing to flash and re-use SW in different ECUs/network environments



Source: Interviews; ADL Study on Software Flashing, 2004 (Truck OEMs show higher rates in some areas)

### BMW has implemented a clear systems engineering approach in its processes and organization to realize distributed functions with high quality



Source: G. Reichart, BMW, Euroforum Jahrestagung Systems Engineering, 1.2.2005; illustration by ADL





Using a "holistic" network design approach, Volvo Bus implemented "Plug & Play" to realize customer-specific vehicle functionality



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### Most OEMs have implemented standard software cores and promote crossindustry standardization, e.g. in the AUTOSAR initiative





### The AUTOSAR initiative is seen as positive by all study participants ; the first AUTOSAR compliant ECUs will be seen in the 2007/2008 model year

- AUTOSAR has two main objectives:
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: definition of a truly standardized software core with clearly defined interfaces
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: definition of a standardized way of communication between different functions in order to move functions easily from one ECU to another and integrate software functions from different vendors
- Current development within AUTOSAR is mainly driven by one OEM who will introduce the first AUTOSAR compliant ECUs around 2007/early 2008.
- Standards will be seen first in the comfort and chassis area, infotainment and powertrain will see more "quasi" standards driven by suppliers, since expected gains from overall standardization are much lower (large and dominant suppliers are already using their own standard architectures in this area)
- The realization of the second objective is to be expected in the longer term. There are still intense discussions in the consortium about the "right way" to design the communication layer of the vehicle network and the right tools to support the move of functions from one ECU to another. It is Arthur D. Little's opinion that the foundation for that has been laid with Volcano's "Holistic approach".





### Standardization will put high cost pressure on software suppliers and reduce costs for basic and standard software modules for OEMs



"Win-Win" business model for OEMs and software suppliers has not been developed yet

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### The automotive industry is following the V-design cycle, with tool support available for all tasks



#### Automation – Frontloading



The potential of frontloading by using model-based specification and functional design and advanced methods for architecture and network design is not fully realized yet

The Tools Used			Status of Tool Usage
Requirements capturing & management	<ul><li>DOORS</li><li>UML</li><li></li></ul>		DOORS is used by OEM and suppliers, but there is still room for efficiency improvement in communication between OEMs and suppliers due to missing standards and missing tool support of distributed development.
Analysis and functional design	<ul> <li>UML</li> <li>STATEMATE</li> <li>Matlab</li> <li>Ascet-SD</li> <li>CAPE/C</li> <li>DaVinci</li> <li></li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Model-based specification is in the focus of OEM investments and on the way to be used in series development.</li> <li>Some OEMs (especially BMW) and large tier-1's are fairly advanced compared to others who are still in experimental mode.</li> </ul>
Partitioning, Architecture & network design	<ul> <li>Proprietary solutions</li> <li>Cape/C (Cape)</li> <li>DaVinci (Vector)</li> <li>Integrio (ETAS)</li> <li>VNA/LNA (Volcano)</li> <li></li> </ul>		<ul> <li>No tool available covers all aspects of partitioning, architecture and network design.</li> <li>Some fairly advanced methodologies and tools with the potential for a "true frontloading" have been developed (e.g. in the TITUS project involving Vector and ETAS as tool vendors or the "Holistic approach" of Volcano Technologies), but failed to get wide acceptance so far, since at least some large OEMs were heavily invested in existing processes and were not ready yet to implement the necessary changes in organization, processes and staff qualification.</li> </ul>



### Integration test and validation still require considerable resources, especially on the OEM side



1) Other OEMs which implemented a similiar approach are Volvo Car, LandRover, Jaguar, AstonMartin and MG.





Whereas interviewees estimate an average cost reduction potential of 30% due to standardization and automation, our own project experience suggests possible reductions of up to 50%







### Delocalization is used by suppliers to primarily reduce increasing software development labor costs



## 4

### India is the preferred candidate for SW delocalization but Eastern European countries should be studied as well



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### Until now delocalization has centered around the actual implementation and coding activities





### However, all companies interviewed also plan to transfer their function development operations





### Significant volumes have already been transferred by large suppliers





### Besides low labor costs and skills availability, cultural proximity (e.g. language) is a determining choice factor of target locations (1/2)

Software employees by low cost country			Suppliers' distribution by country						
	Low cost SW employees distribution by country	Hourly cost by software employee	Country		Number of suppliers		Supplier's origin		
Country			oou		located cour	ntry	Germany		US
			Ron	nania	2	2	2		0
Romania	46.7%	€15	India		3		1		2
				Poland 1		0	0 1		
India	31.3%	€14	Bulgaria		1		0		1
Poland	10.0%	€22	Hur	ngary	1		1		0
Bulgaria			Cł	nina	1	I	1		0////
		Number of low cost locations by supplier							
Hungary	3.3%	€20	61	60	62	64	, CE	56	67
	4.00/		51	52	53	54	50	30	5/
China	China         1.3%         €12		3	2	2	1	1	0	0



Besides low labor costs and skills availability, cultural proximity (e.g. language) is a determining choice factor of target locations (2/2)



**Arthur D Little** 

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**Delocalization** – Evolution

4

The first software development delocalization operations have been initiated 7 years ago by two benchmarked suppliers – other suppliers started later





### Outsourcing is generally not the preferred "Operating Model"; operations are usually kept under one's own control



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### Suppliers with more than 500 software employees have a minimum CMM/CMMI level of 2 and target to achieve a maturity level of 3 by end 2005





### All companies seem to follow a similar process to prepare and implement their delocalization



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### Our study highlights a number of key success factors for delocalization of embedded software development





## Software process maturity together with effective management of people and transfer of responsibilities are among the key elements to doing it right

Doing things right	Quotes
Standardize and improve software process maturity before you delocalize on a large scale Effectively manage offshore employees Ensure competence and responsibility transfer Have a long-term vision and footprint Manage communication at the top management level Choose the right time to offshore	<ul> <li>"You absolutely have to restructure the development process, receive the top management support, set up and specify methods and fixed interfaces before going there", a US supplier.</li> <li>"Show them the value added for the company, treat them like your colleagues in Germany and strengthen their self confidence. Give them clear goals; accept their work package estimations", a German supplier</li> <li>"You need to generate a sense of responsibility and progressively delegate high value added work to them", a German supplier.</li> <li>"We plan to go there for 10 to 15 years not for 5 years, so you need to have a long-term worldwide footprint vision and strategy as well as a rigorous planning and organization before going", US supplier.</li> <li>"Clear and positive top management communication must go with such an operation", a German Supplier.</li> <li>"Hopefully we need to hire new people. We had big problems the first time we did decide to offshore software development when our company was not making money. The best time to do such things is during growth periods", a US supplier.</li> </ul>

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### SW development delocalization also exhibits some risks, among which employee retention and communication issues are the most critical

Key risks & pitfalls	Quotes
Employee retention	<i>"In the beginning there was a turnover rate in India of about 20% to 25%. This means that colleagues were trained and then left the company, for example to the USA", a German supplier.</i> <i>"Locally hired personnel does not feel committed and even linked to the company, and quit rapidly", a German supplier.</i>
Language miscommunication	<i>"Language is a real problem we have with our east-European units. English is a must"</i> , a German supplier
Workload fluctuations	"You need to maintain a high occupation rate (more than 80%) to make it economically positive", a German supplier
Losing know-how	"If you exceed the ratio of 2 internal SW employees to 1 offshore colleague, you must install your own development organizations independent of the home locations. E.g. some business is done completely in offshore countries (acquisition, design, development and production) and with this you have to transfer 100% of know-how to the offshore locations without having a backup "at home", a German supplier
Automotive technologies know-how	"At the beginning there were problems because the colleagues in Romania never had seen or used a central door locking system, but they are expected to develop such things", a German supplier.
Responsiveness	"Sometimes things (specifications) change so quickly, our Indian colleagues' response time have not always been satisfactory", a US supplier

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### Founded in 1886 by MIT Professor Arthur Dehon Little as the world's first consultancy



### 5

### We have industry, functional and methodological competence in all fields of technology and innovation management in the Automotive Industry



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### We are working with many automotive companies worldwide

