## Utilizing VDM Models in Process Management Tool Development: an Industrial Case

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### Agenda

- Business Area
- Tool
- Research Project
- Applying VDM Modelling in the project
- Results
- Future Work



#### Business Area | Tool | Research | Modelling | Results | Future Work |



## Tools

- Construction and Optimizing of processes
- Process Improvement Focus
  - Definition
  - Control
  - Communication
- Industry partner
  - Callis (www.callis.dk)
  - Software suite for process definition and improvement
  - Used by Infineon, Logica, Systematic



## The tool – defining a process

- Multi-model, multi-standards environment
- Manage multiple versions, releases and users levels
- Traceability regarding changes and differences between versions
- Uses predefined elements for process definition
- Relations are complex
  - high number of relations,
  - cyclic references,
  - requirements and restrictions



#### Complexities in process description



#### Complexities in process description



## **Research Project**

• Improving business processes through more advanced tool support.

- Extending the existing tool in two parts:
  - Tailoring
  - Probing



## Tailoring

Static

 Overall process is defined and specified at a high level in an organization

 Applied at the lower and more specific project level

Dynamic

 Allow the end-user to make adjustments to a process

 Use the knowledge and hands-on experience of the process end-users

 Scoped text descriptions added to process elements



## Tailoring - Example





### Probing

Probing the data of the files related to a process defined artefact

#### •Gates (milestones) and their artifacts

Artifacts	Valg af gruppe	r Afl	levering af ojektformulering	Aflevering af første version af kravspecifikation		Ny revision af kravspecifikation	Aflevering af første version af systemarkitektur		<u>Ny revision af</u> systemarkitektur	<u>Produkt klar</u> <u>til acceptest</u>	Gennemført accepttest	<u>Endeliq</u> <u>Afleveri</u>
Accepttestspecifikation				М	ĩ	0			R		м  🗙	М
Gruppe Beskrivelse	M	×	X			R			R			
Hardware										М	м	м
<u>HW-</u> struktureringsdokument										M		М
<u>Kravspecifikation</u>				М	1	0						М
Projektformulering		М				R			R			м
Software										M 🕅	М	М
SW-designdokument										M		м
<u>Systemarkitektur</u>							М	T	0			м

# Applying VDM Modelling to the project

- Industry partner with no knowledge of formal modelling,
- Academic partner with nearly no domain knowledge of the business field,
- Modelling used to:
  - Analysis of existing tool
  - Explore expansion
  - Increase communication



## Executable VDM++ model

- An executable model for a subset of the existing tool has been created in VDM++
  - Two months
  - 16 classes
  - 2500 lines
  - Focus on the parts related to the project
  - Weekly meeting



## Example of modelled scenario



## **Running Examples**



## Results (1/3)

- Difference in expertise
- How data should be selected and managed from a user-interface and usability viewpoint,
- Difficult to get an overview of the constraints in the process descriptions



## Results (2/3)

- A graphical representation of modelled scenarios improved communication between the project members.
- Knowledge from domain experts from Callis were vital in the development



## Results (3/3)

- Model did not disclose as many issues as were initially expected
- The model did not reveal any faults or inconsistencies
- Confirmed the anticipated behaviours
- The only real defect discovered in the existing tool was a risk of recursion in certain scenarios.



## Future Work

- Full implementation of the proposed extension into the existing tool,
- Deployment of the extend tool in industry workshops



