

Black Box Software Testing

(Professional Seminar)

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Section:32

Status Reporting

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Project Status

Bug Statistics are Only One Part of Status.

- Product status reporting is a long-term opportunity to communicate project information to a range of managers.
- Put the key issues that you want people to see on page 1. People will flip a page to get to your statistics.

Project Status

My weekly status reports look like this:

A. Key Issues

- Deliveries needed
 - » What promises are still open
 - » What documents are still needed
 - » What functions are still uncoded
 - » What tools are not yet working
- Decisions needed
- Bug fixes needed
- Unexpected problems

Project Status

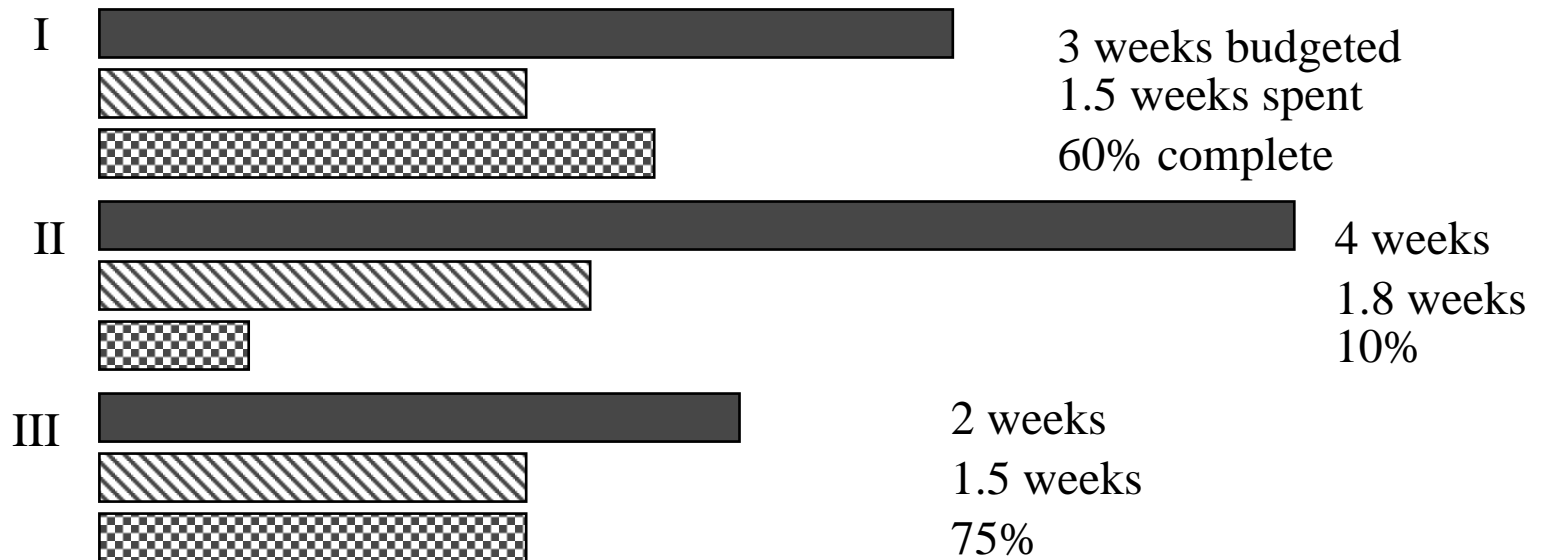
B. Progress Against Plan

- Milestones
- Weekly goals
- Percent complete

C. Bug Numbers

D. List of Bugs Not Fixed

Project Status



Project Status

Bug Numbers

I. Bug Curves (weekly progress)

- Total open
- New open
- New closed/fixed
- New closed/not-fixed

II. Weekly Table

- Show this week and last week:
- New bugs this week
- New closed
- New closed/fixed
- New closed/not-fixed
- New resolved (not yet fixed)
- Total resolved

Project Status

More Bug Numbers

III. Another Weekly Table

- Show last week and this week
- Total open (x severity)
- Total closed fixed (x severity)
- Total closed not-fixed (x severity)
- New open (x severity)
- New closed fixed (x severity)
- New closed not-fixed (x severity)

Project Status

This is an example of the type of chart that you might create. This one can be used to flag a serious mismatch of opinion between testers (who assign severity) and programmers (who assign priority).

	Priority				
		Urgent	Important	Want to fix	Can defer
Severity	Awful				
	Bad				
	Pretty bad				
	Needs improvement				
	Minor				

