Seven principles for selecting software packages

The aim of this article at http://goo.gl/7um7b is to provide practitioners with a grounded set of principles to guide the selection of software packages. By principles, we mean a set of fundamental ideas that summarize important insights in software package acquisition that are not (yet) embedded into the practice of buying software. The principles are interdependent and together they form a whole that is larger than the sum of the parts. Similar to Klein and Myers' argument, the use of all principles is not mandatory, but in each case it must be judged whether, how, and which principles apply to a specific situation.

Trojans in India's Cyber Security

While India spends expensive resources in securing the cyber space, most commonsensical threats are totally overlooked by the entire government machinery, cautions Gursharan Dhanjal in this article at http://goo.gl/OZTjW

5 Myths About the "Information Age"

Confusion about the nature of the so-called information age has led to a state of collective false consciousness. It's no one's fault but everyone's problem, because in trying to get our bearings in cyberspace, we often get things wrong, and the misconceptions spread so rapidly that they go unchallenged. Taken together, they constitute a font of proverbial nonwisdom. Five stand out. Read the full article at http://goo.gl/ObLw2

Improving Software Usability: A Manager's Guide

A high-level view of the redesign process, geared to senior managers responsible for the success of their software, Web-based applications, and E-commerce services. Access the guide at http://bit.ly/ftUONY

Critical Communications for Business

These days, any organization that doesn't have a business continuity plan in place is critically out of date. Everyone's aware of the big threats—terrorism, natural disasters, regional power failures, and so on. But with an increasingly remote workforce, more companies are open to more interruptions to their business—and in a virtual workplace, even if those interruptions hit on a local level, their effects reach far and wide. Read this white paper at http://goo.gl/U5uZT

Moving from Legacy Systems to Cloud Computing

Many companies continue to have questions about having their infrastructure or applications deployed on a cloud computing architecture, despite the proven savings and business advantages cloud computing can provide. This white paper sponsored by Tata Communications at http://goo.gl/0HuVj addresses some common technology and deployment concerns, and makes suggestions on how companies can more easily migrate comfortably to using cloud-based computing more effectively in their business.

An open cloud

Data portability is the core assurance that any business, or a government will seek before embracing cloud computing. Read the opinion of Ms. Pallavi Kathuria, Microsoft India at http://goo.gl/flyRi

TLC for Teachers

Can educators be made more effective and efficient through teaching and learning centres? The aim of a TLC is to support teaching and learning and improve quality to enable both staff and students to be their best. Thus, a sense of purpose is a necessity. Unless a need for such a centre is felt by the sector's key players (teachers), the meaning is lost. So, setting up a TLC should be a decision made by the administration, management and the faculty together. Read this interesting article at http://goo.gl/xfOXq

Nine gotchas to heed before diving in cloud development

Application development and testing in the cloud are gaining popularity, as more businesses launch public and private cloud computing initiatives. Cloud development typically includes integrated development environments, application lifecycle management components (such as test and quality management, source code and configuration management, continuous delivery tools), and application security testing components. If you're looking to venture into cloud development for the first time, here are nine types of hurdles you might encounter and suggestions on how to address them from developers who've actually done the work. Read the full article at http://goo.gl/ihzFL

Video: Information Technology Opportunities in the Energy Sector

As part of the Global Climate and Energy Project's 6th Annual Research Symposium at Stanford University, a distinguished panel of speakers, moderated by Mark Horowitz, coming from the information technology and energy industries discusses the ongoing integration of information technologies into energy provision and delivery services, and the possible developments and opportunities coming as a result in the near future. Watch this 1hr 21 min video at http://goo.gl/yFYnE

Video: The Future of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

Andrew Ng (Stanford University) is building robots to improve the lives of millions. From autonomous helicopters to robotic perception, Ng's research in machine learning and artificial intelligence could result one day in a robot that can clean your house. Watch this 16.27 min video at http://goo.gl/MGZxo

Why there's no Nobel Prize in Computing

When Nobel Prizes are dished out each fall, the most accomplished professionals in computing, telecom and IT have usually been left out in the cold. That's because there is no Nobel Prize for these fields, and it's unlikely there will be one any time soon. Why? Read the full story at http://goo.gl/cS283

Webcast: A Common Sense Approach to Windows 7 migration

For budgetary and other reasons, many companies chose to skip the Microsoft Windows Vista upgrade and are now actively preparing for Windows 7 instead. What is the best way to integrate Windows 7 and exploit the many new, business-critical features it has? This webcast probes a most compelling path to Windows 7 migration. View this 28 min webcast at http://goo.gl/Ah8ut

The green IT stars of 2010

InfoWorld's 2010 Green 15 Awards: Green-tech projects coupled with innovation and collaboration yield bountiful rewards. Read about these projects at http://goo.gl/xt1wD

The hottest IT skills are non-certified

Employers are paying higher premiums for IT skills that don't come with a piece of paper, though hands-on experience remains a big draw. Read the article at http://goo.gl/ECb5A

11 ways to promote infographics

Graphic representations of information are gaining popularity. Here's how to make sure everyone sees your work of art. Read the post at http://goo.gl/jcwWm

7 Shortcuts to Losing Your Data (and Probably Your Job)

Most of us in information technology worry a lot more about losing systems and data than we do about ratings – and with good reason. One study reports that a company that experiences a significant computer outage will never fully recover financially and that 50 percent of companies suffering such a predicament will be out of business within 5 years. Trust Your Fellow Co-Workers to Follow Policy; Rely Upon the Honesty of Others and Pay No Mind to Computer Viruses are some of the ways to lose data. To read more http://goo.gl/di4oX

Selecting a Programming Language

With such a large selection of programming languages it can be difficult to choose one for a particular project. Reading the manuals to evaluate the languages is a time consuming process. On the other hand, most people already have a fairly good idea of how various automobiles compare. So in order to assist those trying to choose a language, we have prepared a chart that matches programming languages with comparable automobiles.

- Assembler: A Formula I race car. Very fast, but difficult to drive and expensive to maintain.
- FORTRAN II: A Model T Ford. Once it was king of the road.
- FORTRAN IV: A Model A Ford.
- FORTRAN 77: A six-cylinder Ford Fairlane with standard transmission and no seat belts.
- COBOL: A delivery van. It's bulky and ugly, but it does the work.
- BASIC: A second-hand Rambler with a rebuilt engine and patched upholstry. Your dad bought it for you to learn to drive. You'll ditch the car as soon as you can afford a new one.
- PL/I: Cadillac convertible with automatic transmission, a two- tone paint job, white-wall tires, chrome exhaust pipes, and fuzzy dice hanging in the windshield
- C: A black Firebird, the all-macho car. Comes with optional seat belts (lint) and optional fuzz buster (escape to assembler).
- ALGOL 60: An Austin Mini. Boy, that's a small car.
- Pascal: A Volkswagon Beetle. It's small but sturdy. Was once popular with intellectuals.

- Modula II: A Volkswagon Rabbit with a trailer hitch.
- ALGOL 68: An Astin Martin. An impressive car, but not just anyone can drive it.
- LISP: An electric car. It's simple but slow. Seat belts are not available.
- PROLOG/LUCID: Prototype concept-cars.
- Maple/MACSYMA: All-terrain vehicles.
- FORTH: A go-cart.
- LOGO: A kiddie's replica of a Rolls Royce. Comes with a real engine and a working horn.
- APL: A double-decker bus. Its takes rows and columns of passengers to the same place all at the same time. But, it drives only in reverse gear, and is instrumented in Greek.
- Ada: An army-green Mercedes-Benz staff car. Power steering, power brakes and automatic transmission are all standard. No other colors or options are available. If it's good enough for the generals, it's good enough for you. Manufacturing delays due to difficulties reading the design specification are starting to clear up.

Announcements
- To join CSI as a member, pl. visit http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/membership
- If you are interested in talking on your area of competence at CSI chapters, pl. register as a distinguished speaker at http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/email

ICT Events
- ACC-2011: International Conference on Advances in Computing and Communications. 22-24, Jul 2011 at Kochi, India. www.acc-rajagiri.org
- IAMA-2011: International Conference on Intelligent Agent & Multi-Agent Systems. 7-9, Sep 2011at Rajalakshmi Engineering College, Chennai in association with IEEE Madras Section, IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter, Computer Society of India, Chennai Chapter and Artificial Intelligence Association of India. Contact: enquiry@iama2011.org.in Website: http://www.iama2011.org.in/
- ReSYM-11: Research Symposium on Pervasive Computing and its Underlying Technologies. 15 - 16, Sep 2011, Chennai, Last date: 10th Jul 2011. Contact: Dr. A. Balaji Ganesh, Ph: +91-44-26591860 ; Mobile:098427 91925; E-Mail: resym11@gmail.com & abganesh@velammal.edu.in
- Emerging Trends in Information and Communication Technologies. 14-15, Oct 2011 at Hyderabad. Organised by: Guru Nanak Institutions, Ibrahimpatnam, Hyderabad in association with CSI Div IV and Hyderabad Chapter. contact: Dr. D.D. Sarma, Convener, & Director, Guru Nanak Inst., of P.G. Studies. Email: ddsarma18@yahoo.com OR H.R. Mohan, Chairman, Div IV, CSI Email: hrmohan.csi@gmail.com

ICT News: Voices & Views
- According to IBM's annual 'X-Force 2010 Trend and Risk Report, India was the top country for phishing email origination in 2010 at 15.5%, followed by Russia at 10.4%. More than 8,000 new vulnerabilities were documented globally, a 27% rise from 2009.
- According to a report from Cisco, India's Internet traffic will grow 9-fold by 2015, growing at 55% and will reach 1.1 exabytes a month in 2015, equivalent to watching 273 million DVDs. Mobile data traffic will grow 114-fold between 2010 and 2015. Globally, the number of network-connected devices will be more than 15 b, twice the world's population, by 2015. Internet traffic will quadruple to reach 966 exabytes a year. Internet video traffic will be 63% of all consumer traffic in 2015, up from 20% in 2010.
- According to Nasscom, India's IT and BPO exports jumped 18.7% during fiscal 2011 to $59 b. It accounts for 26% of India's overall exports and 11% of services revenue.
- According to Gartner, the global software security market grew 12% to $16.5 b in 2010 from $14.7 b in 2009.
- India should be 'launching pad' for product firms. "We should have at least 500 product companies in the next five years and around 2,000 by the year 2020" -- Mr. Som Mittal, President, Nasscom.
- Indian software exports to aerospace industry have crossed the $500-million mark in 2010-11.
- Out of the $59 b software exports from India, engineering services segment contributed $ 9 b.
- According to a survey by Deloitte, about 74% respondents said they would change operator if their current operator did not provide 3G access.
- According to CyberMedia Research, the aggregate market size of domestic IT services and IT products sector is likely to touch Rs 2,33,930 cr by 2014, growing at 17.3%.
- The High-Level Committee on Financing Infrastructure estimates that the telecom sector would require an investment of Rs 6.5 lakh cr during the 12th Plan.
- It is estimated that the total subscriber base will increase to 1,200 million by 2017, from 846 million at present.

- It is understood that as many as 50 Indian companies could be among the first ones to apply (at a cost of Rs. 80 lakhs) for Web sites ending in their own brands names.

ICT News: Government, Compliance
- The tax authorities feel that onshore contracts that involve deployment of software professionals at client site overseas should not be eligible for tax benefits in India. Nasscom disagrees.
- After cross-border terrorism, India now plans to take up another form of incursion with Pakistan – that of cross-border spectrum interference.
- DOT is backing a proposal to reserve 30% of all electronic equipment procurement to those items that are manufactured in the country.
- Nasscom has hit back at a British parliamentary committee report that criticised the sector's use of an entry route for its workers into the UK.
- Mr Sam Pitroda, and Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, to assist the JPC, probing the irregularities in telecom licensing, spectrum allocation and their pricing.
- After Blackberry and Nokia, an application running on iPhone has come under the security scanner. The application, called Tiger Text allows users to send messages, text and video, without leaving any trail.
- 2G: JPC to summon all Telecom Ministers since 1998.
- Concerned over the adverse impact of the recent US visa restrictions on Indian companies, Govt. plans to take up the issue with US.
- The Govt. has set up a high level committee which includes Mr Sam Pitroda and Mr Nandan Nilekani, to monitor the implementation of the National Optic Fibre Network (NOFN) project.

ICT News: IT Manpower, Staffing & Top Moves
- One-fifth of the total fresh hires (35000-40000) for IT services companies this year is likely to be from Tier 2 and Tier 3 towns.
- The middle level women IT professionals who had quit Mahindra Satyam are likely to be offered jobs again through a lateral recruitment initiative christened "Starting Over."
- Mr Arun Jain, CMD and Founder of Polaris Software Lab, has set a precedent for other entrepreneurs to follow by not taking any salary or bonus.
- Hundreds of employees of DQ Entertainment have protested against alleged denial of hikes in salaries for 2011-12 as they had received only one hike in the last four years.
- BPO company Vertex plans to double Indian headcount to almost 13,000 by Sep 2012.
- Wipro Infotech plans to hire 7,000.
- "There are around 4 m people in IT/ITES industry, and in the next five to six years, there will be 20 m graduates in this industry, making this the largest employer of graduates in the country."
- CA Technologies plans to recruit 800 employees for its India operations.
- Steria to scale up its India delivery headcount to 8,000-9,000 employees from 6000 by 2014.

ICT News: Company News: Tie-ups, Joint Ventures, New Initiatives
- Intel plans to bring in security cover embedded at the chip level, making it difficult for hackers to barge into the systems.
- Google's 'Street View' feature, starts operations in India starting from Bangalore. But Bangalore Police blocks Google's Street View on security concerns.
- Navteq, a map and traffic data provider, plans to launch its version of a panoramic view of key locations in the country like Google Streetview.
- Tata DoCoMo launches an Internet access device that allows subscribers to jump 3G, CDMA & Wi-Fi.
- After iPod, iTunes, iPhone, iPad, Apple unveils 'iCloud' – the online sync service that will allow its customers to share music, photos and files across multiple Internet-linked gadgets.
- IBM celebrates its 100th birthday on 16th Jun 2011.

Books
Brief reviews of books useful to students and professionals are included in this column. The publishers -- Oxford University Press, Shroff Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd, Wiley India Pvt Ltd and Infycareer Pvt Ltd have come forward to present the books to the winners of the Info Quiz.

Personality Development and Soft Skills: This book aims to provide crucial insights into various facets of developing one's personality, as well as to improve written, verbal, and non-verbal communication skills. Special attention has been paid to the specific needs of a job aspirant, such as writing of effective CVs, participation in group discussions, tackling job interviews, and to hone one's public speaking and speed-reading skills. The book provides an overview of the growing importance of modern learning mechanisms such as the Language Laboratory. Case studies, classroom based exercises and self assessment tests

presented in this book attempts to provide the reader with hands-on experience to cope with the demands of the world of business. The accompanying CD provides presentations on Group Discussion, Job Interviews and Body Language. This book will be useful to students of any discipline who are on the threshold of starting their careers or young managers who are already working in the corporate world. Author: Barun K. Mitra. Published by: Oxford University Press. Pages: 276. Price: Rs.225/- More about the book at http://goo.gl/Tozob (This book is being given as a prize to the Info Quiz Winners)

Fundamentals of Ethics for Scientists and Engineers: This book presents introductory ethics in a new approach that is both practical and accessible. Classical virtue theory is employed to provide a time-tested, simple, and easily remembered basis for ethical reasoning. The text is modularized for easy use in both stand-alone ethics courses and as self-contained units within engineering core courses. It is accompanied by an instructor s manual that includes a comprehensive set of sample lectures and course assignments, detailed homework solutions, and many helpful hints for teaching an ethics course. To ground the ethical analysis in practical reality, each chapter contains a real-life case together with several fictional cases. The fictional cases breathe renewed vigor into the study of ethics by employing a new learning device. The book is composed of four units of which the first two focuses on ethical reasoning and the next two focuses on practical issues such as IPR, conflict of interest, whistle blowing and authorship of scientific publishing. Authors: Edmund G. Seebauer , Robert L. Barry. Published by: Oxford University Press. Pages: 288. Price: Rs.325/- More about the book at http://goo.gl/G31rK (This book is being given as a prize to the Info Quiz Winners)

Enterprise Multiplatform Auditing: In today's global world clients needs to show compliance to different laws like Sarbanes Oxley, HIPPA, the European Union's 8th directive, privacy laws, and so on, in an enterprise (horizontal) environment. The environments become more and more complex with the rapid growth of e-business, and they often span several geographies. Most IT organizations are still very much vertical, often with different organizations within each country, with little cooperation between them. Lack of skills on cross-platform skills are also a major issue. Integration and automation at the infrastructure layer is key to enabling e-business. With the growing number of security databases, proving compliance across the enterprise is very complex. This is also true for auditors, as they need a very deep knowledge of IT and a variety of solutions and IT Infrastructures to be able to do a reliable audit. This IBM Redbooks publication documents the results of efforts and tests to show how one can perform audit trail and report in an enterprise. After providing a strategic overview, this book deals with the audit tools relating to enterprise-wide auditing, e-business, z/Os, Unix/Linux, DB2 environments with related scenarios. Authr: Paolo Bari et al. Published by: Shroff Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd. Pages: 358. Price: Rs. 400/- More about the book at http://goo.gl/EbjYe Readers of CSI-eNL can get this book at 15% discount with free shipping. Contact: spdchennai@shroffpublishers.com (This book is being given as a prize to the Info Quiz Winners)

Developing Analytical Skills: The book, outcome of the workshop conducted for the faculty members and industrial practitioners by the Annamalai University, provides 61 cases developed by experts from different management institutes and universities from India and abroad. The cases reflect real life situation from different industrial sectors including services industry. The cases reflect practices of public, private and family business. The business practices in select overseas organizations from Africa, Australia, Europe and Bangladesh speak about production, marketing, finance and insurance. The cases of select public sectors in India deal with production and marketing aspects. Live cases on entrepreneurship focus attention on product idea and entrepreneurial ventures. Students pursuing different management courses will find the book useful for class discussion, project assignments and placement interviews. Cases provide volume of data pertaining to the respective industries and industrial practices. Executives in organizations will find the book useful for taking tactical decision in HR and Marketing. Faculty members, management trainers may use this book for class room discussion and in executive development programmes. Authors: Dr. B. Natarajan, S. K. Nagarajan. Published by: Shroff Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd. Pages: 636. Price: Rs.5005/- More about the book at http://goo.gl/Bx1Hd Readers of CSI-eNL can get this book at 15% discount with free shipping. Contact: spdchennai@shroffpublishers.com (This book is being given as a prize to the Info Quiz Winners)

Information Systems Security: Information and communication systems can be exposed to intrusion and risks, within the overall architecture and design of these systems. These areas of risks can span the entire gamut of information systems including databases, networks, applications, internet-based communication, web services, mobile technologies and people issues associated with all of them. It is vital for businesses to be fully aware of security risks associated with their systems as well as the regulatory body pressures; and develop and implement an effective strategy to handle those risks. This book covers all of the aforementioned issues in depth. It covers all significant aspects of security, as it deals with ICT, and provides practicing ICT security professionals explanations to various aspects of information systems, their corresponding security risks and how to embark on strategic approaches to reduce and, preferably,

eliminate those risks. Review questions and reference material pointers after each chapter makes this book very useful. This book is more like an encyclopedia on the subject of Information Security and will be useful for UG & graduate level students, teachers and professionals for reference and international certifications exams in security domain. Author: Nina Godbole. Published by: Wiley India Pvt Ltd. Pages: 1020. Price: Rs. 599/- More about the book and detailed contents of the book at http://goo.gl/ihGLh Readers of CSI-eNL can get this book at 20% discount with free shipping. Contact: abbhardwaj@wiley.com   (This book is being given as a prize to the Info Quiz Winners)

Game Design Foundations: This book covers the basics of designing a game – from coming up with a concept and writing the game design document to scripting the levels and publishing the game. The author in this book provides detailed process with exercises and assignments. The accompanying CD has the demo of Reel Deal Poker Challenger, full code for tic-tac-toe example in VB and VC++, Demo file, What is Machinima and ideas for over 1200 games. Author: Roger E Pedersen. Published by Jones and Bartlett India Pvt Ltd (www.jblearning.com) Pages: 400 Price: Rs. 295/- For additional info. Pl. contact Ms. Sangeeta Datta at publicity@jbiinfo.com (This book is being given as a prize to the Info Quiz Winners)

InfoQuiz–2011-07-01 (EIGHT Prizes to Win – SIX Books & TWO Awards of Rs. 500/-)

1. Name the ATM card aimed to target no frills account holders in collaboration with banks being launched by The National Payment Corporation of India Ltd.
2. Name the cloud service recently launched by Apple Inc.
3. Identify the company whose tagline is "Work. Online"
4. Name the Japanese supercomputer which has overtaken the China's Tianhe-1A supercomputer as the world's fastest computer as per Top 500 list released on 20th Jun 2011.
5. Infosys was started with an initial investment of Rs. ------

Email your answers by **20th Jul 2011** to csi.infoquiz@gmail.com **with subject "infoquiz-2011-07-01".** Please provide your name, designation, company/institution, full postal address (to send the prize) and the contact phone nos. after the answers. The first person to answer correctly and one randomly selected lucky winner will be awarded Rs. 500/= each by **SRA Systems** (www.srasys.com). **Oxford University Press** (www.oup.co.in), **Shroff Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd** (www.shroffpublishers.com), **Wiley India Pvt Ltd** (www.wileyindia.com) and **Jones and Bartlett India Pvt Ltd** (www.jblearning.com) will present the books which are briefly reviewed above. In all, there will be EIGHT prizes – TWO cash prizes of Rs. 500/- each and SIX prizes of one book each. Answers along with the winner info will be published in the next issue.

Answers & Winners of InfoQuiz-2011-06-01
- Paul Allen, False, Wipro, K.V. Kamath, Kaspersky Labs
- Awards of Rs. 500/= each from SRA Systems: Mr. J. Jerald Inico from Chennai and Mr. Abhishek Pandey from Visakapatnam.
- Two books from Oxford University Press: "Online Marketing: A customer led approach" to Ms. Yogita Randive from Pune & "Quality Management" to Ms. Geethalakshmi Balaji from Chennai.
- Two books from Shroff Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd: "The Art of Creative Destruction - Illustrated Software Testing & Test Automation" to Ms. Sweta K. Mittal from Ahmedabad & "Break Your Negative Attitude" to Ms. S. Ameena from Dharmavaram.
- One book from Wiley India Pvt Ltd: "Cyber Security: Understanding Cyber Crimes, Computer Forensics and Legal Perspectives" to Mr. B. Sundaram from Chennai.
- One from Infycareer Pvt Ltd: "Road to Success - Project Management & PMP" to Ms. Manjusha Gupta from Mumbai.

About the CSI-eNewsletter
CSI-eNewsletter is a compilation of information from different sources which would be of interest to ICT professionals, academicians and students and serve as reference. Pl. note that we do not endorse products/services referred in the newsletter. The CSI-eNL is published on 1st of every month. For the archives, pl. visit http://www.csi-chennai.org/csi-enl/csi-enl-archives.htm or at http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/archives

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