



## Who is Dr. Neil?

- MISSION: To increase the value of your Software Business
- Working with software for way too long to be healthy
- Spend half my year in Australia
- Regular contributor to: Australian Developer, International Developer, Cutter IT Journal, CUJ, CODE...

What is software?

• **CODE!**

**CODE**

- Code is what it is all about
- software product = some code

## Better Product

- = better code
  - Easy to install
  - Has functions the user wants
  - High quality
    - repeatedly works
  - Upgradeable
    - more features the user wants easily added

## It's not hard!

- So why do software projects fail?
  - We should use language 'xyz'
  - We should use technology 'abc'
  - We should use these complex patterns
    - That we don't actually need
  - We should use these practices
    - That are not suitable for this project

We make it more complex than is  
needed

- Makes us look smart
- Justifies our high salary
- Covers our arses
  - 'It was a tough project, no wonder it failed!'

**STOP IT NOW!**

- Do the simplest thing that could possibly work.

## How?

- Let me show you....

## Techniques

- Automating activities
- Test Driven Development
- Refactoring

## Automation

- If it can be automated then it should be
- NAnt or Batch files or Windows scripts

## Test Driven Development

- Test First Programming
- Test Frameworks support TDD
- NUnit

## The Why Questions

- Why do we need tests in our code at all? Isn't that the job of the testers?
- Why do we have to write test code?
- Why not do manual testing?
- Why write the test code before the 'proper' code?
- Why doesn't this whole process cost the customer more?

## Refactoring

- Changing the structure of code while maintaining the behaviour

## The Why Questions

- Why not just get it right the first time?
- Why not just start again if you know it's wrong?
- Why can't I just refactor at the end of the project?
- Why does this help me develop more robust code?
- Why should I do it when no one else does?
- Why do something that doesn't add any new features to the code?

## Resources

- <http://www.Roodyn.com>
- <http://eXtreme.NET.Roodyn.com>
- <http://www.xp123.com>
- <http://www.extremeprogramming.org>
- <http://www.xprogramming.com>