

#### The Project Architecture Report

# Why CI?

# Why CI?

So that you present your ideas with the same professionalism and excellence with which you develop them.

# Why CI?







information communication relationship







## Next, the content.



# Next, the content.













Who?

#### information

Why?

To get you thinking critically To scope out the problem To discover assumptions To tease out unknowns



# And now...

### And now...

#### ...the part you've all been waiting for!

#### What the heck goes into this Report??

Statement of the problem: requirements specification

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**Brief introduction**: What's the point? What's the value? Statement of the Problem: requirements specification **Graphics:** useful, explained, captioned, and labeled **System Block Diagram**: What pieces do you expect? **Components**: Inputs **Outputs Internal Operation** 

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That's the what. Here's the how.

# That's the what. Here's the how.

What do you hate the most about reading?

# That's the what. Here's the how.

What do you hate the most about reading?

OK, then don't do that.

# Help Your Reader

- Make them happy.
- Make your document easy to read:

**Efficiently!** 

Accurately!

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## Efficient and accurate?

The Robotics Library offers you free professional advice from • professional roboticists about all types of robotic engineering, as well as help with reports and presentations. Hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 9:00 pm Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, Sunday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm. Check online for updates. To make an appointment go to http://web.mit.edu/roboticists and click on the yellow sunburst. Appointment times fill up quickly. Don't wait till the day before your assignment is due. If you can't find a convenient appointment time, there is an on-line Wait List, and 95% of clients who use the Wait List end up getting an appointment. To be placed on the Wait List, just click on the blue link that says, "Is the time that you want already reserved?" When a cancellation occurs, you will be notified by email. Claim an opening as soon as you can, because all Wait Listed clients are notified. If you can't find an appointment, try the Online Roboticist at http://web.mit.edu/onlineroboticists.html.

# Efficient and accurate!!

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- <u>Hours</u> (updates posted online)
  - Monday-Thursday 9:00 am 9:00 pm
  - Friday 9:00 am 6:00 pm
  - Sunday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm.
- <u>To make an appointment</u>, go to mit.edu/roboticists and click on the sunburst.
- <u>Plan ahead</u>: appointments fill up quickly. Don't wait.
- <u>Can't find a time</u>? 96% of clients who use the online Wait List get appointments.
  - To use the Wait List, click the link that says "Is the time you want already reserved?"
  - When a cancellation occurs, you will be notified by email.
  - Claim an opening as soon as you can, because eall Wait Listed clients are notified.
- <u>Online help</u>: If you can't find an appointment, try the Online Tutor at mit.edu/ robociststutorial.

- Reader Expectations
  - Clear introduction, context
  - Transitions throughout
  - Simple, precise language

- Paragraphs
  - One idea per
  - Begin with main point
  - Include sufficient detail
  - Use explicit transitions
  - Arrange in a meaningful order

#### Citation

- When in doubt, cite
- Not to cite when needed is to plagiarize

- Intentional Redundancy (a/k/a useful repetition)
  - Tie all parts to the main point
  - Reinforce main points with informative headings
  - Write explanatory captions
  - Make links explicit

- Figures and Tables
  - Readable
  - Self-contained, with captions
  - Explained in detail in the text
  - Clearly and thoroughly labeled
  - Necessary and sufficient

- Document Format
  - Make title and headings informative
  - Call out lists where helpful
  - Shorter rather than longer paragraphs
  - Plenty of white space
  - Center equations, label at right margin, white space above and below

- These slides will be available online
- After you finish your draft, go back through and use these bullet points to revise it
- If you ask yourself, "Have I done this?" for each of these points, and can then answer "Yes," your chances of having a happy reader skyrocket

– And one more thing....

# and don't forget...

# Valentíne's Day

#### \*\*\*\*\*