

SEPIOR Developing Reusable Software Components in CAM Environments

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Opening Thought

The software industry is trying to do now, what the hardware industry has been doing for many years:

- Define standards for interoperability of components.
- Integrate components into packages at various levels of abstraction.

Status Quo

- Components are already ubiquitous on the desktop (COM, DCOM, COM+, OLE, ActiveX, JavaBeans,...).
- In Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM) environments components are used mainly on application level.
- The main part of software is **rewritten** for every automation project.
- Very low level of software reuse.
- Consequently SEKAS set up the PIE SEPIOR funded by the European Systems & Software Initiative ESSI.

Objectives of SEPIOR

systematic introduction and application of

- ◆ OO-methodologies and Reusability

to

- ◆ Increase reusability
- ◆ Reduce development efforts
- ◆ Raise quality

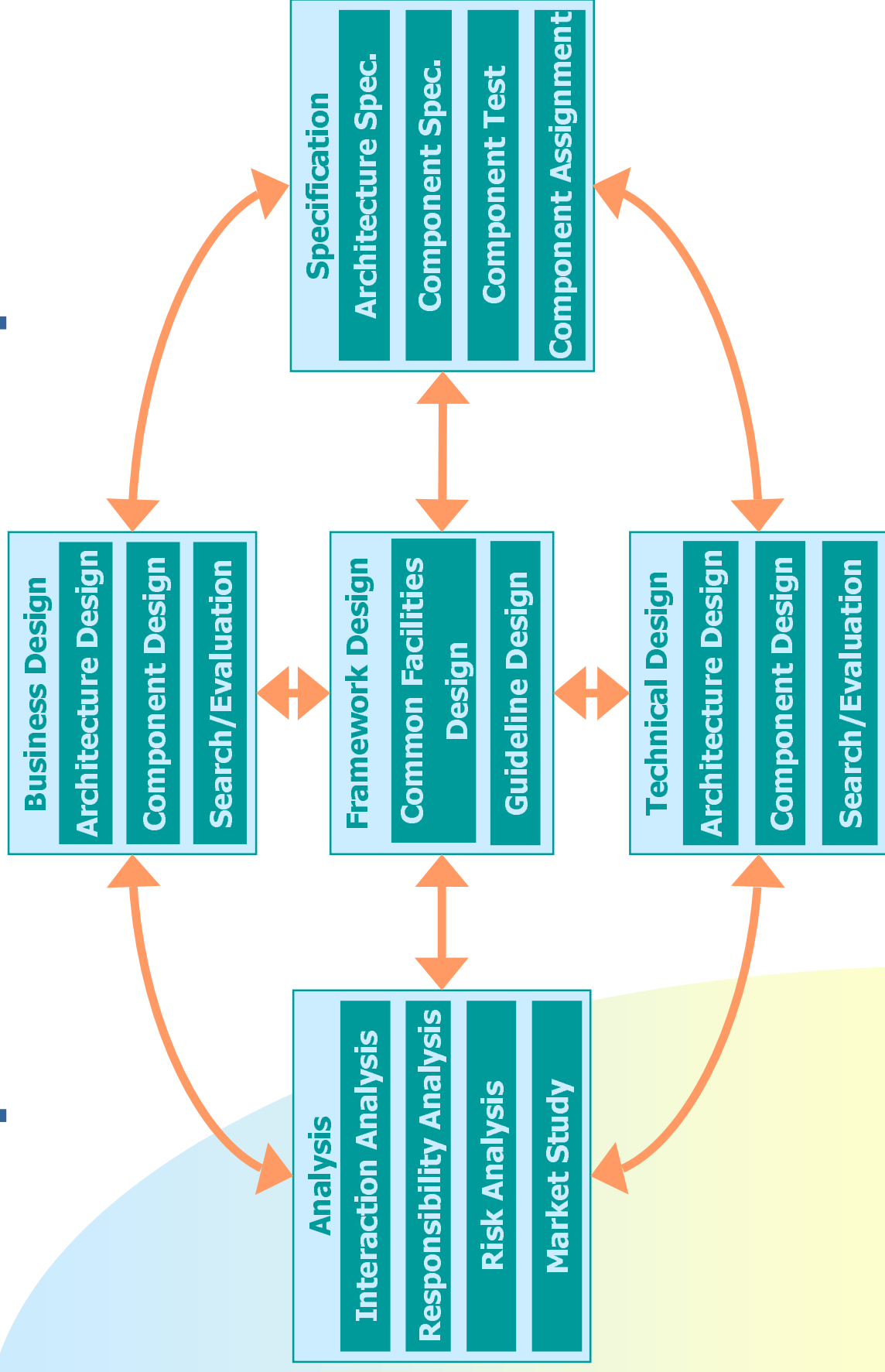


Reached through OO-based development of
components

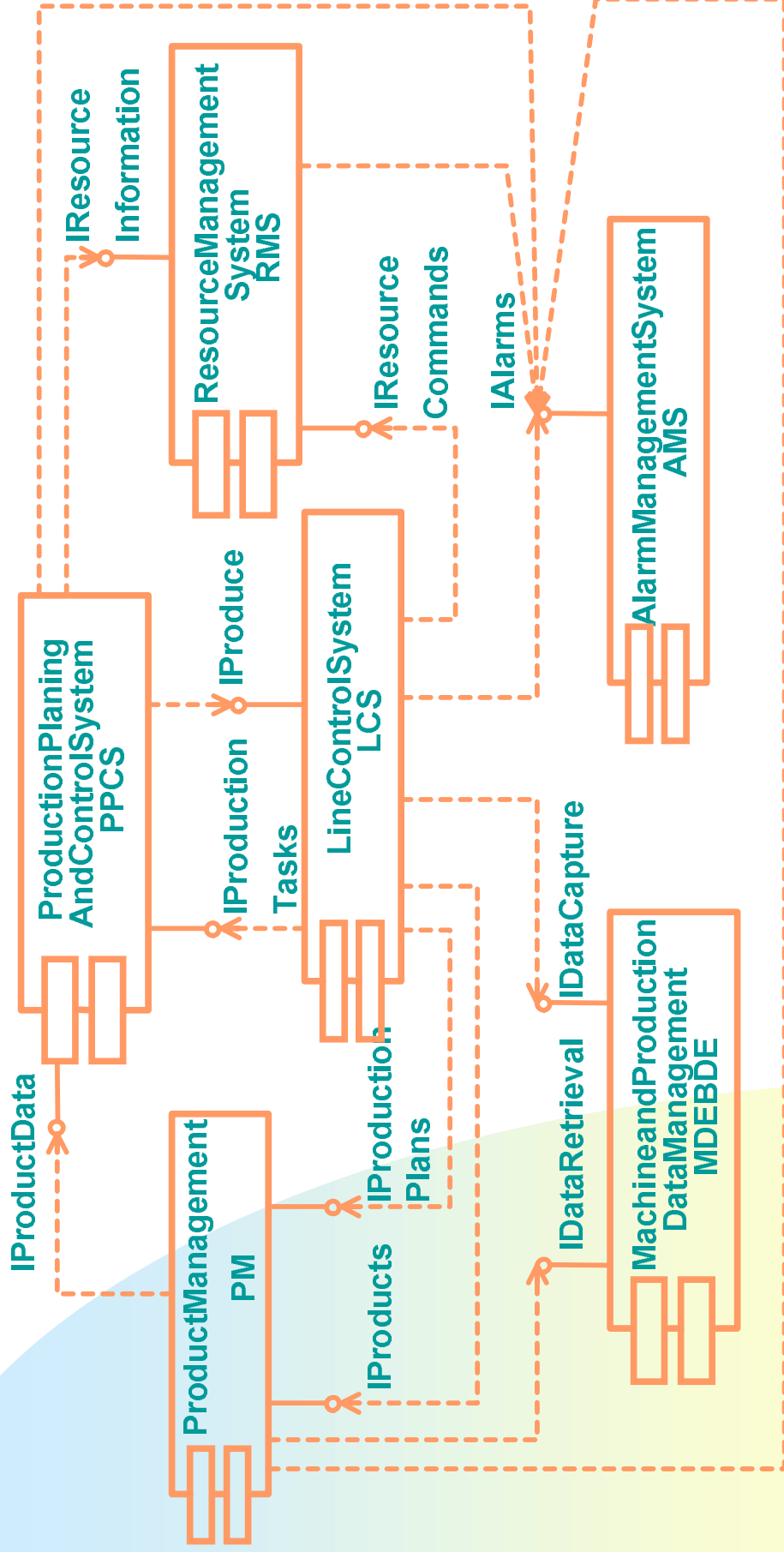
What is a Component?

- A component
- is a self-contained functional unit
 - is reusable
 - has precise and complete interfaces
 - is distributed binary
 - may be configurable
 - saves a lot of work for the developer and for the customer

Process Model for Component-based Development



Component Overview



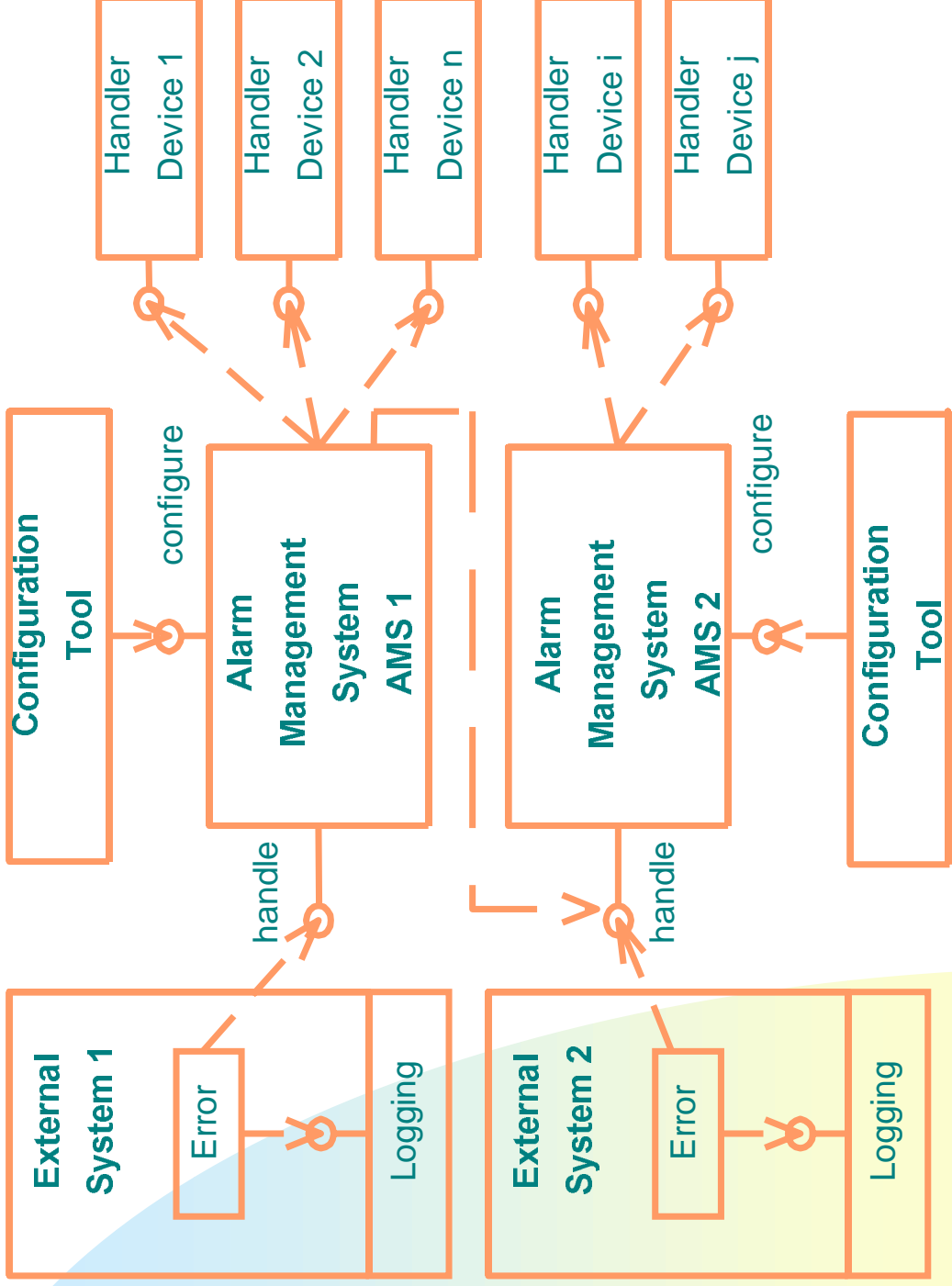
Alarm Management System

Requirements

- No loss of error information
- Asynchronous error handling
- Freely configurable with escalation
- Platform independence
- Transparent API
- Context-sensitive error classification



Alarm Management System



Technical Design Aspects

- CORBA instead of COM/DCOM, because
 - ◆ implementation for all relevant systems exist.
 - ◆ CORBA is well suited for medium to large size components.
 - ◆ CAM is a traditional domain of CORBA.
- JAVA as development platform
 - ◆ shorter development time
 - ◆ superior CORBA integration compared to C++
 - ◆ distribution is an integral part of JAVA philosophy (WORA, serialization, ...)

Impacts of Componentware

The introduction of Componentware has impacts on the following areas in the company

- ◆ Technical (CASE tool support, testing,..)
- ◆ Business (benefit ↔ effort)
- ◆ Skills (adoption of new methods and techniques)
- ◆ Organizational (process model)
- ◆ Cultural (incentives)

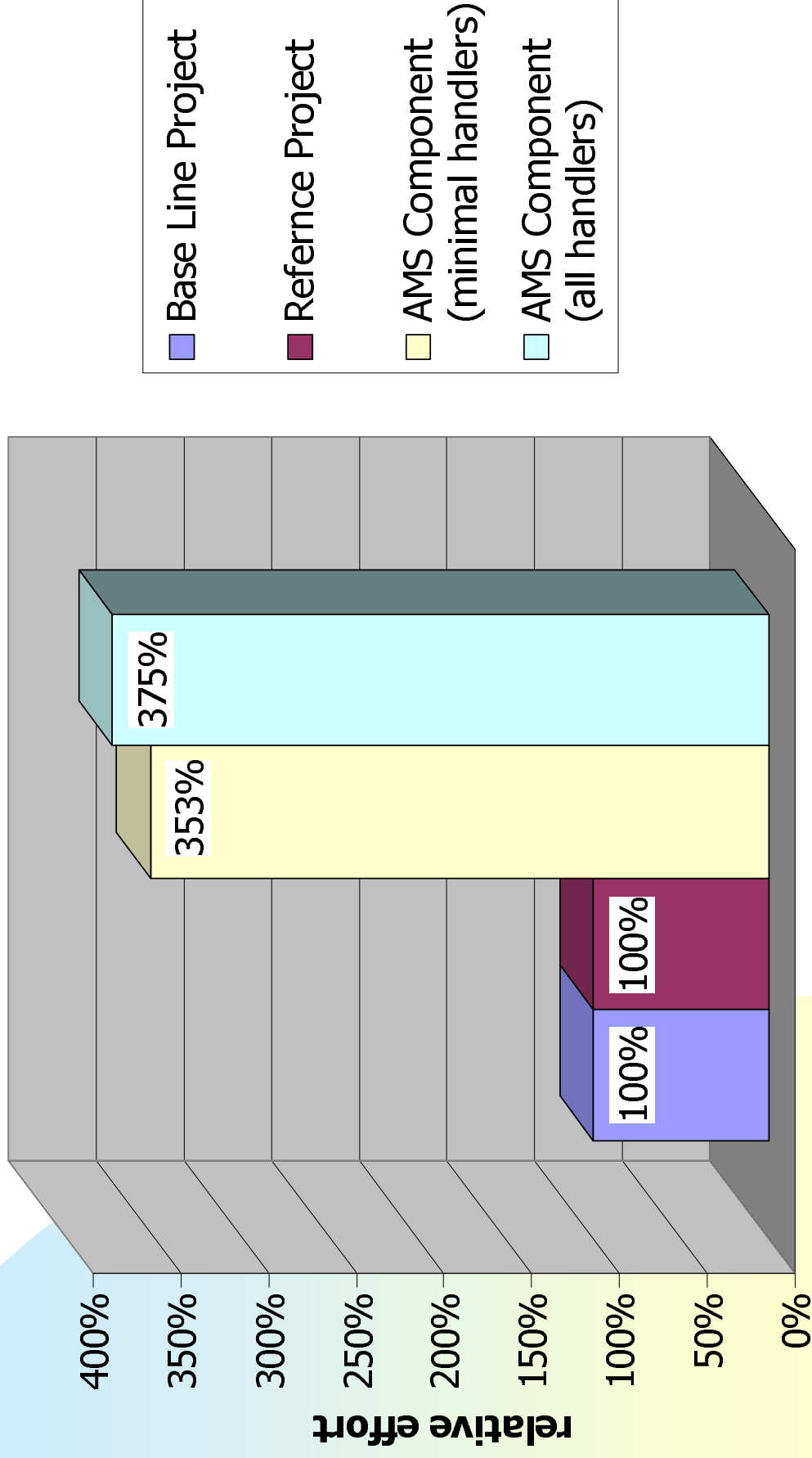
Experiences: Human Factors

- Prolong training and coaching until adoption of methods is reached!
- Restrict size of discussion-teams to 3-5 members!
- Chose a CASE-Tool supporting all implementation phases from design to code generation with
 - ◆ UML
 - ◆ code synchronization
 - ◆ integrated documentation
- Dare to iterate!

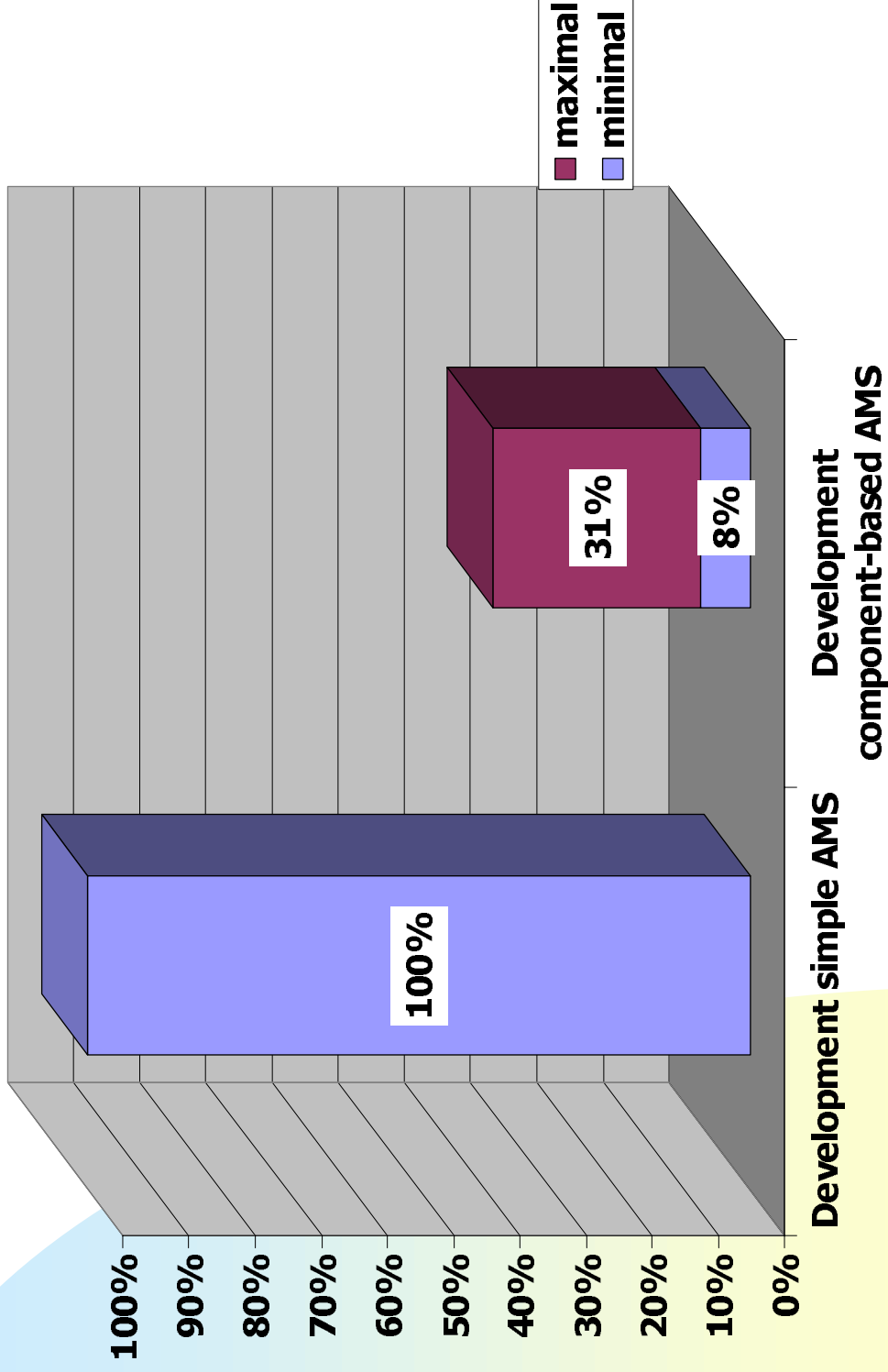
Result Measurement

- Re-use impact is expressed by
 - ◆ saved effort in development
 - ◆ goal: reduce effort by 20%
 - ◆ measured by comparison of
 - effort for functionality in reference projects
 - development effort for component
 - preliminary effort for pilot project using component
 - ◆ saved effort in maintenance
 - ◆ goal: reduce effort by 50%
 - ◆ measured by extrapolation of maintenance within pilot project

Result Measurement -Development Effort-



Result Measurement -Development Effort vs. Reuse effort-



Conclusions

- The introduction of components results in a
 - ◆ flexible construction of automation systems
 - ◆ reusing high quality software
 - ◆ with a high level of maturity and reliability.
- A solid framework makes it easy to
 - ◆ add
 - ◆ delete
 - ◆ substitute
 - ◆ extend

} functionality in a CAM-system.