## VICTORIA MANAGEMENT GROUP SEMINAR

Wed 29th Sept, 12.30-1.30pm, MZ04, Rutherford House, 23 Lambton Quay

## ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL— CONTINGENCY IN SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

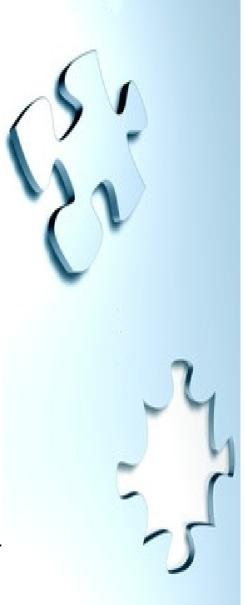
## Dr Jim Sheffield and Julien Lemétayer, vms

In software development, one size does not fit all. Yet the contingencies that shape the alignment between the project and its environment, and between software development and project success, are not well understood. This research aims to answer two questions: (1) What are the critical factors in software development methodology fit? (2) What is the role of software development methodology fit in project success?

Findings from interviews and an international survey reveal that organizational culture and empowerment of the project team are critical factors in methodology fit. No support was found for factors such as project size, criticality and the need for personnel supervision that are generally considered important contingencies. Methodology fit was found to be one of the predictors of project success, and one methodology was found not to fit all projects.

The contingencies identified in this research may assist practitioners select the most appropriate methodology, which will in turn result in higher project success rates.

This seminar reports findings from research conducted by Julien Lemétayer under Dr Jim Sheffield's supervision for a Summer Scholarship and for a Master's degree in Management Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.



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## All Welcome

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