

Systems Thinking and Agility; Think Big, Act Small

by *Gerrit Muller* University of South-Eastern Norway-NISE

e-mail: `gaudisite@gmail.com`

`www.gaudisite.nl`

Abstract

The focus in agile methods is on useful and feasible increments. The architecture is evolving by refactoring. Refactoring steps are only taken if needed for the increment. The longer term result of this approach is an emerging architecture, where every small step makes sense, but the overall architecture is not satisfying. In this article we propose a time-boxed investment to create the big picture as a complement to the incremental agile approach. An investment of a few days is sufficient to create a big picture that provides useful insights for incremental steps.

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