

HOW RELIABLE ARE REQUIREMENTS FOR LARGE DIGITAL SYSTEMS

HERBERT HECHT MYRON HECHT
SoHaR Incorporated
Beverly Hills, California

ISSAT'99 LAS VEGAS, NV

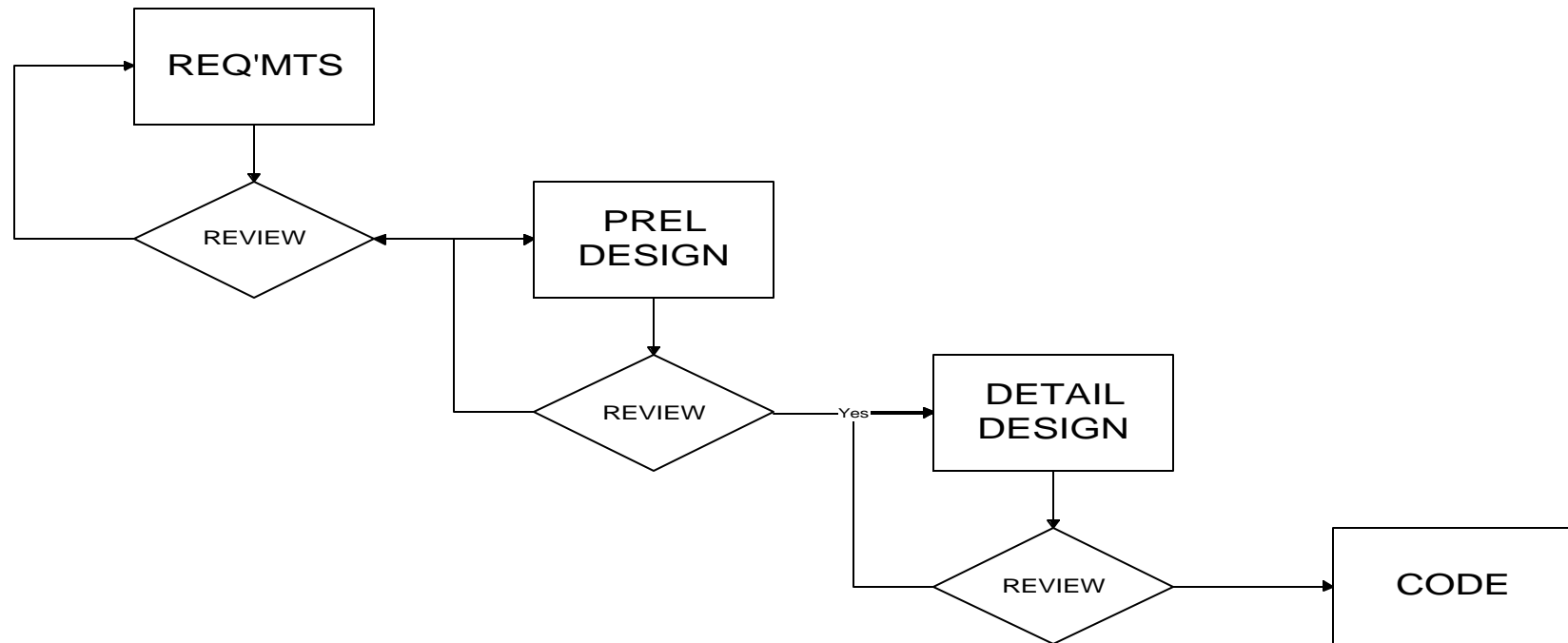
INITIAL OBSTACLES

- NOVELTY OF OBJECTIVES
 - TECHNICAL SCOPE
 - RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
- SLOW STAFF BUILD-UP
 - KEY DECISIONS MADE BY SKELETON STAFF
 - PRESSURE TO COMMIT ONCE PROJECT IS APPROVED
- CULTURE GAP: USER ▶ ◀ DEVELOPER

... AND THEN COME CHANGES

- LENGTH OF CHANGE CYCLE
 - ECP REQUEST ▶ ECP ▶ EVALUATION ▶ \$
 - WHICH REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING FOLLOWED IN THE MEANTIME?
 - CASCADED CHANGES
- CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL
 - CHANGE OF MISSION (OPM)
 - CAN'T DO WITHOUT IT (RARE)
 - HELPS THE SCHEDULE

CAN THE REVIEW CYCLE HELP?



WHERE IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION THE SCOPE, THE SCHEDULE OR THE BUDGET?

WHAT ABOUT SUCCESSES?

- MODEST INNOVATION
- WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT A LESS THAN PERFECT PRODUCT
- IN-HOUSE DEVELOPMENT OR LONG HISTORY OF USER-DEVELOPER INTERACTION

HOW CAN WE DO BETTER?

- REQUIREMENTS ANALYZERS
- FORMAL METHODS (LANGUAGES)
- RECURSIVE EVOLUTION

- SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY FOR DETAILS TO DEVELOPER
 - CONCENTRATE ON DEFINING A FIGURE OF MERIT (FOM)