

# The Software Measurement Manifesto

*"We, the software professionals and practitioners working on estimating software projects, are uncovering better ways of developing useful software measurements by doing it and helping others to do it. Through this work we have come to value:*

1. **Measurements according to a clearly defined goal**  
over  
measurements on a single aspect of software development that is readily available.
2. **Measurements based on existing process attributes**  
over  
measurements based on data collected only for measurement purposes.
3. **Measurements of value delivered to customers**  
over  
measurements on quantity of software.
4. **Objective, standard, and comparable measurement methods**  
over  
subjective or technology-dependent measurement methods.
5. **Estimates based on measurements**  
over  
estimates by analogy or opinion.
6. **Estimates based on objective and standardized measurements**  
over  
locally defined measurements that have only value for teams or individuals.

*That is, while there is value in the items below, we value the items on **above** more."*

This strawman version has been compiled by:

- **COSMIC**, the Common software measurement international consortium
- **PSMO**, the Polish software measurement association
- **AMMS**, the Mexican association of software metrics
- **UKSMA**, the UK software measurement association
- **Nesma**, your starting point for successful software projects