Abstract:

Innovation within large, established technology organizations is as critical to their success as the sustaining activities that support their day-to-day business. However, many traits necessary for maturing an organization, such as well-defined procedures and accountability structures, present challenges to organic innovation. The natural tendency to think “big” is one of these challenges. Product definition, financial management, process management and teaming will be explored for opportunities to remove barriers by thinking “small”. Observations from past experience across many differing types of companies (big and small) will be used as a basis for this discussion.

About the Speaker:

James Burnham is a Software Engineering R&D Manager for Lockheed Martin. He currently leads a number of “small” projects in the cyber security domain. His prior work at Lockheed Martin has included leadership roles in software architecture for large development programs, business strategy development and principal investigator roles for R&D projects.

Prior to Lockheed, he was Vice President of Software Engineering for Identix (now part of L-1 Identity Solutions), a security technology company. At Identix, James led the development of several commercial products for biometric-based identification and access control.

James was an independent consultant for many years with customers ranging from Fortune 500 organizations to early stage start-ups. His past experience also includes a variety of software development leadership roles for healthcare system companies.

James received an M.S. in Software Engineering – Program Management from Carnegie-Mellon University and a B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Georgia.

Next week:
Harshad Sardesai, Vice-President, Hewlett-Packard, on “How HP works.”