

# MSF Essentials – Book Overview

**Title:** *Microsoft Solutions Framework Essentials: Building Success Technology Solutions*  
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This book is the authoritative reference that describes and explains the key concepts, foundational principles, and proven practices underpinning the Microsoft Solutions Framework (MSF), called MSF Core. This book provides the background and reasoning for the MSF concepts embedded into Microsoft's Visual Studio 2005 Team System product line, such as [MSF for Agile Software Development](#).

As discussed in the book, MSF is a deliberate and disciplined approach based on a defined set of principles, models, disciplines, guidelines, mindsets, and proven practices. It contains a set of natural checks and balances that work to maximize quality and agility without adding undue governance. It helps teams directly address most common causes of technology project failure to improve success rates, solution quality, and business impact. Created to deal with the dynamic nature of technology projects and environments, MSF fosters the ability to adapt to continual change within the course of a project.

MSF has a long history of helping teams and organizations become more successful in delivering business-driven solutions. MSF has been successfully used on projects from the very simple to the very complex, from small teams to an enterprise. In essence, it is applicable to any effort that involves multiple people thinking about what needs to be accomplished; planning how to accomplish it; doing it; making sure it meets expectations; and wrapping up the effort, including learning from the effort.

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