Object-oriented Programming
The Software Development Revolution

First Edition
by
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Object-orientation (usually acronymed as OO) has lately become one of the most challenging fields for the software techniques. The ideas underlying OO were produced in the late 60s, but they didn't seem very useful at that time. Why should anyone have bothered with a complicated structure (called object), when the easier way of structured analysis and design were at hand ? But as programming projects kept growing and as the market asked for quicker adjustments to clients' demands, the OO technique slowly gained its own specific part in software development.

The report reviewed here is a report on OO techniques from the perspective of commercial software developers, with an emphasis on OO Programming. As stated in Introduction, the purpose of the report is to present and analyse the development level of OO. Even though all details have an informative character and are mainly based on software products with scores on the market (but without any advertising trend!), this report could be interesting for both novices and experts.

It could be for beginners a smooth opening to the problems and terminology of OO. One can find here a brief history of OO (**Chapter 1**: Executive Summary), the underlying philosophy of the OO models (**Chapter 2**:An Object Primer), and a list of the OO ideas linked to the user interfaces (**Chapter 3**: Objects on Display), the OO approach of large information systems (**Chapter 4**: OO Analysis and Software Design), programming languages (**Chapter 5**: OO Software Development), databases (**Chapter 6**: OO DataBase Management Systems-OODBMS), and development environments (**Chapter 7**: Personal Productivity Environments).

An expert can discover at least three elements of interest:

- a systematic approach of OO results, viewed by the products available on market for interfaces, languages, OODBMS and programming environments;
- a brief presentation of novelties of mid-1992;
- a very interesting exposition of future trends in OO (**Chapter 8**: OO Software: Now and the Future).

There is a possibility for directly contacting the OO Software producers, since the author gives their addresses in Appendix.

Without having a technical character, but rather an informative one, this report convincingly pledges for a fast switch on to OO, as a new technique of systematic development of information systems.

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