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Challenges in the Follow-the-Sun strategy: How to alleviate them.

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, the globalization process is emerging and creating huge challenges for the software engineering area, making the development more distributed and global. Seeking for competitive advantages, as cost reduction and productivity gain, companies spread their development operations to low costs countries. However, challenges related to the distributed software development are important. Among these challenges is the time zone difference, which can also be faced as an advantage, using the follow-the-sun strategy. Thus, this paper's objective is to identify the challenges related to the follow-the-sun strategy, and show how to alleviate them. This study concludes that the FTS's main challenges are during the work handoffs. Yet, this paper presents a feature to lighten these difficulties during the development phase from the software development life cycle.

Keywords

Distributed software development, global software development, software engineer, follow-the-sun, round the clock, time to market.