

Straw poll on the re-writing of Moses

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1. Management summary

The rough estimation is six people for one and half year; hence., nine man-years.

2. The poll

The anonymous straw poll was organised during the Fourth MT Marathon, 25-30 January 2010 in Dublin (<http://www.mtmarathon2010.info>). In a brief announcement, the author requested the participants present in the room to estimate the re-writing of Moses and associated tools as two numbers: months and people. Participants were directed to give the answers at the end of the session on the distributed paper post-it. The people in the room were the best in the world to do this kind of estimation due to their knowledge of Moses.

Twenty-nine people answered, which should be about 2/3 of the people present in the room. Hence, it is an acceptable number of answers. The exact number of people present in the room could be calculated from the pictures.

Some participants had the answer ready, so probably gave more thoughts to it. Others wrote the answer following the direct request from the author by the door; indeed, some freely admitted that they did not know the code of Moses. Also, the announcement should have been more elaborated, but this was an unscheduled item between two presentations.

The answers are below, so you can make your own analysis. The author's rough estimation is above in the management summary.

3. Answers

Man-months	Months	Man
1	1	1
11	11	1
12	3	4
16	4	4
20	20	1
24	12	2
24	12	2
28	4	7
30	3	10
30	6	5
32	8	4
36	6	6
54	18	3
60	12	5
60	12	5
60	12	5
72	6	12
90	18	5
90	6	15
120	12	10
120	12	10
168	24	7
180	9	20
240	20	12
240	24	10
240	24	10
240	24	10
240	48	5
720	60	12