Little is known about the actual usage of Computer Aided Software Engineering (CASE) in American organizations and more importantly, whether it is successful. This article attempts to clarify the CASE concept and synthesize the proclaimed benefits of CASE into a testable framework. It then reports results from an exploratory study. Data from 53 organizations is gathered in two phases to determine how the actual benefits being realized from the technology compare with a-priori expectations. The results suggest a number of barriers to the adoption, implementation and success of CASE. Prescriptive implications for IS managers wishing to successfully adopt and implement CASE are discussed.