Risk Management for Testers

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Since testing often occurs at the end of a project life cycle, the article does an overview and explains the risk management process and concept. The first thing that the article suggest and it overviews is that it is important to understand the risk management concepts. That is:

- risk avoidance, any action that can make the risk moot,

- risk acceptance, the act of determining that the potential problem is a risk and planning ways to mitigate and monitor the risk over time.

- risk mitigation, any action that can control or minimize the impact of the risk or probability of the risk materializing

- risk monitoring, tracking the state if the project to determine if the risk is becoming more or less likely.

Another aspect that the article explains is the risk management process. It suggests that testers should start is as early in the project as possible because the potential is at his highest in the first stages. There for, the risk management process begins when test planning starts and it ends when test related activities are complete.

Furthermore, it walks through explaining how to identify risk: that is, investigating problems identified during prost – project reviews, brainstorming sessions and reviewing product documentation for control, ambiguity, and feasibility and using check lists. Analyzing and racking risks, that is, estimating the probability of occurrence, the potential impact of the risk, and risk racking.

The last part of the article talks about tracking and controlling risks. One important tool is the risk table which identifies and categorizes the risks in a table. Keeping it current throughout the project allows it to plane and update the entire risk management plan for testing. It also enables to drop those tests that have a low probability in happening.

All in all, in my opinion, the risk analysis is extremely important because it enables to redirect limited resources, in this case time, to those test that most have a high probability, there for, it gives the testing team a better focus and enables to prepare better testing planes.