



**POLITECNICO DI MILANO**  
MSC COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

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# Project Plan Document

## *PowerEnJoy*

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## 6 | Risk Management and Mitigation

This section deals with the possible risks that can threaten the system during its development process. These hazards can stem from a variety of sources and thus can be classified as:

- **Project risks:** if they threaten the project plan, such as the project schedule. As can be seen in the following tables, the most common problem that can arise from such risks is a delay in the project release.
- **Technical risks:** they are related to the technical part of the project. They include a major variety of problems such as unskilled staff, flaws in the external adopted components, changes in the set of the requirements and so on.
- **Business risks:** they include a set of heterogeneous hazards such as budget cuts, sales falls and market policy flaws. If they become concrete, they can compromise the viability of the project.
- **Personnel risks:** this type of hazards deals with all the possible problems that can be met within the team of work.

Since a pro-active risk-management approach is desirable, for each category of risk a list of the most recurrent hazards will be taken into account, along with their probabilities to be faced, their levels of impact on the project and the strategies that can be adopted to mitigate them.

### 6.1 Project risks

Risk	Probability	Impact	Strategy
Underestimated development time	Moderate	Serious	If the spare time is not sufficient, try to negotiate with the customer the possibility to have two releases, the first to the planned one and the second one as early as possible.
A change in the direction of the project	Low	Moderate	Redact very precise and detailed documentation of the project so that new managers are able to handle the process.

## 6.2 Technical risks

Risk	Probability	Impact	Strategy
Difficulty in recruiting a skilled staff	Moderate	Serious	Be prepared and inclined to pay extra to find skilled people. If it is not sufficient, may consider the possibility of buying external components that are already developed.
Changes in the requirements	Low	Serious	Be compliant with the requirements traced in the <i>RASD</i> and in case changes occur evaluate the trade off related to the needed variations in the project. Increment on the price should come from the customer.
External components have flaws	Moderate	Serious	Choose components that are on the market for a long time, so that they can be reliable. Experience with precedent projects may be an advantage in this case.
Modification in the APIs of the external components	Low	Moderate	Write the code as portable as possible. Changes in the APIs should not break the system. Also plan updates in case such modifications occur.

## 6.3 Business risks

Risk	Probability	Impact	Strategy
Budget cuts during the development	Moderate	Tremendous	This kind of risk is the most critical one. In order to mitigate it, redact a document in which the financial benefits associated to the business of the project is clearly stated and try to convince managers not to apply cuts.
Poor sales	Moderate	Serious	Make special discounts and offers at the launch of the product in order to achieve great popularity. In doing so, a market analysis has to be carried out .
Competitors in the market	Moderate	Moderate	Choose a guide line for your product: should it be cheaper than the other or should it aim to optimality? In the launch phase also consider the possibility of making special discounts to attract clients.

## 6.4 Personnel risks

Risk	Probability	Impact	Strategy
Poor motivation	Moderate	Moderate	Try to select people that are skilled in particular fields and have experience in their work. Praise their commitment with rewards.
Conflicts within the work team	Low	Moderate	Promote the cooperation of people by making a community that periodically meets and discuss on the level of the project.
Key staff are ill at critical times in the project	Moderate	Serious	Consider the possibility to have several people working on common tasks in order to prevent excessive time losses.

## 7 | Effort Spent

In order to complete this document, each author worked for 20 hours.