**Risks – some thoughts**

An idea about risks for your systems overview or project proposal

(however, at your presentation, we will give you feedback).

"an uncertain event or set of circumstances that, should it occur, will have an effect on achievement of one or more objectives" - [APM Body of Knowledge 6th Edition.](http://www.apm.org.uk/BOK6)

That may sound fairly obvious but plenty of projects have lists of risks that everyone includes as a tick box exercise rather than really thinking through the possible risks for your particular project. Risks such as "the car will be delivered late" is far too generic to be of any use to the project team and stakeholders. Being late is the consequence of the risk.

You need to look at particular problems that could affect **your project.  
If they are general enough to apply to all the projects – they will not be risks for your project.**

**These are not risks:**

Users want changes (expectation of this approach)

Possible sickness in team (this has to be managed)

Not communicating requirements properly (this is an issue you have to resolve, you have to find the best approaches to communicating e.g. models, mock-ups and so on

The system might not be tested in all aspects (It should be!)

In this project, the schedule for each phase is very crucial and a slip in the schedule may happen. (This meaning less)

The schedule is based on the current requirements document. So any changes to the requirements could affect the schedule. (But of course, and to be expected and to be managed)

There may be some unexpected issues (e.g. illnesses, accidents, absence etc.) happen to team members (of course needs t be managed).

Not knowing the technology that you are developing is not a risk either you will plan to learn and become proficient or you will change the technology

**These could be risks:**

Different departments/clients involved. May be delays caused by need to resolve inert –departmental differences on the interpretation of key business rules.

(need to plan for meetings with different departments/clients)

Hosting service will but be purchased until final build delivered.

Hardware and software for environment will not be installed ad ready for use when it will be required.

Client will be away for three weeks

The client will be unavailable for acceptance testing.