**SOFTWARE PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Software project management** is the art and science of planning and leading software projects. It is a sub-discipline of project management in which softaware projects are planned, implemented, monitored and controlled.

As the industry has matured, analysis of software project management failures has shown that the following are the most common causes:

1. Insufficient end-user involvement
2. Poor communication among customers, developers, users and project managers
3. Unrealistic or unarticulated project goals
4. Inaccurate estimates of needed resources
5. Badly defined or incomplete system requirements and specifications
6. Poor reporting of the project's status
7. Poorly managed risks
8. Use of immature technology
9. Inability to handle the project's complexity
10. Sloppy development practices
11. Stakeholder politics (e.g. absence of executive support, or politics between the customer and end-users)
12. Commercial pressures

The first five items in the list above show the difficulties articulating the needs of the client in such a way that proper resources can deliver the proper project goals. Specific software project management tools are useful and often necessary, but the true art in software project management is applying the correct method and then using tools to support the method.

 To be able to avoid these problems, *software* project management methods focused on matching user requirements to delivered products, in a method known now as waterfall model.