

THE 10 MOST DEADLY MISTAKES IN SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Construx®
SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT BEST PRACTICES

To err is human, but these mistakes can be fatal. Construx seminars, consulting and resources help you implement the best practices that can prevent your worst nightmares. www.construx.com



CONFUSING ESTIMATES WITH TARGETS

Targets are what everyone dreams of hitting. Estimates are grounded in wide-awake analysis. Which should you base your commitments on?

EXCESSIVE MULTI-TASKING

Switching from project to project can blow a developer's *flow*. Maximize productivity and quality by letting them focus, focus, focus.

OVERLY OPTIMISTIC SCHEDULES

Time flies, especially when you don't schedule enough of it. Better to take the time to do it right than to find the time to do it over.

FEATURE CREEP

Every new requirement takes time and effort. Don't let add-ons slip into the project without adjusting schedules and targets.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

It's natural for customers to have high hopes. Help them be realistic at the outset to prevent disappointment, dissention and *Doh!*

NOISY, CROWDED OFFICES

Developers are most productive in quiet, private workspaces. Help them stay in the *Zone* by minimizing distractions, interruptions and multi-tasking

ABANDONMENT OF PLANNING UNDER PRESSURE

Schedule squeezes often result in plans being scuttled instead of revised, casting the project into the valley of Code-and-Fix.

WISHFUL THINKING

Hope is not a strategy. Remove head from clouds and make your own luck with down-to-earth planning and execution.

INSUFFICIENT RISK MANAGEMENT

Every project has the potential to produce its own, unique, colossal mistake. Avoid notoriety by exercising risk management early and often.

SHORTCHANGED QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality has the last word. Don't let schedule pressures result in cut corners, perfunctory testing, skipped reviews and buggy releases.