Assignment #2

Due Sep. 17, 2007

1. Why Software Projects Fail:

a. Read the paper on the FBI system and the paper on why software projects fail. Write a 1 page summary identifying the key failure criteria that caused the FBI program to fail. Cross-reference the findings in the FBI paper with the discussion in the second paper on general software failures.

2. Silver Bullets in Software

a. Brooks mentions two types of tasks in software development, Essential and Accidental. Write a 1 page discussion on these tasks. Define them in your own words, provide examples of each of the types of tasks, and discuss whether you agree that Essential tasks are inherently more difficult and they the tasks that make software development so difficult and why.