Exercises

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**Course:** SOEN 6841 - Software Project Management

## Chapter 4 – Exercise 4.1:

Find out all the reasons why risk management in the iterative development models is different compared to the traditional waterfall model.

### Answer:

Traditional risk management aims to include all project tasks and milestones in its initial planning phase. This highlights the predictive nature of traditional risk management, which focuses on planning that spans the entire project timeline. However, Velazquez (2021) emphasizes a critical drawback of this method: its inability to keep up with the speed of modern software development. In traditional projects, risk management activities may lag behind the evolving project needs, leading to potential issues going unaddressed until they manifest as significant challenges.

On the other hand, Agile risk management, as described by Velazquez (2021), adopts adaptability and iteration. Agile projects operate within shorter planning compared to their traditional counterparts, allowing for more frequent reassessment of risks and adjustments to mitigation strategies. Velazquez emphasizes that risk identification and evaluation in Agile settings are often integrated into the development process itself, rather than being treated as separate activities. This integration enables Agile teams to respond promptly to emerging risks and incorporate risk management seamlessly into their workflows.

Furthermore, it’s important to distinguish between technical risks in software development and broader organizational or project management risks. While Agile methodologies excel at managing technical uncertainties within the development process, they may fall short in addressing strategic risks that extend beyond the immediate view of development teams. This distinction highlights the need for an approach that combines Agile principles with traditional risk management techniques where applicable.

In summary, Velazquez's analysis provides valuable insights into the contrasting approaches of traditional and Agile risk management. While traditional methods prioritize comprehensive planning and risk assessment upfront, Agile methodologies emphasize adaptability, iteration, and integration of risk management throughout the development lifecycle.

## Works Cited:

Velazquez, E. (2021, May 16). *Traditional vs. agile risk management | agile cheetah*. ProjectEngineer. <https://agilecheetah.com/traditional-vs-agile-risk-management/>