

The Impact of Risk Checklists on Project Manager's Risk Perception and Decision-Making Process

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Abstract

A substantial portion of software project end up in failure. One form of the failure is the escalating project in which managers committed to the project even there were negative information about prospects of success of the projects. Risk checklist often used to assist project manager to identify the potential risks. Previous study found that risk checklists can help manager identify risks, but the number of risks identified doesn't significantly affect manager's decision-making process. This paper investigates the weight of different risk items on project manager's risk perception and decision-making. We argue that, a particular risk item may play more important role in manager's decision-making than other risk items. Thus, a manager who identified more risks may not take different action in decision making than a manager who identified less risks. This paper uses a survey-based research method. The research is divided into two stages: 1) Pilot study. A questionnaire will be developed and administrated to college students. The result will be analyzed and research instrument will be modified based on the feedback. 2). Formal study. A group of IT project managers will be recruited and the revised research instrument will be sent to them for participation. A detailed research design is presented in this paper.