2.3 Risk Management

Risk is a measure of the probability and consequence of not achieving a defined project goal. Risk involves the notion of uncertainty but managing it is the act or practice of dealing with it. This involves planning for the risk, assessing issues and developing risk handling strategies and monitoring risks to determine how they have changed. The Go2Museum.com project have been accepted by the group and we are committed to bring it to a success therefore the only possible ways for handling risks that will be realized are: assumption (Accepting the risk, should it occur) and control (Taking necessary steps required to control the risk by continually re-evaluating it and developing contingency plans or fall-back positions). Transferring and avoidance are not favorable options. However the risks that might happen at any stage of the development life cycle of the project is outlined below.

Identification of risks during Initiation phase

a) Poor definition of existing problem
b) No feasibility sturdy
c) Unclear of objectives

Identification of risks during Planning phase

a) Inadequate risk management plan
b) Hasty planning
c) Poor specifications
d) Unclear Statement Of Work

e) Poor role definition

f) Inexperienced team

g) Sponsor unclear about specifications

Identification of risks during Execution/Implementation phase

a) Team members calling in sick

b) Client/customer changing requirements at this time

c) Unskilled labor

d) Availability of integrated development environment or C.A.S.E tools

e) Bad weather

Identification of risks during Closure phase

a) Poor quality of software release

b) Unacceptable to customer

Analysis and ranking of possible risks

Phase	Risks	Impact	Probability of Occurrence	Index	Labels
Initiation					
	Poor definition of existing problem	10	.01	10%	High
	No feasibility sturdy	2	.01	2%	Very Low
	Unclear of objectives	10	.01	1%	Insignificant
Planning					
	Inadequate risk management plan	3	.01	3%	Very Low
	Hasty planning	5	.02	10%	Moderate
	Poor specifications	11	.01	11%	High
	Unclear Statement Of Work	2	.02	4%	Very Low
	Poor role definition	4	0	0	Insignificant
	Inexperienced team	15	.01	15%	Very high
	Sponsor unclear about specifications	9	.01	9%	Low
Execution/ Implementation					
	Team Calling sick	7	.01	7%	Low
	Changing requirements	5	.02	10%	Moderate
	Unskilled Labor	5	.02	10%	Moderate
	Developing tools	8	.01	8%	Low
	Bad weather	0	.5	0%	Insignificant
Implementation					
	Poor quality of software release	0	.01	0	Insignificant

	Unacceptable to customer	0	.02	0	Insignificant

Trigger points

During the project initiation stage there might be the problem of existing problems not accurately defined by the sponsor.

In the planning stages, there might be a high probability of inexperienced team.

If team members call in sick more than five times in a month, I will activate the team member calling sick risk response plan.

If the client changes the requirements so much that it affects the scope to affect project milestone and completion, I will activate the requirements change risk plan.

If I find out later in the execution stage that the major programming language [I have chosen] needed to execute the application to be built if not known by any group member, I will activate the unskilled labor risk plan.

If found that tools and compiler to be used for developing the application is not available or outdated, I will activate the developing tool risk plan.

Since weather does not affect the project in a very significant way but in the winter season it is possible for bad weather to affect the attendance of the team members, the bad weather response plan will be activated if that happens more than twice, I will activate the bad weather risk plan.

Response Plan

If requirements are not clear enough some time will be set up for clarifying them or more documentation will be written up for future references.

If team is not skilled enough to undertake the task, a language or platform that is known to all and still capable to meeting objectives will be used.

For team members calling in sick risk, I have budgeted for team members who are willing and able to perform overtime. Also there is schedule padding where three days are added to the project plan to accommodate all the sick absentees.

If the requirement change risk is triggered, I have a plan to reason with the top management and maybe the client - if that is possible, to lay out how the change will affect milestones and hence the completion of the project. If the change is much more important than the scope and the budget of the project, then a budget increase will have to be considered to extend the project scope.

For the unskilled labor risk, I will request for other skilled personnel and may be exchange. I might also consider using the programming language which they are skilled in and which could still be used to accomplish the project.

If the developing tool risk is triggered I will purchase [budgeted for] another compiler or use the available application if it is equally useable.

If the bad weather interferes with the project, I will ask for overtime from team members [budgeted for] or will use the spare days. But this will not affect the project anyway.

The close out risk does not affect the project in anyway. If all the risk plans are undertaken from initiation phase to the implementation phase, there a very small probability of any customer unhappiness or poor product.