



# PROJECT MANAGEMENT CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

A.J. CLARK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
Civil & Environmental Engineering Department



## THE MISSING LINK – RISK IDENTIFICATION

*Laurie Wiggins, CEO, Sysenex, Inc.*



# What is the Problem?

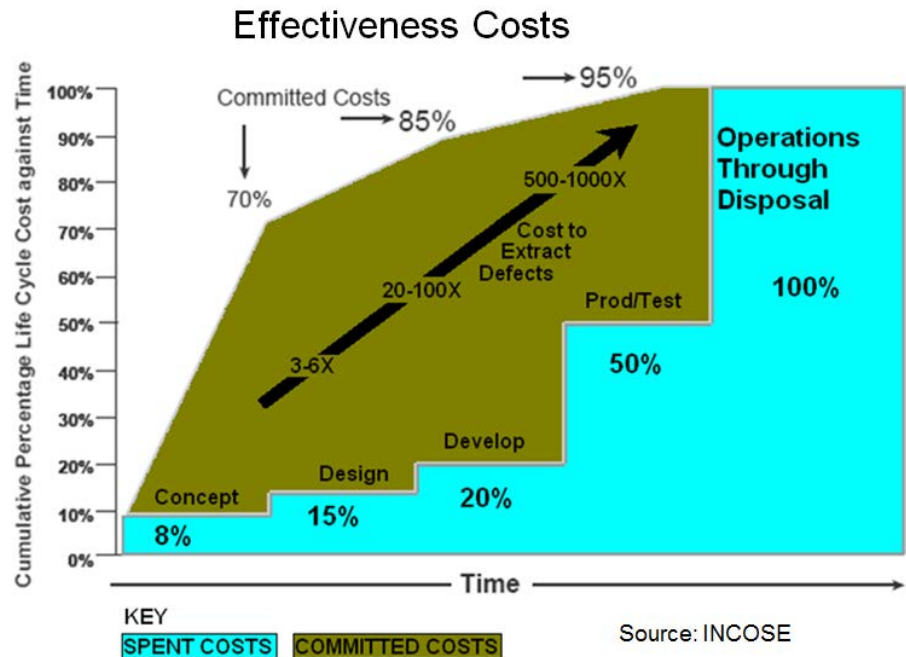
Increasing product and service development program overruns, performance shortfalls and failures

Why?

**Missed Risks:** program issues that cost \$\$\$\$ to fix, especially late in development, operation

Why do we care?

Problems late in development cost 500-1000 times to address (INCOSE SE Handbook, Chapter 2)

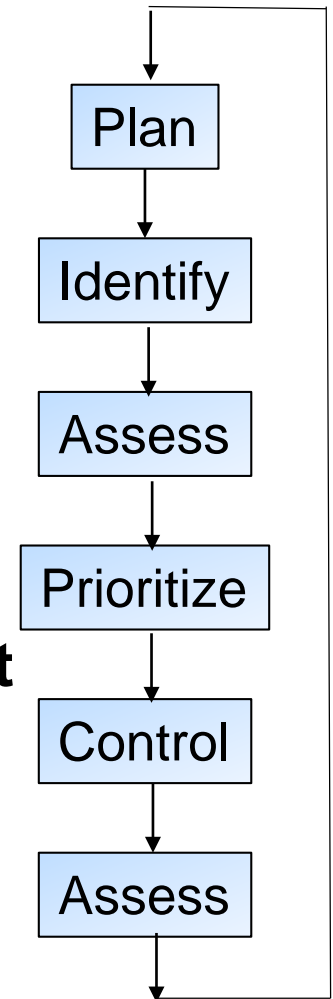


## If you improve Risk ID, you improve RM

- Our industry study found that although **75% of companies had a RM process in place, 51% suffered risk related losses or failures**

### Why?

- **The Piecemeal Approach to Risk Management**
- **The Subjectivity of Risk Management**
- **Denial, Fear and Embarrassment About Risk**



**Current Risk ID methods need improvement!**

**We present a new, radical approach to risk identification**

**- supported by 10+ years of research, analysis**

- **Unlike most other PM processes, RM does not require a risk baseline to be developed**
- **Due, in part, to the belief that each program has unique risks**
- **This is **false**, according to our research**

## The Risk Identification Analysis

- **Over 500 programs, their risks and outcomes were analyzed**
- **The same risks kept coming up, over and over**
- **Although risk specifics vary by program, the *underlying causes are the same***
- **218 common risks identified**
- **Risk weighting based on risk frequency, severity**

## Other Analysis Conclusions

- **Program complexity and program risk relationship**
  - Program factors that affected risk relationships
  - Program cost, schedule, # of personnel, # of technologies, influencing factors
- **Complete evaluation for each risk – 2 parts**
  - The risk line item
  - Program status of the risk *at this time*
    - Objective criteria developed for each risk

## From 218 Risks - Selected Risks

### Technical

Requirements Definition

- Interface Definition and Control
- Common Mode/Cascading Failures
- Quality
- Safety
- Logistics Supportability
- Technology Maturity
- Failure Analysis
- Models and Simulations
- Data Quality
- Software Module Maturity
- Software Integration Maturity
- Experience Required to Implement HW Module
- HS Methodology and Process Maturity
- Change Management Process
- Producibility
- Testing Planning
- COTS/GOTS/Reuse Experience

### Organizational

- Organizational Management
- Organizational Interest in Personnel Motivation
- Processes
- Organizational Culture
- Organizational Experience
- Organizational Business/Mission Benefit

### Operational

- System Operational Problems
- Obsolescence Management Process
- Personnel Training and Experience
- Human Error
- Near Miss Consideration
- User Acceptance
- User Satisfaction
- System Availability
- System Failure Contingencies

### Enterprise

Enterprise Experience

- Enterprise Reputation
- Enterprise Management Processes
- Enterprise Security Processes
- Enterprise Contingency Planning

### Management

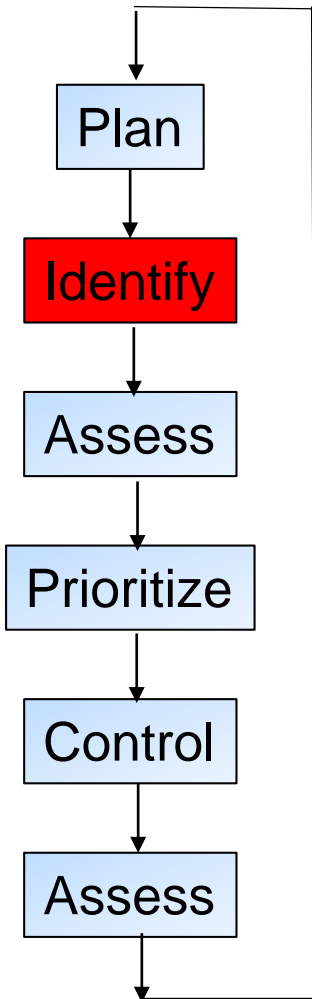
Management Experience

- Resources and Commitment
- Overall Program Staffing
- Personnel Experience
- Turnover Rate
- Personnel Morale
- Subcontractor Management
- Supplier Management

### External

- Funding
- Regulatory
- Legal
- Labor Market
- Customer Experience
- Customer Interaction

## Program Risk ID embodies analysis results



- **Web-based SaaS**
- **Includes 218 risks and their risk levels**
- **Relates program complexity**
- **Enables metric-based risk analysis**
- **Enables risk trending through time**
- **Enables objective risk comparison across programs**



## Program Risk ID Risk Example

Risk Title	Risk Levels	Application Notes
<b>Current Total Personnel Turnover Rate</b>	<b>5</b> – The current total personnel turnover rate is 48% or more per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the age distribution in your workforce--a narrow age distribution creates a risk.</li> <li>• Program staff turnover, versus historical norms, versus the program staff turnover plan &gt;10% difference per year is a red flag.</li> <li>• Excessive staff turnover significantly lowers productivity below planned, and causes schedule slippage.</li> </ul>
	<b>4</b> - The current total personnel turnover rate is between 24% and 47% per year.	
	<b>3</b> - The current total personnel turnover rate is between 12% and 23% per year.	
	<b>2</b> - The current total personnel turnover rate is between 6% and 11% per year.	
	<b>1</b> - The current total personnel turnover rate is 5% or less per year.	
	N/A	

**Program  
RiskID**

**[www.programriskid.com](http://www.programriskid.com)**

**Talk to Us About a Demo**