

TOP 5 CONSIDERATIONS for CIOs

What should concern CIOs about IT development sprints?

Delivery Delays and Missed Deadlines

Energy drinks

fuel the code

Good process

keeps the business on the road

CIOs are concerned about delivery delays and missed deadlines during development sprints, as they can impact project timelines, stakeholder expectations, and overall business goals. Timely delivery is crucial for maintaining momentum, meeting customer demands and achieving competitive advantage in the market

Bottom line: Don't get lost in the *buzz*, work still needs to get done. Various sources report 60-75% of sprints encountering some form of delay due to unrealistic goals, ineffective reviews and scope-creep.



Scope-creep and Changing Requirements

Pivots and pirouettes

for ballerinas so grand

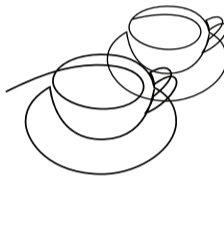
Scope-creep churn,

let's take a firm stand

Clear scope definition and effective requirement management are critical in maintaining focus, minimising rework and ensuring that development aligns with business priorities and objectives.

Bottom line: Detailed user-stories, acceptance criteria and a clear understanding of what *done* looks like is the order of the day.

Maintain a prioritised backlog that is constantly refined and updated based on stakeholder feedback, so that only important things are worked on. Implement a formal change control process where any new requests or changes are evaluated against their impact on the sprint goals.



Resource Constraints and Bottlenecks

Everybody wants

it all

But everything can't

be in every hall

Limited availability of skilled personnel, insufficient infrastructure and dependencies on external teams or vendors can hinder development efforts, delay deliverables, and increase project risks.

Bottom line: Before you start, know the risks and impact of all your sprint stories on the business outcome. This'll help when others take your resources or shift your priorities. Proactively communicate to address issues early. Build resiliency and train cross-functional teams in case key members are unavailable. Remember: 60% of sprints experience delays due to issues like insufficient resources (people and technology) not being ready.



After 30+ years of experience...

“Sprints don't have to break the business; with clear goals and collaboration, they drive progress and innovation seamlessly. As Benjamin Franklin said, “By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”



Management and Support Costs

Three amigos

side by side, squashing bugs and taking pride

Business, Dev

and QA's might, three amigos keep it tight

Poorly tested code, insufficient test coverage and inadequate test environments can lead to quality issues, performance bottlenecks, and customer dissatisfaction.

Bottom line: 38% of *agile* project failures are due to deficient testing strategies. When *agile* teams fail to include thorough testing within each sprint, they miss critical feedback that can flag issues early, leading to delays and increased project risks. Do it once. Do it right!



Communication & Collaboration Issues

Bubble, bubble,

boil and trouble, fail to communicate and you'll end in rubble

Clear and open,

keep the line for sprint success and you'll do just fine

Inadequate communication, lack of transparency and misalignment between team members and stakeholders can lead to misunderstandings, conflicts and project delays. Effective communication and collaboration fosters teamwork, maintaining alignment and achieving project success.

Bottom line: “Great things in business are never done by one person. They're done by a team.”—Steve Jobs. Remember the golden rule of organisational change and high velocity change: *repeat your message 5-7 times to get it across.*



Like to delve into, dissect or draw on my experience over a coffee —let's set up a time...

