

Techniques for Success with Offshore Software Development



In the absence of the right tools and processes, it can be incredibly tough to keep offshore projects on track. Nobody seems to be in control and chaos reign supreme with risks magnified several times over. On the other hand, if you have the right tools and processes in place, everything can prove to be a breeze with enhanced productivity with the maximum and optimal use of resources. In the following paragraphs we shall look at some of the prominent risks involved in <u>offshore software development</u> and how can they be overcome with the right tools and resources at your command.

Be crystal clear about your requirements

Vagueness about your goals and objectives is the sure-fire recipe for disaster in an offshore project development. Even a local team can deviate from its intended

path when technical and process issues distract from the features users need. Failing to get the priorities wrong and well-documented can compel managers to force things in the last moment which is never a good omen. It should be noted that the success of more than fifty percent of the projects is determined during the first 10 per cent of the schedule. Requirements need to be in writing so that changes arising at a later stage are recorded as formal and approved modifications.

Shared tools make an effective and efficient team

It has become a norm for <u>software development</u> to take place over various organizations and even different countries. People are added during the cycle, some leave, technologies evolve and extra complications are added to solutions. All these factors can further add to confusion and complexities thereby resulting in more trouble and delays.

The best way to build reliable and productive software in quick time in distributed teams is through shared and managed engineering tool sets. What it means is that all team members irrespective of whether they are onsite or offshore should be working on the same set of engineering tools. It is imperative to create a standardized development environment with shared databases, repositories, and concise reports that all team members can have access to as and when required.

Offshore software development has become the norm these days and it comes with its own set of complexities. However, the speed and productivity can be enhanced and task completed in time if there is a shared agreement on quality and completeness. The objective should be to divide the projects into the stage with everyone taking full responsibility for their own delivery. This will ensure the better result in lesser time and with minimal wastage of resources.

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