

CSSE 372 – Software Project Management

Case Study 1

Objective

To read an article on an Epic Software Project Failure and articulate your project understanding regarding this infamous project. You should also draw from your previous reading of the “Why Software Fails” paper by Robert Charette.

Due Date

In Class on, Tuesday, Week 1, September 4th, 2012.

Tasks

1. Read the article "Why Some Large Computer Projects Fail" by Robert Britchner (Article available via Schedule page).
2. Please prepare a brief write-up of your understanding and opinions regarding the case study article. The write-up must be reasonably well-organized/written and should be about 1/2 page in length. In the write-up please address the following questions:
 - a. What is the main thrust or message of the paper (briefly summarize in a sentence or two)?
 - b. Name three interesting non-technical project management issues that contributed significantly to the failure of the FAA AAS project/program? Why are these interesting to you?
 - c. What common factors for software project failures cited by Robert Charette's article (Why Software Fails) did the FAA AAS project/program exhibit?

Submitting Your Work

Please hand-in your Case Study write-up in class as a single, type-written document with your Name, Date, and Mailbox number at the top of the page. Please add any notes from the class on the page as I will be look at them too and returning the write-up after grading.