

Introduction - Projects, Failure and Recovery

It is widely accepted in industry that 7 out of 10 of software projects fail. The definition of failure can vary from missing milestones to complete failure to the point that the project is cancelled completely. For over 20 years I have been involved in projects of many sizes and complexity. During this time, I have rescued many failing projects and gotten the scope of work delivered successfully.

The objective of this training course is to provide you with a process for managing troubled projects back to a successful state.

This course will not serve to replace or contradict any previous training or experience that you may have. This course compliments conventional project management training and qualifications.

This course is buzz word free. It is not about the acronyms, terminology, or level 1, level 3 plans etc. This is about getting to the nub of issues on the project and implementing solutions. Acronyms, terminology, and buzzwords do not deliver projects. People deliver projects.

What is often overlooked is that people acting together with a common focus and completing tasks get projects delivered.

It is not possible to predict every single problem that we encounter on a project, but it is possible to develop a process for identifying and managing project problems.

Each project can take on a culture and pace of its own. It is the duty of the project manager to understand these factors and manage the project and team accordingly. Project management is people management but with a twist. There are the constraints of time and budget to contend with. Often you may find yourself in a position where you are trying to develop a smart way of working within your project while having to deliver the project at the same time. Above all you must understand the project team and its people.

What works for some projects does not work for others.

To rescue a failing project and to understand what went wrong, we need to understand the detail. Within the detail we find the answers.

This course has been developed from hands on experience of rescuing many projects and managing them back to a healthy state in pressured environments.

The advantage that this course has over others is that the team and I that created the course are still managing and delivering large complex software projects for multiple

clients. We are not working from memory. The information within this course is hot off the press. Every time we learn something new or observe a better way of doing things, we update the course material.

The methods described in this course are simple, practical, and easy to apply.

Project Rescue is time consuming and not for the faint hearted. Rescuing any project will require commitment and effort but while using these methods we ensure that you will get a result.

This course has been divided into modules. Each module has a series of steps and each module will flow logically into the next.