

# Financial Technology Executive Seminar: How To Make Software Outsourcing Effective

May 22, 2007

## Agenda



Introduction

Highlights of the “The Changing Face of Outsourcing” Survey

Improving Communications on Offshore Projects

Success Factors in Software Outsourcing

Q&A

## Our Panelists

### Marina Kolesnik

#### Senior VP, DataArt

At DataArt: Kolesnik is in charge of several strategic and marketing initiatives for DataArt's financial technology practice

#### Prior to DataArt:

- ❑ Management Consulting  
McKinsey & Co
- ❑ M&A and strategy at Acorda  
Therapeutics
- ❑ CFO, co-founder of Mail.ru  
(Russia's leading Internet  
company)
- ❑ Technology analyst at NYC-  
based hedge fund
- ❑ MBA (Harvard Business  
School)

### Thomas Castriota

#### Founder and Managing Partner, Work: American Style

#### Prior to Work: American Style

Castriota held number of various technology and management positions with

- ❑ Financial Services Firms:  
Nomura Securities, Deutsche  
Bank
- ❑ Startup Software Companies:  
Alphablox, Red Brick Systems
- ❑ Large Software Companies:  
Sterling Software, Information  
Builders, IBM

### Alexei Miller

#### Executive VP, Head of Financial Technology Practice, DataArt

❑ With DataArt since 1997, Miller has been instrumental in building the company's Financial Technology practice, which he currently leads.

❑ He is in charge of building and managing a framework of outsourced projects for financial clients' mission critical and knowledge intensive systems. These include order management and allocation, portfolio analysis, risk management, CRM, real-time market data access and support for STP infrastructure.

❑ MS, Mathematics (St.  
Petersburg State University)

## Before We Begin

- ❑ Presentation: 11 AM EST – 12 PM EST
  - ✦ Panelists presentations
  - ✦ Q&A session
- ❑ How to ask questions
  - ✦ As an attendee, you will be muted throughout the presentation
  - ✦ To ask a question, please use Q&A tab on the webinar panel and type in a question
  - ✦ Direct question to specific panelist if you wish
  - ✦ At the end of presentation we will have 20min Q&A session. We will read out questions we received and panelists will address them one by one
- ❑ After the presentation
  - ✦ Presentation material will be available in our follow up email
  - ✦ Please, take 5 minutes to fill out a feedback on this webinar (will be sent out upon completion of the presentation)

## About Financial Technology Executive Series

DataArt initiative supporting financial technology executives, with a particular focus on executives in financial software companies

### Recent events

- ❑ ***The Changing Face of Outsourcing*** - joint survey by DataArt and Hedge Fund & Investment Technology, 2006
- ❑ ***Taking Control of Execution Risks in Software Development*** – executive breakfast at Harvard Club of New York, March 14, 2007
- ❑ ***How to Make Software Outsourcing Effective*** – webinar, May 22, 2007

### Upcoming events

- ❑ ***Exhibition at SIFMA conference*** – New York, June 20-22
- ❑ ***More events covering other aspects of financial technology executive daily agenda in the second half of 2007***

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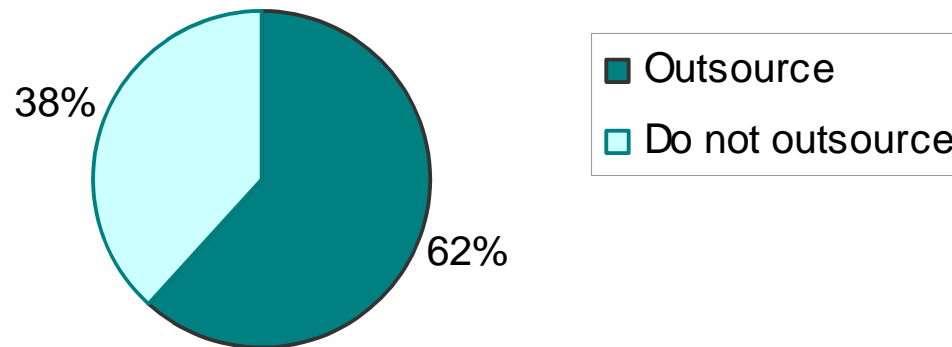
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## 62% of financial software companies interviewed utilize offshore talent

% of companies interviewed that utilize outsourcing



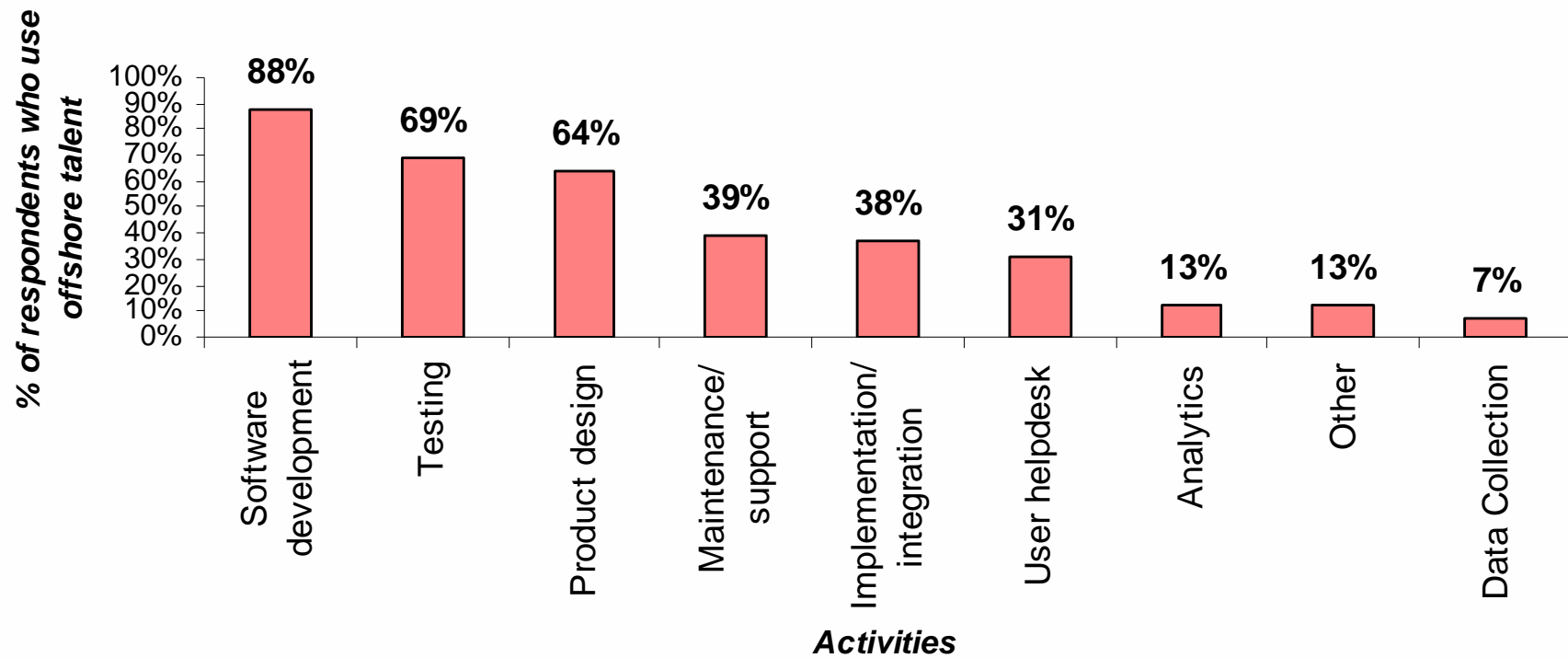
75 financial software vendors were interviewed for the research



Source: *The Changing Face of Outsourcing* - joint survey by DataArt and Hedge Fund & Investment Technology, 2006

## How companies leverage offshore talent

Activities to leverage offshore talent

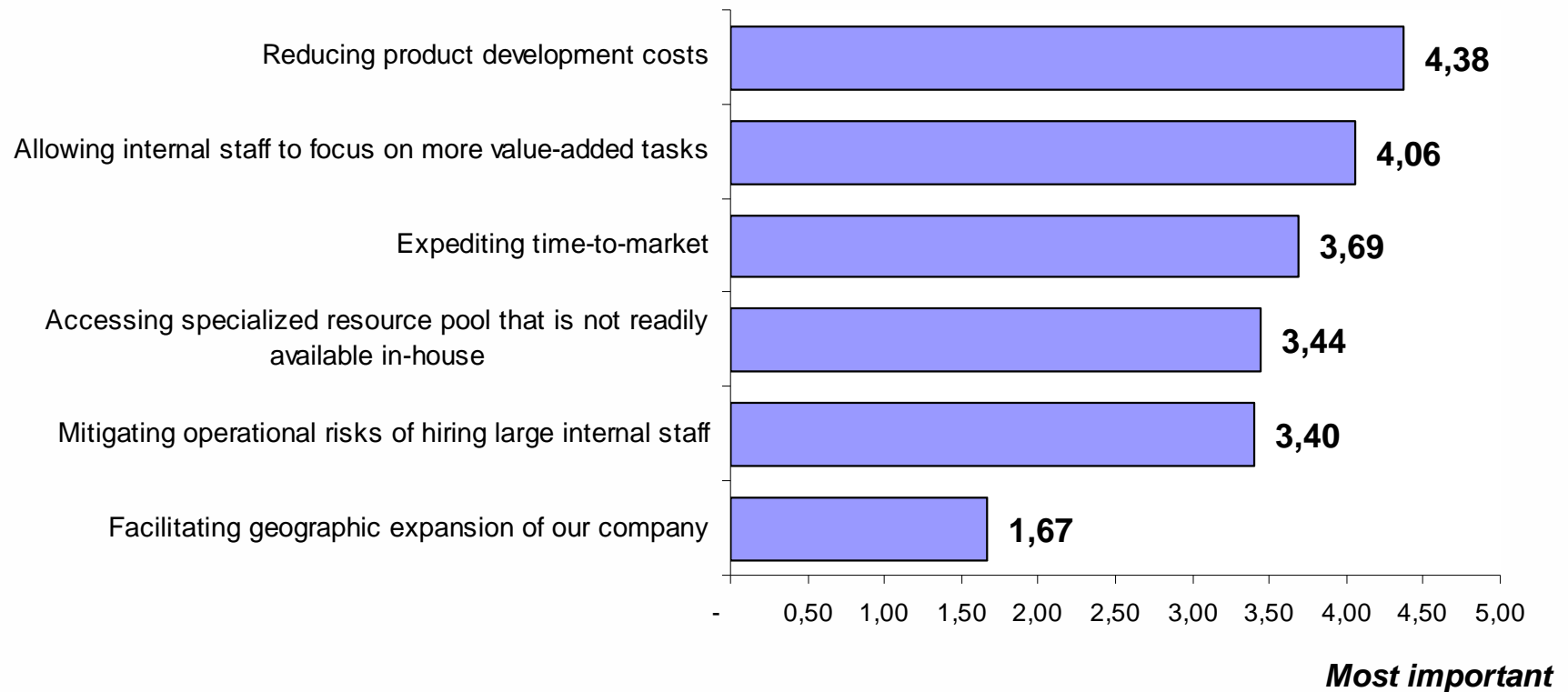


Source: *The Changing Face of Outsourcing* - joint survey by DataArt and Hedge Fund & Investment Technology, 2006



## Benefits of offshore outsourcing

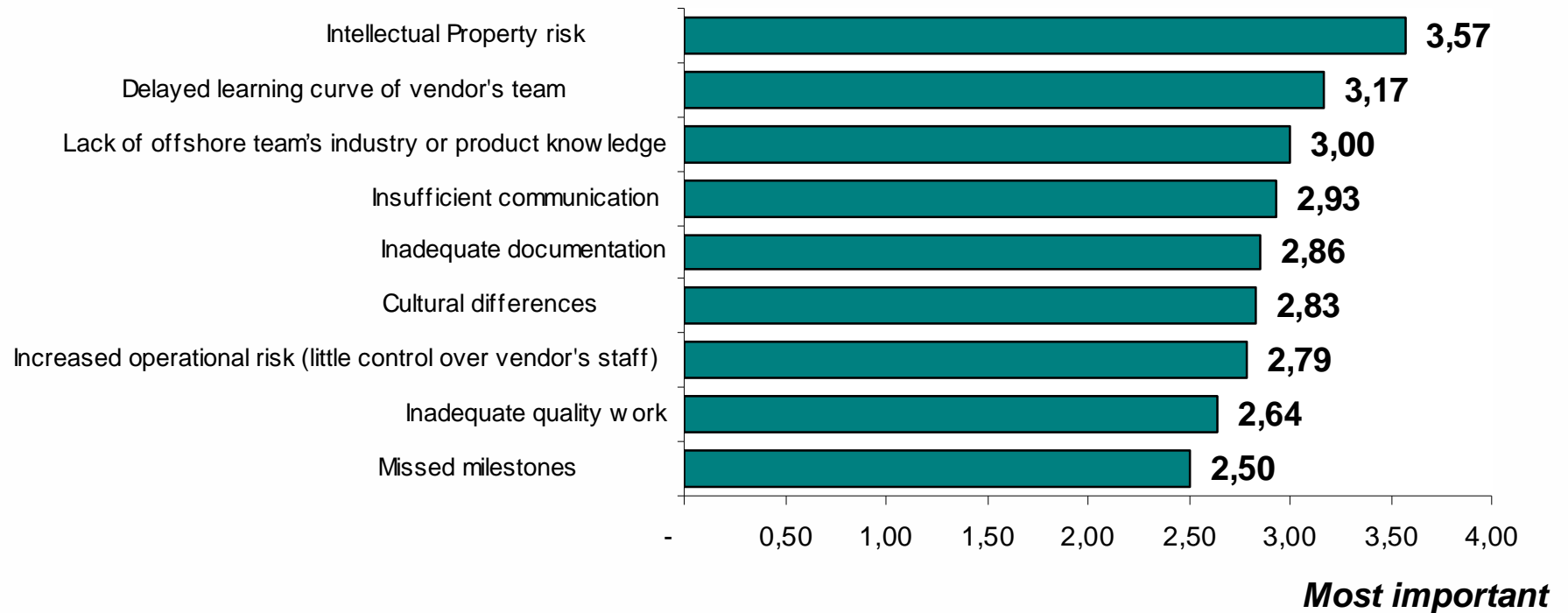
Benefits from offshore outsourcing on a scale 1 to 5



Source: *The Changing Face of Outsourcing* - joint survey by DataArt and Hedge Fund & Investment Technology, 2006

## Offshore outsourcing challenges

Offshore outsourcing challenges  
on a scale 1 to 5



Source: *The Changing Face of Outsourcing* - joint survey by DataArt and Hedge Fund & Investment Technology, 2006

## How to mitigate potential risks

IP Risk

Delayed  
learning curve  
of vendor's  
team

### Risk mitigation strategies

- Working with offshore vendors with US presence in order to get legal protection under the US law
- Preventing offshore team from having access to the entire code or to the most critical parts of code
- Daily backing up code on company's US server
- Signing non-compete contracts with all individual vendor's developers who work on the project
  
- Selecting the right vendor, who:
  - ✦ Has experience with similar technologies and project types
  - ✦ Has overall grasp of the financial industry
  - ✦ Is about the same size and is used to work with same types of clients
- Interviewing vendor's staff, select dedicated team
- Establishing from the start collaborative relationship with its vendor to educate and transfer knowledge

## How to mitigate potential risks (continued)

Lack of industry  
or product  
knowledge

Inadequate  
quality work

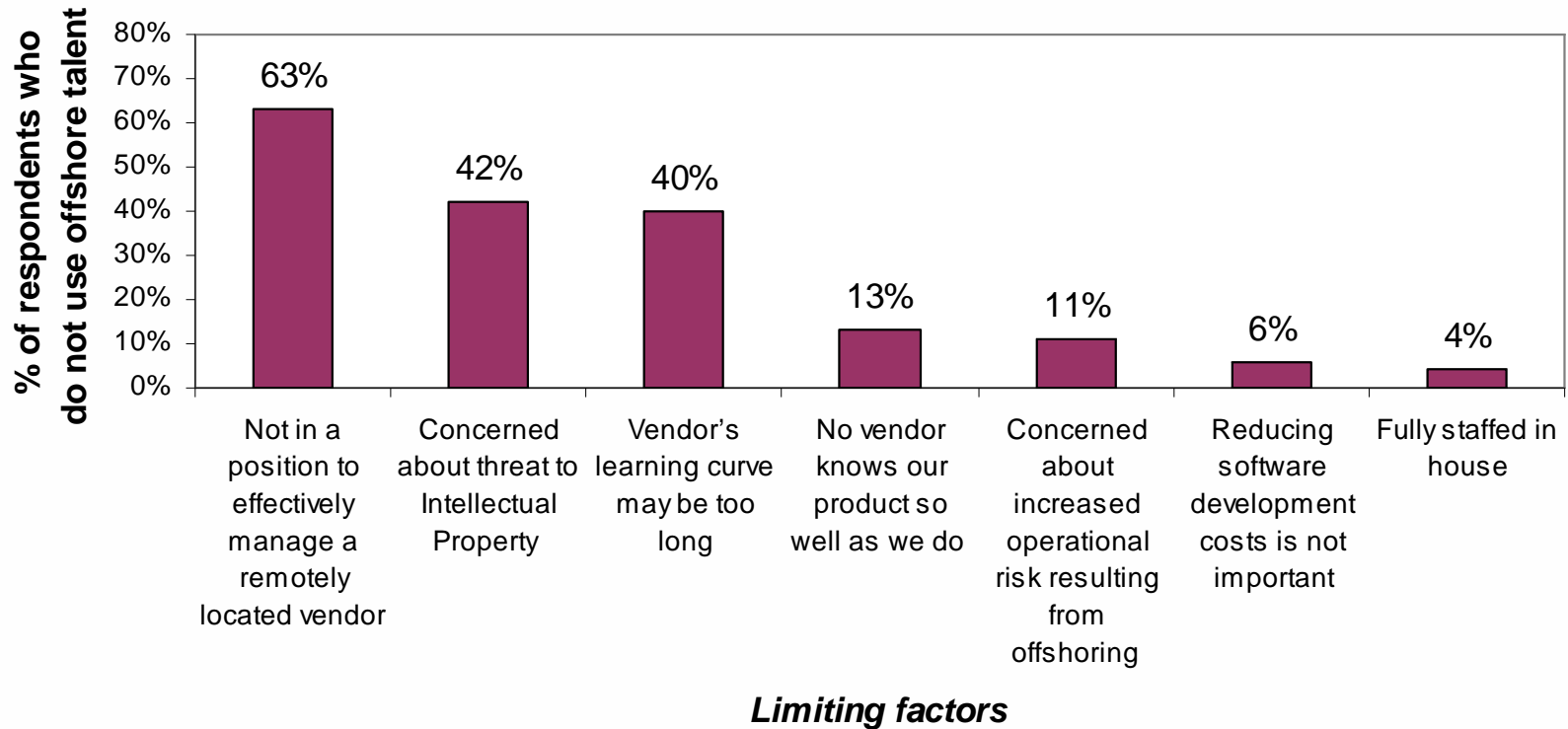
Increased  
operational risk  
(staff turn over)

### Risk mitigation strategies

- Selecting a vendor with appropriate experience and confirm vendor's claims via references check are key elements in addressing this
- Identifying a vendor who has a proven track record of fast learning. One may look at types of projects done by vendor, their diversity and complexity and confirm successful track record with vendor's existing clients
  
- Conducting due diligence and references check
- Starting with a small pilot before launching a large project
- Ensuring quality design and specifications
- Defining quality standards upfront
  
- Selecting an established vendor with a large resource pool
- Signing a detailed contract that locks in the lead team members serving the client
- Budgeting for 5-10% cost increase as a result of possible turnover at the vendor's end to help manage their financial projections
- For companies working with dedicated vendor teams it is customary to design a bonus structure for the team or leading team members in order to provide incentives to stay
- Internally - securing senior management buy in, creating right publicity for bringing a vendor in and getting a right people on the client team who will manage vendor

## Why some companies do not engage offshore talent

Limiting factors preventing companies from engaging offshore talent



Source: *The Changing Face of Outsourcing* - joint survey by DataArt and Hedge Fund & Investment Technology, 2006

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# Improving Communications on Offshore Projects

Thomas J. Castriota  
Founder and Managing Partner  
Work: American Style

## About Mr. Castriota

- ❑ Mr. Castriota is has served in a variety of leadership roles for companies for nearly 20 years including:
  - ❑ Financial Services Firms
    - ❑ Nomura Securities, Deutsche Bank
  - ❑ Startup Software Companies
    - ❑ Alphablox, Red Brick Systems
  - ❑ Large Software Companies
    - ❑ Sterling Software, Information Builders, IBM
- ❑ Founded Work: American Style to help good people stop making career limiting mistakes at work
- ❑ Provide Employee and Management Training and Consulting for an ever increasing Flat World





## Risks to Outsourcing Projects

- Loss of control
  - Real and emotional
- Complexities of distance monitoring
- Cost savings not realized
  - Complex conversion
  - Complex coordination
  - Inflation in costs
- Contract inflexibility
- Complicated divorce
- Security and privacy issues
- Cultural and Process differences
- Knowledge Transfer
- Local inflation
- Sovereign risk and international vulnerabilities
- Vendor stability/inadequate skill
- Vendor staff attrition



## Common Reasons for Project Failure

- Poorly defined user requirements
- Lack of real “buy-in” from the user community
- Unrealistic timelines for project delivery
- Change management not implemented well
- Poorly managed scope
  
- Much of this boils down to one thing:

# A FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE



## The Communication Plan Will Help

- Have One. Seriously.
- Identify and address the key groups
  - Customers, Staff, Management, Suppliers
- Set sober expectations
  - What are the benefits? The risks? The incentives?
- The means and the message must be targeted
  - Think Benefits NOT Features
- Prepare an “FAQ” and make the message consistent
- The word will get out
  - Be prepared and control the message



## Consider the Impact of Change

- Give the team time to accept the message
- Allow for time to adjust to the change
- Private conversations will occur
  - Encourage the team to do so
- Monitor the key players closely
  - Consider the alternatives without them



## Remember the Basics

- Communicate issues early and escalate as needed
- Do NOT rely on email communication alone
  - ✦ Remember the value of M.B.W.A.
- Do NOT use email to communicate conflict
- When you agree, write it down and publish it
- Assign a resource to record and publish minutes
  - Distribute draft for feedback



## The Mechanics of Good Project Communication

- PMO should facilitate, organize and record meetings
- All teams must provide consistent status reporting
  - \* Use measures that have the same meaning to all parties
  - \* Align the measures across the teams
- Hold regular team meetings
  - \* Both inside specialized teams and cross-team
  - \* Create “Focus Groups” on specific topics like UAT, Reference Data, Infrastructure, etc.
- Limit the number of management meetings
  - \* Report status and decisions – not a forum for Debates
- Communicate issues, decisions, and plans beforehand
- Turn major milestones into a team wide event



## Thank you.

- Contact information:
  - ✦ Email: [tc@workamericanstyle.com](mailto:tc@workamericanstyle.com)
  - ✦ <http://www.workamericanstyle.com>
  - ✦ Office: 914- 613-3501
  - ✦ Cell: 914-393-8033
- Services include programs for Managers and Employees to improve performance, manage change, and create an overall better place to work
- We've recently added a program to Score interview candidates on "softer" skills including communication



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## Success Factors in Outsourcing

Key Moments in Outsourcing Relationship Lifecycle:

1. Selecting Right Vendor
2. Choosing Right Outsourcing Engagement Model

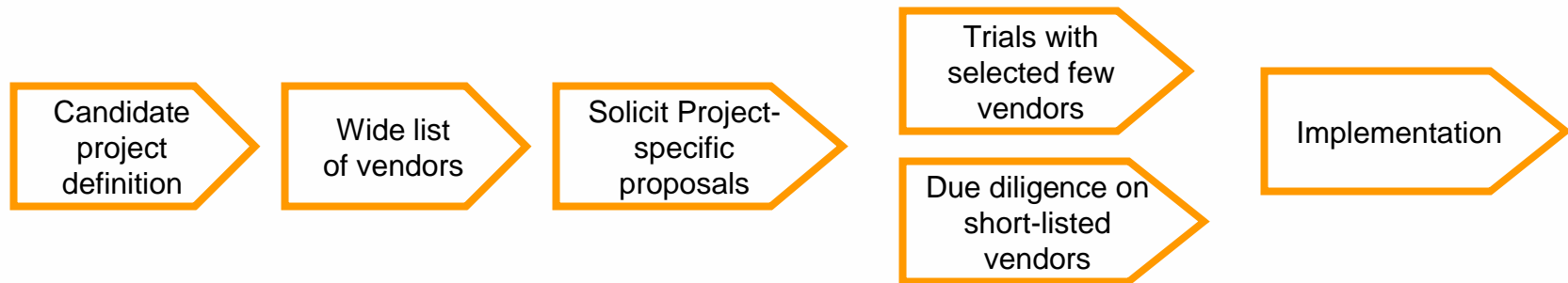
## Vendor Selection Process

Traditional Approach:



Major Risk: Companies that look good on paper may not be good for the job.

Suggested Approach: Involve real work earlier in the process



## Key Factors in Vendor Selection

- Do the client-side Application Portfolio Analysis before the engagement and evaluate vendor's compatibility against specific objectives
- Industry-specific expertise (solution vs. process)
- Process compatibility
  - ✧ Pace of work - performance
  - ✧ Reporting
  - ✧ Cultural issues and communications
  - ✧ Quality standards
- Scale match – engagement must be important for the vendor to solicit best resources and management attention
- Security, confidentiality, IP rights practices
- Expertise in selected Engagement Model

## Engagement Models

Three major types of outsourcing engagements:

1. **Team-based (staff augmentation)** – vendor provides on-demand or permanent resources for the client organization; with the qualifications and cost structure agreed in advance. **It's all about the resources.**
2. **Project-based** – fixed-scope, fixed-budget engagements focused on delivering a well-defined scope of work on a specified schedule. **It's all about the deliverables** (and hoping they don't become obsolete while the project is running)
3. **Application-based** – contracting a vendor to perform specific technology or business function on a regular basis, measured by business outcome. May include development, maintenance and enhancement of custom or packaged systems. Focus shifts from *Product* to *System in Production*. **It's about the business functions.**

Existing outsourcing relationships are often misunderstood:

According to Gartner, more than 50% of contracts that Clients call AO are actually staff augmentation in nature.

Which model is right for you?

## Engagement Models

	Vendor's Responsibility	Client's Responsibility	Contract and Pricing	Risk for outcomes
<b>Team-based</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality of resources</li> <li>Staff turnover</li> <li>Ability to comply with Client's processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task definition</li> <li>Project and risk management</li> <li>Quality standards and processes</li> <li>Productivity evaluation</li> </ul>	T&M – labor rates	All on Client side
<b>Project-based</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed set of defined deliverables</li> <li>Scope management</li> <li>Compliance with schedule and quality level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business case</li> <li>Change management</li> <li>Risk management</li> </ul>	Fixed-price, result-oriented; with performance-based incentives and penalties	Shared between Client and Vendor
<b>Application-based</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Success is measured in business outcomes</li> <li>Predictable level of service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application Portfolio Analysis</li> <li>Outcomes definition: metrics, SLAs, standards</li> </ul>	Unit-based, with performance and penalties tied to application metrics	Mostly on Vendor side

## Key Factors in Choosing the Right Model

- Client's business objectives: need to focus on core functions vs. saving money on labor
- Cost factor: reducing cost vs. cost-efficiency and predictability
- Management style: fear of letting go vs. demand on internal project management
- Systems and tasks – some applications lend themselves more naturally to AO than others. Critical analysis: how good are we at a given function?
- Information security and confidentiality (AO leaves little room for non-trusting engagements)
- Maturity level: improve requirements management process internally, use expertise available on the market. Formal measurement program.
- Short-term vs. long-term benefits. Team- and project-based contracts usually address more immediate problems, while AO provides the foundation for long-term success

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## Thank you

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