HOW RELIABLE ARE REQUIREMENTS FOR LARGE DIGITAL SYSTEMS

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INITIAL OBSTACLES

• NOVELTY OF OBJECTIVES
  – TECHNICAL SCOPE
  – RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

• SLOW STAFF BUILD-UP
  – KEY DECISIONS MADE BY SKELETON STAFF
  – PRESSURE TO COMMIT ONCE PROJECT IS APPROVED

• CULTURE GAP: USER ➔ DEVELOPER
... AND THEN COME CHANGES

• LENGTH OF CHANGE CYCLE
  – ECP REQUEST › ECP › EVALUATION › $
  – WHICH REQUIREMENTS ARE BEING FOLLOWED IN THE MEANIMALME?
  – CASCADED CHANGES

• CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL
  – CHANGE OF MISSION (OPM)
  – CAN’T DO WITHOUT IT (RARE)
  – HELPS THE SCHEDULE
CAN THE REVIEW CYCLE HELP?

WHERE IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION THE SCOPE, THE SCHEDULE OR THE BUDGET?
WHAT ABOUT SUCCESSES?

• MODEST INNOVATION
• WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT A LESS THAN PERFECT PRODUCT
• IN-HOUSE DEVELOPMENT OR LONG HISTORY OF USER-DEVELOPER INTERACTION
HOW CAN WE DO BETTER?

- REQUIREMENTS ANALYZERS
- FORMAL METHODS (LANGUAGES)
- RECURSIVE EVOLUTION

- SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY FOR DETAILS TO DEVELOPER
  - CONCENTRATE ON DEFINING A FIGURE OF MERIT (FOM)