stable kernel

8 Key Indicators
of a Software
Product at Risk

According to the Standish Group's Annual CHAOS report, **66% of technology projects end in partial or total failure**. Don't be a statistic. Learn how to spot the red flags of a software development project headed for disaster. Then take the steps needed to correct course and ensure success.

Here are 8 key indicators that your software products are at risk of failing:

1. You Have a High Volume of Complaints

A high volume of complaints, bug reports, and customer service inquiries is a critical indicator your software product may be heading for disaster.

2. You Have a Steady Stream of Poor Reviews

Sure, the occasional bad review is to be expected. But a high percentage of 1-star reviews could keep new users from engaging with your software.

3. Your Churn Rate Is Through the Roof

Do you have a hard time earning repeat users? If so, it may be an indication your software is not meeting its intended audience's expectations.

4. Your Team Is Missing Deadlines

Consistent delays in meeting essential project milestones can prevent your product from improving its position in the market because known issues are not being resolved and new features are not being added.

5. Your Team is Burned Out

Is there too much work and not enough team? If your team members are pulling constant all-nighters and drowning in support requests, it will not be long before they start looking for other opportunities – leaving your product in the lurch.

6. You Have Documentation Gaps

A lack of documentation could leave your team in the dark when it comes to quickly identifying, triaging, and addressing issues and makes onboarding new team members much more difficult. Even worse, if original developers leave, they'll take with them historical knowledge of how the product was built.
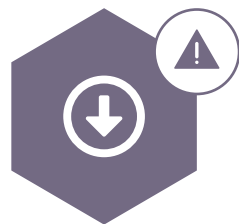
7) You've Noticed a Decrease in Quality of Work

Poor code and unauthorized shortcuts can lead to big bug trouble down the road. A diminished quality of work could indicate that your development team is either disengaged or being pulled in too many directions.

8) You Regularly Hotfix Issues

Constant hotfixes pull your team's attention away from addressing new problems or creating a more valuable product. It also keeps you from addressing the root cause of any failure – meaning that the bug will pop up over and over again.

Even just a few of these can land your product in the danger zone. We can help you assess the health of your software product and avoid common pitfalls.

Let's Talk