

Re: agile development and frameworks

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- *From:* "Ilja Preuß" <it@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 21 Nov 2005 19:06:14 +0100
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Mike Gaab wrote:

> My tendency is to use those things that I already know
> work. I am always looking for a better way but if I have something that is
> sufficient, I
> usually go with it.

That reduces the risk of getting a solution that is worse than the known one, but also has the risk of not finding that revolutionary better solution your competitor might find. Those two risks need to be balanced, and I think finding that balance isn't trivial. And it's even a recursive problem, because you have to decide whether to go with the balance you are used to, or try to shift it a bit to see what happens...

One way to shift the balance is to find ways to make experimentation more safe, so that you aren't screwed up when it fails. Techniques to do that include spikes (controlled, time boxed experiments), having Slack, keeping your options open so that you can switch to a known-to-be-good solution, trying different approaches in parallel, etc.

Cheers, Ilja

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◇ *From:* Mike Gaab
 - *References:*
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◇ *From:* Michael G
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