

Avoid the 7 Risks of Outsourcing Software Developers

Risk 1: High Hourly Cost

Onshore outsourcing especially can be an expensive affair; per-hour fees can be \$67-\$150 an hour, or more for obscure talent or expensive enterprise software. The risk of projects costing double or even triple what was originally budgeted is a distinct possibility, especially if the project hits a snag in development.

With offshore outsourcing, the per-hour pricing is good... but communication often isn't. So work that should only be done once might have to be done two or three times, causing delays, rework, and extra expense.

With Aptude Nearshore Software Developers, this risk is reduced because developers speak English and work in the same time zone, so delays and miscommunication is less frequent. Yet the costs are comparable to offshore, which means that you are more likely to stay on time and in budget with nearshore resources.

Risk 2: Time Zone Differences

With traditional offshore software developers in Asia, the time zone difference can be a struggle. While you're working in the daytime, your developers are sleeping. And when you're sleeping, they're working. This difference leads to lags in communication and code review, causing delays by default.

With Aptude Nearshore Development, your developers are working in the same or nearly the same time zones as you. Meetings, code reviews, and project discussions happen same day and at times that work for both parties. The result is more a more convenient and seamless way of working with your outsourced team.

Risk 3: Not Agile Enough

One natural consequence of offshore outsourcing and the time delays is the inability to be agile enough. It can be hard to pivot when regular communication takes days, and scheduling big meetings can take a week. With Aptude Nearshore, your developers are agile-trained and available to meet same-day, just like your onsite developers.

Risk 4: Language Barriers

The language barrier: it's not a problem with onshore outsourcing, but can be with offshore. Heavy accents and ESL communication means that project discussions, expectations, and documentation is just a little bit harder than it should be. With Aptude Nearshore Outsourcing, you get the best of both worlds: affordable resources and English fluency.

Risk 5: Culture Barriers

Traditional offshore software developers can also present a culture barrier, with differences in values, religion, language, and ways of working. With Aptude Nearshore, your outsourced fullstack or Python developers are more closely aligned with American culture. They understand the language and are familiar with American values, faith, language, and culture norms. This makes communication between teams – especially diverse teams – that much easier.

Risk 6: Knowledge Transfer

A sixth risk of offshore outsourcing is knowledge transfer when you have to scale down. One issue we saw with our clients in early 2020 is that clients needed to ramp down for a short period while they navigated budget changes amid COVID-19. When they were ready to ramp up, staffing firms were unable to provide similar resources... and project knowledge was lost. With Nearshore by Aptude, we keep team members long-term. Your former project manager will keep your knowledge safe, so when you're ready to start again you can pick up where you left off... often with the same team.

Risk 7: Code Quality

Finally, code quality is another risk of using an outsourced team. Our Mexico City Center of Excellence in Python and full stack means that we've made an investment in delivering high quality code, now and in the future. Our staff stay with us for the long-term and we have built in code reviews that help ensure we're meeting your requirements. And if for some reason there's an issue? You'll know exactly who to talk to because our leadership team is heavily involved in each project from the get-go.