Blog number 5

Getting it right the first time is an unbeatable strategy, which contradicts human nature.

Getting it right the first time is an unbeatable strategy in theory. However, in practice, it's more like a myth perpetuated by productivity gurus (and me). Human nature is to find the easiest way forward, tempted to take the shortcut, hoping that this time is different. Take chances or wing it all in the hopes of getting it right in record time.

So, how do we beat human nature and go for solid upfront homework on every project? If I knew the answer, I wouldn't be writing this post. I do not know. Apparently, nobody else has come up with a perfect, working solution either.

But what we do know is that the cost of getting it wrong can be staggering. Rework, delays, and frustrated customers are just a few of the consequences of rushing through a development project. Not to mention the hit to our image and the toll on our team's morale.

So, what can we do instead? We can start by acknowledging that getting it right the first time is hard, and that it's okay to take the time to do it right. We can prioritize upfront planning. We can take the time to understand our customers' needs and to anticipate potential risks.

It's not easy, but it's effective. It will not be without resistance, but we will take the fight. It won't make us popular at first, but we know it pays off in the end.

And who knows, maybe one day we'll find a way to beat human nature, and people will take the extra time and effort to get it right the first time as a habit. But until then, let's take it one project at a time.

