



White paper

## **Test your development strength**

Important factors when developing new products

[www.stdtime.com](http://www.stdtime.com)  
Scoutwest, Inc.

## Test your development strength

The mix of strengths and weaknesses of every development organization is different. Human beings are not infallible, and we have limited resources to work with. Furthermore, growth and improvement are expected of every organization. The list below is designed to be a simplistic rating method to help you examine your product development organization. Enter a number from 0 to 10 into the boxes at the right - an answer of 10 means that you agree with, and perform the item to the highest degree, while 0 means that you do not perform at all. When you are finished, add up your answers and check your score at the end.

Question	Answer 0 - 10
Do you build prototypes of your product and show them to actual customers?	
Do you know what percentage of time is normal for each phase of a new project?	
Do you document your customer requirements and the design you'll provide them?	
Are your development cycles short enough to allow you to focus on the vision?	
Do you have a good balance between strategic vision and tactical implementation?	
Do your products perform at a high level of customer expectation and quality?	
Do you keep an organized database of bugs, enhancement requests, and other issues?	
Do you interview actual customers before implementing product features?	
Are your initial product designs roughly equivalent to the product you release?	
Do your customers tell others about how great your product is?	
Do you resolve all issues for each phase of a project before moving on?	
Do project stakeholders set and communicate a clear vision for each product release?	
Do your product engineers, designers, and testers have adequate equipment for the job?	
Do you release your products when you originally forecasted them to be released?	

Are you innovating more than your competitors?	
Do you have independent, objective people testing your products?	
Are your development costs in line with your product sales revenue?	
Do you perform formal usability testing with cameras and computers?	
Do you have clearly defined alpha, beta, and final release guidelines?	
Does your executive staff give adequate freedom to managers to do their job well?	
Does your product compare favorably with your competitor's?	
Is your technical support staff free from dealing with excessive product defects?	
<b>Your Total:</b>	

Score:

0 – 100	Weakling
101 – 125	Farm boy
126 - 150	Hired hand
151 – 175	Strong man
Above 175	Mister Universe

## About Us

Scoutwest, Inc. develops and publishes project management and time tracking products for consulting, manufacturing, government, and general business applications.

Thousands of small to large businesses, in dozens of countries worldwide, trust their mission critical business processes to Scoutwest products. Standard Time® and Standard Issue® work together to offer well-rounded project management solutions.

We specialize in packaged software for timesheets, project management, time tracking, defect tracking, and issue tracking. Standard Time is a web-based timesheet that also runs on Windows, Palm OS, and Pocket PC. It can be used for client billing and task management. Standard Issue is used for bug tracking and general issue tracking.

Please visit these web sites for more information.

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