

# Computer System Verification and Validation in the Pharmaceutical Industry

Motto:  
We trust God, everything  
else must be validated  
(an inspector)

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# Contents

- General Principles and Terminology
- V&V Elements and Ways
- Risk assessment in V&V
- Challenges and Responses

# General Principles

- The purpose of the GxP quality guidelines:
  - to ensure a product is safe and meets its intended use,
  - fits current compliance and regulatory requirements and
  - built upon existing industry good practice in an efficient and effective manner.
- Key Aspects:
  - Safety (e.g. patients)
  - Quality of Products
  - Security, Reliability and Integrity
  - Traceability and Transparency (e.g Documented processes, evidence and activities)
  - Risks (mgt.)

**GxP** is a general term for Good (Anything...) Practice quality guidelines and regulations (e.g Good Manufacturing Practice)

Sources: General Principles of Software Validation; Final Guidance for Industry and FDA Staff January 11, 2002

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

US Food & Drug Administration - Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, part 11: "Electronic Records; Electronic Signatures; Final Rule"

# Definition and Terminology of V&V 1

„**Software verification** provides objective evidence that the design outputs of a particular phase of the software development life cycle meet all of the specified requirements for that phase.” It is a developer’s conceptual aspect and practice of verifying documents, design, code and program.

„**Software validation** confirmation by examination and provision of objective evidence that software specifications conform to user needs and intended uses, and that the particular requirements implemented through software can be consistently fulfilled.

# Definition of Validation

Evaluates the developed system, whether it meets the specified customer expectations and requirements and answers the questions:

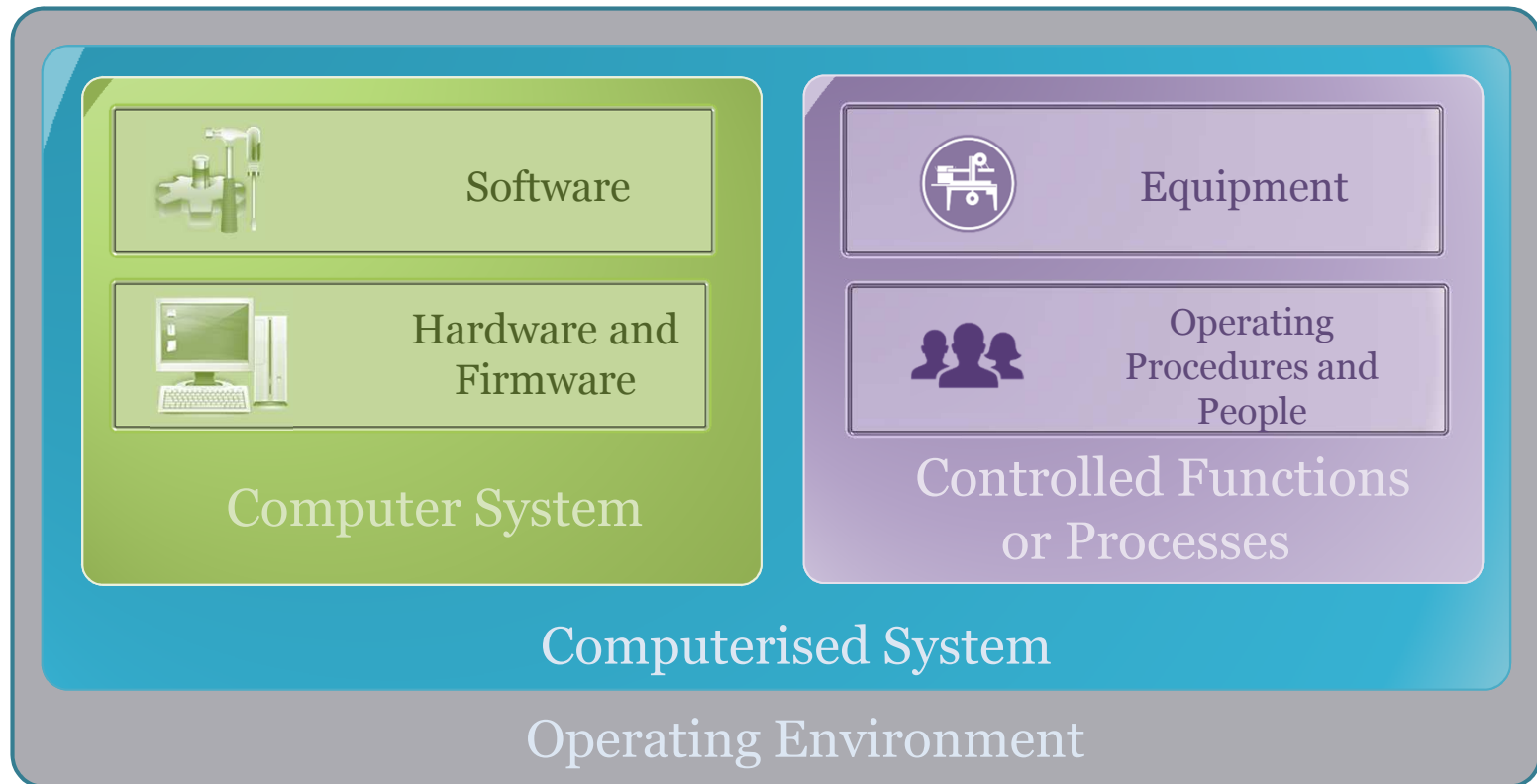
- Are we building the appropriate product?
- Does the software meet the user requirements and/or customer expectations?

# Definition of Verification

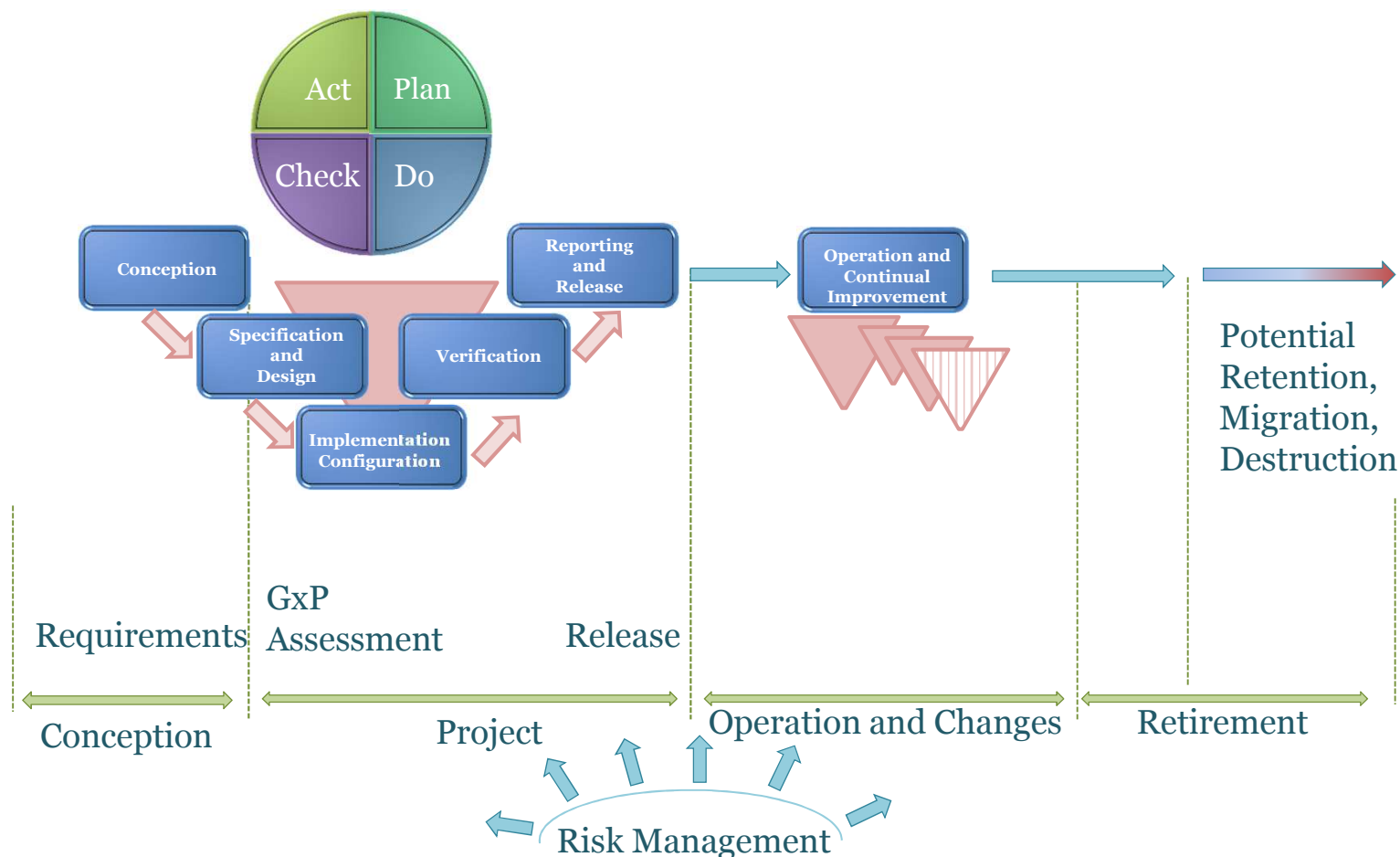
Determine whether the products of a particular development phase meet the specified requirements to start that phase (e.g specifications, code, app. function) and answers the questions:

- Are we building the product appropriately (in the right way)?
- Must the software conform to its specifications?

# Elements of the Computerised System



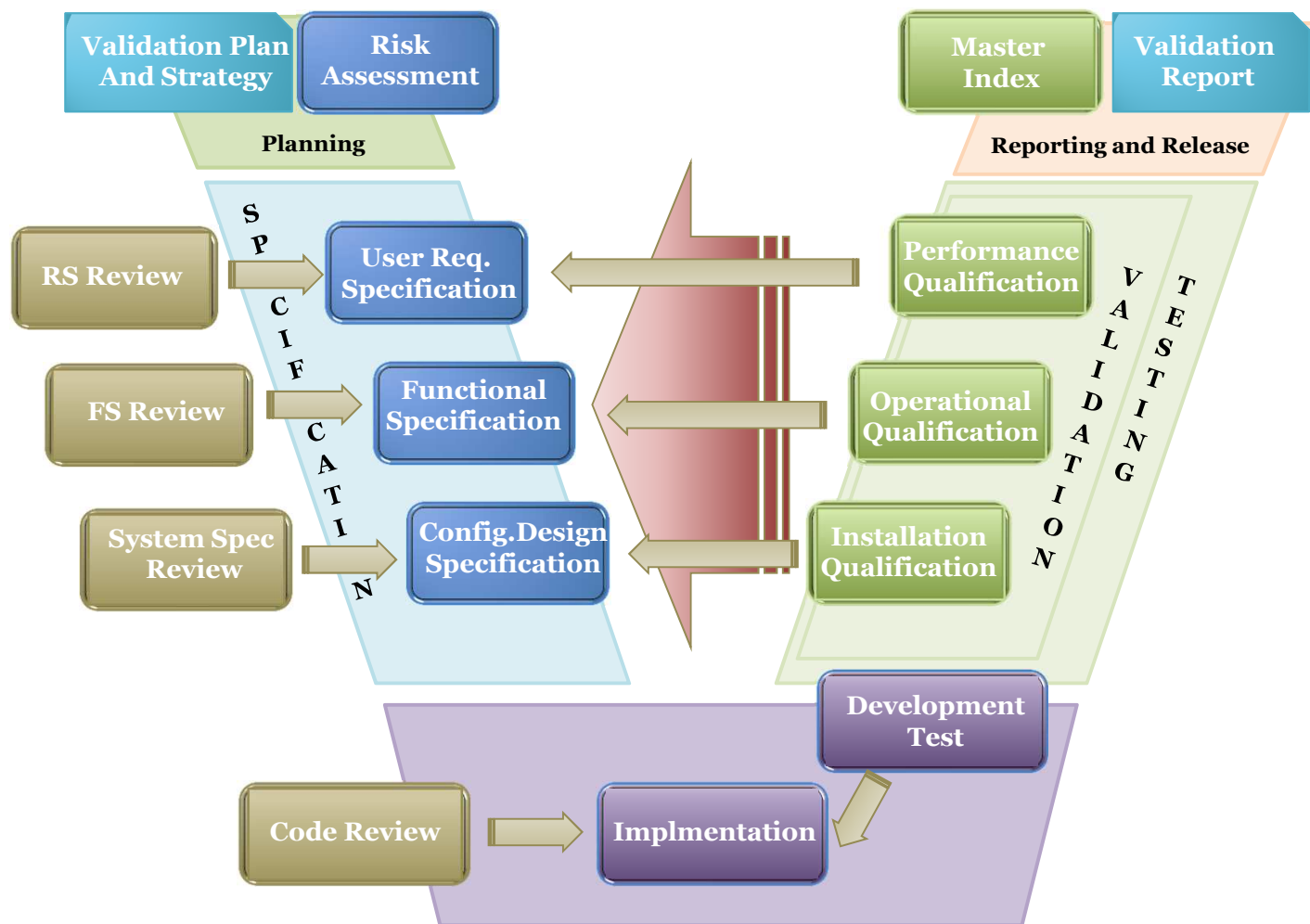
# Computerised System Life Cycle



Source:  
ISPE Headquarters GAMP 5 A Risk-based Approach to Compliant Gxp Computerized Systems 2008, Figure 3.2: Life Cycle Phases



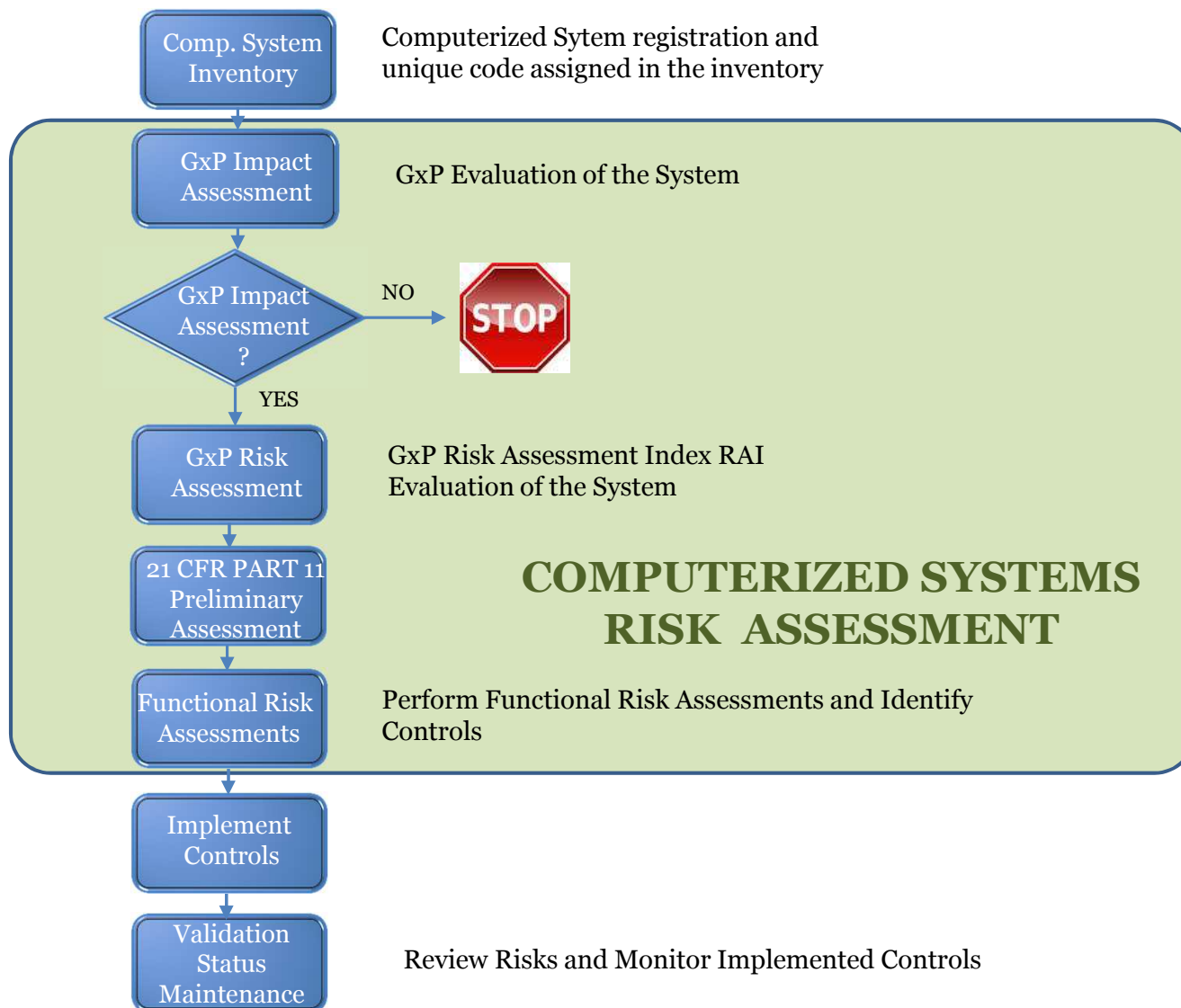
# V Model Concept



# Risk Management

- Goal of Risk Management
  - Identify potential problems before they occur
  - Manage risk-handling activities
  
- Scopes:
  - Project and Business
  - Business, Resources (HR, Financial, Technical etc.)
- GxP System Risk (Validation Risk mgt.)
  - Risk Impact Assessment
  - Detailed Risk Analysis (e.g Functional RAI)
- Risk Control Implementation and Monitoring

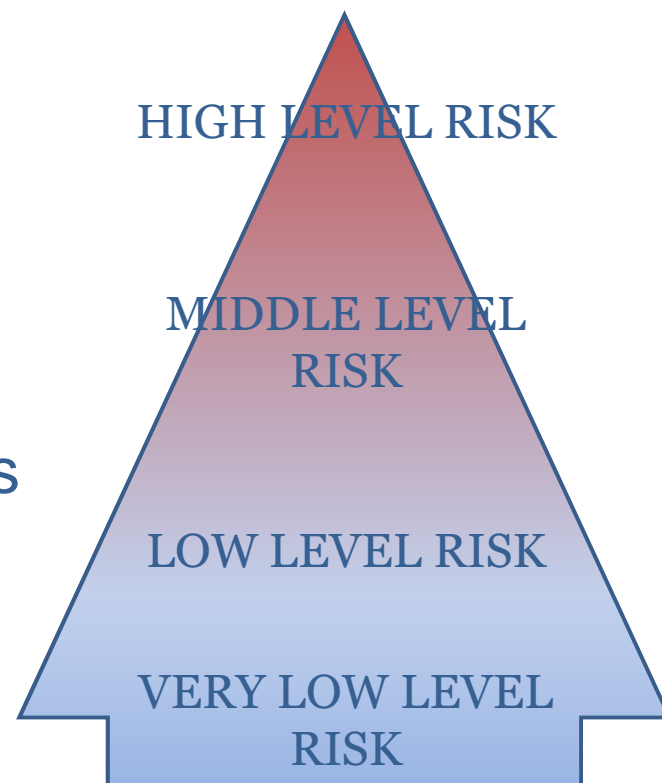
# Key Steps of Validation Strategy



# GAMP 5 Software Categories

Classification is a built-in risk assessment

- **Category 5: Custom applications**  
Software custom designed and coded to suit the business process
- **Category 4: Configured products**  
LIMS, EDMS, ERP, Spreadsheets, etc
- **Category 3: Nonconfigured products**  
Firmware-based sw, Commercial-Off-the-Shelf (COTS) software
- **Category 1: Infrastructure Software**  
Operating Systems, Network monitoring tools etc.



# GxP System Risk Assessment 1

- GxP Impact Assessment
  - evaluating the potential impact of the System on the GxP processes on key areas (e.g. MES, LAS etc.)
- GxP System Risk Assessment
  - Effort should be focused on high risks
  - The risks identified and documented on three levels in two dimensions (e.g. Criticality and Complexity)
  - Detailed Risk Assessment
    - Process and/or Functional Risk Analysis
    - Through the Specification and Design phases
- Risk control recommendations are needed

# GxP System Risk Assessment 2

RAI vs. Deliverable Documents

GxP Impact Assessment

GxP System

ID	Verify if the Computerized System Includes the following

		COMPLEXITY		
		HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
CRITICALITY	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
	MEDIUM	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
	LOW	MEDIUM	LOW	LOW

Criticality	Questions	Answers YES/NO				
		#	DELIVERABLES	RAI		
				LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Criticality	PREPARATION					
	1	Supplier Evaluation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	2	Validation Plan	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	3	Risk Analysis	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	SPECIFICATION					
	4	User Requirements Specifications	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	5	Functional Specifications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Complexity	6	Configuration Specifications	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	7	Design Specifications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	TESTING					
	8	Functional Risk Analysis	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	10	Installation Qualification	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	11	Operational Qualification	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	12	Performance Qualification	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
ACCEPTANCE						
13	Traceability Matrix	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
14	Validation Report	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
15	...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
ON GOING						
16	SOP Security	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
17	SOP Change Control	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
18	SOP Backup and Recovery	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
19	SOP Periodic Review	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		

NUMBER OF POSITIVE ANSWERS	CRITICALITY/COMPLEXITY
0-2	Low
3-4	Medium
5-6	High

# Challenges

- High standards and expectations of business and authorities
- Reducing Risks
- Reducing validation time, cost and effort
- Be green (GMP  $\Leftrightarrow$  Giant Mass of Paper)
- Change Control
- Application of new technologies and techniques

# Response to the Challenges

## ➤ Low Hanging Fruits

- Cover-all Risk-based approach
- Off-the-shelf solutions with customisation possibilities and applied preconfigured industry best practices
- Predefined processes and templates
- Industry best practices
- Tools

## ➤ Cloud-based services (e.g SaaS, IaaS)

## ➤ Combined-techniques (e.g. Prototyping + Waterfall)

## ➤ New paradigms (e.g. RAD, AGILE)



# Conclusion

## ➤ The V&V:

- Much more than testing
- Improves quality assurance
- The risk-based approach is crucial
- Team-oriented, documented activities
- New trends and paradigms can be seen for improvement

Thank you very much  
for your attention!

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