

NASA High Risk (03/2008)	Indicate “satisfactorily addressed” or “improvement needed” (if “improvement needed,” summarize recommended steps)
Definition of Success	Satisfactorily addressed: Improving the effectiveness of NASA program/project management across the board. Goal is supported by targets and metrics in focus areas.
Leadership Commitment	Satisfactorily addressed: NASA senior management continues to demonstrate its commitment and support for the corrective action plan (CAP) which serves as the baseline for agency corrective action implementation. Particular instances cited of demonstrated support. (First Quarter: 10/31/07-01/31/08)
Capacity	Satisfactorily addressed: Obtaining sufficient resources is cited as an issue for some initiatives. Obtaining project managers’ cooperation is also cited as a challenge for some initiatives. First Quarter intermediate target slippage was relatively minimal but should continued to be monitored to ensure existing major targets are not impacted.
Corrective Action Plan	Satisfactorily addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NASA’s CAP satisfactorily identifies the areas in need of corrective action and outlines initiatives to address these areas. • GAO is satisfied that the CAP “targets problems and issues that our reports have found are contributing to high risk in contract management.” • First Quarter CAP update was timely; updates were clearly stated, and easily cross-walked to initial CAP’s targets and goals.
Validation	Satisfactorily addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assurance provided that First Quarter Accomplishments are concretely verifiable. • Responsible NASA organizations retain associated records. • Cross-functionality of CAP, clearly defined roles and responsibilities of lead executives, and senior management involvement work together in ensuring relevance and value of CAP actions.

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Demonstrated Progress	<p>Improvement needed:</p> <p>Progress is being made. However, although First Quarter intermediate target slippage was relatively minimal, in order for progress on the CAP to remain acceptable, NASA must ensure that re-scheduled intermediate targets do not slip further or offset other overall/major targets’ schedule completion dates. For example, numerous “first in series” of reports are due in latter half of FY 08. NASA should make every effort to overcome First Quarter slippage so that these dates are met as originally planned.</p>