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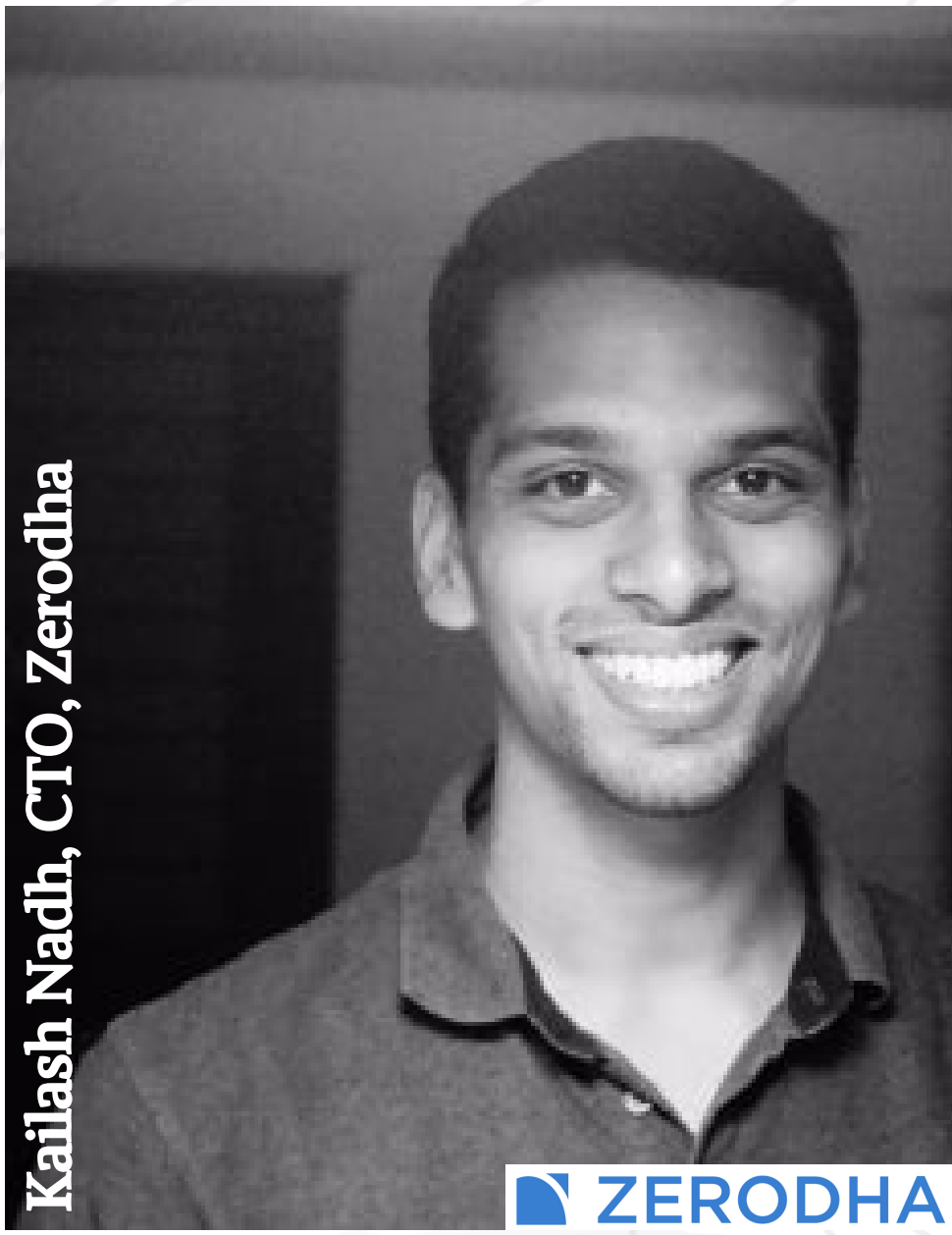
Founders Advice

FRAMEWORKS FOR MANAGING TECHNICAL DEBT?



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Kailash Nadh

Technical Debt is among the largest problems faced by development teams, often leading to poor quality code and reduced productivity.

Here are Kailash Nadh's recommendations on how to better manage Technical Debt.

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Technical debt is often a **human competence problem first, before it is an expensive technological problem.**

There is no one-size-fits all formula for managing technical debt. It comes down to competent technical and business decision making from the get go.

Proactively keep track of systems that have the potential to turn into technical debt, and carefully let them grow to an acceptable level before investing time and resources into servicing them.

Trying to address every possibility of technical debt prematurely may waste valuable time that is better spent on active growth.

Kailash Nadh

Managing technical debt involves **working out the right trade-offs between technical complexity, product, and business growth.**

The act of servicing technical debt could involve swapping out parts of a system, entirely scrapping it, refactoring codebases, or even completely rewriting them.

Kailash Nadh

A tech team should have the power to **take objective technical decisions, sometimes at the cost of short term business, to achieve long term stability.**

Technical debt in the far future is exponentially more expensive than a calculated short term hit to the business that may sometimes be required to service it.

Technical and non-technical decision makers must have **mutual trust and respect in each others' competencies.**

While a tech team may have the skills, if there are no competent non-technical decision makers in an organisation who can understand these nuances, who can understand that sometimes it is necessary to slow down to speed up, technical debt that is almost impossible to service, is inevitable.

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