

Capability Document

Why CA Clarity PPM?

- Gartner PPM MQ Leader – 6 years in a row (2002 – 2007)
- Among top 3 according to IDC PPM Market Share Report (2007)
- Over 10 years of PPM domain knowledge and thought-leadership

Clarity PPM Highlights

- Helps organizations align IT initiatives and resources in line with corporate goals
- Offers analytical insight into entire project portfolio
- Helps executives and managers to quantify the amount of revenue spent on individual projects
- Facilitates real time monitoring of project progress
- Helps in making better informed decisions, and in identifying opportunities for asset reuse
- Ensures the establishment of consistent processes across projects
- Provides tools to predict project outcomes, and identify inter-project dependencies

PPM Solution: Bridging the Gap between IT Initiatives and Business Goals

Introduction

Factors like economic globalization, intense competition in the market place, and an increasingly complex customer base that has instant access to multiple alternative options, have led to businesses relying more on Information Technology to gain strategic advantage. Given such a scenario, failure of IT initiatives in meeting corporate priorities can lead to unintended consequences. Uncertainty about the success and outcome of IT enabled projects puts organizations in a serious predicament that could lead to stalling of business opportunities and resultant loss of revenue.

Most companies ascribe failure of IT initiatives to the lack of efficient IT governance. A well-defined IT governance process can infuse predictability, precision and clarity into IT initiatives, optimize resource utilization and improve financial planning. Gaining measurable value from IT investments today demands an organized and standardized Project Portfolio Management (PPM) approach. CA's Clarity™ PPM system is rightly acknowledged as the most reliable solution for ensuring the attainment of envisaged business objectives from IT projects.

As an effective IT governance framework, Clarity PPM eliminates the risk of failure and ensures the successful completion of projects within the stipulated budget and timeframe. Clarity PPM efficiently supports IT governance within organizations with its highly evolved functionality modules for project and resource management, portfolio and demand management, budget and cost controls, and risk analysis. Clarity PPM appropriately customized by ASSYST for varied business verticals, offers top-down information on the progress of projects, including high-end overview for executives and drilled-down details for managers.

CA Clarity Project Portfolio Management System

An ideal solution for ensuring the success of IT initiatives within an organization, Clarity PPM incorporates strong capabilities for resource planning and financial management, enabling real time portfolio analysis. Besides strong IT Governance, Clarity PPM offers excellent support to New Product Development, Professional Resources Automation and Enterprise Project Management Office. Recognized by Gartner and Forrester as a leading solution for portfolio, project, resource, process, finance and demand management, Clarity PPM meets corporate priorities and enables proper management of IT initiatives. With extended project visibility, what-if scenarios, and cost and risk controls, Clarity PPM maximizes productivity and performance.

Clarity PPM has a modular structure that integrates seamlessly to enable judicious IT governance and management of incoming demand, projects, and resources to ensure the highest potential return from an IT initiative. Clarity PPM is created in Web services architecture, and its modular structure allows phased implementations as small as 50 users focused or as big as 100,000 users focused.

Clarity PPM Modules

The CA Clarity PPM solution comprises of a set of modules that include Project Portfolio Manager, Resource Manager, Demand Manager, Project Financial Manager, etc., which facilitate real-time performance analysis and comparison. These modules act as the tools for managing investments, resource capacity and demand and to monitor the progress of an organization's IT enabled business projects. Some of the main modules of the Clarity PPM System are briefly described below:

Project Portfolio Manager: This module offers the tools needed for aligning project investments with corporate goals for achieving the highest return on the use of resources. Using the features in this module, organizations can maintain a structured environment, which is vital for establishing portfolio criteria, developing plans and what-if scenarios and communicating strategic decisions to stakeholders. Having extensive performance analysis and scorecard features, CA Clarity Project Portfolio Manager offers reliable insight into the true costs and benefits of strategic projects, and provides access to real time data to continually improve investment performance and decision making.

CA Clarity PPM Benefits

- Monitors project progress
- Provides access to detailed data and information
- Detects redundant and overlapping functions
- Optimizes resource and services
- Helps develop better project strategies
- Ensures better financial management
- Adds value to business
- Supports organization goals
- Improves IT performance

ASSYST's Clarity PPM Services

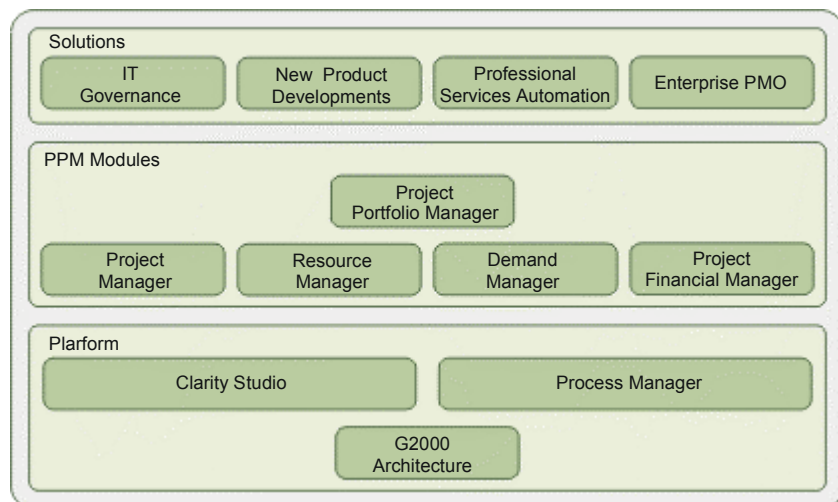
- Offers Consultancy Services on effective implementation and deployment
- Implements and customizes Clarity PPM solutions
- Offers CA Clarity PPM solution in Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) format
- Develops custom features to supplement functionalities of existing Clarity PPM solution
- Develops interfaces with other systems like SAP, PeopleSoft, Oracle, etc.
- Migrates from existing or older versions (Niku) to Clarity 8
- Conducts performance tuning of existing Clarity PPM installations
- Offers customized Clarity PPM training for end-users.
- Integration with third party applications

Resource Manager: Deploying the right professionals in the right teams at the right time is the most effective way to enhance productivity and performance within an organization. CA Clarity Resource Manager provides sophisticated yet easy to use tools for understanding and assessing the skill sets of individuals, tracking their development, experience and interest, and for managing the entire process of resource requisitioning, searching and staff assignments.

Demand Manager: This module connects an IT organization's services to project functions. With the use of complex and highly evolved tools, CA Clarity Demand Manager offers organizations a single window view through which all demand can be assessed and managed. The Demand Manager module will help organizations in improving the allocation of resources, systematically collecting and evaluating ideas, effectively managing unplanned work, and in understanding and managing the cost of Demand.

Project Financial Manager: This module offers a complete solution for managing the costs and revenues associated with critical projects. CA Clarity Project Financial Manager provides the tools needed to accurately capture expenditures, access historic information and to generate a wide range of financial reports. It provides organizations with reliable foresight to manage costs, and ensures the optimal utilization of allocated budgets.

CA Clarity PPM System



CA Clarity PPM Features

- Brings visibility, transparency, accountability and measurement to IT enabled business projects
- Meets broader business objectives and aligns IT investments with corporate priorities
- Enables access to detailed data that helps to meet Sarbanes Oxley Act compliance requirements
- Improves IT governance, enhancing project performance
- Allows real time monitoring of project progress at each level
- Provides effective cost control and risk management, ensuring lower cost of ownership
- Improves decision-making and helps more judicious allocation of resources

Clarity PPM @ ASSYST –A Standardized Approach

According to research done by the Center for Business Practices, organizations are only moderately satisfied with their existing PPM solutions. Reasons cited include limited pertinence of existing solutions and inadequate customization. Vendors doing the implementation must have a thorough knowledge of the tool's capacity, its technical architecture, and the functional needs and business requirements of the organization, to ensure success. ASSYST has a team of Clarity trained and certified resources to help organizations align PPM implementation with business goals.

An Employee Owned Company

The ASSYST Advantage

- Competitive pricing
- Simple engagement model
- Skilled resource pool with cross platform expertise
- Allows frequent technology refresh and increased knowledge transfer
- Enhances process efficiencies and improves quality by leveraging CMMI practice
- Allows rapid deployment of new applications
- Frees internal resources to focus on core activities

ASSYST's Highlights

- Headquartered in Northern VA
- Established in 1993
- An Employee Owned Company
- Assessed at CMMI Level 3
- Global provider of information technology services
- Strong market reputation for timely delivery and service quality
- Adherence to proven methodologies, standards and processes
- Deep industry and process knowledge
- Competent, highly skilled workforce
- Flexible engagement models
- Comprehensive project management and quality assurance procedures
- Robust IT infrastructure

ASSYST's Clarity PPM implementation staff ensures data integrity and accuracy across disparate systems and back office applications, anticipating problems before they can occur. They perform the necessary data conversion to enable the Clarity PPM system to pull the required information from existing systems. They create various formats for the reports to be generated from the PPM system. They help in adding new PPM modules when such additions are found desirable. And they provide customized training to project managers and other end users to help them elicit the best out of the system.

ASSYST's approach helps organizations have a stable PPM process in place, and to derive real value from it. By putting ASSYST on the job of implementing Clarity PPM, organizations can increase productivity, enhance return on investment, improve service execution and ensure reliability. ASSYST's methodology for implementing, supporting, and upgrading Clarity PPM is based on industry best practices and on our own years of experience in Project and Portfolio Management. ASSYST offers measurable benefits to its clients by way of increased productivity, faster completion of IT initiatives, reduced risk of failure and lower workload on in-house teams. Moreover, ASSYST's onshore-offshore service delivery model brings in great benefits to its clients by offering them the best of both worlds – cost reduction and value addition.

By implementing Clarity PPM, ASSYST establishes a single and comprehensive source for all project related information, while also putting in place a robust and reliable tool to carry out multiple project management tasks with ease, speed and efficiency. The customized solution caters to the need for information across an organization's hierarchy – be it an overview of organizational IT initiatives for the CEO or detailed information on specific projects for a Project Manager.

ASSYST's Clarity PPM Services

ASSYST's portfolio of Clarity PPM services includes the following:

- Customized implementation of Clarity PPM solutions in accordance with the distinct business needs of organizations
- Migration from existing or older versions of Clarity (Niku) to Clarity 8.1
- Upgrading of Clarity 7.5.3 for four different environments: Development, SIT, UAT and Production.
- Post-upgrade maintenance support to ensure improved performance
- Performance tuning of already implemented Clarity PPM installations, including adaptation and optimization
- Consultancy services on effective implementation and deployment of Clarity PPM assessing pros and cons
- Integration of Clarity with third party applications using XML Open Gateway
- Allocation of highly skilled resources on and offsite for effective implementation of the solution
- Providing Clarity PPM in Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) format, allowing clients to use the solution as a hosted service that they rent out on a per-month / per-user rental basis
- Developing custom features to supplement functionalities of installed PPM solution
- Developing Clarity PPM interfaces with other systems like SAP, PeopleSoft, Oracle
- Data migration and conversion from existing systems to Clarity and facilitating Customized Reporting using Business Objects and Actuate®
- Customized Clarity PPM training for end-users, enabling organizations to get specialized knowledge about their Clarity installation

About ASSYST

ASSYST is a CMMI Level 3 global information technology services company with an enterprise-wide focus on quality, and a deep commitment to continuous process improvement, that enhances the value of its clients' IT investments and facilitates the alignment of their internal information technology with their overall business.