

# AMC Framework Paper

## IT Portfolio Management Systems (IT PMS)

“Things move so fast we have to reinvent our business plan almost every month. An IT portfolio management approach helps make this possible,”  
Leading Fertilizer Industry CEO.

Personal Statement to Chairman, AMC, April 2010

### What are IT Portfolio Management Systems?

IT Portfolio Management Systems (sometimes also called IT Project Portfolio Management Systems) help maintain an effective balance between maintaining individual business-critical IT systems, such as People Soft financials, and the wider IT infrastructure of the business as a whole, including front and back offices, websites and customer relations. In more detail, IT PMS:

1. automate the centralized collection of data about demand, costs, schedules, and resources for investment prioritization
2. enable effective execution of the programs and projects delivering new technologies and other IT assets
3. control and measure investment in ongoing IT operations.

### IT PMS as Value Add

A structured, managed approach to enterprise IT, such as IT PMS, brings with it a number of enterprise benefits, such as:

1. enhanced communications: e.g. issue tracking, approval workflows, discussions and document handling)
2. better scope control: beyond simply managing scope in the schedule
3. more streamlined procurement: e.g. for skill sourcing and to collaborate with contractors
4. more effective and reliable Quality Assurance: through the use of methodology templates supporting such approaches as Capability Maturity Model Integrated (CMMI) and Six Sigma.

The feedback from IT PMS enables gate reviews, process metrics and more, allowing managers to ensure that deliverables meet specific expectations outlined in internal policies regarding quality.

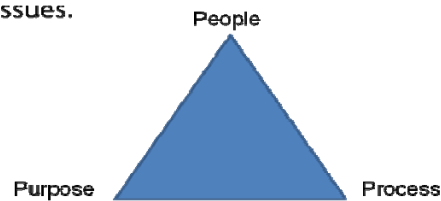
### IT PMS Meeting the Challenges of Agility and Competency

“As we have to reinvent our business plan almost every month, agility goes to top of the competency list. This means our most critical competency is our capacity quickly to modify existing and adapt to new competencies, because that gives us agility. That is how we future-proof our business.”

## Making IT PMS Work for You – Four Key Steps

1. What is my business objective? (PURPOSE)
2. What people with what body of competencies (skills, knowledge and experience) do I need to make this happen? (PEOPLE)
3. What processes do I need them to execute and how can I monitor and measure them? (PROCESS)
4. What competencies flow from these processes that I need to develop, promulgate and apply?

**IT PPM as a technology alone cannot help an IT department, or any other business unit resolve business process or strategic planning issues.**



**Successful use of IT PPM requires careful attention to basics, starting with the classical triangle of purpose, people, and process.**

As a business strategy and a discipline, IT PMS involves continuous process modification and creation, user adoption and organizational change management. IT PMS is about enhancing work behaviors at multiple levels within and outside of the IT department

### Quick Diagnostics: What Do I Need to Do Next?

Outcomes	Priority
More-effectively manage and monitor IT spending in the short term for quick, value-added results	
Review and improve existing work management practices	
Centralize and standardize the demand management process	
Enhance visibility of the resource pool	
Optimize and control the allocation of critical resources for project work	
Increase work administration efficiency	
More carefully balance inbound work (demand) with existing resources (supply of time, people and money)	
Enhance the communication flow between itself and the business	
Increase visibility of existing project status	
Gain better control over outsourced IT projects	



**For further information or assistance please contact:**

(US) - Mike Castronovo +1 770 424 6340 mcastronovo@amcinfomediarities.com

(UK) - Julian Hilton - +44 (0) 20 7515 9009 jhilton@amcinfomediarities.com