

PROJECT in a box and P3M3

This is a summary of how PROJECT in a box can assist with achieving the various maturity levels. PROJECT in a box provides a good broad range of tools and capabilities to help support organisations at most levels of maturity. It is important to remember though that whilst PROJECT in a box can give you the capabilities to take you quickly to level 3 and above, higher levels will often require management maturity and stability of use of the system which will usually take some time to achieve.

Based on version 3.1 Summer 2011.

Management Control (level 3 and above)

Portfolio (to level 3)

Project in a box provides the framework to develop and control portfolios or project and programmes. Control over creation and 'type' of project allows organisational control over business case and go/nogo decisions. Planning and reporting tools are available as standard and built into the fundamentals of projects and portfolios. Organisation wide Lessons learned is already available. *We are currently working on a formal process for managing a proposed project through into its delivery and closure/review. Once available this will provide capability through to level 4 or 5.*

Programme (to level 3)

Availability of a standard Managing Successful Programmes method and its ability to integrate with projects or all types. *Higher levels 4-5 are about practice and accepted use of these tools in the organisation.*

Project (to level 5)

Method templates and the supporting Assurance and audit capabilities along with management reporting provide a fully capable offering depending on the adoption of the user organisation.

Benefits Management

Portfolio (to level 3)

Build the benefit identification and tracking into method templates and report on progress across projects and portfolios.

Programme (to level 4)

Benefit identification and Management is built into the MSP method framework and templates with centralised reporting supported.

Project (to level 5)

As above identification, and assessment/reporting as standard when appropriate forms are included in the project method template.

Financial Management

Portfolio (to level 3)

Business cases required as standard and can include customised corporate requirements. Financial cases, budget, actual and forecasts managed at project, programme and portfolio levels.

Programme (to level 3 or 4)

Standardised approach to finances, tracked and managed, with good management practice based on the information provided in reporting level 4 flexing of timescales can be managed.

Project (to level 4 or 5)

Standardisation of project cost control and value in terms of profit or ROI can be built into methodology as required. Reporting allows for constant review and revision based on this leading to demonstration of value for money.

Risk Management

Portfolio (to level 4)

Identification, quantification and management of risk responses is closely built into all methodologies. Centralised analysis and reporting of risks at project, programme and portfolio levels ensures organisational ownership.

Programme (to levels 4 or 5)

Risk Management is embedded throughout the programmes methodology and reporting into management the level achieved depends on the degree to which senior management engages.

Project (to levels 4 or 5)

As above the tools support this to a high level the degree to which level is achieved is dependent upon the amount of engagement from senior management.

Stakeholder Management

Portfolio (to level 5)

The tool supports Portfolio management and appropriate stakeholder involvement/ownership. The level achieved will depend on the organisation and stakeholders rather than the tool.

Programme Level (to level 5)

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Project (to level 5)

Strong process involvement, learning and evolution of approaches is core to the capabilities of the tool set and will drive this through to level 5.

Organisation Governance

Portfolio (to level 5)

The tool supports organisational governance through to level 5, providing the capabilities needed to accomplish this, although the level achieved would be dependent upon the experience and commitment of the organisation.

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Resource Management

Portfolio (to level 5)

The tool provides the capability to collect resource requirement information from all projects and programmes and assemble these at a Portfolio level to be assessed by user or key groups of users. This allows the identification of over or under resource points and realignment of projects to best suit the resources available. The actual level achieved would depend upon the way in which the tools were used and at which points in the strategic cycle.

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