



Business Vision Real-World Results



Practice Areas – Management

Project Portfolio Optimization

Today's business climate offers only one certainty – sudden and rapid changes. In order to maintain agility while avoiding corporate thrashing and wasted investments, a strong project portfolio management discipline is needed. This requires continuous attention and balancing of project resources and deliverables against department, division or corporate goals, operational and fiscal risk, budget constraints, governance and compliance. Avistas professionals augment client teams to manage many elements impacting project portfolio optimization including:

- ▶ [Business Value](#)
- ▶ [Risk Assessment](#)
- ▶ [Resources](#)
- ▶ [Project Priorities](#)
- ▶ [Requirements Development and Documentation](#)
- ▶ [Skills Allocation and Employee Training](#)
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Business Value

Every project endeavor must be measured against its ability to meet or exceed “business case” criteria set forth in both economic and technical justifications. All justification criteria contain many assumptions and variables regulated by executive goals, market conditions, customer requests and regulatory controls to name a few. When the underlying variables change and assumptions prove wrong, entire project initiatives must be scrutinized carefully to ensure the successful delivery and continuity of business value.

Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is a critical part of Risk Management where at least two quantities of risk is measured along with the magnitude of the potential loss or impact and the probability that the loss or impact will occur. Risk assessments should be cataloged and baselined during project planning and programming in order to test all significant variables relating to a critical path and define contingencies. Projects are based on many variable business, market, technical, timing and human risk assumptions. When one or more of these variables changes, risk assessments must be re-established in order to understand the impact to integrity of the project and targeted result along with the implementation of corrective measures. Avistas professionals validate threat levels and provide apolitical guidance for immediate remedial activities.

Project Portfolio Optimization



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Resources

Project portfolio resources include funding, people, process, technology and delivery mechanisms. Avistas collaborates with our clients to ensure that all appropriate resources are defined, equipped, trained, authorized and communicate as required to achieve the objective. Careful attention is given to budgets, schedules, process trigger events and management information reporting in real-time or near real-time along with resource performance and utilization levels.

Project Priorities

As many variables are impacted within portfolio projects, Avistas supports our clients to ensure that all critical paths are protected while adjusting project resource allocations to achieve the priority results. When priorities are either unreasonable or changing too frequently, Avistas facilitates a full project portfolio review and recalibration.

Requirements Development and Documentation

Outcome-based management thinking with performance metrics is key for project documentation. As the old adage says, “you can’t manage what you can’t measure”. Projects must not only work as designed, they must be designed properly from the beginning. It starts with capturing relevant requirements and ends with complete validation of the production environment “working as documented”. From developing comprehensive master plans to applications integration, networking, call centers and mobile solutions, our professionals have dozens of years experience with developing project requirements and documentation in accordance with industry best practices.

Skills Allocation and Employee Training

A critical component to any project portfolio is the human talent and skills. It is common for our clients to possess the talent internally for strategic and tactical projects, but that talent is overcommitted to many projects. Avistas professional resources supplement that talent as well as mentor and train identified client resources in order that they develop skills necessary for the job.

Avistas also offers many tools for establishing technical proficiency profiles that discern book knowledge, practical experience, conceptual understanding and work speed using industry leading adaptive testing techniques. These tools are used for individual skills development as well as for project teams, departments, divisions and entire corporations.



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Vendor Management and Spend Optimization

It is vital that our clients do not become too dependant upon any single vendor or group of vendors. Avistas collaborates with our clients to validate the integrity of key vendor relationships while ensuring that vendors follow through with contractual obligations and service levels.

During times of austerity, Avistas performs complete reviews of portfolio projects to determine the business relevance of each project endeavor. Where appropriate, we move to terminate those activities that are no longer relevant. Others are scrutinized carefully for cost justification. In many cases, key economical benefits are obtained by re-establishing competitive opportunities among key vendors and business partners.

Avistas Practice Areas

Management

- Business Intelligence
- Project Portfolio Optimization
- Change and Asset Management
- Human Capital
- Acquisition, Mergers and Divestitures
- Governance and Compliance
- Business Process Optimization
- Services Delivery Management

- Knowledge Performance Management
- Program, Project and Product Management

Technical

- Application Integration
- Infrastructure and Technology
- Development Support

Contact: Bill Morgan
214-544-0400
bmorgan@avistas.com

AVISTAS
The Summit at Las Colinas
545 E John Carpenter Fwy, Suite 300
Irving, Texas 75062
Tel: 214-544-0400
Fax: 214-242-2311
www.avistas.com