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PPM Litecycle™ Whitepaper

[by CIO Services, LLC](#)

PPM for the “Project Portfolio-Level Customer” – Gartner Report

Gartner has identified, in its 2012 “MarketScope for Project and Portfolio Management Software Applications” report, a class of PPM users called Project Portfolio-Level Customers. These users are described as needing a PPM application that is top-down vs. being built up from all the detailed level of information from project managers daily use of the application. And, these users don’t anticipate that project teams must be dictated-to as far as what daily PPM tools are needed for detailed activity.

Gartner goes on to say that in fact, implementing a detailed-level PPM application for the project team, and hoping to provide the needs of these Portfolio-Level users, built up from the lower level details, may be the reason for many PPM application implementation failures. As Gartner says, “Among the earliest of project portfolio-level PPM customers were a significant number of companies that believed they must implement PPM software automation at painful levels of detail (such as task- and assignment-level time reporting) in order to put themselves in a position to practice project portfolio management and enhance decision making around projects. Unfortunately, many initial PPM software investments failed when this bottom-up approach to project portfolio management was chosen, due mainly to the high levels of complexity, low levels of adoption and extensive organization change management required to get the entire execution side of a project organization using the same system. Fostering adoption of time reporting alone, among a group of 100 team members and project resources, was a formidable challenge for most.”

At [CIO Services, LLC](#) we believe there is an additional set of PPM users that are not only of the Portfolio-Level type, but desire, at a high level, to view the complete project initiation to IT deployment phases of the parent project – along with the same level of information for sub-projects (features) that are part of the master project. They do not want to disrupt the daily project member’s activities, such as detailed task tracking, or details of development activity, but realize that those details may be kept in a department/silo level application, but are summarized up to the light, higher level, management Portfolio level application.

For example, in our [PPM Litecycle](#)™ application, we take summary data from other applications such as Microsoft Project Management and import the data to master project or features so that Portfolio level users do not disturb, or need to be concerned with the fact that the Project team may be using an alternative application. Or, in the case of the ALM side of the process/application, we integrate department specific work, which may be managed in a ticketing application with the high level project plan to provide a high level view of work status. And also, in the case of Release to Deployment, we

integrate specific Release “bundles” and deployment steps into a high level Change document which is an artifact that can be used with the CAB and auditors

The Gartner Project Portfolio-Level customer may be better defined as a PTD-Portfolio, or project to Deployment Portfolio-level customer. This is a customer/user who wants to view not only the Portfolio of project status, but the Portfolio of Project’s state from initiation for deployment.

This is the customer we have targeted with PPM Litecycle™.

A free trial of PPM Litecycle™ is available [here](#).