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The Art and Science of Effective Project Systems Implementations

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About the Speaker



Loretta Bayliss

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Prior to Prescience, industry career in Telecommunications, Aviation, Energy, Oil and Gas and tier 1 technology consulting



Clear focus on enterprise technology solutions, transformational IT project management and implementing with passion, integrity & vision

Key Learnings & Takeaways



Begin with the end in mind



Complexity is over-rated.
Testing is not.



Ask the silly questions



Don't always be too busy
to celebrate with your
team



Don't eat the elephant
whole



Being right isn't always
the right answer

Agenda



Introduction

Definitions &
Context

Building Now with the Future in Mind

Selecting systems,
vendors &
implementation
partners

Implementing Effectively

Vision, Simplicity,
Preparation,
Execution and
Governance

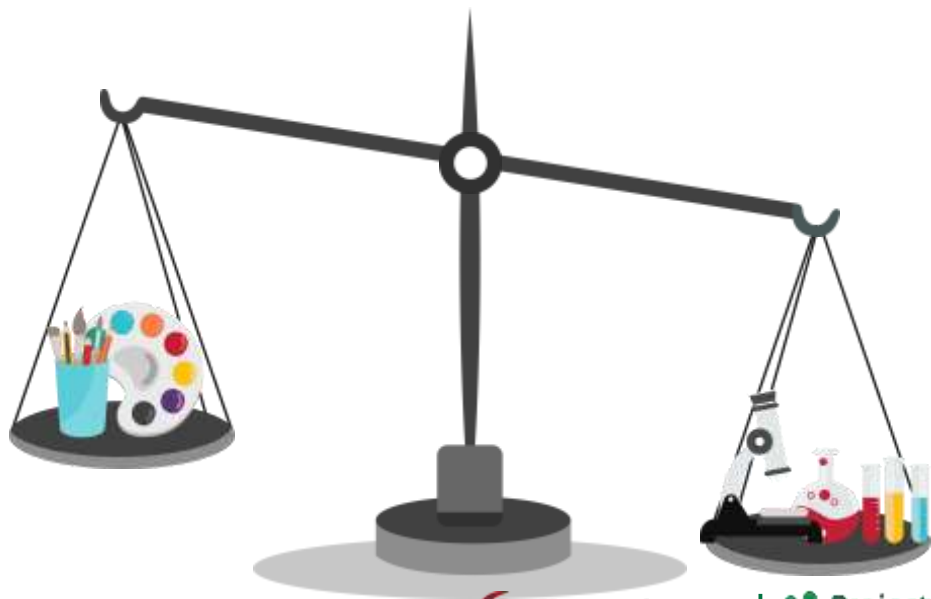
Common Pitfalls


And how to
avoid them

Q & A

Conclude &
Close

Dark Art or Fine Science





“I like things to happen,
and if they don't happen, I
like to make them happen”

Winston Churchill

Introduction & Background

Definitions & Context



What's in a name?

Project Systems vs Project Tools

- What is the difference?
- What should be the relationship between them?
- What is the purpose they serve?
- What makes them effective?

Build now with the future in mind

Selecting systems, vendors and implementation partners



Current & Future Strategic Fit



Understand the strategic and operational drivers



Ensure you know what you need now



Seek an outcome not an answer



Consider the culture of successful projects that you want to create



Shape your selection process accordingly

It moves to selection

Vendor, system and implementation partner selection

- Are they equally important?
- What should be the relationship between them?
- Let's focus on system selection...

Building now for the future

Contextual considerations



Organisational

- Strategic intent & alignment
- Desired project culture
- Incumbent tools and systems
- Appetite, capacity and rationale for changes



Program & Project

- Requirements, scope, duration & ROI
- Available skills, both internally and in market
- Nature and profile of projects being managed
- Strategic cost/impact of failure, and role systems could have in mitigating
- Stage project is at in project lifecycle e.g. greenfield, brownfield, turnaround
- Track record of project success and failure, and root cause analysis to either replicate or remediate



Partner & Product

- Size, scale and sustainability
- Vendor investment profile e.g. innovation and product development, complementary products
- Industry or geographic focus
- Industry preferred / default solutions
- Product history, development roadmap and fit for future requirements
- Data management, core functions, reporting and integration capabilities
- Gaps, either off-system or in an alternative solution

Building now for the future

Technology selection considerations



Key Learnings & Takeaways

- Do your due diligence
- Don't change for change's sake
- Never forget the outcomes you need, both strategic and operational
- Objectively assess prior projects for their strengths & weaknesses and apply this to your current and future state visioning
- All technology solutions have pros and cons – selecting one that complements your context is paramount

Implementing effectively


Vision, Simplicity, Preparation, Execution & Governance



5 Traits for Implementation Success



-  Vision
-  Simplicity
-  Preparation
-  Execution
-  Governance



“
Good [project managers]
create a vision, articulate the
vision, passionately own the
vision, and relentlessly drive it
to completion.
”

Jack Welch

Vision



Strategic
Alignment



Outcome
Focused



Context
Appropriate

Vision is also about:

- Defining success and how we measure it
- Stakeholders
- WIIFM
- Gaining and sustaining buy-in
- Communicating, communicating, communicating

Simplicity




Not intended to (ever) dumb down the truly complex



Always aim to avoid the unnecessarily complicated

- Ease of use
- Intuitive interface, integration and reporting
- Significantly enhances likelihood of adoption
- Greater transferability and therefore consistency in application between projects



“Failing to plan
is
planning to fail”

Benjamin Franklin

Key Learnings and Takeaways



Always build on foundation set in visioning and concept stage



Planning is critical to project success

- Early and continuous risk planning and management is strongly recommended, including the identification of known quantifiable risks, early warning indicators, proposed treatment and mitigation strategies.
- Ensuring appropriate visibility of and collaborative input to schedule throughout the project creates a culture of “no surprises”
- Don't eat the elephant whole, but don't try to eat the whole elephant either!

Execution & Governance



Work the Plan



Plan the Work



Govern it Well


- Adopt a sound approach that suits your project, organisation & outcomes
- Keep managing risks throughout
- Test the obvious, also test the more obscure
- Communicate frequently and clearly
- Celebrate successes and challenges overcome

Key Learnings and Takeaways

- Execution is a discipline
- Methodologies provides a clear structure and framework – use them well.
- Agility and problem solving are key requirements for any project management implementation team
- Testing of process and technology **together** is mandatory
- Governance is mandatory for effective decision making
- Strong governance supports key stakeholder involvement & support as well as injecting clear risk mitigation into your project, schedule, and implementation ecosystem

Common Pitfalls

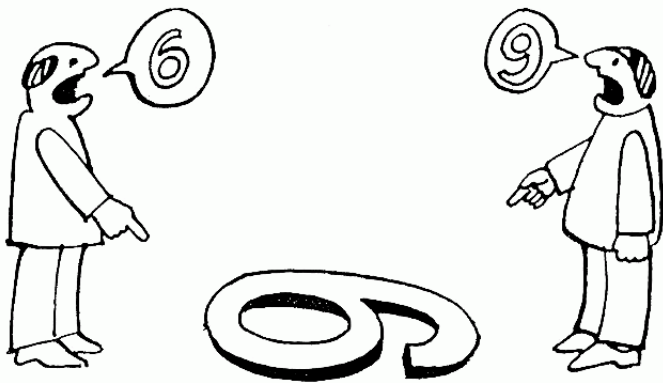
And how to avoid them!



“The most important thing in
communication is hearing
what isn't said.”

Peter Drucker

Being right isn't always the answer



Just because you are
right doesn't mean I am
wrong

Other repeat offenders



Insufficient testing of systems, processes and technology



Poor mechanics of scope governance



Sporadic, irregular or unstructured risk management

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Thank You!





Get in Touch



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