It’s time for the Active Risk Manager

Successful Organizations have World-Class Risk Management
Strengthen your business by Embracing the Management of Risk and Opportunity with Active Risk Manager

No matter what size your organisation is, the industry or the locations you operate in, you won’t have escaped the increasing attention that Risk and Value Management has commanded over the last few years. Our businesses are delivering more complex technical products and services than we have done before, our organizations operate on a global scale, are more fragmented and networked than ever before, and in order to compete we must deliver quicker, to higher quality, all with reduced budgets.

We hear it over and over again, managing risks and opportunities effectively is a key process in achieving increased business performance and certainty. But how do we do it? How do we look into the crystal ball to see the future and then actually change the potential outcomes?

"However, regardless of what others are advising or mandating regarding risk management, or whether your risk management strategy is based on instinct, experience or a formal methodology, the real question is this: Is it making a difference to your businesses’ performance?"

Like many companies, we expect that you set about the corporate agenda item “Do Risk Management” some time ago and now your current risk management process is likely to have evolved, representing a consolidation of many disparate processes and instinctive, experiential efforts supported by spreadsheets and home-grown technologies. You may or may not have reached the stage where someone at board level has asked what the total position would be if all of these different reports were able to be merged.

They may become anxious once they hear the answer to this question, but this is part of the responsibility of enterprise risk management; to communicate the total picture of current risk exposure in line with defined risk appetite levels so that appropriate decisions can be made if these are unacceptable.

For many, risk management is dominated by inconsistent manual processes, segmented and unreliable information and the lack of real-time access to consolidated risk information across the business.

The simple truth is that this is not risk management as presented by COSO, ISO31000 or any of the key regulators and industry advisers.

Many organizations are under the false impression they are doing enterprise risk when they simply cannot piece together the consolidated view of risk across the entire business. Without this information, how can management understand what their total risk exposure is and make relevant decisions based on this? Would board members be surprised to hear they are unable to do this, do they know if they are or are not doing this, and whose responsibility is it to inform them?

However, regardless of what others are advising or mandating regarding risk management, or whether your risk management strategy is based on instinct, experience or a formal methodology, the real question is this: Is it making a difference to your businesses’ performance?
Active Risk Manager (ARM) from Sword Active Risk, is a web browser based software solution designed to enable customers to achieve all of the benefits possible from a mature enterprise risk and opportunity management process.

It has different user interfaces designed for different groups participating in the risk process to keep it simple and relevant, it supports multiple risk management processes and is available out of the box and able to be configured by business process owners. This offers significant time to value and reduced total cost of ownership over bespoke and toolkit based solutions. It is available as both an in-house deployable solution where data control, security and integration is important, or as a hosted SaaS based solution.

It is the leader in the market and is why, for industries where risk management is critical to the success of their business, it is the de-facto standard. Simply ask one of our many customers - such as Rolls Royce, NASA, Roche, Airbus, Nestle, BT, Bechtel, OMV and GE Oil & Gas about the value they have obtained.

We also have many smaller companies using ARM to deliver simple but integrated risk management solutions for as little as two users, who are looking for the same benefits our larger customers obtain.

In all of our customers ARM is being used to help deliver critical business objectives where, in one of our customer’s terminology, “failure is not an option”. This is important as it differentiates ARM from solutions designed primarily for compliance purposes. Whilst ARM handles this, our primary strategic mission is to help our customers become stronger and more successful by embracing the management of risk.

“As project complexity increases, only 30 percent (of projects) are being delivered on budget, and only 15 percent are on time.”

Accenture, Developing Strategies for the Effective Delivery of Capital Projects

Crossrail is managing Europe’s largest infrastructure project - building a new railway beneath Central London.

Effective Enterprise Risk Management is critical to its success.

“[Crossrail] realised that we needed a consistent approach to managing risk across the program. A key part of getting that consistent approach was to implement a common risk management system. We went through a competitive procurement process and we selected ARM. We have implemented ARM within our own organisation and mandated its use across our supply chain to our major tier one contracting organisations...ARM has been able to drive consistency across this enormous program.”

Rob Halstead, Head of Risk Management, Crossrail Limited

With ARM, Crossrail gained a portfolio-wide risk visibility, ensuring that all the various project management teams understand their risks, and can take steps to mitigate them.
Whether your goal is on-time, on-budget project delivery, enterprise-wide risk exposure consolidation against corporate risk appetite levels, confidence that your current control framework is effective, business continuity and insurance cover of your residual risk, compliance with regulatory obligations or simply increased competitive advantage — ARM helps you realize your goal.

**Key Benefits ARM delivers**

**Active Risk Manager (ARM) centralizes and simplifies top-down, bottom-up and cross organizational risks, controls, opportunities, actions, incidents and audits.**

Its functionality lets you record, score, assess and mitigate risks at all levels in your business via a single, secure and auditable system.

Whether your goal is on-time, on-budget project delivery, enterprise-wide risk exposure consolidation against corporate risk appetite levels, confidence that your current control framework is effective, business continuity and insurance cover of your residual risk, compliance with regulatory obligations or simply increased competitive advantage — ARM helps you realize your goal.

**Active Risk Manager reduces**

the workload and potential errors that are inherent when using spreadsheets to manage Risk, by allowing users from different locations, departments and sites to enter data into the same software solution, using either the same standard process or different standards and definitions.

**Active Risk Manager increases**

transparency of critical future business performance information and provides a single source of truth for Risk, Incident and Audit data by the central storage of information in well organized structures that are configured to mirror your business objectives.

**Active Risk Manager provides**

peace of mind that sensitive Risk data can only be accessed by those who have been authorized, using ARM’s sophisticated and configurable security layer which controls data supplied through every report, interface and integration.

**Active Risk Manager delivers**

an evidence based Risk Management Process, producing a full audit trail of system activity and stores all the evidence required so that you can produce on-demand the necessary evidence and information to satisfy any Board, C level, Process Audit or regulatory investigation should major incidents result from residual risks impacting.

**Active Risk Manager can grow**

the Risk Management practices in to related areas and tie it in with other business critical processes by providing modules to store and manage Audit, Incident and Assurance information. As ARM can be configured by your own business process leaders time to value and adaptability is easily achieved.

**Active Risk Manager encourages**

communication and collaboration around the Risk Management process, with Risk Review, Feedback and Email alerting functionality, ensuring that the right people are involved in the right decisions at the right time.
Companies in the top 20% of risk maturity generated three times the level of EBITDA as those in the bottom 20%.

Ernst & Young, Turning Risk into Results

Active Risk Manager **delivers**

an evidence based Risk Management Process, producing a full audit trail of system activity and stores all the evidence required so that you can produce on-demand the necessary evidence and information to satisfy any Board, C level, Process Audit or regulatory investigation should major incidents result from residual risks impacting.

Active Risk Manager **ensures**

your Risk Management process is followed by providing comprehensive configurable data capture at every stage in the process, ownership tracking, due date alerting, full activity auditing and customisable outputs. The use of different user interfaces for different user communities involved in the risk, incident and audit process also help drive adoption.

Active Risk Manager **proves**

the value of Risk management allowing you to track the health of your Risk management process, in different areas, over time alongside your progress on organisation wide objectives and KPI’s stored in ARM.

Active Risk Manager **helps**

you to identify relationships between Risks illuminating highly connected risks and events which may have catastrophic knock on impacts, by analysing the Risk information in your system using ARMs advanced data mining module.

Active Risk Manager **helps**

you understand your Risk Management maturity and grow your process to achieve your organizations risk maturity goals by supporting Risk Management at each level of the maturity curve and allowing organizations to progress through different levels, easily and at their own pace. Different business units can leverage different risk maturity levels simultaneously.

Active Risk Manager **encourages**

long term business growth by strengthening the management of Risk within your organization and allowing you to record, monitor and maximize identified opportunities using ARMs fully integrated opportunity management module.
Active Risk Manager **ensures**

Risks don’t get ignored by allowing organizations to define horizontal and vertical Risk Escalation structures, which provides the transparent and automatic way of transferring ownership and accountability of risks and opportunities to ensure timely action is taken.

Active Risk Manager **provides**

an enterprise level view by aggregating or consolidating risk information collected at different levels in the organization, using different scoring dimensions and ARM’s proprietary and unique risk re-assessment to report against any level of risk appetite.

Active Risk Manager **starts**

getting user adoption immediately because it offers a full system out of the box, is quick to install and configure with no specialist help and can be rolled out immediately getting users managing their Risks within days - an unbeatable “time to value” and reduced total cost of ownership versus other software systems.

Active Risk Manager **helps**

you to embed a risk aware culture in your organization, empowering staff at all levels to take ownership for management of their risks through software that is designed for the simple collection and update of data.

Active Risk Manager **imports**

data easily from silo and legacy systems by offering a wide range of integrations with MS Office, project planning and requirements tools.

Active Risk Manager **provide**

you with the outputs you need by offering a suite of standard best practice template reports that can be modified to fit your process and requirements, without IT help.

Active Risk Manager **centres**

all your Risk Management needs from Project to Program, Individual to Enterprise, department to organization whole by providing a central information store, accessed by different configurable interfaces providing each section of the business with the data that is relevant to their needs.

Active Risk Manager **supports**

you whether you have a process or not. Every business is different, so ARM is designed to be flexible and configurable. Whether your organization supports Risk management standards defined by the PMI BoK, PRAM guide, ISO 31000, COSO or any industry specific risk management standard you are still in the process of defining your best practice, you’ll find ARM to be easily configured to support your unique requirements.

Finally, if that is not enough, our strongest success story is that of our customers as it is our customers who use ARM on a daily and real-time basis to help ensure they deliver against their key performance objectives.
Active Risk Manager is the Award-Winning Enterprise Risk Management Software that delivers the comprehensive features you need to be successful

For the Executive

- Dashboards provide greater certainty of business objectives such as earnings and cash flow volatility.
- Confidence of a governed three lines of defense risk management process.
- Full transparency of the potential business impact of every risk in the business against key risk appetite thresholds.

For the Risk Professional

- Automated alerts & real-time decentralized risk process between Executives and Risk Owners.
- Consolidation & aggregation of risk registers eliminating disparate spreadsheets and other silos of risk information to provide a single view.
- Control libraries, templates and testing provide assurance that current risk management processes and controls are effective.

For the Project Professional

- Qualitative and quantitative risk assessments against cost, time and performance objectives.
- Integrated Schedule and Cost Risk Analysis to forecast project end dates and total cost producing automated custom reports to regularly report, trend and compare risk adjusted project delivery.
- Opportunity and Issue management to target upside benefits.