Successful Organizations have World-Class Risk Management

It's time for 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 business 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.

The management team 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 that enables customers to achieve all of the benefits possible from a mature enterprise risk and opportunity management process.

ARM has distinct user interfaces designed for different roles to keep the risk process simple and relevant whether you’re involved once a year or every day. ARM is available as a Configurable Off-The-Shelf tool that can be configured by business process owners to support multiple risk management processes. This offers significant time to value and reduced total cost of ownership compared to custom built and toolkit based solutions. It is available as both an inhouse deployable solution where data control, security and integration is important, or as a hosted SaaS based solution.

ARM is the leader in the market and is the de-facto standard for Global 1000 companies in industries where risk management is critical to the success of their business. Simply ask one of our many customers such as NASA, Rolls Royce, 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 as our larger customers.

Regardless of organizational size, ARM is being used to help achieve critical business objectives where, in one customer’s terminology, “failure is not an option”. This is important as it differentiates ARM from solutions designed primarily for compliance purposes. While 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] realized 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 organization and mandated its use across our supply chain to our major tier one contracting organizations...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, management of key strategic risks, assurance that your current control framework is effective, business continuity and insurance coverage of 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, management of key strategic risks, assurance that your current control framework is effective, business continuity and insurance coverage of residual risk, compliance with regulatory obligations or simply increased competitive advantage — ARM helps you realize your goal.

**Easily Accessible Web-based Risk Collaboration**

Active Risk Manager fosters a collaborative risk process and 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 one common web-accessed system that can be on-premise or in the cloud.

**Comprehensive Auditing**

Active Risk Manager provides an evidence-based Risk Management Process, producing a full audit trail of system activity and storing all evidence and information necessary to satisfy any Board, C-level, Process Audit or regulatory investigation.

**Comprehensive Security Controls**

Active Risk Manager provides peace of mind that Management sensitive risk data can only be accessed by those who have been authorized, using ARM’s robust and configurable security mechanisms which control data supplied through every report, interface and integration.

**Integrated Risk, Audit, Incident and Assurance**

Active Risk Manager can be expanded to manage the full Event Life Cycle by adding Control Assurance processes, Audit management and Incident tracking to your ARM solution.

**Centralized Database**

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 risk process.

**Configurable Alerting**

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

Multiple User Interfaces
Active Risk Manager can be accessed through a variety of configurable user interfaces to provide simple access and relevant information for every role within your risk process from the Board of Directors and Executive Team to Risk Owners, Subject Matter Experts and Operators. Communicating risk information up and down the organization is fast and easy.

Flexible Scoring and Scalability for different types of risk
Not all risks require the same level of management. Active Risk Manager provides the flexibility to qualitatively track emerging risks and concerns with ease while enabling more robust quantitative assessment and treatment of risks that have a material impact on the organization or business objectives.

Opportunity Management
Active Risk Manager encourages long term business growth by allowing you to record, monitor and track actions for opportunities aligned with strategic and operational business objectives.

Multi-level Escalation
Active Risk Manager ensures risks don’t get ignored by allowing organizations to define horizontal and vertical Risk Escalation structures, which provide transparency and proactive communication of risks and opportunities.

Manage Organizational Objectives and KPIs
Active Risk Manager proves the value of Risk Management by allowing you to track the health and effectiveness of your Risk and Opportunity management process, in different areas, over time as it relates to your organizational objectives and KPI’s stored in ARM.
Sophisticated aggregation and consolidation

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 reassessment to report against any level of risk appetite.

Simple easy to use interfaces

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.

Out of the box reporting

Active Risk Manager provides 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.

Make configurations changes yourself as your process grows and adapts

Active Risk Manager supports your risk process at any level of maturity. 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, or you are still in the process of defining your best practice, you’ll find ARM can be easily configured to support your unique requirements and can be changed by you at any time as your process evolves.

Quick to configure and start gaining value

Active Risk Manager promotes 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 enabling use of ARM to manage their risks within days - an unbeatable “time to value” and reduced total cost of ownership versus other software systems.

Integration with 3rd party systems

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. ARM is equipped with a comprehensive set of APIs to enable secure integration with other key systems of record within your enterprise.

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

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**: Confidence of a governed Three Lines of Defense risk management process.
- **Full transparency**: Full transparency of the potential business impact of every risk in the business against key risk appetite thresholds.

### For the Risk Professional

- **Automated alerts**: Automated alerts & real-time decentralized risk process between Executives and Risk Owners.
- **Consolidation**: Consolidation & aggregation of risk registers eliminating disparate spreadsheets and other silos of risk information to provide a single view.
- **Control libraries**: 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**: Qualitative and quantitative risk assessments against cost, time, technical requirements and performance objectives.
- **Integrated Schedule and Cost Risk Analysis**: Integrated Schedule and Cost Risk Analysis to forecast project end dates and total cost, sensitivity analysis to focus resources where it matters most and trend analysis to demonstrate progress.
- **Opportunity and Issue management**: Opportunity and Issue management to target upside benefits and manage profit-eroding issues.