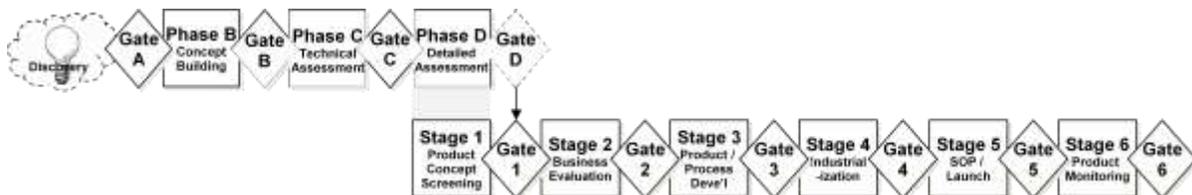


QuantumPM Harnesses the Power of Innovation in Manufacturing

QuantumPM's team supported this US-based manufacturing company's Innovation program. The organization is one of the world's largest manufacturers in their vertical, with operations in most regions of the world. Together with its subsidiaries and joint ventures, they develop market and sell products for the automotive industry. Their vision is to remain a market-focused company providing superior products and service to customers and channel partners. Their brand recognition is one of their top corporate assets and much of their corporate mission is centered on protecting their good name. Their culture fosters a committed and competitive team of associates in an environment that encourages each member to excel. When innovation turns inward to employees of this caliber, the results can far surpass idea generation from any other group, such as customers and vendors.

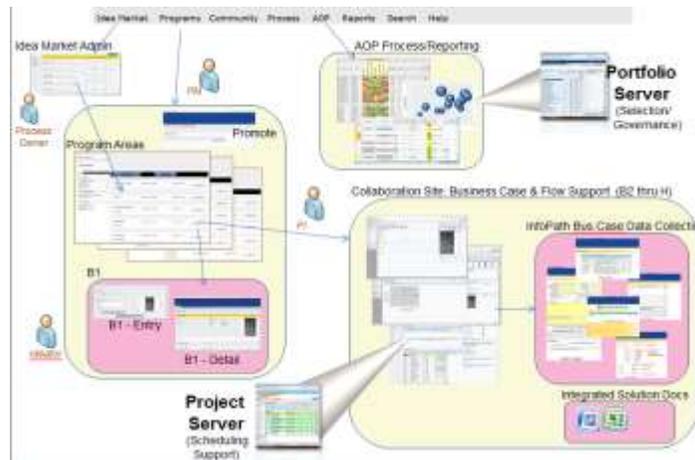
Client

The highly disciplined skills of lean six-sigma practices are critical in most of the world's successful manufacturing companies. Fostering innovation and brainstorming may seem counter-intuitive in a disciplined environment, especially one that is subject to the extreme levels of variance that are possible in manufacturing. However, with the current market's competitive pressures, innovation is one of the only tools left to generate competitive advantage and bottom line growth. This is true especially for large manufacturers whose time-to-market can take years and involve significant capital outlays. Developing an Innovation-to-Cash cycle is clearly a far from simple process so this manufacturer expected to boost the odds of their success through a disciplined approach. They sought to apply a process and develop a tool to manage an entire portfolio of well-developed ideas. Adhering to discipline and rigor, successful outcomes were certainly more likely.



QuantumPM's team supported this manufacturer's quest with a technology framework that supported a challenge to innovate around key strategic business drivers. They challenged the enterprise to generate ideas that would 1) align their products to the emerging market's requirements, 2) encourage a continuous flow of innovation concepts, 3) foster better governance processes, and 4) drive lean principles. Their intention was to flush out business and technology opportunities and ideas that had the potential to capture competitive advantage, respond to threats or solve a significant problem.

QuantumPM's custom interactive solution leverages the full functionality of Microsoft's SharePoint and Project Server platforms. The system uses business rules to "fast track" promotion of exceptional ideas while cycling good ideas back for further development, collaboration, refinement and expansion of the ideation team. The solution further leverages business rules to "pool" like ideas for unified collaboration. The robust portfolio management tool maps business rules to the strategic business drivers to promote and "fast track" ideas that best support the enterprise objectives and integrates the business case directly into MS Project. The Executive Dashboard and Role Based views report on the success and adoption of the Innovation Program.



Solution

Together, Microsoft and QuantumPM created the only end-to-end solution that provides a workflow and complete roadmap for Innovation Communities. Its standard workflow moves an Innovation Community from Idea Capture through Collaboration, Prioritization and Project Management. The solution helps an organization identify and fulfill on the best ideas, based on their adherence to Strategic Business Drivers.

THE 4 E'S OF "INNOVATION"



At the core of information technology capabilities that facilitate innovation management are: ideation, collaboration and unified communications, performance management and business intelligence, project and portfolio management, and information rights management for the intellectual property protection. The IPM solution is fully customizable for everyone's role in the Innovation Community.

About QuantumPM

QuantumPM is an EPM Products and Services Consulting firm and a Microsoft Gold Partner. We specialize in accelerating business performance to create value. Using a blend of Innovation, Process Optimization, Portfolio Management and Collaboration Tools and Services, we support the traditional IT Organizations, as well as IT's newly emerging role in charting Business Strategy. We *simplify the way you work*.

We dare to ask "What keeps you up at night?" and offer solutions to traditional concerns of CIOs such as reducing costs and improving IT Quality and Program/Project Outcomes. As the role of the CIO morphs towards that of a Chief Strategy Officer's, we support enterprises with Ideation, Strategic Planning and managing organizational/technological change.

Our solutions bring together best practices, software tools, custom development, and integration services for Microsoft products in support of continuous improvement in business process and project management. At QuantumPM, we have the tools and services to make sure your IT strategy aligns with your strategic business drivers.