Spiritbrokers
CREATING INTELLIGENT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Benefits of Business Requirements

Starting a Project

Before a project can get underway there needs to be a clear understanding of the objectives that are trying to be met. The objectives will need to be clarified and broken down into more specific requirements; these requirements will become the foundation for the project.

Without doing this process it would be impossible to create a balanced Business Case for the project since forecasting costs and benefits would be purely theoretical.

Understand the Need

To fully understand what the organisation requires from a project the people who have an interest in the project all need to be engaged in some way either by participation in workshops and interviews or as the recipient of a questionnaire.

It is important that every stakeholder is given the opportunity to contribute all their requirements to the project to make sure the deliverables will be fit for purpose. This activity needs to be planned and conducted as early in the project as possible realising:

- Significantly better outcomes
- Greater business benefit
- Wider project acceptance

This process will also ensure that all the relevant parties have been included early in the project. Departments such as IT and Legal can often be overlooked even though they may have an important role to play. These contributions are vital to the project success as they cover areas such as compliance, without which systems can fail before they get started.

Proper analysis of the requirements will ensure that a consensus of what the project must deliver is agreed upon before any development work or purchasing of IT systems takes place. This will make better use of the funds available for the project.

Meeting the Need

Once the project has been completed it is important for the organisation to test that any IT system will meet their needs and support their processes and procedures.

User Acceptance Testing (UAT) allows the organisation the opportunity to test the system and how it integrates with their processes. Effective UAT demands a comprehensive set of requirements for the testing to be planned and completed.