

How SteelTrace helps Business Analysts meet the Business Challenge!

Complex IT projects are core to any organization's activities. Their success depends on an accurate set of business requirements. As a business analyst, you must capture these requirements from business users and present them in ways that are understandable and actionable by your IT organization. You have to tap into what your stakeholders need, even though they may have limited experience of articulating requirements or, perhaps, dealing with complex aspects of requirements, to come up with an understandable reflection of their business and how their needs can be met. You must convey technical complexity to non-technical people, manage their expectations and, finally, ensure that what you deliver to the technical team provides a sound basis for great code and the right tests when it gets to the QA process.

The challenges you face are:

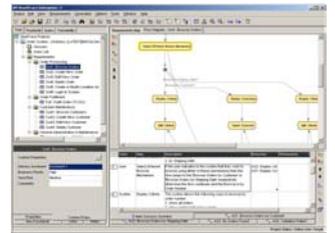
- Interpreting what the business owners actually require and covering those other areas that must be addressed to ensure a fully functional project definition is passed across to the IT team
- Understanding users' business to the point where you can visualize a solution
- Conveying this to technical colleagues – and translating their complex architectures back to the business users so that they can understand and support the proposed solution.

SteelTrace gives you:

EASY VISUALIZATION OF REQUIREMENTS STEPS



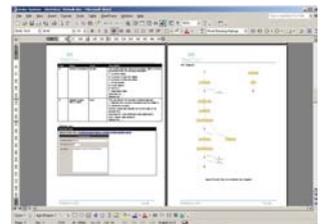
SteelTrace makes it really easy for you to capture, define and display all stakeholders' requirements regardless of the level of technical expertise of your audience. SteelTrace's structured capture and definition of requirements and intuitive flow-charting simplifies project definition and creates a highly understandable picture of the steps involved in the project. By structuring the requirements capture and definition process within a natural framework, a logical flow is created for the project, ensuring that all aspects are catered for and that nothing is omitted. Alternate flows, links and dependencies are also captured – graphically and textually – in such a way that ALL stakeholders are confident of their needs being addressed. In this way, you can maximize buy-in among all stakeholders and ease project management, planning, reporting and, above all, communication.



DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS THAT PUT THE RIGHT INFORMATION IN THE RIGHT HANDS



With SteelTrace's automatic document generation you can communicate with your users in any output format. Their edits and feedback can be re-incorporated back into the main project in a controlled way, with full versioning. SteelTrace offers a range of pre-canned reports and documents that can be used straight away or customized. With SteelTrace, managing project edits is a lot easier – and a lot more reliable.



Project data can also be sorted and prioritized based on any metric provided (cost, urgency, etc.). All reports and documents will also include associated artifacts (e.g. sample screens shots) and any other custom properties, ensuring completeness and accuracy.

Your project data can also be exported intact for other uses such as MS Project, CSV files, XML and other formats. SteelTrace's full integration with all standard testing and development tools ensures that ALL requirements are properly mapped to the test and development environments.

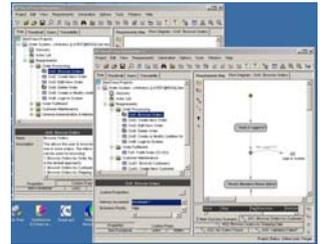
Enabling all stakeholders to easily review and edit the project, on-line or off-line, is the most powerful way to secure accuracy and buy-in throughout the project life-cycle.

MULTIPLE USERS ENABLED TO WORK ON THE PROJECT CONCURRENTLY AND MAKE REAL-TIME EDITS

SteelTrace is the ultimate collaboration tool. Your users can work on the most current version of the project every time, and have all interchanges recorded and accurately tracked. SteelTrace ensures that only the requirement being worked on by an individual is locked (but is still visible) to others.



You, your teams or individuals can work off-line with full system functionality and can merge with the main project in a fully controlled way when back on-line. Off-line users can create new projects, generate documents and reports and work as normal. During merge-back, conflicts are detected automatically and flagged for action – a facility that can also be used for project merging. This means that you can capture requirements on the fly on-site with business users. They can see the project evolve before their eyes. In doing so, you can accelerate the consultation process and improve the quality of requirements capture.



All projects are held in a central Repository available for live work, uploading for remote usage or for new project generation. The Repository also manages references to associated files and artifacts (e.g. screenshots, spreadsheets, etc.). It is a live “one-stop-shop” for all project elements.

SteelTrace’s Baselines save time by making it easy to get project sign-off and by re-using existing project structures. Tracking project changes, handling project divergence, getting sign off within a project and using an existing project to kick off a new one are all made easy.

ABILITY TO ADD CUSTOM FIELDS TO ANY PROJECT ELEMENT TO ENRICH PROJECT DATA AND MANAGEMENT

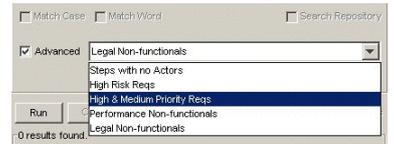


SteelTrace’s structured approach also means that you can create Custom Properties within each requirement, package and project, dramatically increasing the flexibility of the project data to hold data specific to the needs of different roles. This means that information specific to domain, role, activity, etc can be used to enrich the project data (e.g. scalability, distribution, infrastructure, distribution, etc.). The project can be sorted and searched on the basis of any of this custom data or any class or category of requirements (i.e. high-risk, completed, etc.).

EASY FOCUS ON SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF THE PROJECT



Full, logical Complex Querying of project data is completely enabled whether by requirement, custom field, or other element, e.g. approved/unapproved elements, status of project, priority issues, etc. Queries are easy to set up and save. Query results can also be exported to support further work/filtering on project parameters or the development of detailed documentation/reports.

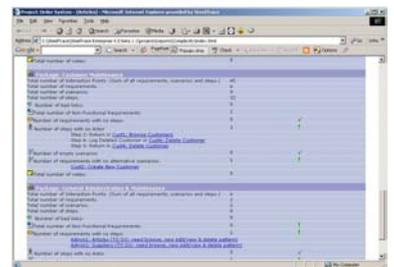


By getting a better, or more concise view of project data, prioritization, reporting and tracking are made much easier. You can also easily produce stakeholder-specific status and management reports.

AUTOMATED PRE-CANNED AND CUSTOMISABLE REPORTS IN ANY FORMAT FOR FULL PROJECT ANALYSIS



With SteelTrace, you can easily communicate project-related documents and analysis to all stakeholders in the way that suits each best. SteelTrace’s full suite of pre-canned reports can generate a complete document set for the project, analyzed, parsed and sliced based on specific metrics or domain information of interest.



These reports can also be customized to reflect a user’s specific activity, role or requirement. In addition, corporate and SOX compliance can be managed by easily producing the reports that demonstrate adherence to process and fulfillment of business needs.

SteelTrace gives Business Analysts more than a structured, defined and easy to communicate requirements capture tool. You can now keep your stakeholders happy by giving them unprecedented confidence that their needs are understood and conveyed accurately to development. SteelTrace’s superior functionality offers immense capability to capture and manage ALL of the valuable project information that is handled during the consultation process. You can finally extract and convey useful information from complex projects, giving you control and helping you bring projects to a successful conclusion.

Let SteelTrace give you the power to capture requirements accurately and quickly, communicate your projects and create innovative solutions to complex problems.

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