



Advanced Project Solutions, Inc.



Technology Project Management Solutions for the 21st Century

Getting High-Tech Projects to the Market On Time and Within Budget

Who we are..

Advanced Project Solutions, Inc. (APS) provides expert consultancy services in high-tech project management and related fields.

Based near Chicago, Illinois, a team of experienced and highly regarded professionals provides services worldwide in areas of aerospace, communications, telephony, military and defense systems, and medium to large size software projects.



E. M. (Elli) Bennatan is President and principal consultant at Advanced Project Solutions, Inc. He draws upon a team of experienced and highly regarded colleagues who work with him to provide services worldwide.

Mr. Bennatan spent many years as senior director at Motorola where he led several teams in the successful development of large wireless telephony systems. He has extensive hands-on experience in software development and high-tech project management in creative areas ranging from satellite software to animation systems, in the US, Europe, Asia, and Israel.

He was among the first to introduce modern agile and lean software methodologies. He has taught courses, delivered invited presentations, and authored books and many articles on software project management and related fields.

What we do..

- Technology project management
- Software project catastrophe disentanglement and resolution
- Introduction of orderly process into ad-hoc software organizations
- Establishing technology development organization structure
- Reengineering and simplification of existing software processes
- Distributed software development (DSD) and global technology development
- Management of multi-national high-tech development
- Training and mentoring
- Software project management for non-software project managers

For more information contact..



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Our Approach..



1. Technology Project Management

The principal services offered to high-tech companies are assistance and guidance in software project management.

The Problem:

The demands of high-tech project management are changing. The rapid introduction of personal computers into the office and home coupled with the unprecedented growth in the Internet has turned software into a consumer product. This has produced a strong market demand for rapid software development cycle time that requires new agile and lean development methods and processes. Even the US Department of Defense has replaced its burdensome development standards with the same standards that are being used for civilian software.

The Solution:

We will review the methods and processes being used by the development team together with the culture and goals of the organization to assist in the definition and introduction of rapid optimized processes tailored for the organization's business needs. We will work with the development organization through ongoing training, mentoring, and management assistance to ensure the successful introduction of these new methods.

2. Software Project Catastrophe Disentanglement and Resolution

The Problem:

When development projects get into serious trouble the solution is often more costly than the problem. Extensive resources are often expended in attempting to correct the existing plans and processes but the best solution is often found through changing the way the project is being developed.

The Solution:

We will review the status of the project, the goal, the development plan, the team structure, and the process and methods and prepare a plan to disentangle the project and get it back on track. We will work with management and with the development team to establish a workable plan, with achievable goals, and we will mentor the team to ensure that the plan is successfully implemented.

3. Introduction of Orderly Process Into Ad-hoc Software Organizations

The Problem:

Ad-hoc development organizations have little or no orderly process. They often have a history of successful development that may have worked well in the past when the organization was small but no longer works well today. The problem is often how to introduce a level of predictability into the development organization without restraining the creativity of the development team members.

The Solution:

Development organizations taking their first steps into orderly development are best served through evolutionary change (rather than revolutionary change). We will apply an approach that includes three basic steps: (1) studying the current organization, including its creative value, its strengths and weaknesses, and the goals of the business, (2) working with the organization to tailor a suitable development process and launch plan, and (3) mentoring and training of the organization in the introduction of the process and the correction and continued improvement of the plan as it is implemented.

4. Reengineering and Simplification of Existing Software Processes

The Problem:

Development organizations that have adopted organized process and methodologies are often burdened with policies and procedures that are no longer appropriate. The organization is often hesitant to cancel or replace these procedures for fear of prejudicing the capabilities of the organization.

The Solution:

We will review and evaluate the organization's existing processes and methods in relation to its objectives and the uniqueness of its team. The goal will be to streamline the development organizations for optimum performance through the reduction of overhead, and the simplification of processes. We will provide ongoing monitoring of the process change through mentoring and training of the organization and the correction and continued improvement of the processes while they are being introduced.

5. Software Project Management for Non-Software Project Managers

The Problem:

CEOs, company Presidents, Vice Presidents, and other senior managers who are not software professionals are often frustrated and mystified by their software developers' apparent inability to complete software development on time.

"Software is a place where dreams are planted and nightmares are harvested... a world of werewolves and silver bullets." This 1990 quote from Brad Cox (from the *IEEE Software Journal*) is still the fear of many senior business managers today. How can you, without becoming a software expert, understand the mysterious-seeming world that your software developers sometimes appear to live in?

The Solution:

APS provides short workshops, training, mentoring, and guidance to senior executives to equip them with the basic knowledge and terminology necessary to understand software engineers and to challenge their assertions, recommendations, and decisions.

You will understand:

- Software terms and jargon
- Estimates - how they are made and what they mean
- Questions: what you should ask
- Software Plans - what is often missing?
- Risk Analysis - what might go wrong and what you can do about it
- What are the early warning signs of a software project in trouble?