

Personalising PRINCE2 for Olympic Software NZ Limited

Olympic Software NZ Limited is a world class business software engineer that supplies, implements, customises and leverages business software. Based in New Zealand, Olympic is recognised as both a certified Channel Partner by Infor, and a Gold Partner in five disciplines by Microsoft; and has been meeting the business software needs of organisations in New Zealand and internationally for over twenty years.

Olympic had committed to adopting PRINCE2 to ensure the highest possible standard of delivery for both internal and external projects with consistent, organised documentation and management of deliverables and risks. In addition to an extensive programme of training, Olympic realised they would need a supporting software tool which would provide an authentic PRINCE2 framework as well as:

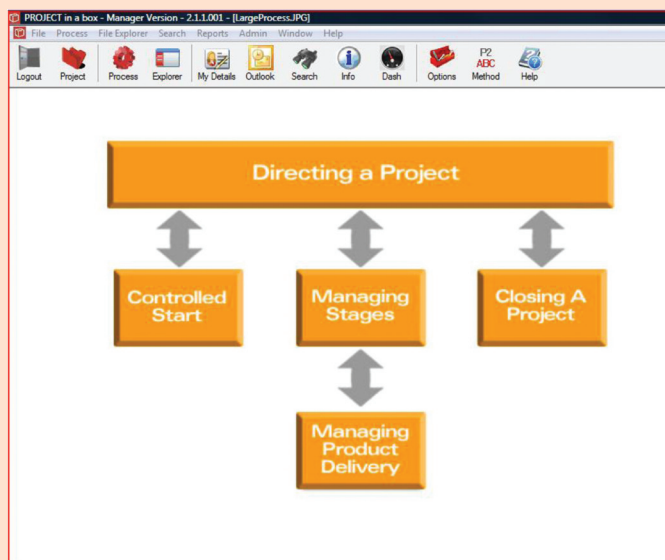
- allow for blending of additional methods with PRINCE2;
- support smaller scale and mid-sized projects;
- allow different templates and processes to be created for products, modules, industry verticals and divisions;
- provide secure access for customers, suppliers and partners to view and update permitted project files;
- be easy to adopt and implement on Microsoft platforms.

The team at Olympic researched extensively for a solution and PROJECT in a box (PIAB) stood out as being a great match to the requirements. The ability to fully adopt the PRINCE2 framework was there, along with document control features; and during the evaluation, the usability was obvious. What really decided it for Olympic, though,

was the ability to easily create project templates for different divisions within the company and for different complexities of project, and to then share the documents securely with their customers.

PIAB has now been in use for over a year, and it has fitted nicely into Olympic's business processes. It is used as the central point for all documents relating to projects, from the sales team, project planning and scoping as well as customer communications, reporting and to

documents would keep flowing through and individual documents would diverge further and further from the standard template over time. With PIAB though, each new project starts from a new project template, so the agreed document standards are always in place at the start of each project. This has given Olympic much better control over change management of the standard templates; providing control over the way each different type of project evolves over time.



record progress and milestones. Martin Talbot, Project Manager, explained that, "One of the reasons it fits so well is that we have personalised it to create our own project templates". This enables the templates to be well matched to Olympic's business processes, the type of project being delivered and the methodology being used.

Using PIAB has tightened up the way Olympic delivers work to its customers. Even though there were standard templates before, documents tended to end up getting copied from one project to the next, which meant that changes

can find all project documentation (whether they are on the road, in the office or at a customer site) was widely agreed to be very helpful. "Using PIAB makes us look more professional to our clients – creating visibility and transparency, so that rather than being limited to receiving project updates at weekly meetings, everything is now available for them online, and they can see the latest information whenever they want to" said Martin Talbot.

The technical team found PIAB easy to implement with very good training courses and documentation; and reported the ongoing support as being excellent.

PROJECT in a box would like to thank Martin and his colleagues at Olympic Software for their kind comments here and allowing us to publish them. Olympic is a good example of the way we could help you implement PRINCE2 in a flexible, fit for purpose way and then help your teams access their documents in a secure, controlled manner.

*Prepared by Martin Talbot,
Olympic Software NZ Ltd and
Malcolm West, PROJECT in a Box,
November 2008.*

**You can find out more about
PROJECT in a box at
www.projectinabox.org.uk**



PROJECT in a box

"Your own Project Support Office"

PROJECT in a box provide software and services to help organisations implement project management processes and can support authentic PRINCE2 or MSP as well as any customised or in-house approach. Our free Community Edition is used by over 30,000 users worldwide and our commercial systems by 400 organisations in twenty five countries