

Active Risk Manager

Release 3.1 – New Functionality & Capability

This document outlines some of the exciting new functionality that is being introduced into Active Risk Manager (ARM) in release 3.1.

A complete breakdown and detailed description can be found at <http://support.strategicthought.com/wps/files/releasesummary.pdf>.

We have split the enhancements into 3 categories: Functionality, Usability, & Compatibility enhancements.

Summary of New Functionality

New Strategic ARM Reporting Module: centred around the new Microsoft Reporting Services. Improvements include flexible deployment options, no concurrency restrictions, support for alternative reporting systems and comprehensive filtering capability.

Quantitative Analysis: has benefited from a vast array of functional improvements, delivering greatly enhanced statistical analysis.

Risk Map: allows users to view risks in a chart showing impact uncertainty and expected value.

Tornado Charts: help to determine risks that are having the greatest effect on the overall exposure so that such risks can be rapidly targeted for mitigation.

Escalation: allows risks to be raised to a new escalation tree structure, providing the ability to model and support the most sophisticated of escalation processes, enabling risks to be handled by those that can best deal with them.

Knowledge Management: functionality has been extended, allowing the predefinition of groups of risks and responsibilities, to enable users to search the repository and quickly locate relevant risk and response knowledge.

Off-line Usage: is now available through a new Windows client interface. Offline changes made to ARM are synchronised when the client is reconnected to ARM.

Cost Analysis: has been added in order to improve risk analysis and prioritisation. You can now specify the actual

“ARM 3.1 will be our biggest release to date. We have focussed on core functionality, quality and architectural evolution.”

Martin Metcalf, Chief Executive Officer



cost of risks that have occurred as distinct from their predicted costs as well as analyse financial risk exposure based on the expected monetary value. Finally, a new risk reserve spend chart displays planned, forecasted and actual spend against your management reserve.

Portal Functionality: now improved to include features such as the Categories Classes and Sub-classes and MS Reporting Services access from within Portal.

Separation of Risk and Opportunity: provides the final piece to model Risk and Opportunity as separate entities, representing the two sides of uncertainty. This is a configurability enhancement to ARM's custom records, providing improved adherence to this alternative perspective.



Summary of new Usability enhancements

Default Filters: can now be allocated to individuals or groups of users enabling a customized view to be shown at start-up. This can also be used for the Portal view.

Intelligent Text Field Rendering: providing an enhanced risk information entry experience. Expand a text box, and it opens to the size required to display all the text!



Resource-handling Improvements: have been made across the application, including

- inactive users can now be marked as “retired” i.e. their records are retained within the system, but they can no longer be allocated to live record fields
- data is retained when a user is converted to a resource, preventing the need to re-enter data should the resource be converted back later on
- allows a user take on another user’s responsibilities.

Support for Higher Resolutions: is now in place, ensuring that the ARM desktop maximises itself based on the current resolution of the user’s monitor: the number of visible records changes proportionally to match the available space.

Usability Enhancements: have been made, including

- Purging the audit log leaves a footprint
- You can highlight items on the desktop available from the risk list
 - A custom ID field has been added to the audit search screen
 - “new risk” icon has been added to the desktop tool bar.

Some of the new Compatibility enhancements

Pertmaster Interface: is now available within ARM release 3.1, facilitating the extraction of data (risks and quantitative scoring information) from ARM for use within Pertmaster.

Web Services Enhancements: have been made to the API: the ARM User and Group security details can now be made available, and ARM Folder Hierarchy can be used to create

document libraries in the SharePoint environment, ensuring that the ARM Security Model is overlaid on the document management functionality.

New Security enhancements

Local Folder Access Security: allows users to be setup to manage security in one area of ARM without compromising the security integrity of the rest of the application.

ARM manages risk across your program or enterprise & provides:

- A consistent and reliable process
- Visibility of risks, controls & actions across multiple programs
- Roll-up & reporting of risks – make sense of your info & data
- Integration with leading project and portfolio management applications, such as MS Project Server, Primavera & Telelogic Doors
- Unrivalled and Integrated Quantitative Analysis
- Comprehensive security and auditability enabling a pro-active and accountable approach to risk management
- Risk Process agnostic

Strategic Thought Group

Strategic Thought Group has offices in London and Washington D.C. Operating globally, our main markets are the EU and North America. We deliver world-class enterprise risk management solutions, as well as integration consultancy to FTSE 100 and Fortune 1000 companies.

We are an IBM Premier Business Partner and a Microsoft Gold Partner. Strategic Thought is listed on the London Stock Exchange; ticker symbol ‘STR’.

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