The Analytics Solutions Unified Method (ASUM) is a step-by-step guide to conducting a complete implementation lifecycle for IBM Analytics solutions. It was created to accelerate your time to value and lower your risk by establishing consistent approaches and processes that increase your implementation efficiency. It contains structured steps, development activities, roles and responsibilities, templates and guidelines.

ASUM is designed to create successful and repeatable IBM Analytics deployments. The method can be utilized by IBM clients and business partners to successfully implement IBM Analytics solutions.

**Benefits**

**Minimized risk**

ASUM combines real-world experience with proven industry practices to achieve successful, risk-managed deployments. It is based on the accumulated experience of IBM implementing our software in the world’s most challenging IT environments to meet a wide array of business needs. Formal validation follows industry-standard testing and validation steps using the widely accepted V-Model.

**Scalable, enterprise-ready**

ASUM lets you replicate and elevate the success you have had with our software implementations. It spans the locations, departments, and IT infrastructures of the largest global organizations, yet it can deliver the same results in the smallest projects. It enables you to engage with IBM, business partners, and your internal organization using a common language and approach.

**Comprehensive**

ASUM delivers consistent and lasting value to your organization as it begins at the initial stages of a sponsored project and continues with a consistent project management function to coordinate actions, set and manage expectations, and communicate results at every phase.
It then continues beyond the initial implementation by incorporating the “Operate & Optimize” phase to iteratively tune and improve the solution.

**Product-specific implementation roadmaps**

Because design, configuration and deployment procedures vary according to product line or technology, IBM Analytics has developed different product or solution-specific implementation roadmaps. These guide you through procedures to address the varying tasks, activities, and user needs. Prototyping sprints and iterative and incremental development are used where applicable.

**Phases and deliverables**

ASUM follows five fully defined phases. Each phase is overseen by a project management stream that ensures consistent and coordinated communication and collaboration.

**ASUM and agile**

ASUM uses a hybrid of agile and traditional implementation principles to achieve your solution objectives and provide an optimal result to your organization. These principles include:

- Project is assessed for the application of agile principles
- Project is scoped and initial business requirements are gathered
- Both business and IT personnel form an integral part of the project implementation team
- Requirements are clarified and fine-tuned through a number of iterative prototyping sprints
- Based on the number and priority of requirements, timeline and available resources, a staged implementation approach is adopted to achieve the objectives
- Prototyping results are then compared to total requirements to assess achievements and determine further iterations
- Iterative and incremental development is used to finalize configuration and build
- Following adequate testing performed throughout the life cycle of the project, the first stage of the solution goes live
- Remaining stages of the project follow the same path of prototyping sprints and iterative and incremental development as the first stage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Overview</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analyze</td>
<td>Define what the solution needs to accomplish, both in terms of features and non-functional attributes (performance, usability, etc.). Obtain agreement between all parties about these requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Define all solution components and their dependencies, identify resources, and install a development environment. Iterative Prototyping Sprints are used when applicable to clarify requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configure &amp; Build</td>
<td>Configure, build, and integrate components based on an Iterative and incremental approach. Utilizes multi-environment testing and validation plan based on the V-model.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deploy</td>
<td>Create a plan to run and maintain the solution, including a support schedule. Migrate to Production environment, configure as necessary, and communicate the deployment to the business user audience.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operate &amp; Optimize</td>
<td>Represent the use of the IBM Analytics solution. Operate includes the maintenance tasks and checkpoints after roll out that facilitate a successful employment of the solution and preserve its health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Management</td>
<td>Consists of processes which assist with managing and monitoring the progress and maintenance of the project.</td>
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</table>

Figure 1: Analytics Solutions Unified Method (ASUM). Source: IBM Corporation.
Availability
Free client versions of these implementation roadmaps are available through the ASUM Web site. Additional ASUM material can be obtained through a services engagement with IBM Analytics Services.

About IBM Analytics Services
The Analytics Services organization provides expert services exclusively focused on the IBM Analytics product portfolio. Our depth of experience and extensive proven practices help clients mitigate risks, raise the quality of their implementations and build valuable skills. We have provided guidance, advice, reviews, assessments and assistance to thousands of clients around the world enabling them to maximize the return on investment for both their on premise and cloud based analytics solutions.

About IBM Analytics
IBM Analytics delivers actionable insights decision-makers need to achieve better business performance. IBM Analytics offers a comprehensive, unified portfolio of business intelligence, predictive and advanced analytics, financial performance and strategy management, governance, risk and compliance and analytic applications.

With IBM software, companies can spot trends, patterns and anomalies, compare “what if” scenarios, predict potential threats and opportunities, identify and manage key business risks and plan, budget and forecast resources. With these deep analytic capabilities our customers around the world can better understand, anticipate and shape business outcomes.

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