

Virginia Department of Transportation project managers already had a project program management system (PPMS) in place, but it was aging and expensive. A modern, more efficient platform to manage transportation projects was needed.

The Integrated Project Manager (iPM) is a Web-based software system designed by a multi-disciplinary team comprised of technology, business and other areas to help about 1,500 VDOT users better manage transportation projects. The iPM tool leverages technology to address increased specialization, geographically dispersed expertise, limited resources, heightened project complexity, increased accountability, and the need for government transparency. It is a central reference point for information maintained in several separate project information systems.

One of the many challenges of this project involved maintaining the current project management system, while developing the iPM tool so that it is fully integrated with all of VDOT's major systems. After extensive testing, a very complex "cut-over" to the new system was completed over a weekend with no disruption to business operations.

The new system is more automated than the legacy mainframe system (PPMS) and eliminates the need for several forms. The tool is also more efficient and easier to operate. The features of the system and its ability to integrate future versions should yield significant productivity improvements.

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