StarBridge Advisors

Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V)

Overview

Virtually all healthcare organizations are implementing information technologies at an unprecedented pace. Among the myriad projects are large multi-year, multi-million dollar ERP and EHR upgrades and replacements. Merger and acquisitions activity is also generating a lot of system migrations and transformations. Given the degree of complexity and risk associated with these projects, it is prudent to utilize an Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V) process to help ensure project success. The IV&V team should be independent of the healthcare organization, the vendor(s), and the outside consultants helping with the implementation.

StarBridge Advisors (SBA) has a highly qualified team of experienced and unbiased healthcare CIOs who can use SBA's IV&V methodology that assesses organizations in 11 separate clinical and administrative areas. For large projects, SBA recommends conducting an IV&V assessment at 4 different checkpoints - 3 prior to system 'go-live' and 1 shortly after 'go-live'. Regardless, SBA personalizes its IV&V by institution and project. Here are the areas reviewed:

- Project Governance
- Project Definition & Scope
- Objectives, Approach & Budget
- Implementation Timeline & Schedule
- Human Resources
- Planning & Controls

- Risk & Issue Management
- System Testing & QA Processes
- Training/User Education
- Production Readiness
- Technology

At each checkpoint, a risk score is calculated based on several factors for each area. A detailed report outlining risk mitigation strategies is prepared and thoroughly reviewed with the implementation team. In addition, an Executive Report in PowerPoint format is provided. The Executive Report is designed to deliver the results of the IV&V to the Internal Audit function, Executive Leadership, and the Board. Below is a sample high level dashboard for a real client.

Project Report Card Project Scores			Overall Program Risk Profile		
Although the project is progressing towards an April 1 activation, late interface build delivery is delaying final integrated testing and is creating additional risk to meeting that date					
	Area	Phase 1	Phase 2	Readiness	
	Project Governance				
Each of the 11 Program Components was evaluated for risk and impact on successful implementation:	Project Definition and Scope				
	Objectives, Approach, and Budget				
	Implementation Timeline and Schedule				
Moderate Opportunity for Impact	Human Resources				
	Planning and Controls				
High Opportunity for Impact	Risk and Issue Management				
	System Testing and QA Process	Next Phase			
	Training and User Education	Next Phase			
	Production Readiness	Next Phase	Next Phase		
	Technology	Next Phase			

Learn how to reduce your risk profile and improve your chances for optimal outcomes in all areas for important IT projects.

Please contact us for additional information or to schedule an introductory call.

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