



Rational® software

# IBM Rational SUMMIT Ascendant

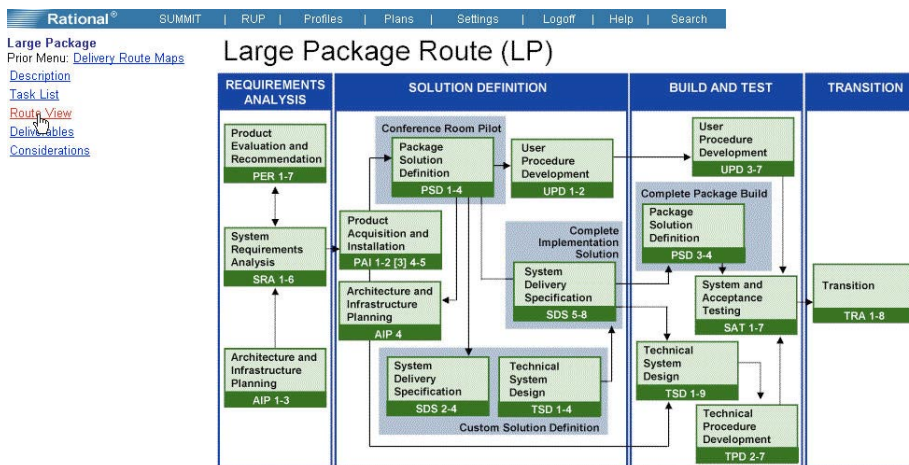
## Highlights

- **IBM Rational SUMMIT Ascendant is a process solution that delivers a comprehensive library of methods for planning and managing enterprise IT projects and programs.**
- **The methods are supported by tools for planning, estimating, and monitoring a project or portfolio of projects.**
- **The time-tested family of methods cover IS planning, program management, system delivery, and organizational change.**
- **Rational SUMMIT Ascendant now features planning capabilities for Rational Unified Process projects.**

On a project by project basis, there are many reasons for failure: lack of proper planning, insufficient user involvement, no standard procedures, poor communication between team members, and lack of over arching portfolio visibility. At the organization level, situations such as mergers, acquisitions, IT restructuring, or regulatory compliance mandates also create the need for a structured approach to planning and managing IT projects.

The IBM® Rational SUMMIT® Ascendant® process solution delivers a comprehensive library of methods for planning and managing enterprise IT projects and programs. These methods are supported by Web-based tools for planning, estimating, and monitoring a project, program or portfolio of projects.

When used in conjunction with IBM Rational Unified Process®, the de facto industry standard for iterative application development, SUMMIT Ascendant helps managers to define, plan, and deliver IT projects on time, on specification, and within budget.



Modular guidance provides the ability to select the method, or route, most applicable to your project.

**Time-tested enterprise IT methods**

The core value of any good methodology is its ability to introduce a common framework and vocabulary to project team members, facilitating improved communication and productivity, while easily assimilating those standards and best practices already in use by an organization. IBM Rational SUMMIT Ascendant delivers an integrated family of methods covering information systems strategic planning, program management, custom application development, and managing the organizational change that is part of any process improvement initiative.

***Information systems strategic planning***

Rational SUMMIT Ascendant provides explicit guidance on identifying executive objectives, analyzing business opportunities and assessing your current information technology. This information is used to define an IT strategy and establish tactical and strategic IT plans. Guidance is provided on how to define and run a program to execute your IT strategy plan, to ensure that implementation is done in a controlled and measured fashion, and in a way that is aligned with business objectives. It also provides for the identification and chartering of individual projects within newly defined large program efforts.

***Handling organizational change***

Developing and deploying major systems or IT changes is more than just a technical challenge. A key component of a successful deployment is the effective handling of organizational change. Rational SUMMIT Ascendant provides guidance for assessing the need and scope for organizational change, how to set up teams managing the change process, and how to equip leaders and teams with the knowledge and information they need to lead the change process.

***Establishing and managing the program management function***

It is crucial that individual Program Management Offices, or PMOs, are anchored in the overall IT governance practices for the company. This includes establishing appropriate governing bodies for programs, creation of financial controls, and conformance to organizational architecture standards. Running an individual PMO includes confirming the financial and business justification for individual projects within the program, analyzing project scope and needs, establishing controls and staffing, and approving the initial high-level project plans. Rational SUMMIT Ascendant provides this guidance and also describes how to put assessment frameworks in place allowing you a more objective

assessment of the individual projects within a program effort, including finance management, change management, quality and risk assessment.

***System delivery***

The Rational SUMMIT Ascendant System Delivery method is used for creating, implementing, enhancing, and maintaining IT systems. Specific route maps are included for a variety of IT project types, including package software implementation, enhancement or maintenance projects, legacy evolution, and more. These route maps supplement the guidance IBM Rational Unified Process® provides for, among others, custom application development and system engineering projects.

**Tools for effective project and program management**

Rational SUMMIT Ascendant automates many of the activities project managers must do at the start of any project. Sizing projects, estimating effort and resources required, and monitoring the ongoing health of projects are necessary tasks that Rational SUMMIT Ascendant can simplify with easy-to-use tools.

Rational® SUMMIT   RUP   Profiles   Plans   Settings   Logoff   Help   Search   Save/Submit											
Profile   7 Keys   Plan WBS   Estimates   Resources   Schedule   Status   Notes   Est Rpt   Role Rpt   Res Rpt   Plan Rpt   Summary   Context Help											
Estimates for Logo Enhancement - Enterprise Ordering System Publish											
Choose		1 - Bottom Up estimate			for Top Down allocation use			no calc	hours	Total Init Est	30002.5
Option		1 - No Calculation Option Selected			use multiplier		1	and adjustment		0	
Action		View only			Filter by		1 - Show All				
R3 - RUP Classic Configuration Workflows Selected in Profile											
Line	Lvl	Sum	Key and Description	QIF Name and Est Range	Count	Most Likely	Calculation Formula	Override	Init Est		
1	1	Yes	R1W - Inception Phase workflows						1805.5		
2	2	Yes	R1W.1 - Project Management						81.5		
3	3	No	R1W.1.1 - Conceive New Project	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 2 to 8 hr	2		[4]2*5*1+0=10.0		10.0		
4	3	No	R1W.1.2 - Evaluate Project Scope and Risk	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 2 to 8 hr	2		[4]2*5*1+0=10.0		10.0		
5	3	No	R1W.1.3 - Plan the Project	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 4 to 16 hr	2		[4]2*10*1+0=20.0		20.0		
6	3	No	R1W.1.4 - Manage Iteration	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 2 to 8 hr	2		[4]2*5*1+0=10.0		10.0		
7	3	No	R1W.1.5 - Monitor and Control Project	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 2 to 8 hr	2		[4]2*5*1+0=10.0		10.0		
8	3	No	R1W.1.6 - Re-evaluate Project Scope and Risk	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 5 to 2 hr	2		[4]2*1.25*1+0=2.5		2.5		
9	3	No	R1W.1.7 - Plan for Next Iteration	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 1 to 8 hr	2		[4]2*4.5*1+0=9.0		9.0		
10	3	No	R1W.1.8 - Close-Out Phase or Iteration	Estimate as Unit (Management) - 2 to 8 hr	2		[4]2*5*1+0=10.0		10.0		
11	2	Yes	R2W.2 - Business Modeling (C)						452.0		
12	3	No	R2W.2.1 - Assess Business Status (C)	Business Functions - 2 to 4 hr	16		[4]16*3*1+0=48.0		48.0		
				Deployment Localities - 2 to 8 hr	20		[4]20*5*1+0=100.0		100.0		
13	3	No	R2W.2.3 - Identify Business Processes (C)	Business Functions - 1 to 4 hr	16		[4]16*2.5*1+0=40.0		40.0		

A choice of several different estimation techniques helps you more accurately plan your projects, which can then be scheduled and tracked in a third party tool such as Microsoft® Project.

### Project planning

The process management flow in Rational SUMMIT Ascendant helps the project manager establish deliverable templates and a plan for a project. The plan is built from methods components housed in Rational SUMMIT Ascendant, which now includes reference method components from IBM Rational Unified Process. Rational SUMMIT Ascendant enables this plan to be modified, estimated and resourced using an iterative or linear planning paradigm. The iterative approach to planning and estimating allows high level plans and estimates to be established up-front. Plans and estimates will successfully be refined as more is learned about

the project, what needs to be accomplished, and how effectively the team is working within the given project.

### Project estimation

Estimating in Rational SUMMIT Ascendant can be done using bottom-up or top-down techniques which are automated in the product. By validating this estimate with other estimating techniques (COCOMO II, for example), a more accurate estimate can be accomplished than would be derived using only one estimating technique. These same principles can be applied to plans from any method, including RUP®.

By leveraging these capabilities, organizations can develop and improve their estimation metrics, allowing future projects to learn from past project experiences. Rational SUMMIT Ascendant also comes with estimation metrics that have been calibrated by users for many years for a number of method components<sup>1</sup>. Once a plan is estimated, it can be resourced in Rational SUMMIT Ascendant or a 3rd party tool and then launched and scheduled in a 3rd party tool such as Microsoft® Project.

### Analyzing and monitoring project portfolios

Rational SUMMIT Ascendant contains process management capabilities needed for tracking several projects that together comprise a program, or that are included as part of a portfolio. Rational SUMMIT Ascendant maintains portfolio summaries and provides reports across projects using portfolio information. Included report categories include:

- An executive level comparison based on seven high-level status keys
- Cost/benefit comparisons
- Earned value comparisons
- Risk list comparisons
- Complete/incomplete task comparisons
- Resource and role use totals
- Resource over allocations

The data for this reporting is gathered on an automated basis weekly or monthly. Portfolio managers are given hierarchical access to this data and can filter and sort their reports. For example, the portfolio manager might use this capability to sort all projects or a subset of projects by ROI in order to help determine which projects have the highest priority for next year.

### **Plan, manage, and measure development projects**

This release brings users the ability to leverage Rational SUMMIT Ascendant planning capabilities for IBM Rational Unified Process projects<sup>2</sup>, via RUP planning templates. The comprehensive IT methods and tools of Rational SUMMIT Ascendant complement and supplement the proven RUP guidance for developing quality software. The combined strength of these industry leading<sup>3</sup> process products provides enterprise IT clients with a more complete solution to development process challenges than has ever been available before.

Effective planning and defined processes for development projects are critical capabilities for today's IT departments as they become critical contributors to an enterprise's business success. But continuous improvement and repeatable successes are only possible with the tools that automate those development processes.

IBM Rational Team Unifying Platform™ is designed to equip your teams with the development infrastructure tools, processes, and integrations they need to work together more effectively. This solution unifies your team by providing common access to development assets, tracking and managing requirements and changes, and effectively managing testing activities.

The ProjectConsole™ feature of the Team Unifying Platform provides accurate project metrics drawn directly from those tools, enabling managers to make decisions based on fact, not subjective reporting. When used in conjunction with the Team Unifying Platform, Rational SUMMIT Ascendant provides a comprehensive project life cycle solution, helping managers to effectively plan, manage, and measure IT projects across the enterprise.

### **IBM Rational services**

Implementing any new process can be a daunting undertaking without clear goals, effective mentoring, and on demand training. Rational SUMMIT Ascendant, like all IBM Rational products, is supported by comprehensive training and consulting services, ranging from project assessments and custom consulting to instructor-led training.

*Rational Developer Network*® helps you learn and use Rational tools and methodologies through online access to training, articles, whitepapers, documentation, scripts, discussion forums, and more.

*Rational University* courses are available over the Web, on-site at your organization, or at dozens of classroom locations worldwide.

*Professional Services*, including Assessments, Deployment, and Custom Consulting and Mentoring Services offer proven pathways to efficient technology adoption.

*Technical Support* provides efficient problem resolution and up-to-date access to the latest IBM Rational software releases.

## IBM Rational SUMMIT Ascendant specifications

Component or related application	Standalone usage recommendations	Web server*	Thin client*
Browser	Microsoft Internet Explorer version 5+ and 6 recommended. Netscape 4.79 and most versions of Netscape 7+ that are stable.  MSIE v4, Netscape v3, and many other browsers will also work, but may lack some capabilities.	n/a	Microsoft Internet Explorer version 5+ and 6 recommended. Netscape 4.79 and most versions of Netscape 7+ that are stable.  For Macintosh, UNIX derivative Operating Systems, and similar environments; any browser compatible with Microsoft Internet Explorer 4+, Netscape 3+, and HTML 3.2+ standards.
Processor/Speed as of 2004	Minimum Current Machine: Pentium III+. New purchases should be Pentium 4 or equivalent.	New purchases should be Pentium 4 2.6+ Ghz or equivalent.	Project managers need a machine with the capability to run a desktop scheduler such as Microsoft Project. Others need a machine that runs a browser.
RAM	64 Megabytes (MS Windows 95, 98, ME). 128 Megabytes (MS Windows NT, 2000, XP) 256 Megabytes (Windows 2003).	256+ Megabytes (MS Windows 95, 98, ME). 1+ Gigabyte (MS Windows NT, 2000, XP, 2003).	Project managers need a machine with the capability to run a desktop scheduler such as Microsoft Project. Others need a machine that runs a browser.
Storage Space (IBM Rational SUMMIT and several projects initially)	0.5 GB.	30 GB.	None
Scheduler (only needed for project managers)	Microsoft® Project 2000/2002/2003 recommended - Project 98, 95, and 4 also fully integrated. Other schedulers that read and write MPX or FIX formats correctly will work, but will be less automated.		
Operating System	Microsoft® Windows 95, 98, ME, NT 4, 2000, XP, 2003. Large-scale servers will require Windows NT 4, 2000, XP, or 2003.		Same as at left or, for non-Project Managers, any OS that runs a compatible browser.

\*Recommendations when Running a Shared Web Server from Thin Clients.

Availability of Microsoft® Access on the server is helpful for testing and analysis of databases. IBM® Rational SUMMIT® Ascendant® can cooperate with other servers (such as Web or FTP) on the same machine; however, we recommend that Rational SUMMIT Ascendant Web servers run independently of other servers.



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<sup>1</sup> At this time, no calibrated estimation metrics are included for Rational Unified Process.

<sup>2</sup> IBM Rational Unified Process is sold separately.

<sup>3</sup> According to Gartner Research, "Magic Quadrant for Methodware," 2003, Gartner Inc.