



The Ultimate Pocket Guide to the Portfolio, Project & Work Management Vendor Landscape



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Overview



Why did we create this guide?

The portfolio, project, and work management solution vendor landscape can be overwhelming, due to the sheer number of and overlaps between solution categories and sub-categories. This guide provides a clear picture of those various categories and their associated vendors, with the goal of simplifying the complex space to better understand your options and quickly identify the vendors that best fit your needs.

What will I learn?

Portfolio, project, and work management solution vendors cater to many different use cases, including project and initiative types, maturity levels, deployment scales, specialized features, and industries. This guide will help you sort through the various vendor categories to find the right fit for your present needs. By providing a broader view of the landscape, it will also help you determine potential growth paths for footprint expansion and process maturity.

Are you ready?

While this guide is useful at any stage of your portfolio, project, and work management solution search, it can be even more helpful when incorporated into a comprehensive process starting with:

- 1 Evaluating your key project and portfolio management pain points and challenges and their impact on business outcomes
- 2 Building a business case for portfolio, project, or work management software based on your needs

Planisware can help guide you through every step of this process.

Who should read this guide?

This guide helps facilitate decision-making for anyone involved in the vendor identification and short-list selection process. This may include business, IT, and Enterprise PMO leaders, as well as the CIO, PMO staff, Transformation Management Office staff, project managers, business analysts, procurement officers, and end-users. As such, if you're involved in any way with vendor selection, evaluation, or purchasing, this guide is for you.





Key Solution Categories & Definitions

Here are the 5 key solution categories and a brief definition of each. The next section will go into more nuanced detail about how they relate to each other, as well as their market focus based on factors like deployment scope, use case suitability, functional strengths, and related vendors.

Enterprise Project Portfolio Management (EPPM)

EPPM vendors provide a structured, top-down framework for PMOs to manage various project types and methodologies within a single solution. These vendors support project and portfolio prioritization, alignment with strategic objectives, resource allocation optimization, and enterprise-wide visibility for decision-making.

Adaptive Project Management and Reporting (APMR)

APMR vendors focus on agility, real-time insights, and reporting, and agile/iterative workflows, allowing organizations to rapidly adjust project execution and decision-making. This contrasts EPPM's more structured, top-down, strategic approach.

Strategic Portfolio Management (SPM)

SPM vendors aim to drive overarching business strategy by aligning and prioritizing projects, products, programs, portfolios, and investments, in order to ensure that initiatives (managed by third-party systems of record) deliver maximum strategic impact. These tools support enterprise-wide visibility for decision-making through analytics, scenario planning, and roadmapping, as well as strategy execution and management, enterprise project portfolio management, and enterprise architecture, to provide an enterprise-wide connected system for better visibility.

Domain-Specific Project Management (DSPM)

DSPM vendors focus on specific industries or project types, such as IT PPM, New Product Development (NPD), Professional Services Automation (PSA), and Architecture, Engineering & Construction (AEC).

Collaborative Work Management (CWM)

CWM vendors focus on improving coordination, transparency, and communication for local, cross-functional, and distributed teams through shared workspaces and visual tools. CWM is adaptable to both lightly-structured and unstructured task management. While it is primarily used by marketing & creative teams, it stands apart from other DSPM solutions due to its unique adaptability to dynamic, user-defined workflows.



To mitigate potential confusion, some solution categories largely align with those defined and tracked by market analysts (CWM, APMR, and SPM) and have been adopted more widely (EPPM), while DSPM is an intuitive category defined by Planisware.



Visualizing the Vendor Landscape

This vendor landscape positions the five main solution categories in relation to each other. There are countless ways to view the landscape, but we've taken a more high-level approach, sorting solutions into two major categories based on deployment scope: Enterprise-wide vs. Domain-specific. From here, you can identify your preferred approach to addressing your solution objectives. The next step will list key vendors within each category.



PORTFOLIO, PROJECT AND WORK MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

CROSS-FUNCTIONAL ENTERPRISE-WIDE SOLUTIONS

DOMAIN-SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS

TOP-DOWN
STRATEGY
PLANNING

CENTRAL PMO
OVERSIGHT

ITERATIVE/AGILE
PLANNING &
EXECUTION

PROJECT/INITIATIVE TYPE FOCUS

KEY
FUNCTIONALITY
DRIVEN

SPM
(STRATEGIC
PORTFOLIO
MANAGEMENT)

EPPM
(ENTERPRISE
PROJECT &
PPORTFOLIO
MANAGEMENT)

APMR
(ADAPTIVE
PROJECT
MANAGEMENT
& REPORTING)

IT PPM

AEC
(ARCH,
ENGINEERING
& CONSTRUCTION)

IDEA &
INNOVATION
MANAGEMENT

NPD
(PRODUCT
DEVELOPMENT &
INNOVATION)

PSA
(PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES
AUTOMATION)

RESOURCE
& CAPACITY
PLANNING

CWM
(MARKETING &
CREATIVE TEAM
COLLABORATION)

INDUSTRY
SPECIFIC
(PHARMA, ENERGY,
GOV, ETC.)

FINANCIAL
& COST
MANAGEMENT



Mapping in the Key Vendors



Aspect	APMR	EPPM	SPM
Target Audience & Personas	Agile teams, PMOs, project managers	LoB/BU Executives, EPMO directors	C-suite, strategy leaders, transformation leaders
Primary Goal	Adaptive project execution and reporting	Strategic alignment and portfolio governance	Top-down business strategy execution and investment optimization
Project Focus	Projects and portfolios	Enterprise-level project, portfolio, program, and product management	Strategic prioritization of portfolios and outcomes
Level of Complexity	Medium, designed for agility and adaptability	High, built for large-scale complexity	Very high, integrating business strategy and enterprise goals
Integration Requirements	ERP suite data and as required for advanced functionality needs	Single-vendor platform approach; BI & ERP suite	Extensive to connect with initiative-specific PPM delivery systems
Collaboration Features	Secondary to project management workflows	Secondary to governance and reporting focus	Secondary to governance and reporting focus
Project Methodology	Mostly Agile, hybrid, or iterative	Traditional, Waterfall, hybrid, Agile, and initiative specific (e.g. Stage Gate)	Traditional, Waterfall, hybrid, Agile, and initiative specific (e.g. Stage Gate)
Reporting	Real-time, project-focused dashboards	Advanced, portfolio-level reporting and analytics	High-level strategic insights, ROI, and business outcomes
Scalability	Team and project execution	Across portfolios programs, and enterprises	Organization-wide, connecting strategy to execution
Key Vendors	Planisware Orchestra Monday.com Planview Asana Sciforma KeyedIn SmartSheet Wrike	Planisware Enterprise Planview Broadcom Clarity PPM MS Project ServiceNow Atlassian Jira Align SmartSheet Wrike (Citrix)	Planisware Enterprise Planview Broadcom ServiceNow EOS Shibumi Software AG Sopheon



Aspect	CWM	IT PPM	NPD
Target Audience & Personas	Teams across departments (marketing, business development, HR)	CIOs, IT PMOs, IT portfolio managers, Agile coaches, dev teams	Chief Innovation Officers, R&D managers, product managers, NPD teams
Primary Goal	Team collaboration and task management	Aligned IT & business strategy, efficient delivery, and optimized resources	Drive innovation, streamline product life cycles
Project Focus	Lightly structured or non-project workflows	IT infra, software dev, digital transformation, and operational upgrades	New product dev, R&D initiatives, and innovation pipelines
Level of Complexity	Low, designed for simplicity	Depends on project scope, Agile adoption, and IT integration needs	High complexity, especially in regulated industries like pharma
Integration Requirements	Light-weight: Collab tools like Slack, share drives, CRM, task automation	Agile tools (e.g., Jira, Azure DevOps), ITSM, ERP, and collaboration tools	PLM systems, ERP, and idea management platforms
Collaboration Features	Strong: chat, file sharing, task tracking	Focused on Agile team coordination and across IT and BU stakeholders	Cross-functional between R&D, marketing, and manufacturing teams
Project Methodology	Minimal or unstructured and project leader defined/ customized	Agile, hybrid, Waterfall depends on project type, (e.g., IT infra or dev)	Stage-Gate®, Agile (for product teams), and hybrid approaches
Reporting	Lightweight or basic, intuitive and graphical	Agile metrics, resource utilization, and portfolio health dashboards	Stage-gate® performance, innovation impact analysis, and portfolio ROI
Scalability	Low for distributed teams and workflows	High for enterprise-level IT portfolios, multiple teams and complex projects	High scalability for global R&D, NPD operations, and cross-industry pipelines
Key Vendors	Planisware Orchestra Asana Atlassian (Trello) MS Teams Monday.com Wrike Basecamp Smartsheet	Planisware Enterprise Broadcom Clarity ServiceNow Atlassian Jira Align Planview MS Project Smartsheet KeyedIn	Planisware Enterprise Planview Sopheon Accolade Atlassian Aha! SAP PPM Siemens Teamcenter Brightidea



Aspect	AEC	PSA
Target Audience & Personas	Project managers, engineers, construction firms, contractors	Consulting, IT services, accounting, legal, and other service-based orgs
Primary Goal	Manage complex, large- scale projects with specific timelines and budgets	Optimize billing, resource allocation, and profitability for services delivered
Project Focus	Physical asset development (e.g., buildings, infrastructure)	Deliverables for clients, often intangible or knowledge-based
Level of Complexity	High complexity due to dependencies, resource allocation, and regulations	Moderate complexity with focus on tracking billable/non-billable hours
Integration Requirements	CAD, BIM, ERP systems (e.g., SAP, Oracle)	CRM (e.g., Salesforce), ERP, and accounting systems
Collaboration Features	Emphasis on field-office collaboration, subcontractor management	Cross-team collaboration for resource planning and service delivery
Project Methodology	Waterfall or hybrid methods due to fixed phases and approvals	Agile or iterative, especially for IT or knowledge-based services
Reporting	Compliance-focused (e.g., OSHA, environmental standards)	Profitability, utilization rates, and client-specific performance metrics
Scalability	Scalable for large, multi-location projects	Designed to grow with increasing project volume and resource pools
Key Vendors	Planisware Enterprise Primavera P6 Procore PlanGrid Autodesk Build Aconex Buildertrend Viewpoint Trimble ProjectSight	Planisware Enterprise Kantata Mavenlink Kimble NetSuite PSA Wrike OpenAir PSA Replicon BigTime



Conclusion

| Key Takeaways

- 1 The portfolio, project, and work management solution landscape is complex, but this guide helps you focus on the solutions that match your business.
- 2 It's important to choose a solution that works for you now and has room to grow.
- 3 Look for vendors who cover a breadth of solution categories and a depth of solution capabilities, particularly in terms of technical scalability (small teams to large enterprise deployments), strategic flexibility (top-down and bottom-up approaches), and the ability to support teams at different process maturity levels.

| The Planisware Difference

Planisware is one of the only vendors offering leading solutions across the portfolio, project, and work management solution landscape, combining the advantages of a single-vendor platform with the domain-expertise and delivery experience of category specialists. From top-down strategic portfolio management to bottom-up strategy alignment, Planisware supports organizations in optimizing investments for top performance.

With Planisware, no matter where your deployment journey begins—whether in IT, product development, marketing and creative teams, or any team in between—you will always have a single, familiar partner to help you expand your footprint and ensure a seamless growth path to higher process maturity and stronger business outcomes.

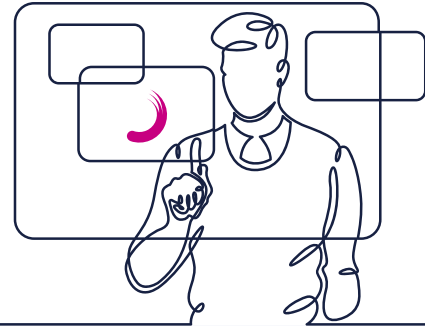




Next Steps

- 1 Get an overview of all Planisware solutions by product, functional area, business need, and key capabilities.

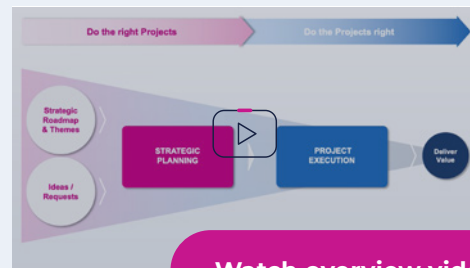
[Learn more](#)



- 2 Learn more about Planisware Enterprise for strategic portfolio management in our brochure and overview video.



[Read the brochure](#)



[Watch overview video](#)

- 3 Learn more about Planisware Orchestra for APMR in our brochure and overview video.



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