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Increase project visibility

How to optimise data management to improve visibility and operational decision making across defence engineering projects.



Complex defence engineering programmes can be delivered more quickly and for less cost through better data digitalisation. This five-point agility guide shows you how extending the digitalisation of data and creating a real-time dashboard increases project visibility to improve decision making and accelerate project deliverables.

#1 A digital dashboard optimises data sharing and project management

Developing a centralised, digital dashboard that houses all relevant information across a complex defence programme creates a one-stop-shop for more efficient decision making. Performance metrics are brought together on a single platform to simplify the monitoring of a project's health and status. Stakeholders can access appropriate data quickly at the right time, and with better project visibility, they can make informed, corrective decisions confidently. Workflows are streamlined from inception to completion.

#2 Customise portals to improve interconnectivity across all your systems

Your defence requirements are unique. Dashboards that are tailored to reflect individual project parameters, including performance metrics, complexity and role, make searching intuitive and enhance both engagement and effectiveness. Define all important data points at the outset to create a customised and user-friendly interface that works for you. Give full consideration to cybersecurity needs at this stage too. Cloud-based portals, such as Expleo's, offer 24/7 availability to facilitate ongoing management and reduce programme management hours by 10-20%.

#3 Real-time metrics enable rapid problem-solving

Rapid access to real-time project metrics and reporting means that issues are flagged early on. Errors can be rectified and processes adjusted immediately to enhance efficiencies. Updates can be tailored for multiple levels, with best effect visual management across production processes updated every 2 hours and then information automatically rolled up daily to a business level digital dashboard, for example. Authorised stakeholders can input appropriately and immediately – whether engineer or project manager – to speed up decision making and drive efficiencies.

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#4 Improve data digitalisation to increase project visibility

Defence projects consist of a complex network of systems. Automating processes and improving the digitalisation of data that feeds into the dashboard gives a more complete picture of all the interlocking parts. This creates a more effective data dashboard. Interoperability is enhanced with users now able to drill into a wider pool of data and interrogate multiple threads of information to identify time and cost efficiencies. Robotic process automation (RPA), optical character recognition (OCR) and artificial intelligence (AI) are key enabling technologies – see Expleo's Technology Guide for more detail.

#5 A holistic digital overview supports agile methodology

Combining better visual management with an agile way of working unlocks incremental gains to accelerate successful defence project outcomes. It also facilitates collaboration between all parties – including sub-contractors – to improve deliverable quality. Decisions are taken based on the latest data available and this responsiveness and ability to monitor and adjust means problems don't cause delays or rework. Projects are more adaptive and engineering decision-making time is freed up to problem solve where needed to improve resource allocation.



About Expleo

Expleo is a global engineering, technology and consulting service provider that partners with leading defence organisations. Through cross-industry fertilisation and advanced digitalisation, our security-vetted people help you reshape your R&D, engineering and production approach to deliver complex defence projects faster and more efficiently.

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