

## Clarity project and portfolio management solution unlocks potential and profits

*How Aristocrat changed outmoded management systems and reorganised for results*

### Problem

**Outmoded and ineffective project management processes were proving costly**

With steady growth in projects and more stringent compliance and regulatory requirements, Aristocrat's existing project management system was proving to be increasingly outmoded and ineffective.

### Approach

**Evaluation of business processes and management objectives**

To drive more growth and profit, Aristocrat asked Oakton to advise on the following issues:

- How to improve the accuracy, reliability and visibility of detailed product development information, including day-to-day tracking, project timelines and expenditure;
- How to reduce the mounting complexity and inefficiencies of disparate data management; and
- How to boost management productivity without burying them in administration?

### Recommendations

**Implement a new performance project and portfolio management system**

Oakton recommended adopting a unified monitoring approach to provide visibility of games development to management and marketing executives through the centralised collection of data from multiple sources, while minimising the project management and general management infrastructure in Aristocrat's USA and Australian R&D facilities. To achieve this, Clarity was the application suite selected and the project was delivered in five implementation stages over a two-year timeframe.

1. web-based timesheets
2. project management and resource management including data migration from legacy systems
3. electronic workflow to facilitate the game development processes and rolling out Clarity to R&D users in Las Vegas
4. Customised reporting and dashboards
5. Custom modules for Online Executive Product Plan, Master Games Plan, and Game Development Release Plan.

Working closely with Aristocrat's team, Oakton led the architectural, functional and technical functions, and the project management methodologies and processes proved invaluable to the successful delivery of the project.

### Results

**Improved reporting capabilities leads to more business insight**

Aristocrat now has access to an accurate and comprehensive centralised solution, providing management with reporting capabilities that facilitate better utilisation of R&D resources and more accurate forecasting of resource requirements. Increased visibility into the games product development process almost eliminates previous complexities and any collection inefficiencies associated with disparate data as well as removing dependency on any one individual.

Centralised access to empirical data has enabled management to achieve efficiencies throughout the game delivery process, giving senior management visibility into the status of the games approval plan and access to more business insights through assessment of real-time key matrixes, including iterations per game type, iterations between game design, testing and compliance departments, development time (per game and type) and PERT reporting.

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*Aristocrat, with over 2,000 staff, is a leading global provider of solutions to the international gaming community and is licensed by 200-plus jurisdictions worldwide.*

*We're an Australian consulting and technology firm founded in 1988. Our business is helping create lasting value by uniquely blending business insights and technology solutions to give our clients a significant advantage in today's rapidly changing world.*

*At Oakton, we think differently: instead of jumping in we step back and invest time and effort to improve our understanding of the problem you're trying to solve. We focus on examining the problem from different perspectives to master what we believe is the most important step, clearly defining the problem in the first place!*

*For a more indepth look at our research and expertise with some of Australia's most successful companies, visit [www.oakton.com.au](http://www.oakton.com.au)*