

CHOOSING THE RIGHT IV&V PARTNER - 4

An organization that seeks to mitigate its development risks and to secure all or some of the benefits that can accrue with having IV&V needs to assess these vendors with the same level of scrutiny used to identify the development or integration vendor. The organization should look for a vendor and staff with experience in the same or comparable environment, a similar size project, full-life cycle experience and not merely test or quality assurance experience. The selected vendor should have staff with appropriate examination-based certifications such as those given by IEEE and ASQ. The IEEE certification would be the Certified Software Development Professional (CSDP) that requires a minimum of 5 years of experience in one or more topic areas in order to take the examination. The ASQ certification would be the Certified Software Quality Engineer (CSQE) that requires a minimum of 8 years of experience in one or more topic areas in order to take the examination. The selected vendor should have at least one person who participates in IEEE standards development, preferably the System Verification and Validation Standard and an IV&V Lead person who is experienced in the use of voluntary consensus standards when verifying life cycle deliverables.

Your organization does not just need IV&V - it needs effective IV&V. Providing effective IV&V services requires management of the IV&V process along with an IV&V quality assurance mechanism. IV&V management refers only to the management of the IV&V process. It neither refers to hiring or firing of staff, nor to management tasks identified by the PMBOK®, CMMI®, or ITIL®.

Throughout the life cycle, the IV&V manager monitors and evaluates all IV&V outputs, continuously reviews the IV&V process, coordinates IV&V results with development, quality assurance, test and configuration management. The IV&V manager participates in reviews and audits, identifies process improvement opportunities in the conduct of IV&V and directs required revisions in the IV&V Plan. Thus quality is built into the IV&V process resulting in quality of the IV&V products and process. The quality of the IV&V products and processes provides value-added to the acquiring organization and the system or software under development by saving as much as \$29.6 million on a cost of IV&V services of approximately \$2.1 million.

WHY CHOOSE THE IV&V GROUPSM

By choosing the IV&V GroupSM you will experience optimal return on your IV&V investment. We have a demonstrated ability to deliver reliable and superior results based on our proprietary methodology that is consensus standards based. You will receive full lifecycle independent verification and validation services, rather than only test or quality assurance services. You will benefit from the knowledge of results oriented professionals who developed the relevant system and engineering standards and you will have immediate access to senior level subject matter experts who are knowledgeable in all aspects of system and software engineering.

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