



# Accolade® for Managing Process

## Improve Cross-Functional Innovation Processes and Decision-Making Across the Product Lifecycle

### With Sopheon's Accolade you can:

- Easily define and adopt best-practice innovation processes.
- Improve collaboration and communication among global, cross-functional teams.
- Streamline the day-to-day project management tasks of innovation team leaders.
- Empower strategic decision-making at every stage and gate of the innovation effort.
- Reduce administrative burden and encourage knowledge reuse.
- Continuously measure and improve innovation process performance.

Companies invest large amounts of time, energy, and capital in creating new products and bringing them to market. But nearly one out of every three new products is a commercial failure. Using a structured, automated process to manage innovation can dramatically increase the likelihood of a product's success, resulting in greater revenues and profits.

### Create Sustainable Market Differentiation by Closing the Gap Between Gated Decision-Making and Process Execution

**Sopheon's Accolade** platform is a comprehensive solution designed to provide your organization with the cross-functional foundation and strategic decision-making support needed to speed the right products to market. Accolade can automate any of today's gated development processes, including Stage-Gate®, agile, PACE®, waterfall, DoD 5000, Lean Six Sigma, and phase-gate and Agile.

By providing a central repository for all innovation project and portfolio data, Accolade enables your cross-functional teams to collaborate on new products from inception to end-of-life. Information supplied by the system can be used to critically evaluate the value and risk of new product opportunities, improve resource planning, and increase new product throughput. Executives have on-demand access to the information to assess portfolios and make sound investment decisions.

Accolade's powerful process models can be used for virtually any type of product, process, service, and other innovation initiatives including technology, IT, basic research projects, as well as Six Sigma, capital development, cost reduction, commercial innovation/marketing programs, mergers and acquisitions, and others.

### Ensure Innovation Process Adoption with a Flexible & Intuitive Process Engine

Increase the value of your innovation processes by applying easy-to-use tools that save cross-functional teams time and improve the quality of their output. Accolade's highly configurable modeling engine ensures your processes reflect the unique requirements and methodologies of your organization.

## Benefits

- Improve product investment decisions, focusing resources on high-value projects.
- Speed time-to-market through better process execution.
- Reduce time spent preparing for and participating in gate decision-making meetings.
- [Increase collaboration and accountability among cross-functional teams.](#)
- Centralize innovation data and improve project visibility.
- Facilitate knowledge reuse by serving up context-relevant insights.

## Streamline and Automate Project Management

Support the practical project management needs of innovation team leaders by enabling them to automatically define, schedule, and manage multiple innovation projects. As changes in technologies, markets, or business priorities occur, project managers can dynamically adjust plans to those changing circumstances.

## Reduce Administrative Burden and Encourage Knowledge Reuse

Give your cross-functional product development teams the advantage of instant, one-click access to all projects and documents relevant to their information requirements. Easy-to-use interfaces and automated “smart” document technology streamline the creation of integrated product definitions, business cases, market assessments, cash flow analyses, gate presentations, and other key deliverables.

## Expedite Cross-Functional Teamwork via Collaborative Workflow Processes

People from different functions can use flexible workflows to efficiently contribute their knowledge and input into each deliverable at the right time, and with full confidence they are building on the latest work from others. The result is improved coordination, and as much as a 30% reduction of the time spent in low-value communication.

## Enable Ongoing Evaluation of Process Effectiveness

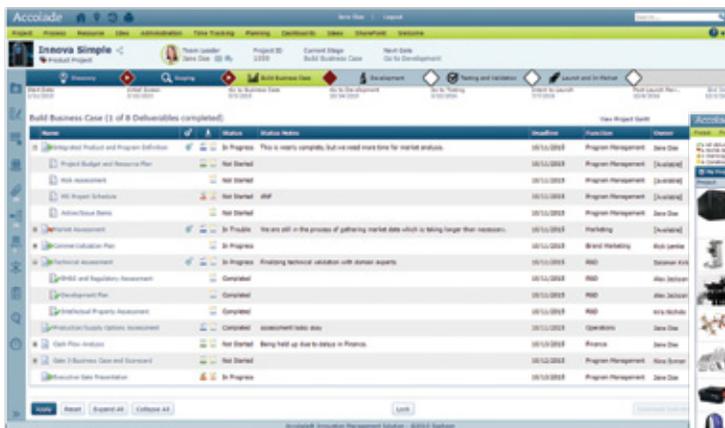
Automatically track key events in the lifecycle of your innovation projects, including decisions made and the reasoning behind them. On-demand access to project histories helps to inform gate decisions and supports efficient, insightful analysis of why projects succeeded or failed.

## Mobile Access

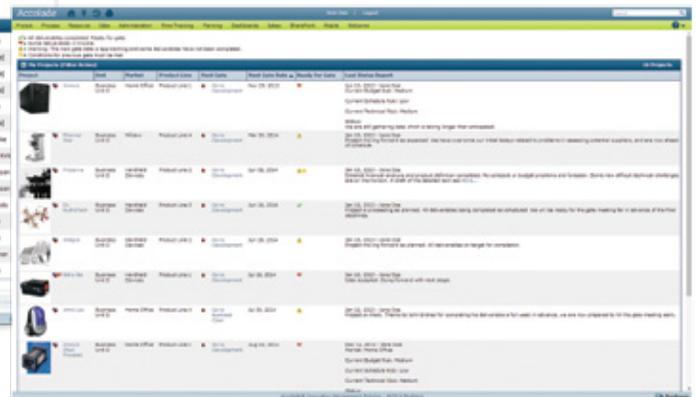
With the Accolade mobile app, users participate in their organization’s innovation process to monitor innovation projects from anywhere, online or offline, and stay current on the status of critical priorities and actions.

## Integrate to Microsoft® Project, SharePoint® and Other Data Sources

Share detailed project plans between Accolade and Microsoft Project, streamlining project scheduling activity and task management. Display data from your Accolade projects directly in Microsoft SharePoint.



Improve project selection and go/kill decision-making about proposed new products by implementing uniform deliverables, review formats and criteria. Accolade’s embedded best-practice models can help speed process maturity, reduce administrative burden, and encourage wide-spread process adoption.



The My Projects summary provides an up-to-the-minute status report on an individual’s assigned projects. Pictures of proposed new products give gatekeepers visual cues about their projects, and symbols are used to draw attention to projects at a critical stage that require further examination or action.

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