Value Engineering Workshop

Value engineering began at General Electric Co. during World War II. Lawrence Miles, Jerry Leftow, and Harry Erlicher realized that if value and related innovation improvements could be systematically "managed," then General Electric would have a competitive advantage in the marketplace. With that in mind they devised the function analysis concept, which they integrated into an innovative process later termed value analysis.

At ISE we use a systematic method that we term "As-is / To-be". It is based on Value Engineering. It is a method to improve the "value" of your ERP system by using an examination of selected processes in your organization. In most cases this practice identifies and removes unnecessary customizations that were previously thought needed, thereby increasing the "value" of your ERP system.

Our As-is / To-be workshop follows a structured thought process that is based exclusively on what something "does" not what it "is". When you engage ISE for an As-is / To-be workshop we follow these basic steps.

1. Information gathering – this phase brings together your team members and our consultants and through a battery of questions we attain a basic understanding of how your ERP system is used with your current processes. This functional understanding establishes the "as-is".

2. Evaluation – your "as-is" processes are "dropped" into vanilla XA processes and gaps are determined. Our team creates a set of "to-be" flowcharts which highlight any gaps.

3. Presentation – In this stage the vanilla XA processes, with gaps identified, are presented along with our notes that were captured during the information gathering stage.

Following the delivery of the "to-be" flowcharts the project stakeholders can determine what vanilla XA processes can be implemented and what customizations need to be maintained. In some instances, additional study and information may be required. Implementation of alternatives processes is the responsibility of your management team with assistance from the ISE.