# Solution Guide PROJECT .02

# Knowledge Management

Find it online: smartsheet.com/pm-solutions/knowledge-management





Coordinate Anything

#### About Knowledge Management

Good knowledge management increases productivity, improves the quality of project outputs and drives consistency across deliverables. Smartsheet not only helps you capture, organize and centralize program resources, but it also helps you turn project learnings into organizational assets. This guide is built to help you use Smartsheet to achieve your knowledge management goals.

#### Centralize program knowledge

Create wiki-like sheets to leverage program stakeholders' collective knowledge.

#### Improve project delivery consistency

Publish and share templates and methodologies so your project managers can focus on delivery excellence.

#### Increase project team productivity

Reduce new resource ramp-up time with role transition templates and onboarding checklists.

#### Easily preserve and transfer learnings

Document, archive, and transfer task guidance, project documents and deliverables, roles and responsibilities.

### Who should use this guide?

Whether you're establishing new knowledge management processes or seeking ways to improve your current ones, you're in the right place.

Common roles/titles who would benefit from this solution include:

Program Managers Project Managers Knowledge Managers Knowledge Editors Knowledge Analysts Business Analysts Business Consultants Subject Matter Experts Operations Managers Operations Specialists

#### What You'll Learn

This guide is designed to show you how you can build and execute world-class knowledge management processes to support your project teams with Smartsheet. This guide will cover the following:





### **Program Resources**

Sharing program resources and information with project stakeholders is harder than it needs to be. Instead of using a patchwork of applications, shared folders, intranets and emails to share information, use Smartsheet as a single wiki-like repository. Smartsheet makes it easy to compile, share and update information that lives in a variety of formats.

		🔲 į Item		Details		Contact or Link	Last Modified
	1	Pro	ogram Resources				
		⊡ Po	licies			ĺ.	D
	3 📦	E	xpenses	All salaried and non-salaried project resources are requ through the Expense Tracking form. Fixed price contraction		Expense Tracking Form	06/15/10-12 PI
	4	Т	ime Reporting	Salaried and hourly resources are required to submit th		Time Reporting Form	06/15/15 04:02 PI
	5 🕖	Т	eam Vacation Calendar	Enter all planned vacation time in the Team Vacation C	alendar.	Team Vacation Calendar	06/15/15 03:42 PI
В		🗆 Alia	ases & Contacts				
			cy Information	Please direct any policy questions to the appropriate		policy@programname	06/15/15 03:42 PI
Row 5 Attach	ments (1)		vel Support	The travel support office is available from 7a-9p on wee	kdays and 9a-3p on weekends.	travel@programname	06/15/15 03:42 PI
Attach 🔻			hnical Support	The program technical support desk is available on floo Use the IT support request form to submit a ticket.	r 3 during standard business hou	rs. IT Support Request	06/15/15 03:54 P
<ul> <li>Upload from co</li> </ul>	nputer	ile.docx	ram Information				
6 Google Drive	Select on	e or more files	ram Communications		? ×		
b Box			hthly Program Newsletter	Share Workspace	gram newsletters	newsletter@programname	06/15/15 04:08 PI
😌 Dropbox			el Information	Share To: Sally Jone			
Evernote			els	Permissions: Viewer   Editor Admin		Hyatt, Marriott, Days Inn	06/15/15 03:54 PI
P Link (URL)			ports	Editor can share with others		Dulles International Airport	06/15/15 03:54 PI
			actions	Send Email:  a link to the workspace will be included in the message.		Bing Maps	06/15/15 03:54 PI
	4 53 <			Subject: Program Resources			
			A Sharing (7)	Message: Sally - Here is a link to program resources sheet. Can you ple that our Travel documentation is up to date?	ests EWeb	o Forms 📢 Publish	
				Cc me Cancel	Share		



Link to supporting information, like expense or time tracking



Attach any type of document, like detailed policy information or past newsletters.

Easily share the sheet with custom permission levels so topic owners can keep their information up to date.



Use columns that can auto-update, such as "Last Modified" date, so others know how recent the information is.



Create a custom sheet to personalize the onboarding experience.

В

Check off tasks as they are completed so managers can see progress.

Emphasize the most important items, using conditional formatting to highlight the row.

Set email reminders so nothing is missed during the chaos of onboarding.

Save the onboarding sheet as a template for easy reuse.

## **Onboarding Checklist**

Someone's role in a project is not like a typical job role -- there is rarely sufficient time for onboarding. Creating an onboarding checklist in Smartsheet helps smooth the transition to a new project. New team members can work through the checklist in their own time, speeding up their onboarding time and freeing up managers to focus on project delivery.



### **Templates & Methodologies**

Methodologies and templates are seldom found nicely bundled together, ready to use. Project teams don't want to spend time searching for or creating new project templates. Instead, they'll benefit greatly from using Smartsheet as a one-stop shop for approved methodologies and templates so they can concentrate on the actual project.

	0 <b>-</b> i	Template or Methodology	Туре	Description	Owner	Modified	
1		Approved Templates and Methodologies			D	E	^
2	<b>A</b>	- Planning				5	
3	$\smile$	Business Case	Sheet	Our business case template captures the reasoning for initiating a project or	ta Eric Walker	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
4	0	Feasability Report Template	Document	The feasibility report is a formal report that provides the findings of the feasi	Eric Walker	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
5		Project Plan	Sheet	Use this project plan as a starting point to guide you through both project ex	eci Shari Wise	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
6		RACI	Sheet	Use this template to to describe the responsibilities of various roles in project	t ta Alex Bright	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
7		Design					
	0	User Requirements Specification (URS)	Document	The URS document describes the client's project requirements. The client of	ru Jacob Senmar	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
в	0	Technical Specification	Document	The technical specification is a detailed description of a technical requirement	nts Maria Salazar	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
5	0	Functional Specification	Document	The functional specification is a technical document, usually prepared by the	d Frank Carlson	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
11		Possures Allocation	Sheet	The resource allocation document can be used by a project manager to doc	um Eric Walker	06/16/15 12:14 PM	
		Hyperlink	Sheet	This tracking document should be used by all development m			i
	0	O Link to URL:	Document	2 You	re attaching 1 file(s) with ments. What would you	h the same name as existing	
14	0		Document	The actual cost spreadsheet is useful when a project manage	ments. What would you	I like to do?	
15	4	Link to other Smartsheet: <pre></pre>	Document	A ()	ttach as New Version ttach as Separate File	F	
		Display Text:	Attachments				
		Project Status and Risks Tracking					
		Cancel OK				Cancel	

Organize templates by phase so project teams can quickly find the most relevant ones.

Attach templates directly to the sheet – Smartsheet supports virtually any file type.

If your templates live in other sheets, you can link directly to them.

List owners so everyone knows where to direct questions.

Track changes with the "Modified" date column that automatically updates whenever a change is made.

Know you're working with current documents by tracking document version controls.



Filter any column or use hierarchy to group terms alphabetically for familiar navigation.

Attach or link to supporting information, like images or websites to learn more.



В

View the change history of any cell so you know who made which changes and when.

D

Share the sheet so others can add terms as they come across them.

### **Program Glossary**

Every organization has its own colloquialisms. To those who understand them, they speed up communication. For new team members, it can be like learning a foreign language. Use Smartsheet as a wiki-like solution to define and publish common terms. You can even crowdsource new terms by inviting project teams to add their phrases and definitions.



### **Deliverables Archive**

Treating project deliverables as important assets can be often overlooked. To adequately preserve your institutional memory, you need to maintain a record of your project outputs that can serve as reference material for the future. Smartsheet is a great place to catalog and archive your deliverables because it's secure, available from anywhere, and easily searchable.

		0 = 1	Project Name	Deliverable Name	Project Owner	Deliverable Type	Deliverable Completion Date	Client Approved	Client Approver	Notes	
1				Program Deliverables Archive						·	
			Explanation:	The deliverables below represent all milestone and final deliverables for the program.	e Person responsible for the deliverable			Client has signed off on the deliverable?	Name of client who accepts the deliverab	le	
			Project Alpha	Project Plan for Alpha	Eric Walker	Sheet	10/05/15	Approved	Sarah Schrek	The official proje	
4		0	Project Charlie	Market Size Analysis	Corrine Jones	Document	11/04/15	Approved			
		0	Project Alpha	Technical Specifications	Eric Walker	Document	11/02/15	Approved		rable Submission Form	
A		0	Project Foxtrot	Opportunity Assessment Report	Tanner Kendrick	Document	11/04/15	Approved	Please use this form to s	ubmit completed project deliverables.	
7		0	Project Alpha	Functional Specification	Eric Walker	Document	11/19/15	Approved	Project Name *		
8			Project Echo	Project Plan for Echo	Shari Wise	Sheet	11/04/15	Approved	Deliverable Name*		
			? ≍ <mark>ango</mark>	Karen Zeman	Sheet	11/04/15	Approved	Use the name you use in your project plan.			
Filter: Project Name		alysis Report	Shari Wise	Document	10/13/15	Approved					
	Select	values to dis	play or define custom criteria	ierra	Julia Scold	Sheet	11/06/15	Approved	File Attachments Skip this question if your deliverable is a sheet. You can add the sheet name at to the notes section at the bottom of the form. file name Uptood.		
1	S	elect All		cations	Karen Zeman	Document	11/04/15	Approved			
Explanation: Project Alpha		pha	ive Analysis	Julia Scold	Document	11/30/15	Approved	Project Owner*	Project Owner*		
		Project Cl Project Ed		B ysis Report	Shari Wise	Document	12/03/15	Submitted			
Project Foxfrot Project Hotel		<u>t</u>	Eric Walker	Sheet	12/16/15	Approved	Deliverable Type				
			ssment Report	Tanner Kendrick	Document	01/05/16	Approved				
				-			Deliverable Completion	Date			
		w parent rov lude selecte		ts 🕖 Attachments (*	10) 🔾 Discussions	9 Update R	equests 📃	Web Forms (1) 💊			
L				Remove					Client Approver		

Upload deliverables directly to the sheet to maintain a secure record.

В

Filter any column, like Project Name, to hone in on all of the deliverables for a specific project.

C List the project owners alongside the deliverables so you can track accountability.

D

Use a web form to streamline the submission of completed deliverables by project teams.



Use hierarchy to group information for enhanced navigation.

В

Easily share the sheet with other team members so they can help add relevant information.



D

Link directly to supporting resources, like other sheets, documents or URLs.

Create a template from the Role Transition sheet so it's easy to create a new one for every new person.

#### **Role Transition**

Few things are more frustrating than starting a new role and lacking the guidance, resources or dedicated time with your new team. Oftentimes, the best person to learn from is actually the person who previously held the role. Smartsheet's Role Transition template gives people a place to impart critical knowledge, like key resources, important contacts, task specific instructions, important meetings and general tips and advice.



### **Project Closeout Form**

Project closeout activities rarely receive the attention they deserve. The closeout process requires that deliverables are archived, contracts are closed and learnings are documented. Smartsheet's customizable web forms streamline the process by giving project teams an easy-to use form that walks them through the information they need to provide. That information is then fed directly into a sheet, where program managers can analyze a complete list of completed projects.





Use the form to capture key information, including budget and schedule performance.

С

Automatically collate web form submissions in one sheet.

Filter by project managers so you can see how they perform over multiple projects.



Verify that project managers have completed all of the necessary tasks with a simple checklist.



Attach or link to supporting documents, like budget or schedule analysis.



Use symbols, like flags, to call attention to the most important takeaways.

С

Use discussions to capture and preserve notes from the AAR meeting.

\*Best Practice: Conduct the AAR as soon as possible after the project ends so learnings are still top of mind. **Project After Action Review** 

An After Action Review (AAR) is a simple process to capture the lessons learned from a project with the goal of improving future performance. It is an opportunity for a team to reflect on a project, activity, event or task so that they can do better next time. Using Smartsheet to document your learnings not only helps structure the AAR, but it also helps you preserve the information in a shareable way so others can benefit from the findings.



## Jump-Start Your Knowledge Management with Smartsheet

Read through the solution guide	You've had an overview of the solution – now try Smartsheet for yourself.
Sign up or log in to Smartsheet	Sign up at <b>smartsheet.com/pm-solutions/knowledge-management</b> You can also use this with your existing account by logging in.
Open the Getting Started Sheet	Once you're in Smartsheet, click on the "Getting Started" sheet in the pane on the right. This sheet will orient you to everything you need to start working in Smartsheet.
Customize the sheet	The sample data and structure is only there to help you get going. You can type over things, insert or delete rows or columns, rename columns, change column types etc.
Start working and sharing	To open another sheet in the solution, simply return to the home tab, select the folder, and then the sheet. You can invite others to collaborate by clicking the sharing tab on the bottom of the sheet.

#### **Other Recommended Steps**

0	Delete sheets you don't need	Deleting a sheet is easy! You can learn how to <u>here</u> .
0	Build your own sheet	We know you have unique needs – that's why we built Smartsheet. Click the + tab at the top of the sheet so you can build your own solution from a blank sheet.
0	Use the "cheat sheets" in this guide	To help you get the most out of Smartsheet, we've included cheat sheets for formulas and shortcuts at the end of this guide.

# Have questions or want to learn more about Smartsheet?

#### Smartsheet Help Center - help.smartsheet.com

Everything you need to help you get the most out of Smartsheet.

#### Smartsheet Community - community.smartsheet.com

Ask questions, share best practices, and get help.

#### Submit your question - solutions@smartsheet.com

Want personalized help? Our design and services teams have you covered!

#### Send us your feedback - help.smartsheet.com/customer/portal/emails/new

Share your thoughts or suggestions about Smartsheet or our Solutions.

#### Plans and Pricing - smartsheet.com/pricing

Enjoy your 30-day free trial.

#### Smartsheet Cheat Sheet Keyboard Shortcuts

**Basics** 



To insert multiple rows at once, press Shift

and select multiple row headers, then click

### Formatting



#### **Formulas**



- Inserts \$ after column x 2 name (vertical cell reference lock).
  - Inserts **\$**'s around **X3** column name (full cell reference lock).

### Date Column Cells

- t: Inserts today's date.
- +: Enters date x days from today.
- -: Enters date x days before today.

mon / tue / wed / etc... Inserts date of the current

week's Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, etc.

yes: Inserts yesterday's date.

tom: Inserts tomorrow's date.

next week: Inserts date seven days from today.

last week: Inserts date from seven days ago.

Dec 15 / Jan 3 / etc: Inserts date of string entered.

### Additional



Displays the Go To Row form. Type in the row number you'd like to scroll to then click OK.

Ctrl

- Takes you to the first cell of Home the row you are currently on.

Displays the Open a Sheet form.



+ |

End



Takes you to the top left cell of your sheet.

Takes you to the bottom right cell of your sheet.



End

Moves you up in your sheet.

Takes you to the last cell of

the row are are currently on.



Moves you down in your sheet.

Space

Displays or removes a checked box, star or flag in the selected cell. Learn more about checkbox, star and flag columns in our Column Types article.

#### Smartsheet Cheat Sheet Formulas

#### **Numeric Formulas**

SUM(): Adds selected values, or a range of cells. Example: =SUM(Cost1: Cost5) Result: 1125.75

AVG(): Averages selected values, or a range of cells. Example: =AVG(Cost1: Cost5) Result: 225.15

MAX(): Returns the highest numeric value, or latest date. Example: =MAX(Cost1: Cost5) Result: 425.75

MIN(): Returns the lowest numeric value, or earliest date. Example: =MIN(Cost1: Cost5) Result: 100

INT(): Returns the integer portion of a given number. Example: =INT(Cost5) Result: 425 ROUND(): Rounds a given number to the desired # of digits. Syntax: ROUND(cell1, #\_of\_digits) Example: =ROUND(Cost5, 1) Result: 425.8

ABS(): Returns the absolute value of a given number. Example: =ABS(-85) Result: 85

COUNT(): Counts non-blank cells in a given range. Example: =COUNT([Task Name]:[Task Name]) Result: 5

LEN(): Returns the number of characters (length) in a given cell. Example: =LEN([Task Name]5) Result: 6NOTE: Formatting/currency values aren't included. Dates have a length of 5.

#### **Logic Formulas**

IF(): Performs a logical test. One value is returned if the test is true, a different value is returned otherwise.

Syntax: IF(logical\_test, value\_if\_true, value\_if\_false) Example: =IF([Due Date]1 > [Due Date]2, "Date 1 is Larger", "Date 2 is Larger" Result: Date 2 is Larger

ISBLANK(): Used within an IF formula to test if a cell is blank. Example: =IF(ISBLANK([Task Name]1), "Cell is blank", "Cell isn't blank") Result: Cell isn't blank

**ISTEXT():** used within an IF formula to test if a cell contains text (and not checkboxes, dates, numbers, etc).

Example: =IF(ISTEXT([Due Date]1), "Cell is text", "Cell isn't text") Result: Cell isn't text

ISNUMBER(): Used within an IF formula to test if a cell contains a number (a value which is not text, date, or checkbox).

Example: =IF(ISNUMBER([Task Name]1), "Cell is a number", "Cell isn't a number") Result: Cell isn't a number

ISDATE(): Used in an IF formula to test if a cell contains a date.

Example: =IF(ISDATE([Due Date]1), "Cell is a date", "Cell isn't a date") Result: Cell is a date

ISBOOLEAN(): Used in an IF formula to test if a cell contains a boolean value (check box, priority, star or flag).

Example: =IF(ISBOOLEAN(Done1), "Cell is a boolean", "Cell isn't a boolean") Result: Cell is a Boolean

#### Smartsheet Cheat Sheet Formulas

### Logic Formulas (cont.)

AND(): Used within an IF formula. Evaluates if a set of logical expressions are True or False. If any expression is False it will evaluate as False.

Syntax: AND(boolean\_expression1, boolean\_expression2, boolean\_expression3, ...) Example: =IF(AND(Done1, Done2, Done3), "All Tasks Complete", "Tasks Incomplete") Result: Tasks Incomplete

NOT(): Used within an IF formula. Performs a logical NOT on the supplied boolean expression (or cell reference).

Syntax: NOT(Done1) Example: =IF(NOT(Done1), "Task A Not Complete", "Task A Complete") Result: Task A Complete

OR(): Used within an IF formula. Performs a logical OR on the supplied boolean expression or cells. Returns true if any are true; otherwise returns false. Syntax: OR([Due Date]1 > [Due Date]2, [Due Date]1 > [Due Date]3) Example: =IF(OR([Due Date]1 > [Due Date]2, [Due Date]1 > [Due Date]3), "Due Date 1 isn't the smallest", "Due Date 1 is the smallest") Result: Due Date 1 is the smallest

**NESTED IF():** Performs multiple logical tests. Smartsheet reads the IF statements in the formula from left to right, displaying a value based on which one evaluates to true.

Syntax: IF(logical\_test, value\_if\_true, IF(second\_logical\_test, value\_if\_true, value\_if\_all\_false)) Example: =IF([Task Name]1 = "Task A", "This is Task A", IF([Task Name]1 = "Task B", "This is Task B", "Neither Task A nor Task B")) Result: This is Task A

#### **Additional Formulas and Help**

Formula Basics - smartsheet.com/formula-basics

How to create a formula and reference cells, columns, and ranges in your sheet

<u>Text Formulas</u> - smartsheet.com/text-formulas Find, Replace, capitalizing text, etc

<u>Date Formulas</u> - smartsheet.com/formula-basics TODAY() formula, calculating working days, creating dates, etc

<u>Advanced Formulas</u> - smartsheet.com/date-formulas Weighted average, prorate, countif, countif s, sumif, sumif s

<u>Using Hierarchy in Formulas</u> - smartsheet.com/using-hierarchy-in-formulas How to reference child rows

**Formula Error Messages** - smartsheet.com/formula-error-messages What they mean, and how to troubleshoot



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