



BRIGHT IDEAS

Efficient PAS Implementation: The Power of MVP

PUJA BARANWAL
DIRECTOR, PROJECT DELIVERY
SUNLIGHT SOLUTIONS



Puja Baranwal serves as the Director of Project Delivery at Sunlight Solutions, bringing over two decades of experience in IT consulting and project delivery to her role.

Connect with Puja on LinkedIn.

FLORENCE LAMOUR
CHIEF PRODUCT OFFICER



Florence launched Sunlight Solutions in France several years ago and leads all initiatives in Europe. In addition, her team has become our company's lead in InsurTech offers and Innovations

Connect with Florence on LinkedIn.

The MVP approach streamlines Policy Administration System (PAS) implementation by delivering core functionalities first, enabling early feedback, reducing risk, and ensuring long-term scalability.

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Understanding the Minimum Viable Product (MVP) in System Implementation

Many of us have encountered the term Minimum Viable Product (MVP) in our professional careers, especially in project and product implementation. While we may have a general understanding of its concept, its true impact on system implementation deserves a closer look. This article explores the MVP approach, highlighting its role in ensuring efficient, user-driven, and risk-minimized deployments.

What is the MVP Approach?

The MVP approach focuses on delivering only the most essential features that provide immediate value to users while allowing for continuous iteration and improvement. By releasing a functional version early, businesses can gather real-world feedback, refine their product, and ensure that development aligns with actual user needs rather than assumptions.

How MVP Reduces Risks and Enhances Adoption

This strategy not only reduces risk but also enhances user adoption by engaging stakeholders early, increasing familiarity, and minimizing resistance to change. Instead of investing heavily in a fully developed system upfront, the MVP approach ensures that resources are allocated effectively, supporting agile development and continuous adaptation.

The Long-Term Benefits of MVP

By implementing an MVP, businesses can streamline system rollouts, stay flexible in response to market changes, and ultimately build a solution that delivers lasting value. This method prioritizes efficiency, user engagement, and adaptability, making it a proven strategy for successful system implementation.



How MVP Helps

Faster Access to the System: Business users can start using the system early, rather than waiting months or years, which results in reducing user adoption risk and resistance to change. Early User Feedback- Users can test and refine the system, ensuring it meets actual business needs.

Validate the solution choice quickly: MVP approach helps to confirm business requirements, and technical requirements such as security, compliance, integration, performance and allows the course correction if needed.

Reduced Project Risk: The system is developed in small, manageable phases, reducing failure risk.

Reduce the financial risk for the customer: Customers don't have to spend millions before getting a delivery as initial spending can be limited.

Cost Efficiency: Instead of investing in full-scale development upfront, costs are spread over time.

Project organization, structure & team: Starting small helps to validate that the customer team has the right skillset, the project methodology is the right one and aligned with the customer's culture. Early iterations allow project teams to retrospect and identify inefficiencies in team workflows and allow readjustments for more efficiency.

Flexibility for Change: Business priorities may shift, or market demands change; MVP ensures adaptability.



Crucial Factors to Consider when following an MVP approach.

1. Understanding RACI of Stakeholders

Understanding and engaging the right stakeholders are important in any project implementation. Thus, a clear RACI (Responsible, Accountable, Consulted, Informed) matrix ensures that stakeholder roles are well-defined during the MVP implementation.

- Responsible: Team members executing tasks (e.g., developers, testers).
- Accountable: Decision-makers ensuring goals are met (e.g., project sponsors, product owners).
- Consulted: Experts providing input (e.g., architects, compliance officers).
- Informed: Stakeholders requiring updates (e.g., end-users, executives).

This structure minimizes bottlenecks and ensures smooth communication.

2. Prioritization of Requirements

Since an MVP must focus on core functionalities, prioritization is really the key. Techniques like MoSCoW (Must-have, Should-have, Could-have, Won't-have) and Value vs. Effort Matrix help teams determine the most critical features for initial rollout.

Prioritization should align with:

- Business objectives
- Regulatory requirements
- User pain points

3. Ensuring We Deliver What's Really Needed

To guarantee that the MVP meets actual needs, we should:

- Engage end-users early: Conduct usability testing and collect feedback.
- Adopt an iterative approach: Implement small, testable increments.
- Avoid feature bloat: Stick to the core functionalities and resist unnecessary add-ons. Consider phased approach to additional features.

In summary, the MVP approach is a pragmatic approach which allows to see and validate results quickly, avoiding the "tunnel" effect of long design phases. It simplifies system implementation by emphasizing the quick delivery of value and allowing continuous improvements. Through clear stakeholder roles, structured prioritization, and a feedback-driven process, organizations can ensure that their MVP meets critical business needs without stretching resources too thin.

While some high risk, large infrastructure projects (e.g., compliance-driven systems) may require a fully featured release in Bing Bang approach or managed in Waterfall style of project delivery, most modern implementations can benefit from the agility and efficiency of MVP.