

Reduce Capital Planning Process Time by 40%

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“InVizion streamlined our annual capital planning by quickly replacing our tedious and manual processes to link and relate large datasets out of our corporate systems.”

Top 10 Investor Owned Water Utility

The Challenge

Responsible for delivering clean, safe, reliable and affordable water and wastewater services to 2.7 million people around the clock, this investor owned utility (IOU) invests approximately \$350M in their capital assets portfolio with nearly 600 projects annually.

Their annual process for 5-year business planning required two dedicated experienced analysts and more than a dozen operations/project managers and took 5 months. Using a highly-manual process that required extensive institutional knowledge, the analysts extracted large quantities of relevant data from their corporate systems and merged them into a complex spreadsheet as a starting point for their new 5-year plan. This presented a number of challenges especially the need to prevent inadvertent calculation errors or broken links between cells, rows, formulas and worksheets. As analysts manually leveled the monthly budget to maximize allocated funds, they had to also carefully monitor each project's in-service dates relative to rate recovery dates. Once the analysis was complete, the interim results were distributed to stakeholders throughout the company and the next iteration started again until all agreed with the proposed plan.

Why InVizion?

Capital budgeting for IOUs must be a collaborative process to help maximize their return on assets. As such, an effective solution is needed to bring together disparate systems, processes and stakeholders from regulatory, finance, treasury, engineering and operations groups.

An off-the-shelf budgeting solution was needed to combine data from existing enterprise systems so planning staff could stop wasting time on the mechanics of error-prone spreadsheets. Planners needed to use their valuable time instead for creating, comparing and optimizing resource allocation (capital and people) scenarios.

For over 20 years the staff at InVizion has been supporting asset-intensive organizations in planning, forecasting and optimizing their programs and portfolios across asset-intensive industries

The Solution

InVizion provides a highly-automated process to import all relevant, yet disparate, corporate data. It does this at a meaningful level of detail and completely eliminates all the manual links, look-ups, formulas and other manipulations associated with spreadsheets.

By translating the critical relationships embedded in the underlying detailed data into a high-level portfolio roadmap, the IOU gets unprecedented visibility and transparency into their capital investments. Even projects without fully-developed, resource-loaded detailed plans are easily profiled based on historical spending patterns for comprehensive reporting, forecasting and analysis.

The Benefits

InVizion has helped the IOU to rapidly and accurately manage their 5-year business planning process. Using InVizion reduces the annual capital planning process by 2 months – a 40% decrease in planning time – while increasing data confidence and collaboration between the key stakeholders. Additional benefits include:

- ➔ Easily merging actual costs and forecasts from different corporate systems
- ➔ Preparing monthly performance reports with less effort and more accurate information
- ➔ Enabling flexible variance management, i.e., by region, district, type of work, and project manager
- ➔ Gaining visibility into the impacts of project delays and rapidly executing decisions to allocate capital to prioritized projects
- ➔ Providing project-level cost elements, transactions and stakeholder comments

The 3 Pillars of Optimized Program & Portfolio Planning



Adjust

Increase visibility into unplanned and unforeseen project risks by rapidly addressing the impact of variances and changing constraints



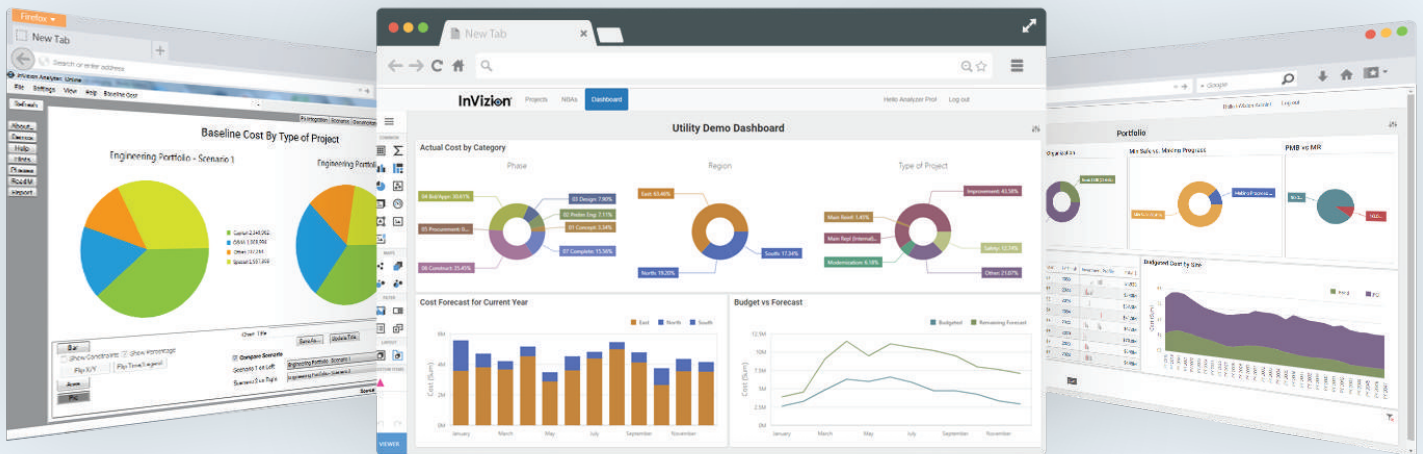
Optimize

Minimize inefficient and sub-optimal allocation of capital and resources by objectively developing and optimizing enhanced execution strategies



Empower

Reduce slow, inaccurate and doubtful decision-making by clearly communicating defensible and bold plans to key stakeholders



TOP 10
BUDGETING AND
FORECASTING
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About Us

InVizion enables companies to quickly combine project data from disconnected enterprise systems – like finance, supply chain, asset and project management applications – for accurate planning, forecasting, reporting & what-if analysis to reduce portfolio costs, minimize investment risks and speed project execution.