

# MKS Requirements 2005 Release Notes

What's New	What Does It Mean for You?
<p><b>Requirements Management</b></p>	<p>Analysts can easily convey requirements to development teams through integrations with common business tools, such as Microsoft Word. Business managers can be assured requirements are approved and authorized and view an audit trail of all changes related to a specific requirement.</p> <p>Development and quality assurance managers can better manage risk through the software development lifecycle, through more comprehensive management of new and changing requirements.</p> <p>Developers gain real time notification of changes to requirements, and can connect their coding activity back to business needs and goals.</p> <p>Business users and development teams collaborate and remain in constant communication through the use of a single tool driving a unified process.</p> <p>Leverage MKS Requirements' flexible process and workflow engine to lower costs and better integrate requirements and development processes.</p> <p>Process enforcement tied back to requirements protects the project schedule by restricting development of features and preparation of test plans until requirements have reached an appropriate state.</p>
<p><b>Integrated into the Business Environment</b></p>	<p>Business managers and business analysts, who are common users of requirements managements solutions seek a simple and straightforward connection between the tools they use to document requirements, and visibility into the status of requirements and the impact changes to requirements may have to the overall project delivery schedule. Ideally, business users also want assurance that the end product, a software application of some nature, aligns to the business requirements and meets the project goal.</p>
<p><b>Integrations</b></p>	<p>Integration with Microsoft Word, allowing easy import and translation of business-based requirements into the MKS Requirements repository. Powerful traceability between business requirements, functional requirements, features, tasks, source code changes and deployed artifacts.</p> <p>Integration with Microsoft Word allows organizations to use familiar authoring and document creation tools to build requirements, then import them into MKS Requirements 2005.</p> <p>Rich and open API enables integration with other enterprise tools such as project management, help desk, configuration management or project portfolio management.</p>
<p><b>Management Reporting</b></p>	<p>Customizable management dashboard provides senior management visibility with drilldown capabilities to easily view and report on their projects' status.</p> <p>Historical reporting enables project managers and business users to view how requirements have changed over time.</p> <p>Powerful querying, charting and reporting enables team collaboration and communication.</p>
<p><b>Communication and Collaboration</b></p>	<p>Improve communication and collaboration among analysts, developers, QA staff and management.</p> <p>Adopt a consistent approach to process management and better communication between business and IT by leveraging process and workflow capabilities used by development and QA staff to handle the requirements management function.</p> <p>Collaborative repository with audit trails maintains all requirements and their complete history of change over time.</p>

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<b>Traceability</b>	<p>Traceability between requirements and all downstream development activities enabling teams to easily determine the impact of shifting requirements across a variety of requirements and associated tasks. Organize requirements logically, provide traceability and assess the impact of requirement changes with a hierarchical structure of requirements.</p> <p>Flexible and powerful workflow with approval cycles ensures only authorized personnel can alter or add requirements.</p> <p>Facilitate process maturity initiatives such as CMM, ITIL, Six Sigma or ISO through team use of a single process and workflow tool.</p>
<b>Development Artifacts</b>	<p>Ability to tag downstream development tasks as "suspect" in the event of a requirement change, ensuring these tasks are reviewed and altered as necessary.</p> <p>Association of all development artifacts from source code to documentation to test plans directly to the related requirement using MKS's powerful change package capability — a value add for organizations who must withstand audit scrutiny.</p> <p>Clear and visible connection between development artifacts such as source code, documentation plans and all associated requirements via change packages.</p>
<b>Minimize the Costs</b>	<p>Minimize the costs and risks associated with project delays due to poor requirements handling and visibility.</p> <p>Minimize tool administration, training and support costs through the use of a single, highly adaptable tool.</p>
<b>Notification</b>	<p>Automated triggering of "suspect" tasks when a requirement changes.</p> <p>Automated email notification informing developers in real time of changed requirements.</p>