

Planning & Calculation Manager

BENEFITS

With the Valuemation Planning & Calculation Manager, you'll have a clear overview of the status of your IT costs and budget at any time.

You will benefit from the following features:

- *Timely, proactive detection of discrepancies between planned and actual expenses*
- *Helpful, informative reports enabling reliable business forecasts*
- *Simulation of income scenarios permitting more precise unit-cost calculations and price structures*
- *Distribution of IT costs across service modules*
- *Graphical depiction of different scenarios allowing you to prepare for and flexibly respond to changes*
- *Better budget coordination with other business areas.*

The Valuemation Planning & Calculation Manager will let you efficiently manage and control current and future IT costs. To help prepare your IT service cost calculations and to give you a reliable basis for financial planning, you'll have a detailed overview of the costs of deployed resources as well as the usage levels of each of your IT services.

The Challenges in IT Budgeting

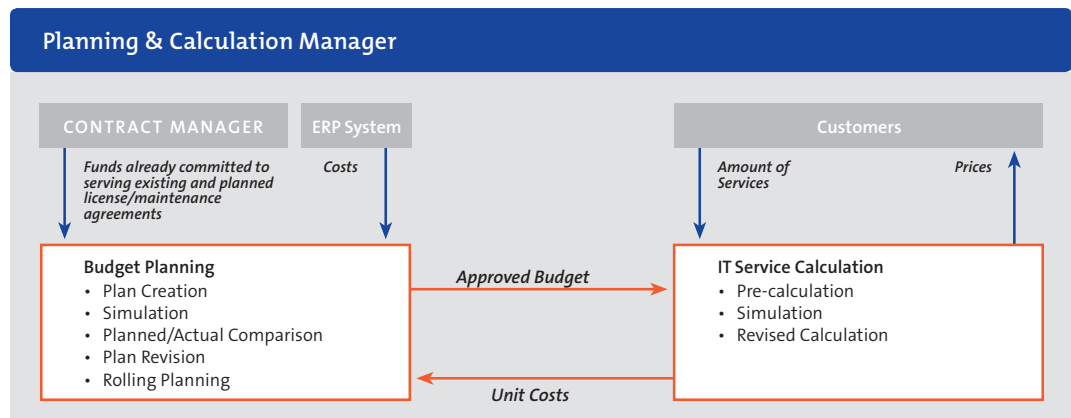
Can you obtain accurate, up-to-date information about your current budget situation whenever you need it? How do you get informed when actual costs are deviating from planned ones? How can you make mid-course corrections in your IT planning during the year without losing sight of the big picture? How do you calculate the planned costs for your IT services? What exactly is the price structure for your IT services and does it actually cover your costs?

Company-wide goals and requirements as well as those within the IT department place great demands on the standardization and details of IT planning/budgeting and cost calculations. The Valuemation Planning & Calculation Manager will help you to harmonize the budgeting for your IT services with your other business areas,

resulting in better cross-departmental coordination. You'll ensure a standardized, automated and transparent planning and costing process. Throughout the year, you'll be able to keep a close eye on your IT budgets and take timely corrective action whenever there are discrepancies between planned and actual expenses.

Flexible IT Service Calculations

Your IT budgeting activities include anticipating the costs of IT for the coming fiscal year. The Planning & Calculation Manager will let you include already allocated fixed personnel costs from ERP systems. You'll also be able to factor in the ongoing costs of currently in-force contracts. With the help of so-called distributed networks, you'll be able to flexibly allocate IT costs to IT services in a multilevel process. What's more, you'll also be able to depict service modules that are



needed for monitoring internal IT costs and keeping them transparent. To simplify data input, the assignment network can be loaded from a CSV file.

Customer-Oriented IT Planning

Changes in the demand for IT services can be planned for down to the customer level. This means that you can depict different scenarios, such as showing the impact on unit costs if you happen to lose a customer. You can simulate prices by entering percentage values, surcharges and specifying the rounding method to be applied. In this way, planned incomes fully reflect anticipated usage levels. This allows you to verify that income levels are properly represented in your budget. Depending on your business model, you can then set your price structure. With flexible rolling planning you can readily update your data to reflect changes in general conditions.

Transparent Control of IT Costs

The Planning & Calculation Manager provides you with a detailed overview of the costs allocated for IT services. The forecast function lets you see discrepancies between planned and actual figures. It also lets you compare two models when making forecasts for the remaining planning period. This means that you'll be able to detect budget overruns early on and respond in a prompt, timely manner.

Simulation of Unit Costs and Prices

The Planning & Calculation Manager can depict many different scenarios. Changes in the cost situation, distribution of costs over IT service modules as well as changes in the usage levels of IT services. This will allow you to simulate the effects on the unit costs of IT services and use the results in structuring your prices. This pricing process is supported by previously calculated unit costs. In making these calculations, you can input percentage values, surcharges and rounding methods. An income simulation allows you to check your price structure to make sure that you will, in fact, achieve your desired earnings.

Reporting and Dashboards

Flexible reporting functions can depict scenarios that you can discuss and coordinate with other planners. This means that your discussions about IT investments and their impact on other cost centers will be based on solid data. In addition, predefined standard reports, which are customized to match the roles concerned, enable fast data preparation.

In fact, the optional add-on Valuation Dashboards module already includes ITIL®-compliant KPIs as a standard feature. These KPIs can be graphically displayed in bar charts, pie charts, line graphs as well as in other views that have been especially designed for use in these dashboards.

KEY FACTS

The Valuation Planning & Calculation Manager is a module in the USU Valuation suite.

The Planning & Calculation Manager will help you to achieve great transparency over the IT budgeting process and the ongoing cost management during the course of the year by allowing you to do the following:

- *Create detailed representations of your IT business plans and cost-planning processes*
- *Simulate various planning scenarios*
- *Perform flexible unit-cost calculations*
- *Simulate income scenarios and define prices based on your respective business model.*

Other relevant Valuation modules:

- *Costing & Charging Manager*
- *Dashboards*
- *Asset Manager*
- *CMDB Manager*
- *Contract Manager*
- *License Manager*
- *Procurement Manager*
- *Service Level Manager*