

# Generate System Specifications Automatically from BPR Driven Process Models

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If you are looking for a decent requirement tool you should first look at the process / methodology used for capturing requirements.

Many projects fail due to methodologies involving simply asking potential system users what they want. Odds are that until the users see a developed system they won't know what they want which leads to failed acceptance of systems and large gaps in requirements.

I work for a company that promotes an alternative, but well established methodology of designing a business process with the potential users then drives the system requirements out of the process. This approach has a few distinct advantages such as;

1. Business users can visualise a process and have a framework for thinking about what they will need to support the process
2. Bells and whistles requirements can be eliminated from the requirements through easy identification as if they do not add value in the process step they should not be done.
3. Generally when users think of processes they are thinking of where they would like to be in 6-12 months time or where they are heading, when asked simply for requirements they will think tactically about what they need here and now to support the current way they work.
4. When planning an end to end process with the business you can easily identify and fill the gaps in requirements and possibly even identify business units that you need to talk to but would otherwise have not identified as users.

To summarise, it is relatively easy with the right software such as the process modeller, and system spec generator in KnowITSoft's CAPeR suite to model a relatively gap free set of system requirements and portray these back to the business as a process model which they will understand more fully.

For more information <http://www.knowitsoft.com/index.php?pid=2402>