Getting Started Guide for IBM Rational RequisitePro

Are you new to IBM Rational RequisitePro (RequisitePro)? This article provides the first stop on the road to getting started with RequisitePro. Through this article, we will give an introduction to RequisitePro, and provide a roadmap to the developerWorks Rational resources for getting up to speed with RequisitePro quickly depending on your role (as a requirements author or as a project manager). This roadmap will give you categorized pointers to developerWorks Rational resources: real-world articles, documentation, training, and support tips that will aid in making effective use of RequisitePro and related products. This roadmap is oriented towards specific roles that are first-time users of RequisitePro, in particular towards analysts who are organizing their requirements process using RequisitePro, and towards project managers who want to adopt RequisitePro for their teams. As you get started with RequisitePro, you may want to bookmark the Web page that provides a roadmap to using RequisitePro for your role. When you have questions, you may find a developerWorks Rational resource that helps you through that next step with real-world guidance from a number of experts or pointers to the appropriate section of RequisitePro documentation or training.

What is Rational RequisitePro?

RequisitePro is a powerful yet easy to use requirements management tool that: allows your software development team to manage requirements and their associated documents. Using attributes associated with your requirements, you will be able to understand the impact of changes to requirements to the rest of your team. With its tight integration with other Rational tools, RequisitePro provides each practitioner (tester, designer) on your team a quick and meaningful access to requirements to improve the quality of their designer or tester work.

Rational RequisitePro Product Information

For a general introduction to RequisitePro, these pages describe the product in detail and give you links to read more about what the tool does, who it is for, and when to use it.

Rational RequisitePro Online Demos, Books and Guide
See how RequisitePro works to help manage and track requirements. These demos give you a high-level tour and show you what specific needs RequisitePro addresses.

Free Rational RequisitePro Evaluation
Enter the name RequisitePro in the Search window and press Go. You can try RequisitePro yourself for 15 days with this fully functioning evaluation edition.

How do I use Rational RequisitePro?
Implementing requirements management with RequisitePro is a key process area for improving your project success. The better you communicate and manage the scope of your requirements, the better chance your projects have for delivering the right solution on time and on budget. Your use of RequisitePro will depend on your role on the team. What we’ve done here is to consider two different roles: team members that are defining, documenting, and reviewing requirements for the software development team (‘analyst’ is the term that we use here to describe these team members) and project managers who need to implement a requirements management process for their teams. For each role, we provide here a few important articles. Over time we will develop, for each of these roles, a roadmap to the different articles and documentation on developerWorks that will help get you up and running as quickly as possible as well as give you real world advice about using RequisitePro.

**Analyst**  – You are one of the team members defining and explaining requirements to the team. You may have a variety of titles: Product Manager, Business Analyst, System Analyst, Data Analyst, Requirement Engineer, etc., but the common thread is that you are one of the team members that is responsible for creating requirements that then defines what the rest of the software team will be working on. In the roadmap, we’ve setup the steps that you’ll need to get up and running with the practice of using requirements management and RequisitePro to make sure that you send your team on the right track and keep them that way. Check out the following articles:

**Project Manager**  – You will be responsible for deciding how the development team uses RequisitePro so that the team can get the information it needs out of the information stored in RequisitePro. You will document this agreement in a requirements management plan. Although you may not perform the actual implementation, this role also covers the steps necessary for getting the RequisitePro environment setup and installed. In the roadmap, we’ve provided the steps you’ll need to select the way to setup RequisitePro for your project as well as give you information about deploying RequisitePro for your team. Check out the following articles:

**What Rational RequisitePro training is available?**

**REQ010: Getting Started With Rational RequisitePro**
This Web-based training course is designed to get beginners started using RequisitePro for Windows and the Web.

**REQ310: Essentials of Rational RequisitePro v2003**
This Web-based course focuses on the basics of using the 2003 version of RequisitePro. Students will gain an understanding of RequisitePro project structure and use the tool to apply software development best practices as recommended in the Rational Unified Process (RUP).

**Business Modeling with the UML**
This instructor-led course introduces UML as a business notation and ties business models to system models.

**REQ370: Essentials of Rational RequisitePro**
The instructor-led course is a one-day workshop in setting up and using a project documentation and repository system for capturing and managing the changing requirements of a system using Rational RequisitePro. The course emphasizes how a managed approach to requirements management will contribute to project success.

**REQ480: Mastering Requirements Management with Use Cases**
This intermediate level instructor-led course shows how use-case modeling and requirements management techniques are used to define and document requirements meeting stakeholder needs.

**Where do I go for Rational RequisitePro support?**

[ Rational RequisitePro Support page ](Rational RequisitePro Support page)
This page is chock-full of Support information. Please visit here before contacting Technical Support, and don't forget to search the Rational Technotes database.

[ Rational Support Contact ](Rational Support Contact)