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**Change Management Process Document**

# Document Control

**Document Version History**

This table shows a record of significant changes to the document.

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| **Version** | **Date** | **Author** | **Description of Change** |
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**Approvals**

This table shows the approvals on this document for circulation, use and withdrawal

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| **Version** | **Date** | **Approver** | **Title/Authority** | **Approval Remarks** |
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**Glossary**

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| **Term** | **Description** |
| Change | The addition, modification or removal of anything that could have an effect on IT services |
| Change Advisory Board (CAB) | The Change Advisory Board is responsible for assessing the impact of requested changes and estimating the resource requirements. They will advise the Change Manager on whether changes should be approved and will assist in scheduling changes. The CAB will be a cross-functional group comprising of the Technology Leads along with representatives from other processes like Capacity, Configuration and Release to enable the assessment of the change from different perspectives. |
| Change Model | A repeatable way of dealing with a particular category of change. A change model defines specific agreed steps that will be followed for a change of this category. Change models may be very complex with many steps that require authorization (e.g. major software release) or may be very simple with no requirement for authorization (e.g. password reset). Change Models can be created for Changes of any scale; they are often used to define Standard Changes (low-risk, pre-authorized Changes like installing additional hardware on a client PC). |
| Change Record | A record containing the details of a change. Each change record documents the lifecycle of a single change. A change record is created for every request for change that is received, even those that are subsequently rejected. Change records should reference the configuration items that are affected by the change. Change records may be stored in the configuration management system, or elsewhere in the service knowledge management system. |
| Change Schedule (FSC) | A Document that lists all approved Change Proposals and Changes and their planned implementation dates. A Change Schedule is sometimes called a Forward Schedule of Change (FSC). |
| Change Window | A regular, agreed time when changes or releases may be implemented with minimal impact on services. Change windows are usually documented in service level agreements. |
| Emergency Change | A Change that must be introduced as soon as possible – for example, to resolve a major incident or implement a security patch. |
| Emergency Change Advisory Board (ECAB) | A subgroup of the change advisory board that makes decisions about emergency changes. Membership may be decided at the time a meeting is called, and depends on the nature of the emergency change. |
| Post-Implementation Review (PIR) | Post Implementation Review is the assessment of deployed changes after deployment and after a predefined period of time. It determines if the change or project was successful, and identifies opportunities for improvement. |
| Projected Service Outage (PSO) | The Projected Service Outage (PSO) is a document that identifies the effect of planned changes, maintenance activities and test plans on agreed service levels. It lists any expected deviations from the service availability agreed in SLAs. |
| Standard Change | A pre-authorized change that is low risk, relatively common and follows a procedure or work instruction – for example, a password reset or provision of standard equipment to a new employee. Requests for change are not required to implement a standard change, and they are logged and tracked using a different mechanism, such as a service request. |
| Emergency Change Advisory Board (ECAB) | A subgroup of the change advisory board that makes decisions about emergency changes. Membership may be decided at the time a meeting is called, and depends on the nature of the emergency change. |

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# Process Overview

A Change is nothing but of shifting/transitioning/modifying/from its current state to a desired future state.

Change management is an IT service management discipline. It is a process used for managing the authorized and planned activities like addition, modification, documentation, removal of any configuration items in the configuration management database that are a part of a business's live production and test environments along with any other environment that a business wants to have under Change Management.

Change Management focuses on transitioning new services or modifying the existing services into IT operational environment ensuring the changes wouldn’t create any outages in the IT environment.

## Objectives

The objective of Change Management is to:

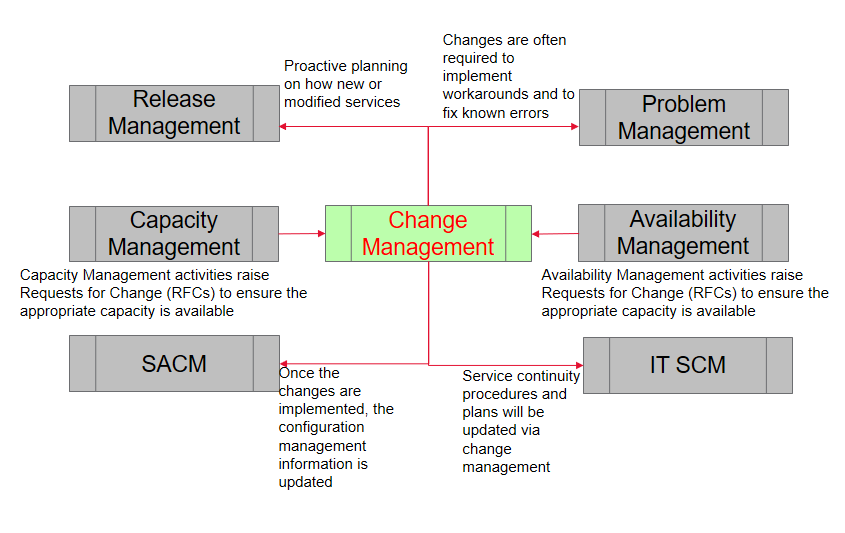
* Respond to the customer’s changing business requirements while maximizing value and reducing incidents, disruption and re-work.
* Respond to the business and IT requests for change that will align the services with the business needs
* Ensure that changes are recorded and evaluated, and that authorized changes are prioritized, planned, tested, implemented, documented and reviewed in a controlled manner
* Ensure that failed changes are analyzed and RCA’s done to reduce the reoccurrence of such instances. Check points are enforced to understand the progress of change and to understand the failures.
* Ensure that all changes to configuration items are recorded in CMS
* Optimize overall business risk

## Scope

Scope of Change Management can be defined as:

* Architectures
* Processes
* Tools
* Metrics
* Documentation
* IT services
* Configuration Items

## Interface with other Processes

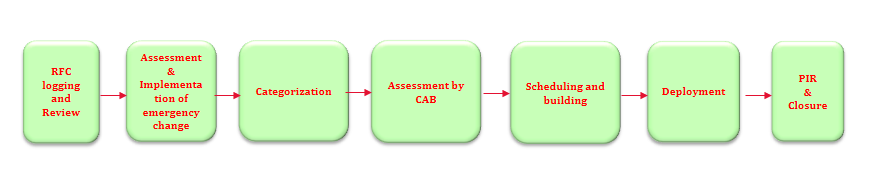


The Change management process interfaces with various other Service management processes as shown in the diagram above. This diagram depicts how Change Management is operated and the interfaces associated with it.

# Change Management Process

## Change Management Process flow

In practical IT environment, change management operations would generally be executed as per the below diagram:



ChangeC Change Management Process

## Process Description of Change Management

**Change Trigger/Input**

This process starts with Request for Change due to major or minor upgrade to an existing service or a service request requiring a change.

Each change ticket or RFC is recorded so that it could be tracked, monitored, and updated throughout its life cycle.

Subprocesses involved in change management is defined below:

**RFC logging and review**

The objective is to filter out Requests for Change which do not contain all information required for assessment or which are deemed impractical. The Change Initiator requests for a Change to Service Desk who in turn; creates a Change record. Where tool access is available, the Change Initiator raises a Change record himself.

Based on the initiator’s assessment and the Change Management policy/guidelines, the change is classified as Emergency, Normal, Standard, Minor change.

Check RFC for completeness, practicability and perform initial assessment: Consider the 7R’s of the Change Management.

* Who raised the change?
* What is the reason for the change?
* What is the return required from the change?
* What are the risks involved in the change?
* What resources are required to deliver the change?
* Who is responsible for the build, test and implementation of the change?
* What is the relationship between this change and other changes?

**Assessment and implementation of Emergency change**

This phase assesses, authorizes and implements an Emergency Change as quickly as possible. This process is invoked if normal Change Management procedures cannot be applied because an emergency requires immediate action.

ECAB will be responsible for approving any emergency changes without formally going thru the CAB meeting. The verbal or telephonic approval from ECAB will construe the change management approval. Members of CAB/EC are:

* Change Initiator
* Change Manager
* Configuration Manager
* Domain Owner(s) (As per Change requirements)
* Depending on the nature of the change, Change manager determine the other members of the ECAB.

**Categorization**

Categorization determines the required level of authorization for the assessment of a proposed Change. Significant Changes are passed on to the CAB for assessment, while minor Changes are immediately assessed and authorized by the Change Manager

**Assessment by the CAB**

Assesses a proposed Change and authorizes the Change planning phase. If required, higher levels of authority (e.g. IT Management) are involved in the authorization process.

Change Manager schedules CAB Meeting. The CAB reviews to RFC and related documents to understand the requirements of the change. The CAB determines if a Formal Evaluation is necessary for the proposed change.

CAB understands the effects of the change and identifies predicted performance. This can be determined from the requirements mentioned in the RFC, acceptance criteria, discussing with relevant stakeholders, etc.

CAB assesses risks and conducts feasibility analysis:

Feasibility analysis is performed with respect to different aspects to find if the proposed change is a viable option. The analysis could include different factors like:

* Cost-benefit (Cost effectiveness)
* Resource availability
* Identified Risks
* Impact on other services and business impact
* Compliance requirements (if any)

Based on the assessment findings, CAB either approves the change or rejects it.

**Scheduling and Building**

This phase authorizes detailed Change and Release planning, and to assess the resulting Project Plan prior to authorizing the Change Build phase.

It involves other tasks like

* Preparing the FSC after considering all approved RFCs which are still open for implementation. Also the ongoing RFC implementations are considered which preparing the schedule of changes. Changes of similar kind are grouped together to help release planning. The change window is reviewed with the Availability Management and ITSCM process plans for consistency.
* Depending on the nature of the RFC, a decision is made on the requirement of a formal evaluation before the approval for build is provided.
* Based on the criteria for evaluation after planning and before build, the project plan as well as the test plan are reviewed and evaluated.

**Deployment**

Deployment assesses if all required Change components have been built and properly tested, and to authorize the Change Deployment phase.

Deployment determines if a formal evaluation is required before the deployment can begin. Accordingly, provide the related/relevant documents to the Change Evaluation Process and request for a formal evaluation prior to deployment.

CAB is convened to:

* Verify that all components required for the change have been built
* Verify that all components required for the change have been successfully tested
* Verify that the test results indicate that the change will meet its objectives
* Assess the Project Plan for conflicts with other planned/ongoing changes and to check resource availability
* Review the Evaluation Reports
* Approve/Reject the change for deployment

Accordingly the change record is updated with the assessment findings of the CAB and the status of the change as appropriate. The change schedule is also updated as necessary.

**Post Implementation Review and Closure**

PIR assesses the course of the change implementation and the achieved results, in order to verify that a complete history of activities are present for future reference, and to make sure that any mistakes are analyzed and lessons learned.

Major activities involves are:

* Determine if a formal evaluation is required post the deployment.
* Determine if the implementation of the change achieved its objectives.
* Analyze and identify lessons learnt from the whole lifecycle of the change. Collate all post implementation analysis and assessment information in the Change Evaluation report
* Find how the implementation of change can be improved and update the CSI register for initiating SIP.
* Determine if such change is likely to recur in future. If so, then a new change model might be necessary to handle such changes in future.
* Update the change record with relevant inputs and set the status to “Closed” to formally close the change.

## Tasks and Responsibilities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Step** | **Task** | **Responsibility** |
| 1 | RFC Logging and Review | Change Manager / CAB |
| 2 | Assessment and Implementation of Emergency Change | Change Manager / Practitioner |
| 3 | Change Assessment and Categorization | Change Manager / ECAB / Change Coordinator |
| 4 | Change Assessment by the CAB | Change Manager / Practitioner |
| 5 | Minor Change Deployment | Change Manager / CAB / Change Practitioner |
| 6 | Change Scheduling and Build Authorization | Change Manager / Practitioner / Coordinator |
| 7 | Change Deployment Authorization | Change Manager / CAB / Change Practitioner |
| 8 | Post Implementation Review and Change Closure | Change Manager / CAB / Change Practitioner |
| 9 | Change Management Support | Change Manager / Change Practitioner |