



# CMMI<sup>®</sup> Institute

## CMMI Adoption and Transition Guidance V2.0 *Abstract*



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# Adoption and Transition Guidance: CMMI for Performance Improvement



# Introduction to this Guidance

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## Intended Audience

The audience for this guidance includes anyone who is facing business challenges and wants to address them using the Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) V2.0. It also includes anyone who would like to systematically, efficiently, and effectively improve the performance of their business by adopting the CMMI.

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## What is Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI)<sup>®</sup>?

CMMI is a performance improvement model for organizations and projects that want to achieve increasingly better performance and address and solve business challenges. Proven effective globally in business and government over the last 25 years, CMMI is an integrated framework of best practices that can rapidly improve and sustain any organization's performance to elevate quality, profitability, and competitiveness.

**Capability:** Anything an organization does well that drives meaningful business results. All organizations have capabilities, without them a business could not start or grow. Capabilities are typically organizational level skills, abilities, and knowledge embedded in people, processes, infrastructure, and technology. Capabilities are what an organization needs to execute its business model or fulfill its mission.

The CMMI model is not prescriptive; it describes what to do to improve an organization's capabilities, not how to do it. This makes the model very flexible to adopt for the unique needs of any business. Use CMMI to establish processes that will help the organization or project meet business objectives and improve performance in ways that matter most. In addition, CMMI complements and enhances performance improvement in conjunction with other industry models and standards.

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## Why use the CMMI?

CMMI V2.0 helps a business quickly understand its current level of capability and performance in the context of its own objectives and as compared with similar businesses and organizations. If business needs and objectives are not being met, CMMI V2.0 practices can guide systematic and effective improvement to elevate and optimize performance to better serve the needs of the business and ultimately the customer.

The need for improvement originates from many sources. Customers may demand improvements. Market forces frequently drive the need to improve competitiveness. External regulations may require changes in how an organization operates. Rather than having multiple approaches for achieving similar performance, contractual, or regulatory

compliance goals, CMMI provides a single approach for an organization to address these multiple needs.

Using CMMI V2.0 provides many benefits including:

- A positive return on performance improvement investments
- Meeting commitments that result in:
  - More timely delivery
  - Fewer last-minute crunches
  - Enhanced cost control
  - Increased quality of solutions
- Increasing management visibility which results in:
  - More rapid response to issues and risks
  - Fewer surprises
  - Meeting or exceeding customer needs and expectations
  - Reducing defects and customer complaints
  - Reduced rework
  - Lower employee turnover

Additional benefits can be found in [Appendix B](#), Typical CMMI Adoption Roles. In this appendix, different roles involved in adopting the CMMI are described, along with the activities they perform and the benefits they receive from using the model.

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## Why Use This Guidance?

This guidance will help any organization use CMMI as a roadmap for its performance improvement journey. An organization can benefit the most from CMMI by tailoring its practices in a way that best fit its business environment. This guidance is needed to put an organization on the right track to effectively apply CMMI practices. Organizations transitioning from previous versions of the CMMI can benefit by getting V2.0 upgrade training (Step 1) and then picking up transition activities in Step 2.

This Guidance Is...	This Guidance Is NOT...
An overview of activities and considerations when using CMMI to enable performance and process improvement	A detailed checklist or "how to" guide
Built on lessons learned and best practices derived from a broad variety of industry experiences	A set of activities and considerations for appraisal preparation
A reference to assist first-time CMMI adoption	The only approach for adopting CMMI