PRESS RELEASE

Vintara Announces a More Integrated Six Sigma Enterprise Solution Under the 6SIGMA Brand

OAKLAND, CA., October 13, 2003 – 6SIGMA (a Vintara brand), the leading provider of fully automated, Web-based enterprise Six Sigma solutions and services, today released upgraded features to improve Six Sigma business process integration.

Fully Integrated Six Sigma
Because companies today demand complete integration between their various management systems, 6SIGMA has rolled out the world's first truly end-to-end solution for Six Sigma implementation. A number of competing consultant-devised "systems" tackle only one or two major steps of the complete Six Sigma process. Some concentrate on the statistical analysis. Others only pay attention to project tracking. Almost all rely on multiple pieces of software, as well as sticky notes and flip charts. On the other hand, 6SIGMA does it all – in one application, and without the paper.

Unlike other solutions, the 6SIGMA application does not stop following a new or improved process or product once changes are implemented. The 6SIGMA analysis center maintains a live dashboard of performance, so managers can keep the gains they earned during each Six Sigma project. 6SIGMA offers a number of online data analysis features in its standard package, including histograms, Pareto charts, run/trend charts, and X-Bar S charts, but Vintara consultants can help customers generate custom OLAP charts if there are any specific needs beyond the defaults.

Because 6SIGMA is based on the Vintara system, it automatically links to all other Vintara management systems' data, including ISO9, ISO14, ISO17, and OHS18. Each of these applications reliably track customer feedback, nonconformances, audits, metrics, corrective actions, process and product design, training, and documentation – all data that can be integrated into Six Sigma projects without wasting time on duplicate data entry.

Completely Customizable
Since its launch earlier this year, 6SIGMA has included thorough project tracking features, flexible enough to support not only new rollouts of Six Sigma projects, but also automation of mature six sigma implementations. If a company is just starting Six Sigma implementation, 6SIGMA has template projects available that cover any roadmap. If the goal is to automate an already successful Six Sigma program, 6SIGMA can custom-match its projects with existing processes to ensure a smooth transition. Either way, the projects and their underlying action items can be updated, modified, and copied easily through the intuitive Vintara user interface. With customizable project approvals as well as action item assignments and due dates backed up with email notifications, managers can reduce administrative overhead while keeping an eye on the team's progress. In addition, the OLAP feature shows the number of days until due, the time it takes for each stage to be completed, and several other metrics. In a single glance, one can verify that all projects are on track and investigate problems with just a few clicks of the mouse.

Proven Document Controls
6SIGMA uses the same Document Center as the other Vintara solutions, ISO9, ISO14, ISO17, and OHS18. The system meets and exceeds the high standards of ISO 9001:2000 registrars, the FDA, the EPA, and a number of other regulatory bodies. With completely customizable reviews, approvals, security, controls, and alerts, there isn't a better document solution for Six Sigma.

About Vintara
Vintara is the leading provider of Web-based enterprise process management solutions and services. Founded in 1997, Vintara has a proven track record of helping the enterprise successfully prepare for and cost-effectively maintain compliance with a range of domestic and internationally recognized standards. Our customers come from a variety of industries, with a diverse range of needs. In every case, Vintara has created solutions that meet and exceed their growing business needs.

Combining innovative technology with training and consulting services, our brands – ISO9, ISO14, ISO17 and OHS18 – deliver the solutions that help the enterprise manage their key business processes setting the path to continual improvement.

For more information on 6SIGMA, please visit www.6sigma.com.
For more information about Vintara, please visit www.vintara.com or contact us at pr@vintara.com.