

A Better Way to Manage Projects Elicit and Validate Requirements

Projects often fail because requirements are not truly understood...

Knowledge Genes[®] defines and tests requirements in a clear, concise language based around understanding exactly **WHAT** needs to be done, **HOW** and **WHY**. This enables project managers to quickly and accurately build a common consensus with stakeholders.



Build Project Roadmaps

Avoid wasting time, effort and money on unnecessary or replicated tasks...

Knowledge Genes[®] enables you to plan and communicate entire projects by breaking down high level objectives into manageable and actionable tasks. The unique **WHY** testing aligns these tasks to the high level objectives and highlights replication, ensuring people are focused on doing only what is necessary.

Learn, Share and Reuse

Avoid repeating the same mistakes or constantly reinventing solutions to similar problems...

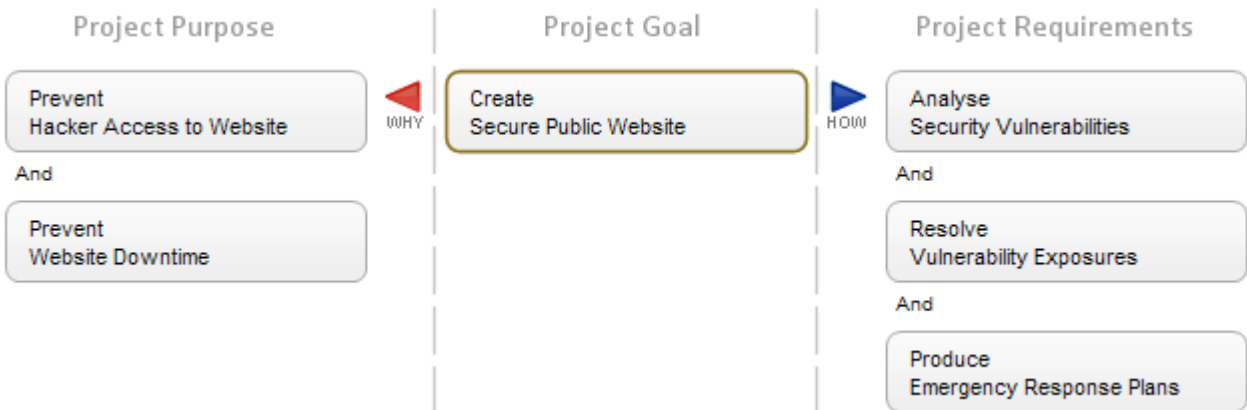
Knowledge Genes[®] enables you to learn and adapt quickly by allowing continual adjustment to improve **HOW** projects need to be executed and **WHY**. This creates a searchable Knowledge Base of successful projects and know-how, ensuring lessons learned don't get forgotten.

Getting Started [\(back to top\)](#)

1 Elicit your Requirements



Create a high-level Knowledge Gene[®] to develop the key requirements for your projects goal - **WHY** do the project? **WHAT** are the key things that needs to be done and **HOW**?



Each requirement can be **WHY** tested to ensure that it does actually fulfill or align itself with the project goal.



Simply reverse the Map direction when focused on a Knowde - by clicking the **WHY** ← icon.



Then **WHY** test the Knowde to check that it fulfills the purpose.



For example

*Question: **WHY** "Resolve Vulnerability Exposures"?*

Answer: To "Create a Secure Public Website"

Workshops and/or Facilitation

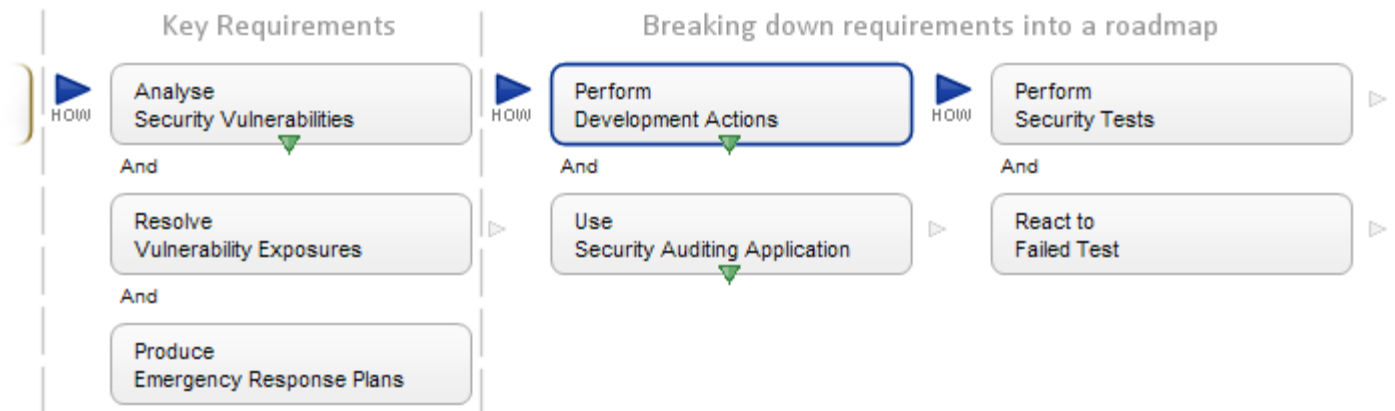
The approach works well for individuals thinking on their own but also works very well in workshops. Consider bringing together the various stakeholders and build a Knowledge Gene® together. Knowledge Genes® is ideal for big screen projection. The simple but powerful **WHAT-HOW-WHY** structure quickly enables a consensus view to appear, even in situations where opposing views at first seem irreconcilable. The process is an enjoyable but penetrating therapy that ends up uniting people behind a common purpose.

As an alternative or in addition, we can provide facilitators who can build Knowledge Genes® on your behalf or run the whole project for you. To contact us about facilitation options, please visit <http://www.knowgenes.com/ContactUsFacilitationOptions.aspx>

2 Build your Project Roadmap

Once you have defined, validated and agreed your high-level requirements you can build a project roadmap from the very same Knowledge Gene[®].

Each requirement should be broken down in the **HOW** direction until you have a detailed project roadmap of manageable and actionable tasks.



You can add any notes or related information under the *More Text* tab for any task or requirement in the roadmap or you can add specific hierarchy data using the **WHATs**.

WHAT-IS What Actions?

↑

Select into Knowde

- ✓ Security Code Reviews
- ✓ Threat Modeling

↓

WHAT

More Text
Genes
Web
Communities
My Profile

Perform Development Actions

The best time to ensure that the website is secure is during the development process.

Developers can write code within the various components to self-test the website. This will provide information to the development team about further action they may need to take to increase the security of the website.

The entire requirements breakdown should be **WHY** tested to validate the tasks against the project goal.



Your Knowledge Gene[®] can be viewed and edited (with your permission) by anyone you like. This enables your team to constantly update and improve the processes you use to ensure that evolving best practices are always met and documented.

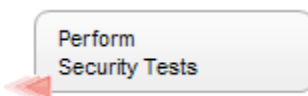
Another key benefit of defining process-requirements with Knowledge Genes[®] is the exposure of any replicated tasks or processes.

As you build your project roadmap, Knowledge Genes[®] automatically indexes other Knowledge Genes[®] in your knowledge base against your current requirements. This helps you to identify re-usable components of knowledge.

Genes List Perform Security Tests

	<p>System Development Process Using hybrid techniques to develop software. Click here to view the Knowledge Gene[®]</p>	 Mike Harris
	<p>Applying Lean Thinking Principles in Software Development Click here to view the Knowledge Gene[®]</p>	 Mark Ridgwell

In addition to suggesting Knowledge Genes[®] from past successful projects, Knowledge Genes[®] will highlight any replicated tasks within the roadmap by using a 'Multiple **WHY**' symbol:



This allows you to allocate duplicated or similar tasks to one resource and prevent the same work being done twice.

3 Communicate the Roadmap




Once you have completed your project roadmap you can distribute the Knowledge Gene® – focusing on any part you like - to your team and stakeholders using the *Refer* option.



You can also publish your Knowledge Genes® to a multi-user Enterprise Space for your enterprise. Ongoing use can be as low as \$1 per user per month and if you want you can have Knowledge Genes® as an in-house installation
...for more information visit, <http://www.knowgenes.com/Option3TellMeMore.aspx>

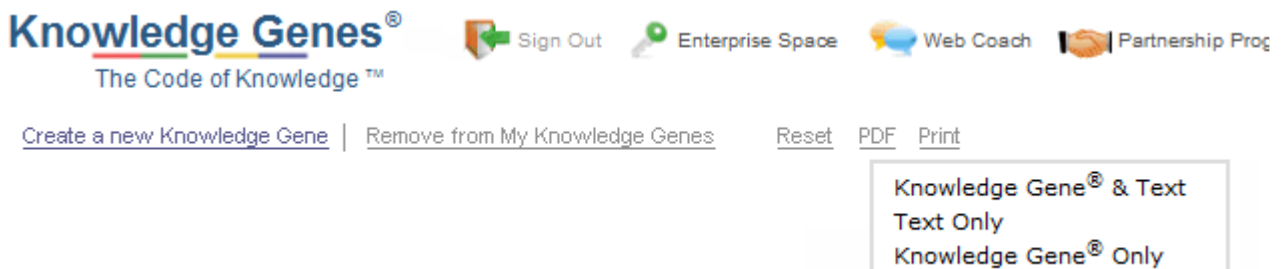
An Enterprise Space is a totally secure environment where all the Knowledge Genes® you build will be private. It also includes comprehensive, hierarchical category management, user permission control by category or by individual Knowledge Gene®, and collaborative authoring.



Publish to an Enterprise Space by clicking on the  button against any Knowledge Gene® in your *My Profile page*.



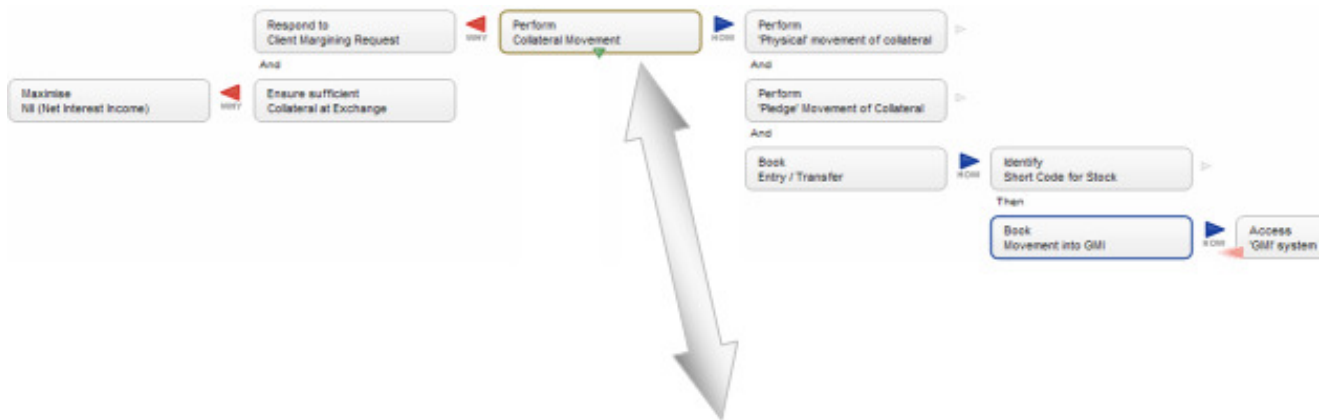
By selecting *PDF* and then selecting *Text Only* from the drop list, the Knowledge Gene® is produced as a conventional text document with each box in the **WHAT-HOW-WHY** map created as a paragraph header. Any text within *More Text* is copied to the body of the appropriate paragraph. Options are also available to include the Knowledge Gene® map with text or to PDF/Print the Knowledge Gene® on its own.



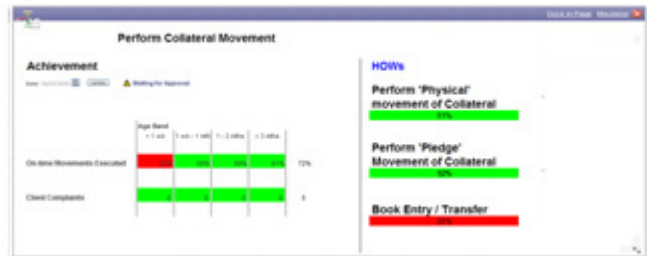
Note – because of certain copyright constraints, our site does not currently automatically generate editable Word versions of a Knowledge Gene®. This feature will become available in 2010. BUT a number of free software products are available for generating Word documents from PDFs. So if you want to edit your document outside Knowledge Genes®, consider going to PDF and then to Word as necessary.

4 Improve Control & Governance

Because Knowledge Genes[®] map **HOW** versus **WHY**, cause-and-effect, from top to bottom of the business - they give you the ideal Business-Intelligence and Performance-Management architecture - an *enterprise-wide metrics framework* that everyone understands...



... and which you can immediately bring to life, immediately implement, via dashboards & alerts - a 'thin layer' that acquires information from multiple sources to give **performance management transparency from root-causes & operational processes all the way up to enterprise goals.**



And Knowledge Genes[®] offer **fast return on investment** - critical Performance Management solutions are typically implemented in less than a month.

Oversee, test and certify what people are doing. Use Knowledge Genes[®] to define compliant ways of working and then use the integrated Governance, Risk & Compliance Management plug-in to enable risks, regulations, controls, certifications, assessments and other key information to be managed and indexed into these Knowledge Genes[®]

... For more information, please visit http://www.knowgenes.com/GRC_plugin.aspx

And **all information is presented in the context of WHAT's being done, HOW, and WHY it's important.**

Knowledge Genes is committed to the support of open standards and the promotion of hyperknowledge (the Code of Knowledge) as an open standard

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