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The Issues Surrounding Portfolio and Program Governance Draws 30 Managers to a Trissential Business Improvement Roundtable

MINNEAPOLIS, January 13, 2009 — More than 30 managers from such organizations as Ameriprise Financial, Boston Scientific, Carlson Companies, Deluxe Corporation, Fairview Health Services, Krause-Anderson, Target Corporation, and United Healthcare attended a recent roundtable discussion on the issues of portfolio and program governance.

“The recession has made it mandatory for executives to quickly and effectively re-evaluate and prioritize the organization’s portfolio of business improvement programs,” said Michael Vinje, Trissential principal and cofounder. “There is a significant amount of attention being paid today to developing a deeper understanding and stronger capabilities in portfolio and program governance best practices.”

The goal of portfolio and program governance is to align an organization's improvement programs with effective management and implementation of those programs. Improvement programs span the gamut from upgrading enterprise resource planning (ERP) applications, to instituting a new customer relationship management (CRM) process, to developing a system for secure electronic patient medical records.

Program governance typically involves the identification, categorization, evaluation, prioritization, balance, and authorization of improvement initiatives. Governance committees must then review and report to senior management on the organization's entire portfolio of improvement programs. Governance committees must also have the ability to monitor and quickly identify potentially significant roadblocks to successful implementations.

Marc Kermisch, group manager Technology Services, Target Corporation, and Michael Vinje opened the roundtable by presenting current perspectives on portfolio and program governance. Both Kermisch and Vinje facilitated the following hour-and-a-half roundtable discussion.

This was the second in a new series of management-focused events hosted by Trissential, a business improvement and project implementation company. New roundtables are being planned for 2009. Those interested in receiving information on these upcoming discussions should call Debbie Henderson at 952-595-7970 or write info@trissential.com. Trissential advises registering early as space is limited to 30 participants.

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About Trissential

Trissential, www.trissential.com, specializes in business improvement and IT project implementation. Trissential essentialists help companies achieve desired results through the alignment of strategy with efficient management and exceptional IT project implementation. The company also offers clients specialized practices for Enterprise Resource Planning, JD Edwards Software, and the Public Sector. With offices in Minneapolis, Madison, and Milwaukee, Trissential serves clients in the upper Midwest.