BE**DIFFERENT**

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Custom Business Process Management

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Background

▶ Business Process Management (BPM) is intended to be a systematic approach to improving process workflows

▶ Processes may include activities that humans perform as well as system activities

▶ Processes may cross department, location, company and application boundaries

▶ The "big picture" view has BPM tying together people, systems and content to execute repeatable processes in the most efficient way possible
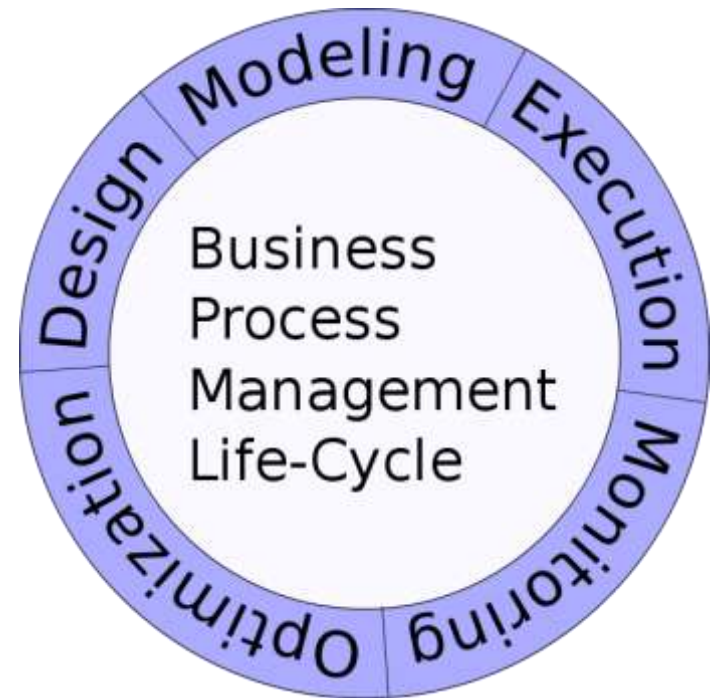
Workflow and Lifecycle

▶ **Workflow**

  ▪ "Process" management

  ▪ Routes items around for action

  ▪ Models things people (or systems) do

  ▪ May have parallel paths, multiple assignments, looping and sub-flows

▶ **Lifecycles define mutually exclusive statuses**

  ▪ "State" management

  ▪ An item may be in only one state at a time

  ▪ Transitions between states often trigger business rules

 ▪ Multiple workflows (automated or manual) may trigger a state transition

▶ **Conventional BPM solutions sometimes blur the line**

  ▪ Most BPM systems do not recognize an item's / File's "State"

  ▪ Most PLM systems confuse workflow and lifecycle as the same thing

Two Views of Workflow

▶ **Workflow drives Life Cycle**

- One overarching Workflow runs for the duration of multiple Lifecycle states
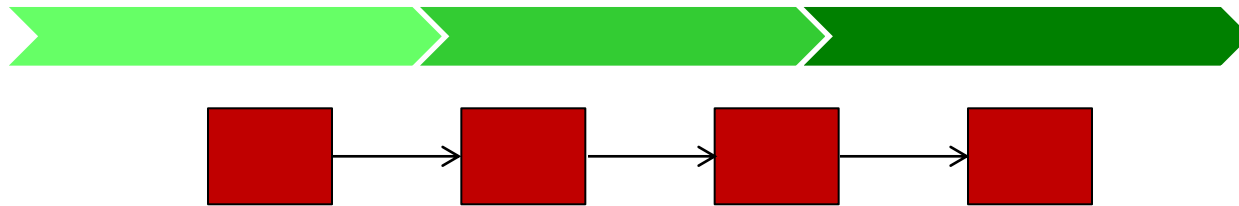
- Often used for relatively short Lifecycles, like for ECRs

▶ **Lifecycle drives Workflow**

- A Workflow models the actions required to get from one Lifecycle state to the next

- Used between states of long Lifecycles, like Active → Obsolete

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BPM with Aras

▶ **Separates state-based rules from process flow**

▶ **Model both simple & complex processes using a graphical UI in web browser**

▶ **Execute repeatable processes based on templates**

▶ **Participate in processes using a consistent browser-based UI**

▶ **Enforces security**

▶ **Leverage PLM content (Items & Files) during process execution**

▶ **Monitor running processes graphically or with reports**

▶ **Analyze process execution data using known APIs**

▶ **Integrate other systems via federation**

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BPM with Aras

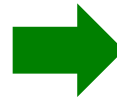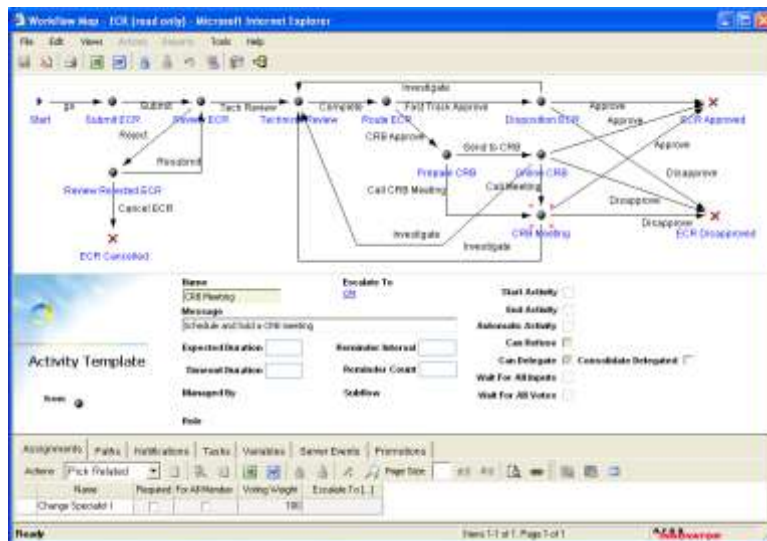▶ **Real world example, running in production at Xerox**
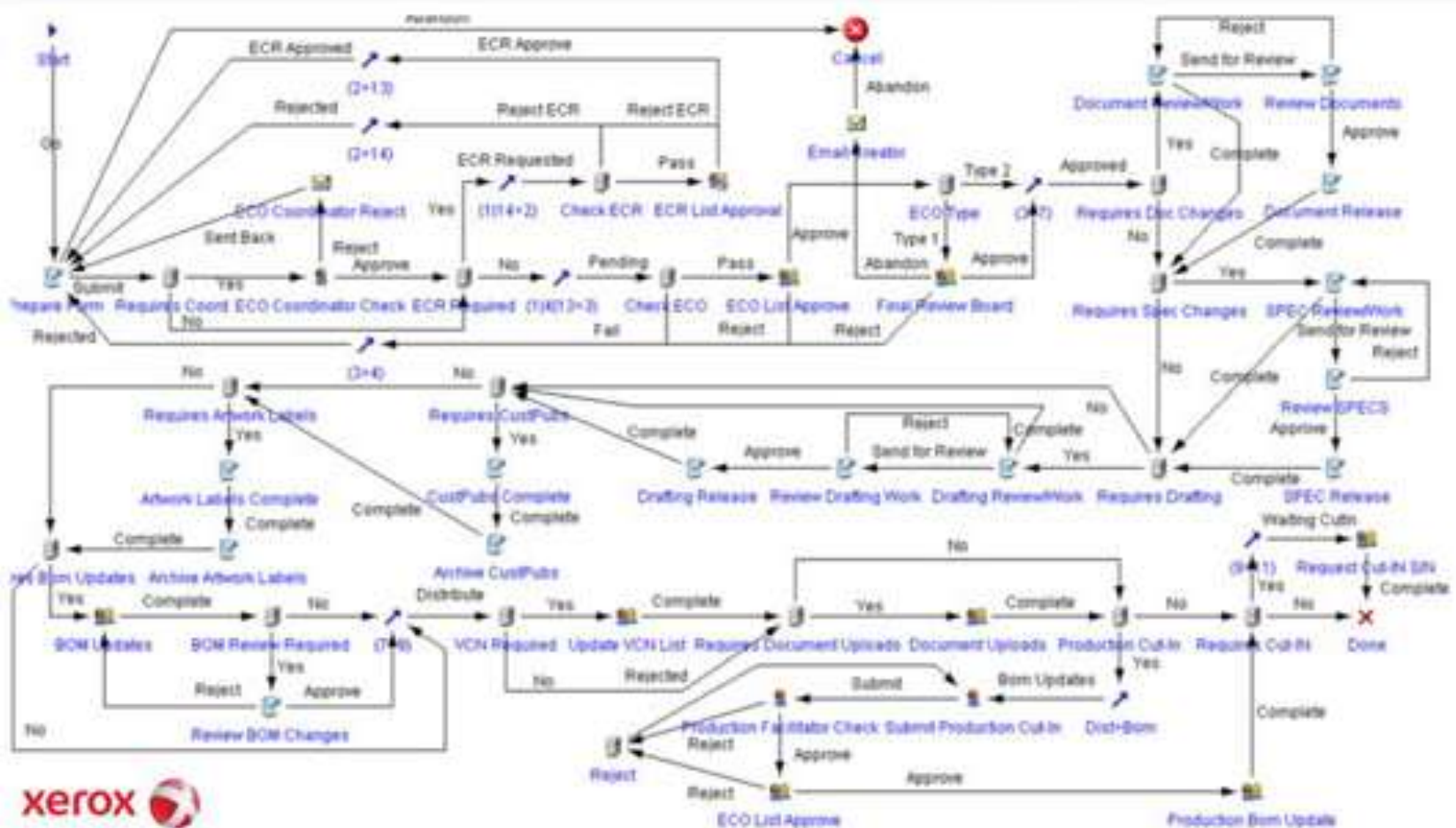
Process Templates

- ▶ **Workflow Maps serve as business process templates, and are used to model repeatable processes**

- ▶ **Workflow Maps are instantiated (copied) to become Workflow Processes, which actually execute**

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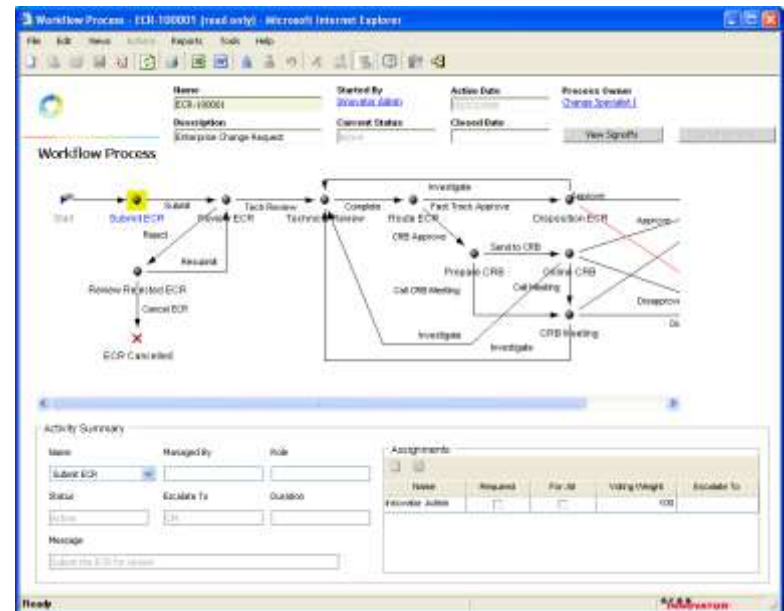
Control Flow Options

▶ **Start & End Activities**

- Begin and end workflows, multiples allowed

▶ **Interactive Voting**

- Voting options defined graphically using Paths

▶ **Default Paths**

- Handle unresolved voting, automated paths

▶ **Override Paths**

- "Short circuit" a process when a problem is found

▶ **Wait For All Inputs**

- Pause the flow until all open branches finish

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Assignments & Voting

▶ **Assign activities to individuals, groups or roles**

▶ **Multiple assignments per activity**

- Make group decisions
- Assign to all group members, but let one do the work

▶ **Voting Weights**

- Flexible options to decide which path to follow
- Majority Rules
- Pluralities
- Executive Veto / Override
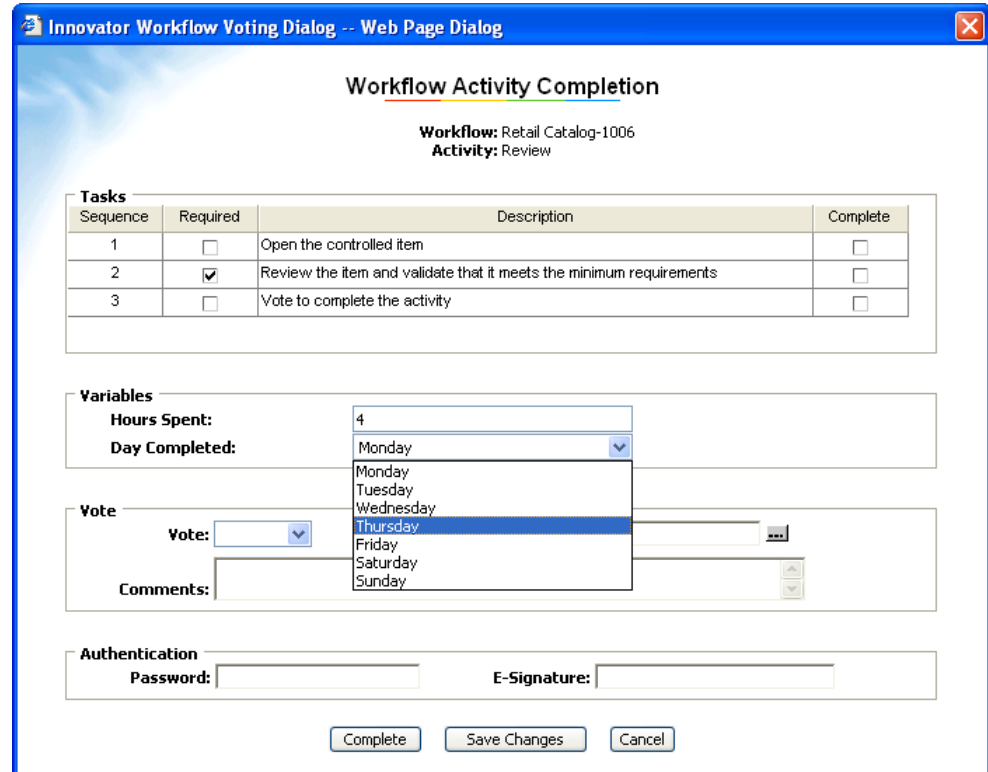
▶ **Collect all votes or move on once a decision is made**

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Data Collection

▶ **Task Lists**

- Break down the activity into defined steps

- Require sign-off that certain tasks are complete

▶ **Variables**

- Collect information during activity sign-off

- Store in workflow history audit trail or copy to other items
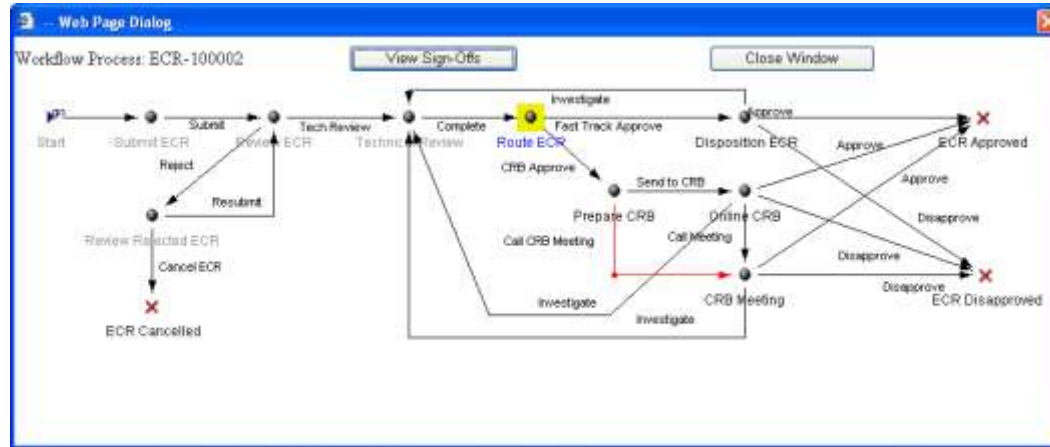
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InBasket & Notification

- **Email notifies users of assigned activities**

- **Find all assigned activities in one place**

- **Perform the work directly in PLM**

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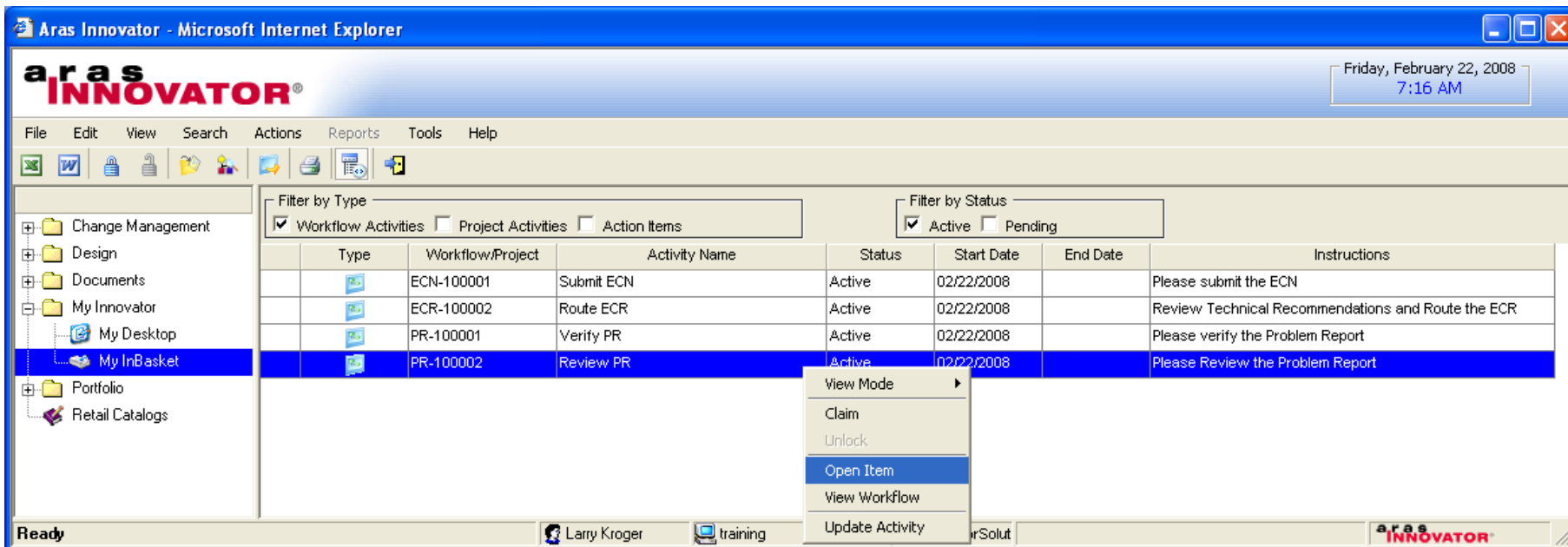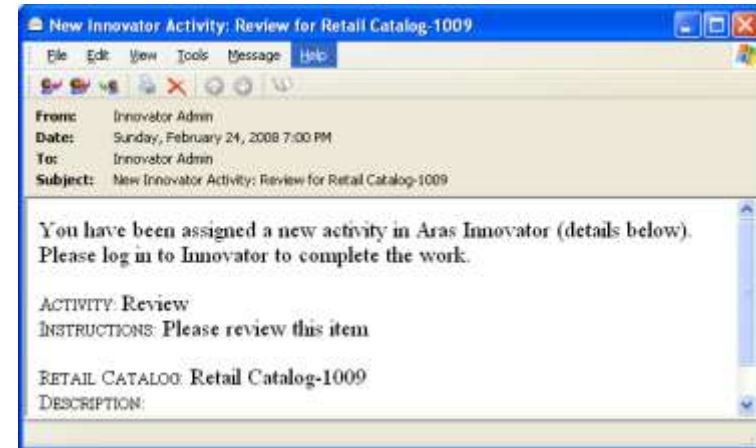
Status & History

▶ **Graphical view of the active activities**

▶ **Chronological view of activities, votes and comments**

Audit Trail

Reminders & Escalation

▶ **Define a timeline for completion of an activity**
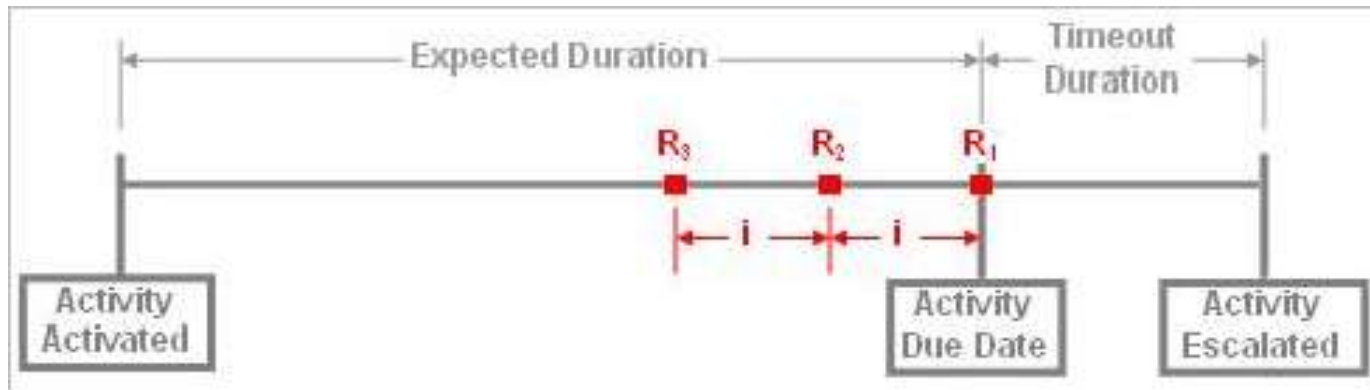
▶ **Dates are adjusted when the activity is activated**

▶ **One or more reminders can be sent before the due date**

▶ **Activity gets escalated to management / designated person if a task takes too long to complete**

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Dynamic Workflow Execution

▶ **Change a workflow while it's running**

▶ **Dynamic activity assignments, either interactively or using custom business rules**

▶ **Dynamic role resolution: assignments to the Owner of the item**

▶ **Robust interaction between business process Workflows and item/object Lifecycles**

▶ **Multi-level workflows (Parent/Child, Sub-workflows, etc)**

▶ **Rich event model to enable business logic and integrations with other systems**

▶ **Connect Aras workflows to other BPM workflows in other systems**

  ▪ PLM - Teamcenter, Windchill, ENOVIA MatrixOne, Agile and others

  ▪ BPM - SAP Netweaver, Oracle, IBM Lombardi, WebSphere, Microsoft SharePoint and more

Why Aras for BPM?

- **No user license expenses**

- **Combines BPM Workflow & Lifecycle in a single platform**

- **Advanced functionality out-of-the-box**

- **Highly robust workflow modeling and execution capabilities**

- **Web services integration & secure federation**

- **Browser-based screens with email notification & alerts**

- **Customizations upgrade easily**

- **It just works!**

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