



Consulting

ACTL's mission is to help its customers become master craftsmen and to develop state of the art the art, high quality systems within well defined time, quality and budget constraints.

Our knowledge transfer package builds on training, consulting and architecting.

ACTL's experts bring you their impressive technical know how and practical expertise together with a tested methodological approach into your project. In their work they can assume the roles of mentor (see our Mentoring flier for more information) or any of the various consultant roles such as architect, process expert, reviewer and the like.

This flyer focuses on the consultant role.

ACTL's consultants are consulting companies in different industries and in a large range of project types and contribute in all project related activities from project planning and management, through requirements elicitation, architectural design, implementation, security, testing and deployment. Every day they gain new experience and knowledge that is made available to our customers. Because, we view consulting as a natural extension of the mentoring process, it is a vital component of our client-customized technology jumpstart service package.

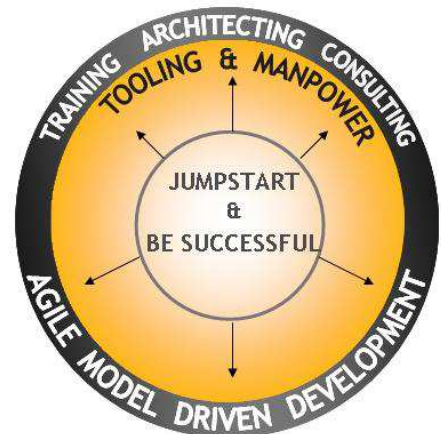
Using consulting services you take advantage of this vast experience in order to get time and cost effective answers to specific project related issues and questions.

1. When is the consultant role suitable?

The use of an ACTL consultant pays off and is most suitable in situations where your team either lacks the knowledge or experience in a very specific engineering domain or feels that any of the following risk factors may influence the quality, cost or schedules of your project.

- You have a critical project and want to establish a flexible system architecture allowing future developments or your architecture is not flexible enough to accommodate changing or new requirements.
- You have difficulties to properly capture or manage requirements.
- You feel that your agile process or SCRUM usage is not well defined
- There are tricky issues to be programmed.
- Security issues of your application are critical and you lack knowledge in application security.
- Your review and testing process is not satisfying.
- You have not enough manpower

Using consulting services, you take advantage of the vast experience of ACTL's consultants in order to get time and cost effective answers and reduce your risk level.





2. What does the consultant do?

"Vene, vidi, vici" is the consultant's motto. Typically he is called upon when ever expert advice is required. He listens to the problem description and works with the customer in order to come up with the most optimal solution. Depending on the customer's experience, skills and resource availability the solution may be a set of instructions that the team will have to apply in the project, a design or plan. Sometimes the solution may be that ACTL will realize the solution as subcontractor.

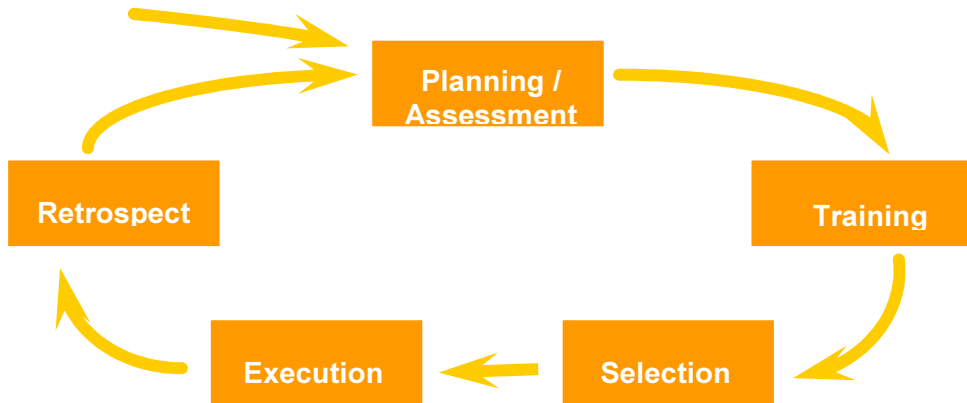
An ACTL consultant is typically called upon to help the team or in order to perform:

- **Strategic analysis and architectural design** where he helps in establishing a sound conceptual solution as well as a flexible and resilient system or SW architecture.
- **Security Assessment and risk mitigation** procedure definition, where an ACTL consultant assesses the security risks of the system and works together with the team to establish mitigation strategies, policies and even design changes to handle potential threats upon system deployment.
- **Problem domain briefings, requirements elicitation and management** where he helps in setting priorities on what to model, which requirements to specify and in actually capturing and managing requirements during an iteration.
- **Process tailoring** where he helps in fixing smells and deficiencies in the current process practices. This is one of the most critical issues we encounter latterly, where many teams "pretend" to be Agile and use SCRUM but they feel that things are not going as they should.
- **Project management and staffing** where he helps assessing team member skills for staffing purposes or helps in planning and enforcement of a time-boxed, incremental and iterative process.
- **Programming** in C++, Java and .Net where he helps to implement most effectively difficult programming task.
- **Review and testing** where he helps in planning or conducting reviews or in planning, defining and performing unit, system or acceptance testing.
- **Communication with the customer** where as external facilitator he helps in reducing tensions between the team and the customer.
- **System implementation and documentation** where as experienced implementer he helps in building the system and adequate documentation of all artifacts.



3. How does the consultant work?

For a consulting assignment ACTL's applies its proven and tested knowledge transfer methodology on both, the macro as well as the micro level.



1. Macro Level

The macro level covers the process of coming up with a solution to a given problem or issue for which the consultant has been called upon. At first the consultant learns and assesses the subject and a plan for the consulting assignment is established. He then fills the gaps in theoretical know-how where ever required in order for the team to participate in selecting where to put priorities so that the action plan can be finalized. Then work is initialized in order to reach the goals of the consulting assignment. At the end a retrospect is conducted in order to evaluate the results, benefits, difficulties and team performance.

2. Micro Level

The micro level covers that day to day activities of the consultant. Each consulting session follows the same process. At first he checks what's the status, what has been done since the last meeting and then the session is planned. He then answers questions that have risen during the teams work, reviews its deliverables and provides constructive feedback. Then a decision is made regarding what needs to be corrected and an activity plan for the session is established to reach the goals set for the running session. At the end of the session, the session is evaluated and roadmap for the teams activities till the next meeting is set.

4. How long does it take till the consultant becomes effective?

During the 10 years of ACTL's existence, its consultants have trained over 4000 SW engineers and consulted in over 100 projects of the top 100 Israeli Dun & Bradstreet companies. They have gathered experience and know how in domains and industries such as telecom, biotechnology, command and control, intelligence, aerospace industry.

This experience allows ACTL consultants to become effective already after ½ to 1 day!!



5. What are the benefits of using a consultant?

By giving your team an experienced ACTL consultant you gain the following advantages:

- Reduced risks by getting cost effective quick solutions to specific problems.
- Fill knowledge gaps on demand.
- Enhanced team performance.
- Better system architecture and flexibility.
- Reduced maintenance costs.

**For more information or a meeting with one of our consultants
call us at +972-2-5376459**