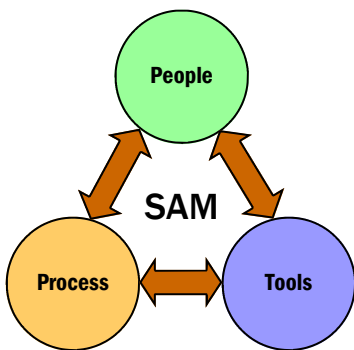




### **Solution Brief: Selection, Implementation, and Optimization of Software Asset Management Tools**

Soft-Aid's consulting services help organizations select and implement SAM Tools to optimize their use and maximize their return on investment



*SAM Tools are one of three critical components of an effective SAM program.*

*Soft-Aid's consulting services help our clients develop and implement an effective SAM program by addressing all three areas.*

*We identify the roles necessary for effective Software Asset Management; design and implement the right SAM policies and processes; and select, implement, and optimize the SAM tools best suited to meet our client's needs.*

#### **The value of SAM**

In today's highly regulated and competitive market, organizations need to eliminate the risk of having improperly licensed software, and make every license they buy count. Software Asset Management (SAM), an integrated set of policies, processes, people, and tools dedicated to managing software assets in an organization, addresses these concerns. An effective SAM program reduces the risk of improper licensing, reduces software-related costs, and improves overall IT efficiency.

#### **The importance of SAM tools in an effective SAM program**

SAM tools form an important component of an effective SAM program. When combined with effective policies and processes, they provide several critical advantages:

Inventory Tools provide accurate and up-to-date inventories of software and hardware in your environment. They eliminate the cost and time required to inventory software manually.

License Management Tools enable the storing and retrieval of license entitlement and purchase information. When combined with inventory tools, they enable fast and accurate reconciliation of licenses with deployments.

Contract Management Tools enable the collation of contracts and ease the tracking of

important dates, such as renewals.

Usage Monitoring Tools track application usage. They can be used to identify underutilized software applications that could be redeployed, eliminating unnecessary purchases of new software licenses.

Usage Metering Tools control application usage. They can be used to ensure compliance with concurrent licensing terms and prevent unauthorized applications, such as file-sharing programs, from running.

**Soft-Aid provides the knowledge and experience to help you get the most from your SAM tools solution.**

**If you currently have a SAM tools solution, our consultants can help you optimize its use.**

**If you are considering implementing a new SAM tools solution, our consultants can help you select and implement the solution that will provide the most value to your organization.**

As experts in SAM, we have experience with a wide variety of different SAM tools, and understand their relative capabilities and limits. We combine this knowledge with our expertise in SAM best practices, to help you obtain the SAM tools solution that will best meet your needs, and help you integrate that solution with the right policies and processes to maximize its value.

*(Continued...)*

# Solution Brief: Selection, Implementation, and Optimization of SAM Tools

## For More Information

Please contact us for more information about the benefits Soft-Aid can provide in the selection, implementation, and optimization of SAM Tools.

We are available by email at [info@aid.com](mailto:info@aid.com) or by phone at 781-569-0410. You can also visit our website at:

[www.aid.com](http://www.aid.com)

We employ a three step process to ensure every client obtains a fully implemented and optimized SAM tools solution:

### Step 1: Provide recommendations in the selection of SAM tools.

If you do not currently have a SAM Tools solution, we will help you select one suitable for your organization's needs.

We will evaluate your IT environment, to identify specific areas in which SAM tools could bring improvement.

We will help you identify and define your organizational objectives for a tool solution.

We will provide a matrix of recommended options, detailing the primary features of each, and any limitations.

### Step 2: Provide assistance and guidance during the implementation of SAM tools.

Once you have selected a SAM tools solution, we will assist you with planning and carrying out its implementation.

We will provide a project plan based on an evaluation of your IT environment, that serves as an implementation roadmap.

We will provide guidance during implementation, help overcome obstacles, and oversee the process.

We will provide a report detailing the implementation and configuration of your SAM Tools solution.

### Step 3: Provide recommendations to optimize the use of your SAM tools.

In order to obtain the most value from your SAM tools solution, it is important to optimize their configuration and to implement good SAM practices in general.

We will evaluate your existing policies and processes to ensure that they properly align with the tools. Where appropriate we will

recommend changes and help implement them.

We will analyze how SAM tools are currently used in your organization and recommend better ways to make use of them.

We will ensure that all necessary Software Asset Management information is properly stored.

We will ensure that people understand their periodic operational tasks, such as data entry and review, to maintain the SAM tools.

We will assess your current SAM practices and recommend areas for improvement that make most effective use of the tools.

## The Soft-Aid Advantage

Our team consists of former IT Directors, IT Asset Managers, Software Account Managers, and Licensing Specialists who have provided SAM services to over one hundred clients.

We understand SAM processes and can guide you in quickly integrating them with SAM tools.

We employ refined SAM tool sets to provide you with strategic insight into your IT environment.

We employ proven project management strategies that factor in the unique aspects of SAM tool engagements, to ensure projects are done on time, on budget, and correctly.

To help you understand and evaluate SAM tools, we can provide up-to-date and unbiased information about their functionality and features and the tool vendors in general.