



Baseline Data for The Quilt Self-Assessment Tool

Background on the Self-Assessment Tool

The formal Quilt Peer Reviews (QPRs) that have been undertaken by The Quilt over the years have been very successful. But for some members a formal peer review was not a good fit. Those with an interest in assessing their organization against a community standard needed another way to do it. In an effort to meet this need, a team of Quilt members developed a stand-alone tool called The Quilt Self-Assessment Tool. This assessment tool is standard collection of identified best practices that are central to operate as an effective research and education network.

The Self-Assessment Tool's outcomes are self-directed and as such can be used outside a formal QPR or as a precursor to a QPR. The results can be used to identify areas of the organization's focus or as a foundation for strategic planning. Members may use the tool at any time outside of a formal QPR to determine specific elements/practices within the organization to focus attention.

The Self-Assessment Tool is designed so that an organization can have any number of stakeholders complete the assessment. If the organization chooses to have more than one person complete the assessment, the results are returned anonymously, but can be displayed as a composite average or they can be categorized by stakeholder group: executive leadership, board of directors, engineering staff, marketing, stakeholders, etc. Responses are presented as a summary scorecard (see Appendix A).

Since the release of the Self-Assessment Tool, members have used the tool to assist in strategic planning, prepare for a formal QPR, and to assess progress in areas they had focused on the previous year.

The Baseline

As the community gained additional experience with the self-assessment tool, interest was expressed in establishing a self-assessment baseline from data provided by all of The Quilt membership. In response to this interest, The Quilt undertook a membership baseline effort in the fall of 2015 with summary results presented here. The Quilt envisions this baseline as another management tool for our member organizations. Note that access to the tool is available at any time to support member interest.

Twenty Quilt members have completed the entire assessment as part of this baseline effort. The charts on the following pages represent the composite responses for each practice within the 10 elements. Note responses of Not Applicable (NA) are not shown on the charts. In all but one of the elements, Governance, these responses were non-existent or so small, they did not affect the overall score. In the Governance element, there was not enough supplemental information given to draw any conclusions. In the charts to follow, some practice statements may be truncated.