targetprocess see. change.

Targetprocess extends Jira Software to support SAFe®

In today's heterogeneous agile software development environments, teams often have the autonomy to select the tool of their choice to track the daily activity of development efforts. One popular tool is Jira Software, Atlassian's issue-tracking platform that supports both Scrum and Kanban at the team level.

A serious limitation of using Jira Software is that it does not offer native support for enterprise-wide agile methodologies such as SAFe. The concepts of strategic themes, lean budgeting, portfolio epics, value streams and agile release trains are not built-in to Jira Software's default work item hierarchy, which results in several challenges.

Even when combined with additional Plugins, Jira Software often lacks the ability to plan and track large-scale, complex work spanning multiple Agile Release Trains and lean portfolio management practices. Targetprocess, a software platform for enterprise agility, tackles these challenges with the following solutions.

Connect lean budgeting & planning with tactical execution →

Build roadmap, program and portfolio views →

Gain visibility into relationships and dependencies →

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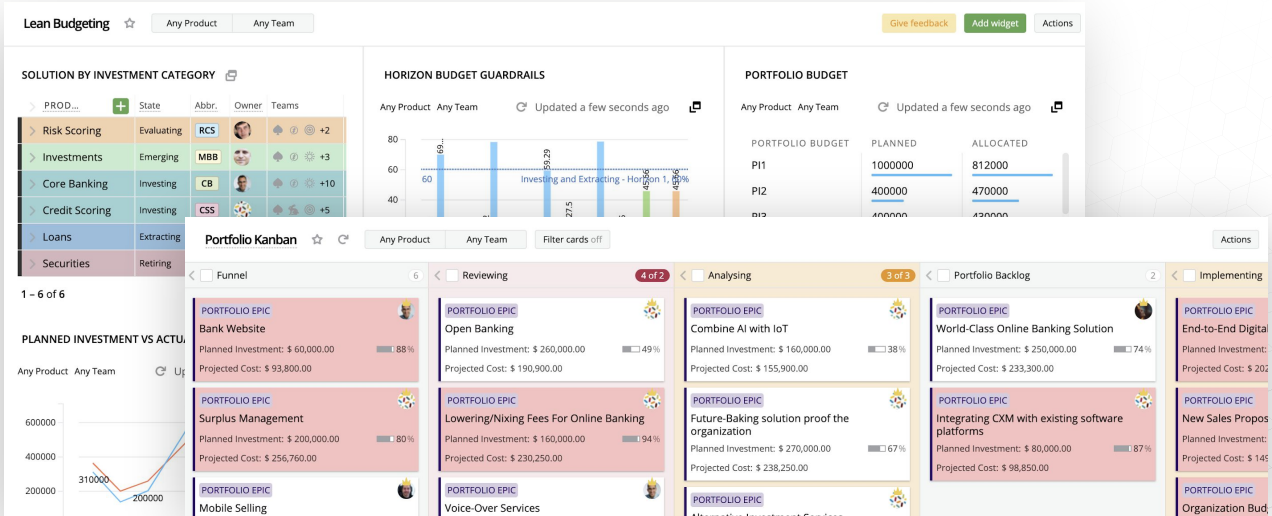
Connect lean budgeting & planning with tactical execution

Jira Software has no ability to capture strategic planning budget decisions (lean budgets) in a portfolio kanban, which is the basis for funding the value streams that make up the SAFe portfolio. This means that the SAFe based strategic planning and allocations are not linked to the tactical execution of the teams performing the work.

The work done at the team level may very well be tracked accurately, but there is no automated way to roll up this team-level progress and status to verify that the tactical execution work is aligned with the desired solution portfolio and the associated value streams and lean budget allocations.

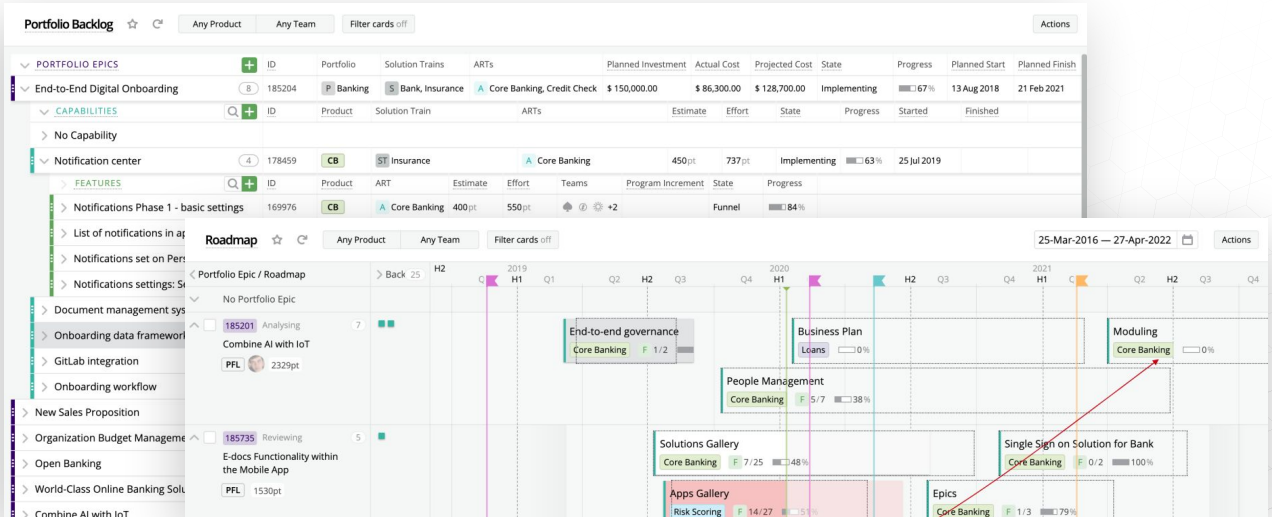


Targetprocess solves this challenge by rolling up Jira Software team level data to Portfolio Epics and Agile Release Trains.

Build roadmap, program and portfolio views

With no automated way to aggregate program and portfolio level status information from dozens or hundreds of teams using Jira Software, release train and portfolio managers resort to building these reports manually. They are often depicted using powerpoint presentations or spreadsheets, where the data is derived from multiple team-level reports or weekly status updates.

Other organizations may use PPM-based time tracking systems to aggregate time-based estimates and time spent on work items as a proxy for measuring value delivery and forecasting progress towards milestones. In either case, there is no direct connection between portfolio, program and roadmap views and the status of day-to-day Feature/User Story execution data tracked in Jira Software, resulting in reports that are out of date before they are even distributed.

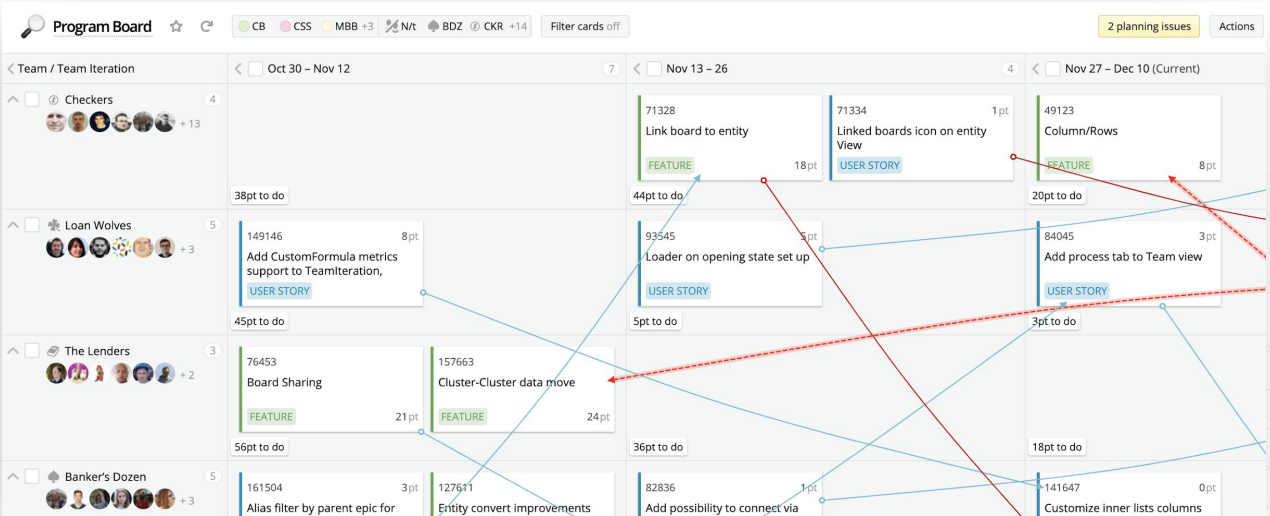


Targetprocess solves this challenge by maintaining a continuous connection between program and portfolio level roadmaps with the progress and status of team-level execution in Jira Software.

Gain visibility into relationships and dependencies

Before and during Program Increment (PI) planning, development teams refine high-level estimates, break work into manageable chunks and sequence it across multiple iterations and teams based on their capacity and expertise. During this process, teams need to understand, discuss and easily visualize relationships and dependencies across the planned work.

These dependencies need to be visible at multiple levels (portfolio, program and team) within the organization. Targetprocess provides interactive visualizations that depict dependencies spanning multiple programs, large solutions or complex portfolios of work.

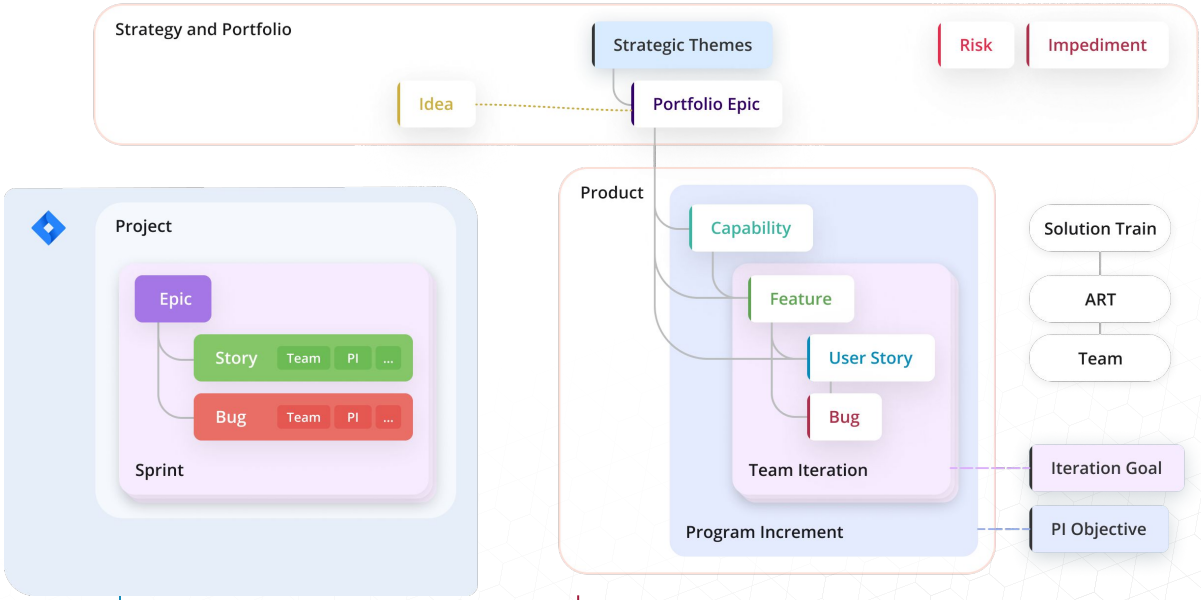


Targetprocess solves this challenge by having teams perform PI Planning in Targetprocess and then push these features to Jira Software where refinement, grooming, and detailed planning of individual User Stories can be completed

The Challenge

The tools used for strategic planning and lean budgeting are not updated automatically when team-level execution data from Jira Software changes.

This challenge exists because **there is no ability in Jira Software to roll-up the status** of tactical team-level execution data to the Program/Solution/Portfolio levels for strategic planning and forecasting.



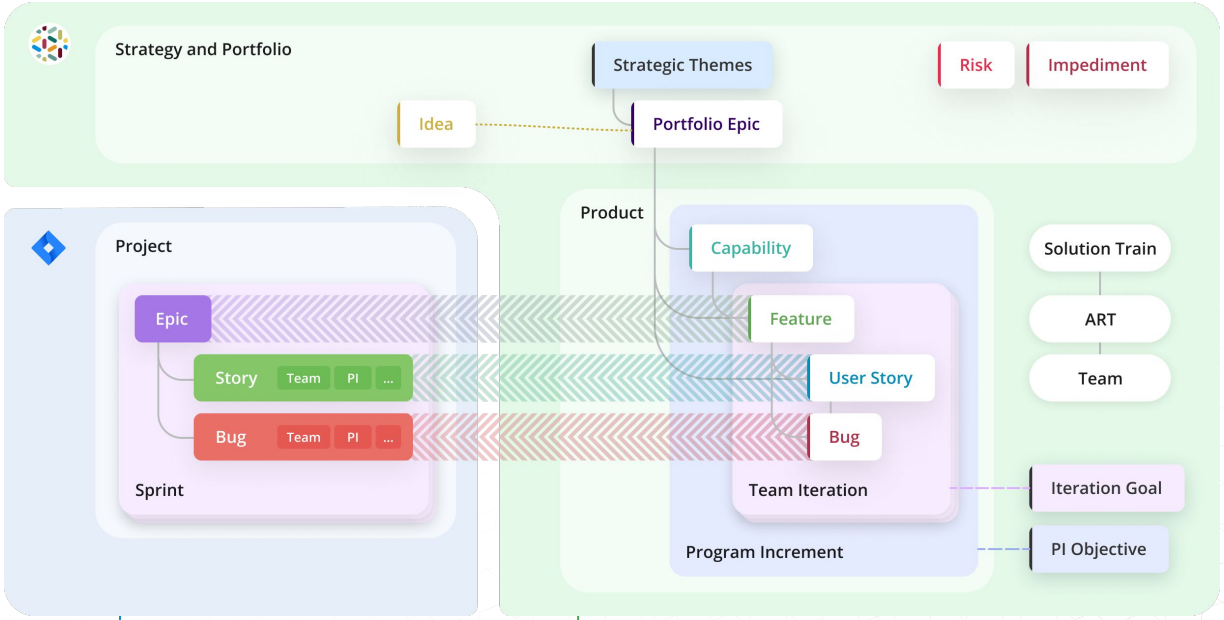
Team-level tactical execution data tracked in **Jira Software**

Planning and tracking at Program through Portfolio levels are done using **spreadsheets**, **PowerPoint** or standalone **PPM systems**

The Solution

Perform Lean Portfolio Management and PI Planning in Targetprocess

When PI planning is complete — the features and user stories are then pushed out to the corresponding epics, stories and teams within Jira Software.



Jira Software Epics and Stories are linked to corresponding entities in **Targetprocess**

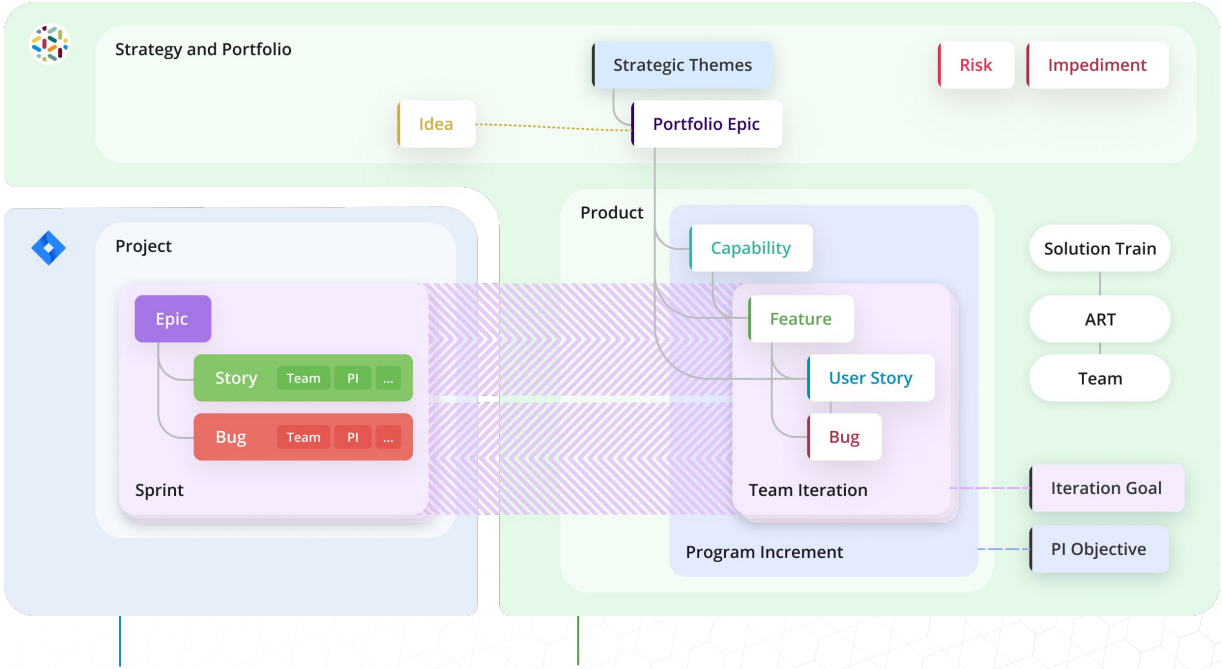
Portfolio and program level demand management, lean budget allocations and PI planning are done within **Targetprocess**

The Result

Enterprise-wide status and metrics are automatically rolled up from Jira so they are always up-to-date.

After PI planning, the teams can use Jira Software to assign the work to specific team members, adjust their initial estimates, and then execute and track the status of their work within Jira Software.
As the work progresses, the status and progress of the Jira Software work items automatically synchronize with the corresponding entities in Targetprocess.

This provides an ongoing, always up-to-date, enterprise-wide picture of status and progress across your entire organization - from team, to program to portfolio levels.



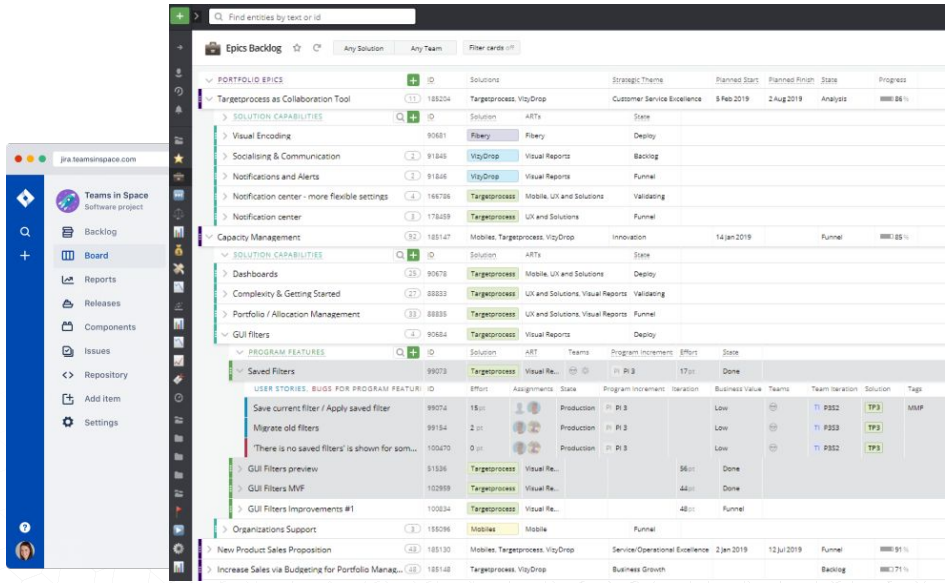
Team-level tactical execution data tracked by teams in **Jira Software**

High-level visibility and up-to-date metrics are provided by **Targetprocess**

Benefits of connecting Jira Software team level data to Targetprocess

Connecting Targetprocess to Jira Software allows you to visualize and manage dependencies, track estimates, and perform lean budgeting and strategic planning in Targetprocess, while managing team-level execution data in Jira Software.

This ensures that team-level execution data remains in-sync with strategy, providing an accurate picture of plans, progress and execution status across the enterprise.



Tactical execution is *always in-sync*  with strategic objectives

Using Targetprocess as the “single source of truth” in this fashion will allow development teams to use Jira Software to track their day-to-day work and manage code and releases.

And business leaders and RTE’s can keep track of cross-team dependencies, Feature and Epic progress as well as steer the progress based on up-to-date portfolio metrics from within Targetprocess.

Notes on Portfolio for Jira Software

A variety of add-on tools are available in the Atlassian Marketplace to provide enterprise program and portfolio management functionality that is not available in Jira Software due to the limited 3-level hierarchical data model (Epic/Story/Sub-Task) of Jira Software.

Portfolio for Jira Software is one of these Marketplace add-ons. However, it has not gained significant traction as an enterprise agile portfolio management planning and tracking tool due to:

Lack of flexibility, complex configuration/administration options and a variety of migration difficulties when updates occur

Automatic scheduling algorithm for portfolio plans is default behavior - most organizations prefer to manually assign work to teams

A requirement to manually push portfolio plans and associated changes to Jira Software

Technical limitations include:

A limit of 2,000 total "issues" per portfolio hierarchy level (includes all issue types: Epics, Stories, Tasks and Bugs)

A limit of 100 projects and 50 teams in any portfolio plan — not a large number for an enterprise-wide portfolio plan

Thank you!

Get a demo →