# OPTIMIZING USER GROUP AND ROLE MANAGEMENT WITH ACCESS CONTROL AND WORKFLOWS

### 1.INTRODUCTION

# PROJECT TITLE: Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows

Optimizing user, group, and role management with access control and workflows is **crucial for enhancing security, streamlining operations, and improving overall system efficiency**. By carefully managing access rights through well-defined roles and permissions, organizations can ensure that users only access the resources they need, minimizing the risk of unauthorized access and data breaches. Furthermore, integrating workflows into this process automates tasks, reduces manual errors, and improves the speed and consistency of access provisioning and management.

## 1.1 Project Overview

#### Title:

Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows **Objective:** 

To design and implement an effective and secure management system in ServiceNow that:

- Organizes users, groups, and roles efficiently.
- Controls access to applications and data.
- Implements ACLs (Access Control Lists) and workflow automation to streamline
   IT processes.

## **Expected Outcomes:**

- Streamlined user and access management.
- Improved security and compliance.

- Efficient handling of workflows through automated role and group assignments.
- Demonstrated understanding of ServiceNow's access control mechanisms.

#### 1.2.Purpose

The purpose of this project is to design and implement secure and efficient user access management within the ServiceNow platform. It focuses on the creation and management of users, groups, roles, and the enforcement of access controls and workflows to ensure data integrity and system security.

#### Real-world Use:

- Prevent unauthorized access.
- Make sure users only see what they need.
- Automate user provisioning tasks.
- Maintain data security and compliance.

### 2. IDEATION PHASE

Team Id	LTVIP2025TMID30968
Project Name	Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows

#### 2.1. Problem Statement

In a small project management team consisting of a Project Manager (Alice) and a Team Member (Bob), there is a need to efficiently manage project tasks and ensure accountability throughout the project lifecycle. The current system lacks clear role definitions, access controls, and a structured workflow, leading to confusion regarding task assignments and progress tracking.

#### Challenges:

 Defining Access Control Lists (ACLs) correctly for different users, groups, and roles.

- Assigning appropriate roles to users based on group memberships.
- Creating workflows that are both functional and efficient.

## 3. REQUIREMENT ANALYSIS

Team Id	LTVIP2025TMID30968			
Project Name	Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with			
	Access Control and Workflows			

## 3.2. Solution Requirement

ServiceNow is a **cloud-based workflow automation platform** that enables digital transformation by helping organizations manage digital workflows for enterprise operations.

#### ServiceNow Platform

The primary platform used for this project. It provides all the modules required to manage users, roles, groups, access, and workflows.

## **Functional Requirement**

FR NO	Functional Requirement	Sub Requirement	
FR-1	User Management	<b>C</b> reate, update, deactivate users, and manage user profiles with roles and group memberships.	
FR-2	Group Management	Create different groups.  Add users to appropriate groups.  Groups should reflect department/team structures.	
FR-3	Role Management	Create custom roles if needed.  Assign out-of-the-box and custom roles to users	

		or groups.	
		Demonstrate role inheritance	
FR-4	Table Configuration	Create custom tables.	
	Provide relevant columns/fields.		
		Configure the table for access control testing.	
FR-5	Assign Users to	Add individual users to the relevant groups	
	Groups	using group membership.	
		This should reflect in automatic role inheritance.	
FR-6	Assign Roles to Users	Assign roles directly to users if group-level roles	
		aren't suitable.	
		Document which roles are assigned to which	
		users.	
FR-7	Application Access	Set up access for specific users/groups to	
	Configuration	particular applications.	
		Configure access under "Application Access"	
		or module.	
FR-8	Access Control List	Create ACL rules for the custom table or other	
	(ACL)	tables.	
		<b>D</b> efine Read, Write, Create, Delete permissions.	
FR-9	Workflow	Create a workflow to automate user/group	
	Configuration	approvals or access provisioning using Flow	
		Designer.	

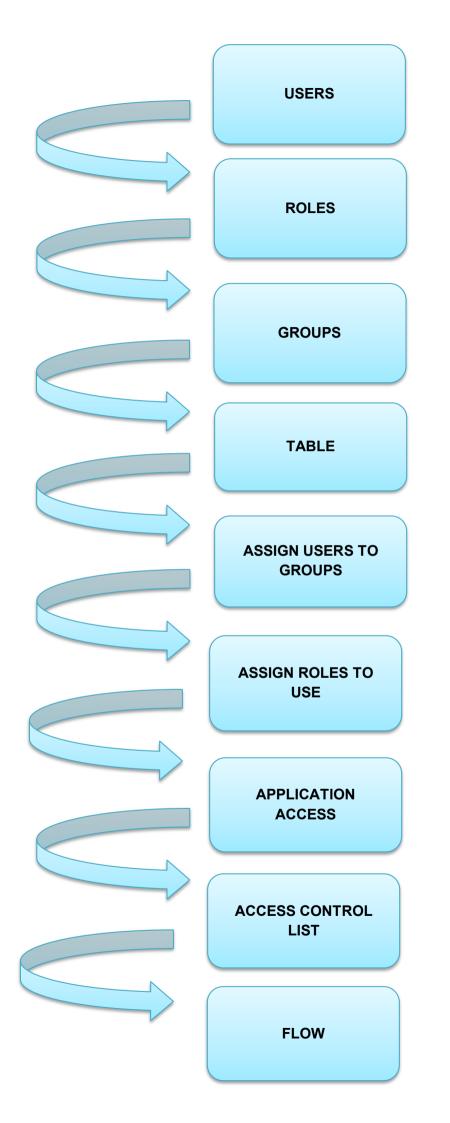
## Non-Functional Requirement

FR NO	Non-Functional Requirement	Description
NFR-1	Usability	The interface must be user-friendly with clearly labeled modules (Users, Groups, Roles, ACL,
		etc.).
NFR-2	Security	Only authorized users should be able to:
		- Create users or roles
		- Assign roles to users
		- Modify access control rules (ACLs)
NFR-3	Reliability	It must recover from session or workflow errors
		gracefully with proper error messages.
NFR-4	Performance	The system should load user, group, role, and
		table data within 2 seconds under normal
		network conditions.
NFR-5	Availability	The system should ensure 99.9% uptime during
		working hours .lt must recover from session or
		work flow errors gracefully with proper errors
		messages
NFR-6	Scalability	The solution should support managing at least
	-	1000 users,100 groups and 500+ roles without

## **Data Flow Diagram:**

A Data Flow Diagram (DFD) is a graphical representation used to show how data moves through a system. It illustrates:

- Where data comes from,
- How it is processed,
- Where it is stored, and
- How it flows between these parts.
   In the Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows project:
  - User/Admin inputs user details, roles, and group information into the system.
  - The ServiceNow System processes access control rules and workflows based on defined roles and groups



## **Technology stack**

The technology stack of ServiceNow consists of various layers and. components that enable its platform to deliver powerful ITSM (IT Service Management), workflow automation, and enterprise applications.

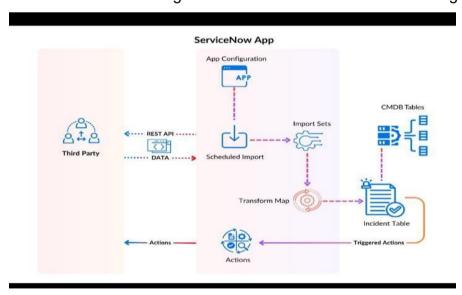
Team Id	LTVIP2025TMID30968			
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	Access Control and Workflows			

#### Architecture of ServiceNow:

The **architecture of ServiceNow** is designed as a scalable, **cloud-based** platform built to support enterprise-level IT service management and business process automation.

#### Purpose:

- Manage incidents, problems, changes, and service requests efficiently.
- Monitor infrastructure and prevent service outages.
- Track and manage hardware and software assets through their lifecycle.



## **4.PROJECT DESIGN**

Team Id	LTVIP2025TMID30968	
Project Name	Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access	
	Control and Workflows	

## **Proposed Solutions:**

S.No	Parameter	Description
1	Problem Statement	In a small project management team consisting of a Project Manager (Alice) and a Team Member (Bob), there is a need to efficiently manage project tasks and ensure accountability throughout the project lifecycle. The current system lacks clear role definitions, access controls, and a structured workflow, leading to confusion regarding task assignments and progress tracking.
2	Idea/Solution Description	<b>p</b> roject involves designing and implementing a streamlined system within ServiceNow that automates and optimizes the management of users, groups, and
		roles, while enforcing access control and triggering appropriate workflows.
3	Novelty/Uniqueness	Uniqueness points: 1.Access ControlVisualization Too 2.IRole Expiry & Review Workflows 3.Custom Role Hierarchies 4.Dynamic Role Assignment Automation
4	Social Impact/Customer Enhances both security and satisfaction, benefit internal users (employees) and external customers making systems faster, safer, and smarter.	
5	Business Model It supports scalable role-based access for enterprises systems, reducing manual effort and improving compliance.	
6	Scalability of the solution	It highly scalable due to ServiceNow's cloud-native, multi- instance architecture, allowing seamless handling of increasing users

# PROJECT: Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows

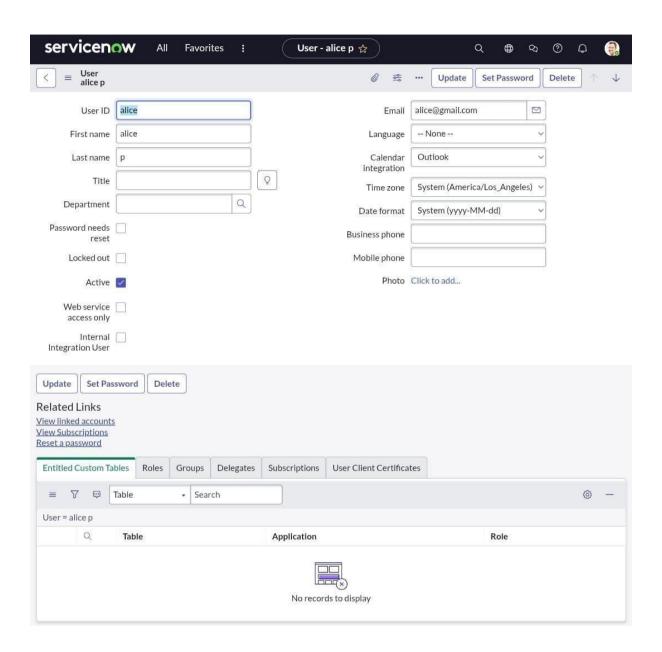
#### **MILESTONE-1: USERS**

**USERS:**User represents an individual who has access to the platform.

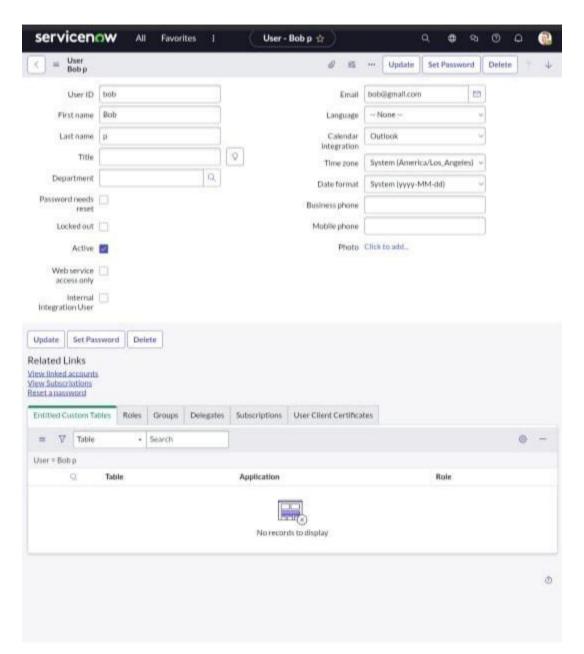
**PURPOSE:**User purpose is defined by the roles assigned to a user, which determine what they can see and do within the platform.

## **Activity-1:Create Users**

- 1. Open service now
- 2. Click on All >> search for users
- 3. Select Users under system security
- 4. Click on new
- 5. Fill the following details to create a new user
- 6. Click on submit



- 7.Create one more user:
- 8. Create another user with the following details
- 9.Click on submit



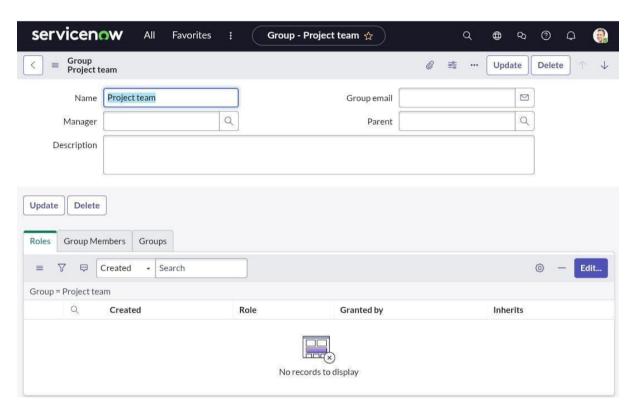
#### **MILESTONE-2:GROUPS**

**GROUPS:** Group is a set of users who share a common purpose. Groups may perform tasks such as approving change requests, resolving incidents, receiving email notifications, or performing work order tasks.

**PURPOSE:**Groups are designed to organize users based on their roles, responsibilities, or functions within an organization.

## **Activity-1:Create Groups**

- 1. Open service now.
- 2. Click on All >> search for groups
- 3. Select groups under system security
- 4. Click on new
- 5. Fill the following details to create a new group
- 6. Click on submit



## **MILESTONE-3:ROLES**

**ROLES:**Roles define the access and permissions users have within the platform.

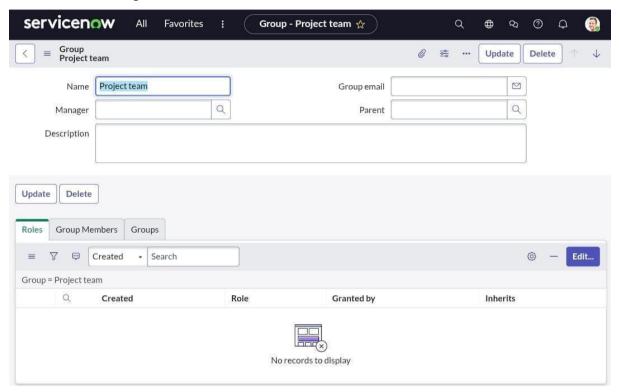
**PURPOSE:**Roles are used to grant users specific permissions and access to different features and functionalities within the platform

## **Activity-1:Create Roles**

Activity 1: Create roles

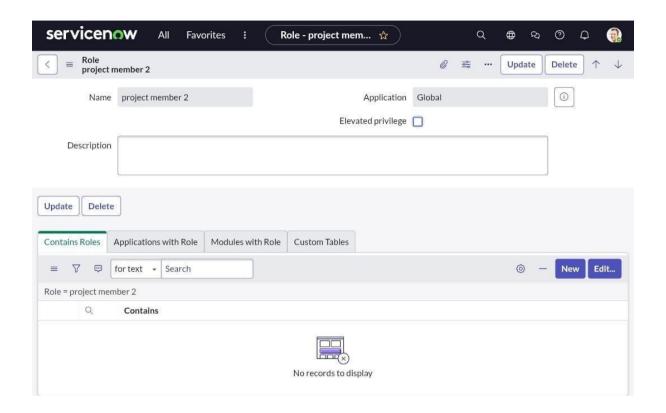
- 1. Open service now,
- 2. Click on All search for roles

- 3. Select roles under system security
- 4. Click on new
- 5. Fill the following details to create a new role



Create one more role:

- 7. Create another role with the following details
- 8.Click on submit



#### **MILESTONE-4: TABLE**

**TABLE:**Tables are the fundamental structures for storing and organizing data **PURPOSE:**Tables serve as the fundamental building blocks for organizing and managing data

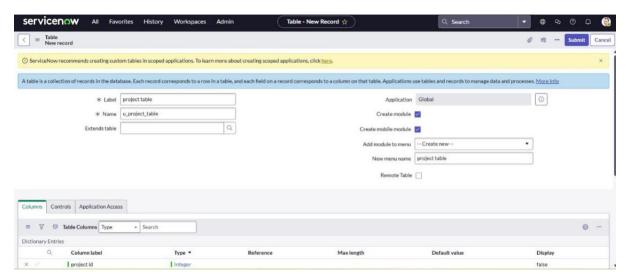
## **Activity-1:Create Table**

- 1. Open service now.
- 2. Click on All >> search for tables
- 3. Select tables under system definition
- 4. Click on new
- 5. Fill the following details to create a new table

Label: project table

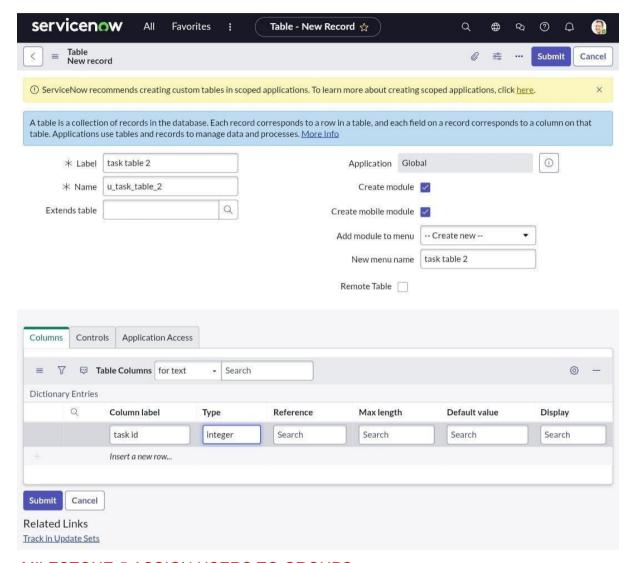
Check the boxes Create module & Create mobile module

- 6. Under new menu name: project table
- 7. Under table columns give the columns



Create one more table:

- 9. Create another table as task table 2 and fill with following details.
- 10. Click on submit



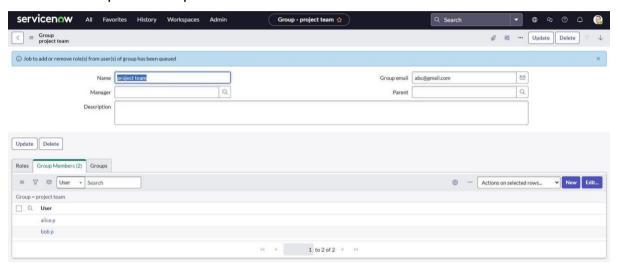
### MILESTONE-5: ASSIGN USERS TO GROUPS

**PURPOSE:**Assigning roles to groups streamlines access management by granting permissions to multiple users simultaneously

## Activity 1: Assign users to project team group

- 1. Open service now.
- 2.Click on All >> search for groups
- 3. Select tables under system definition

- 4. Select the project team group
- 5. Under group members
- 6.Click on edit
- 7. Select alice p and bob p and save

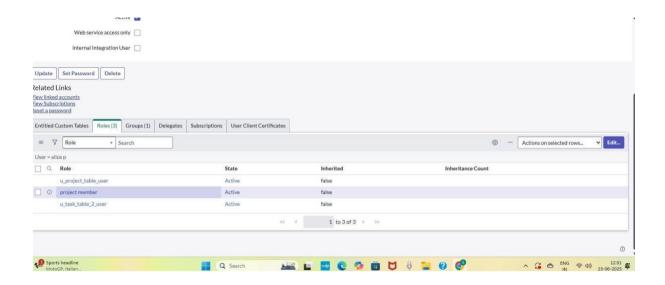


## **MILESTONE-6:ASSIGN ROLES TO USERS**

**PURPOSE:**Assigning roles to users determines their access permissions and what they can do within the platform

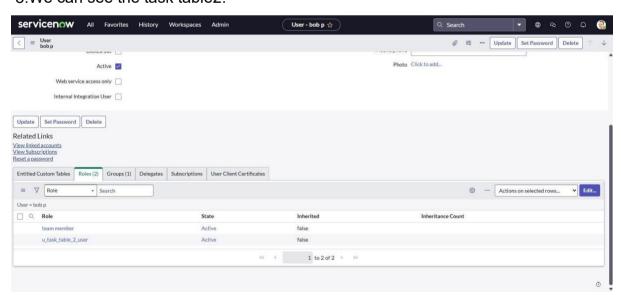
## **Activity-1:Assign Roles to Alice User**

- 1. Open servicenow. Click on All >> search for user
- 2. Select tables under system definition
- 3. Select the project manager user
- 4. Under project manager
- 5. Click on edit
- 6. Select project member and save
- 7.click on edit add u\_project\_table role and u\_task\_table role
- 8. click on save and update the form.



## Activity-2: Assign roles to bob user

- 1.Open servicenow.Click on All >> search for user
- 2. Select tables under system definition
- 3.Select the bob p user
- 4.Under team member
- 5.Click on edit
- 6. Select team member and give table role and save
- 7. Click on profile icon Impersonate user to bob
- 8.We can see the task table2.



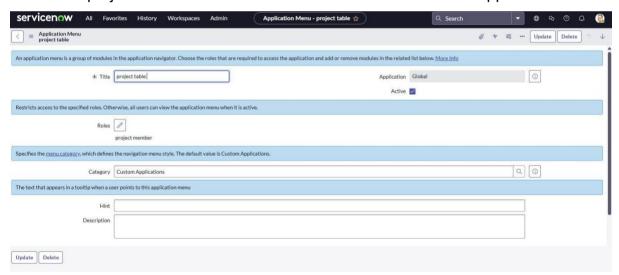
#### MILESTONE-7: APPLICATION ACCESS

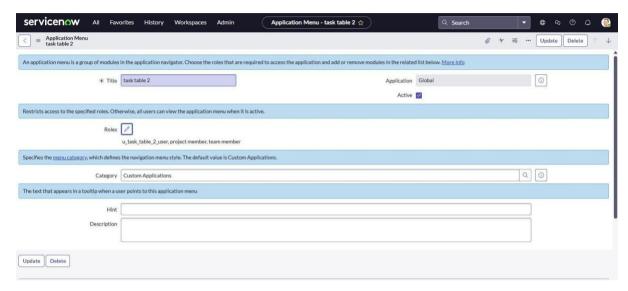
**APPLICATION ACCESS:** The mechanism that controls which applications and users can access specific tables and their data

**PURPOSE:**Application access settings control which applications and users can interact with the data and functionality of a specific application.

## Activity-1: Assign table access to application

- 1.while creating a table it automatically create a application and module for that table
- 2.Go to application navigator search for search project table application
- 3.Click on edit module
- 4. Give project member roles to that application
- 5. Search for task table 2 and click on edit application.
- 6. Give the project member and team member role for task table 2 application





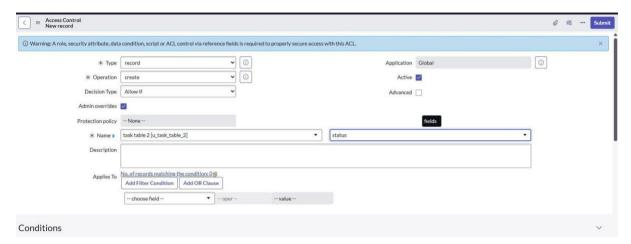
#### MILESTONE-8:ACCESS CONTROL LIST

**ACL:**It is a security rule that controls user access to platform resources, such as tables, fields, and even scripts

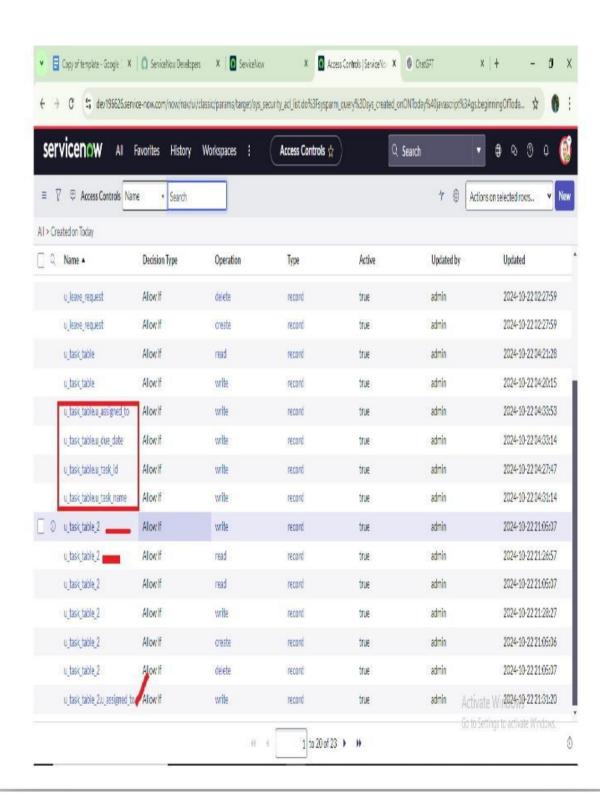
**PURPOSE:**Access Control Lists (ACLs) are used to manage and restrict user access to data within the platform.

## **Activity-1:Create ACL**

- 1. Open service now.
- 2.Click on All >> search for ACL
- 3. Select Access Control(ACL) under system security
- 4.Click on elevate role
- 5.Click on new
- 6. Fill the following details to create a new ACL

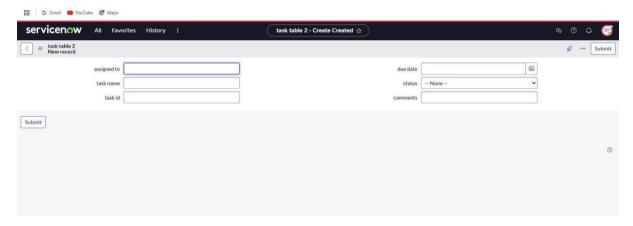


- 7.Scroll down under requires role
- 8. Double click on insert a new row
- 9. Give task table and team member role
- 10.Click on submit
- 11. Similarly create 4 acl for the following fields



- 12. Click on profile on top right side
- 13.Click on impersonate user

- 14.Select bob user
- 15.Go to all and select task table2 in the application menu bar
- 16.Comment and status fields are have the edit access



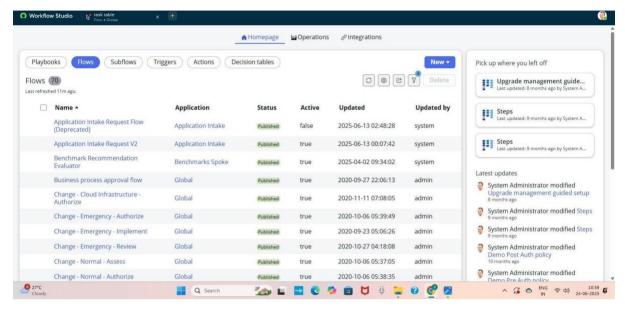
#### **MILESTONE-9:FLOW**

FLOW: Flow is a visual representation of an automated process.

**PURPOSE**: The purpose of a flow is to automate business processes by orchestrating a series of actions and logic.

## Activity-1:Create a Flow to Assign operations ticket to group

- 1. Open service now.
- 2.Click on All >> search for Flow Designer
- 3. Click on Flow Designer under Process Automation.
- 4. After opening Flow Designer Click on new and select Flow.
- 5. Under Flow properties Give Flow Name as "task table".
- 6.Application should be Global.
- 7.Click build flow.



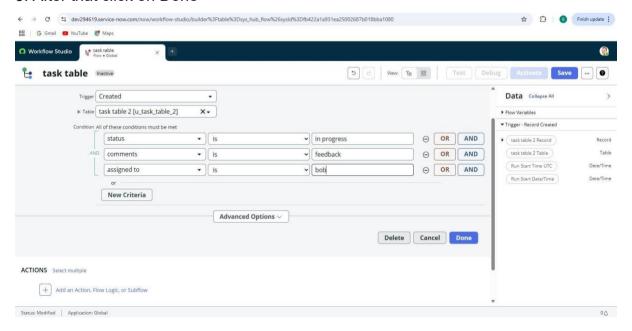
### next step:

- 1.Click on Add a trigger
- 2. Select the trigger in that Search for "create record" and select that.
- 3. Give the table name as "task table".
- 4. Give the Condition as Field: status Operator: is Value: in progress

Field: comments Operator: is Value: feedback

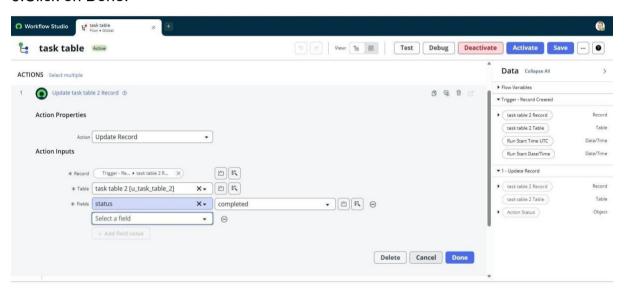
Field: assigned to Operator: is Value: bob

5. After that click on Done



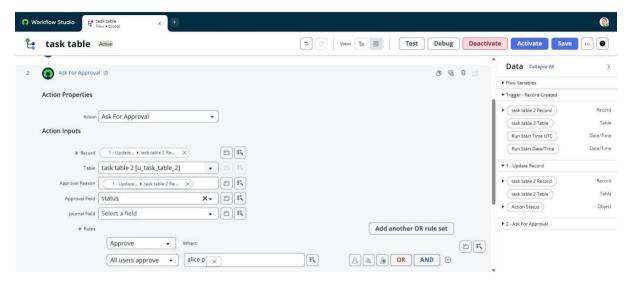
## Next step:

- 1.Click on Add an action.
- 2. Select action in that ,search for "update records".
- 3.In Record field drag the fields from the data navigation from Right Side(Data pill)
- 4. Table will be auto assigned after that
- 5.Add fields as "status" and value as "completed"
- 6.Click on Done.

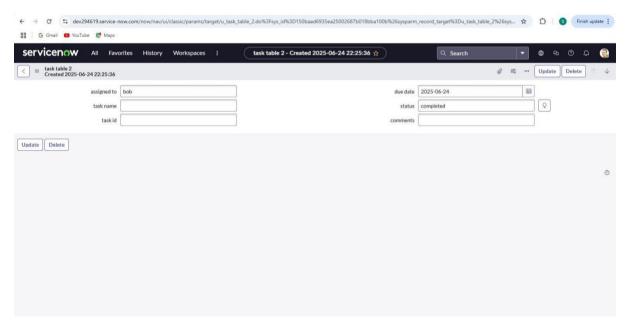


## Next step:

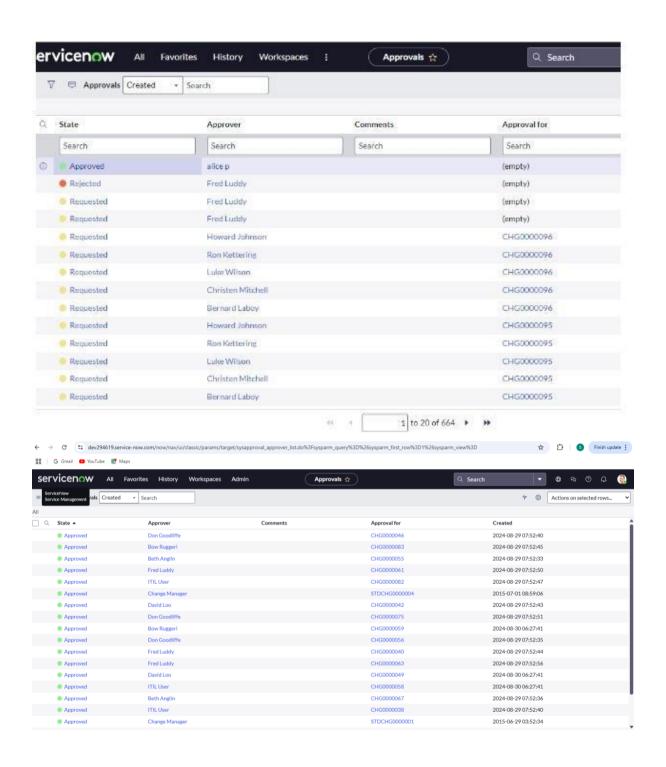
- 1.Now under Actions.
- 2.Click on Add an action.
- 3. Select action in that ,search for " ask for approval".
- 4.In Record field drag the fields from the data navigation from Right side
- 5. Table will be auto assigned after that
- 6. Give the approve field as "status"
- 7. Give approver as alice p
- 8.Click on Done.



- 1.Go to application navigator search for task table.
- 2.It status field is updated to completed



- 1.Go to application navigator and search for my approval
- 2.Click on my approval under the service desk.
- 3. Alice p got approval request then right click on requested then select approved

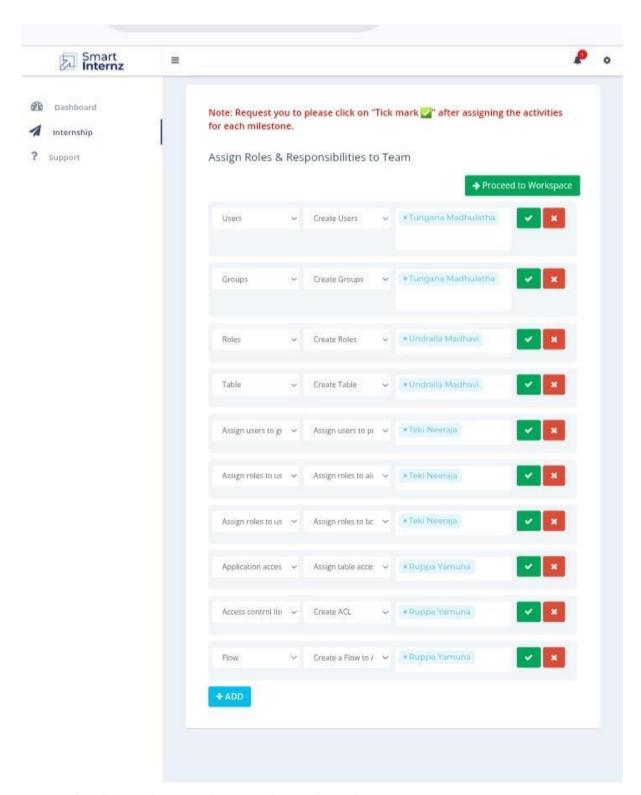


## **5.PROJECT PLANNING & SCHEDULING**

Functional Requirement	User Story	No.Of Activities	Team Members
USERS	As an administrator, I want to create and manage user accounts in ServiceNow so that users can access the required applications and perform their tasks.	1	T.Madhu Latha
GROUPS	As a system administrator, I want to create and manage user groups in ServiceNow so that I can organize users and assign roles or responsibilities efficiently.	1	T.Madhu Latha
ROLES	As a system administrator, I want to create and assign roles in ServiceNow so that users have the appropriate access to perform their tasks	1	U.Madhavi
TABLES	As a ServiceNow developer or admin, I want to create and manage custom tables so that I can store and organize application-specific data effectively	1	U.Madhavi
ASSIGN USERS TO GROUPS	As a ServiceNow administrator, I want to assign users to groups so that they inherit group roles and can participate in groupbased workflows and assignments.	1	T.Neeraja
ASSIGN ROLES TO USERS	As a ServiceNow administrator, I want to assign roles to users so that they have the appropriate access to perform their tasks in the platform.	2	T.Neeraja
APPLICATIO N ACCESS	As a ServiceNow administrator, I want to control application access so that only authorized users can access specific applications and perform tasks	1	R.Yamuna

	securely.		
ACCESS CONTROL LIST	As a ServiceNow administrator, I want to create and configure Access Control Rules (ACLs) so that only authorized users can view or modify specific data in the system.	1	R.Yamuna
FLOW	As a ServiceNow administrator or developer, I want to create automated flows using Flow Designer so that repetitive tasks and processes can be streamlined without writing code.	1	R.Yamuna

Assigned tasks to the group members:



## **6. FUNCTIONAL & PERFORMANCE TESTING**

## PROJECT: Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows

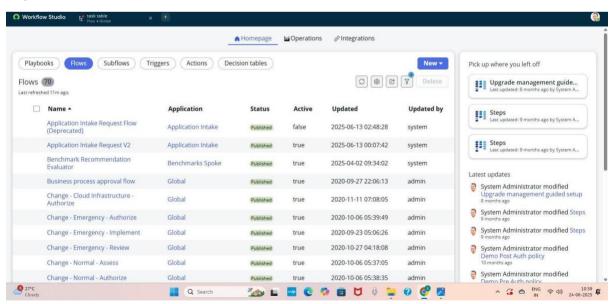
#### **FLOW**

**FLOW:**Flow is a visual representation of an automated process.

**PURPOSE**: The purpose of a flow is to automate business processes by orchestrating a series of actions and logic.

## Activity-1: Create a Flow to Assign operations ticket to group

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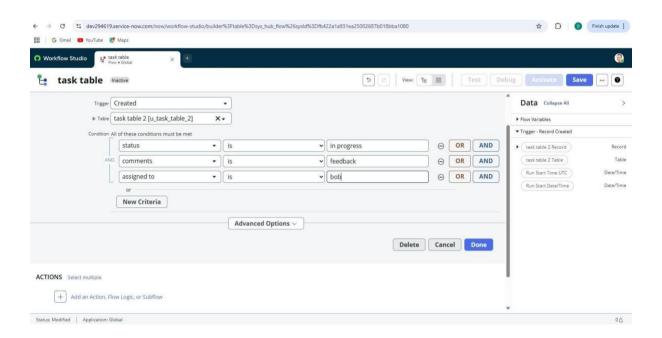
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- 2. Select the trigger in that Search for "create record" and select that.
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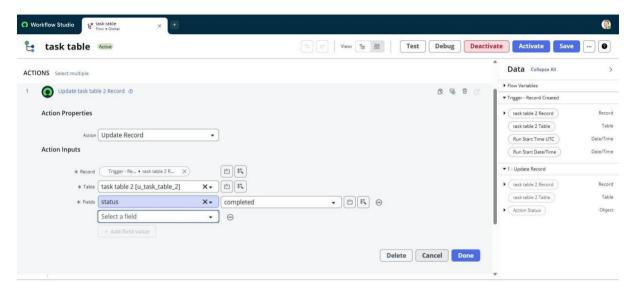
Field: assigned to Operator: is Value: bob

5. After that click on Done



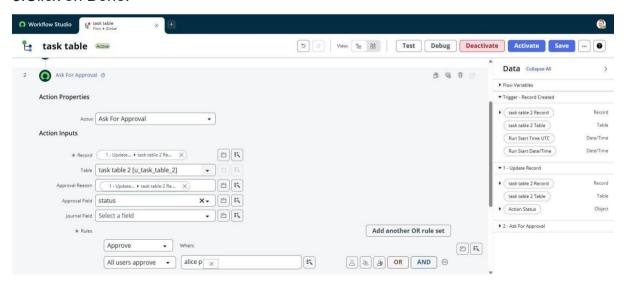
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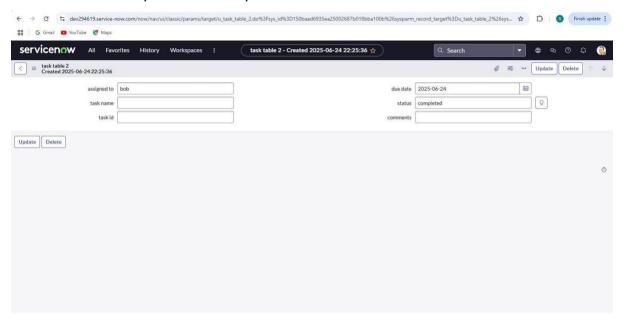
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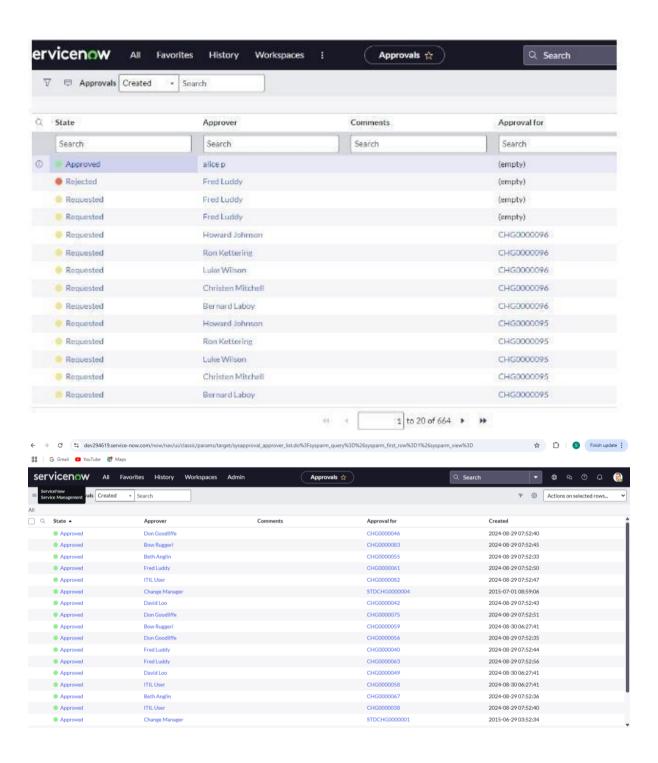


1.Go to application navigator search for task table.

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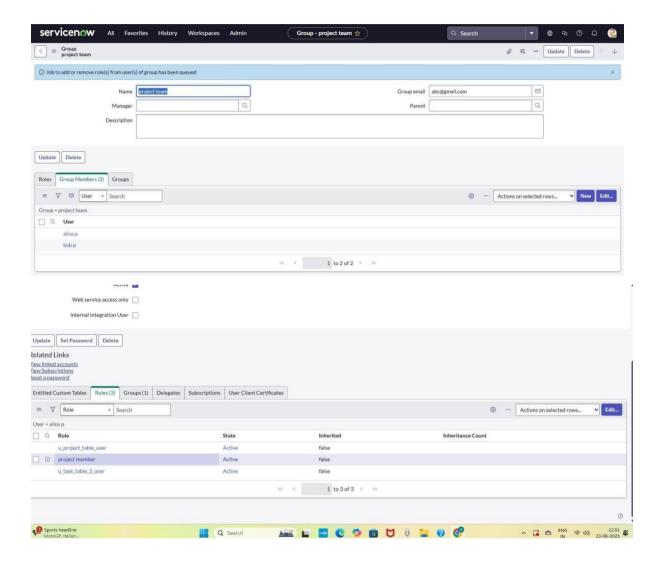


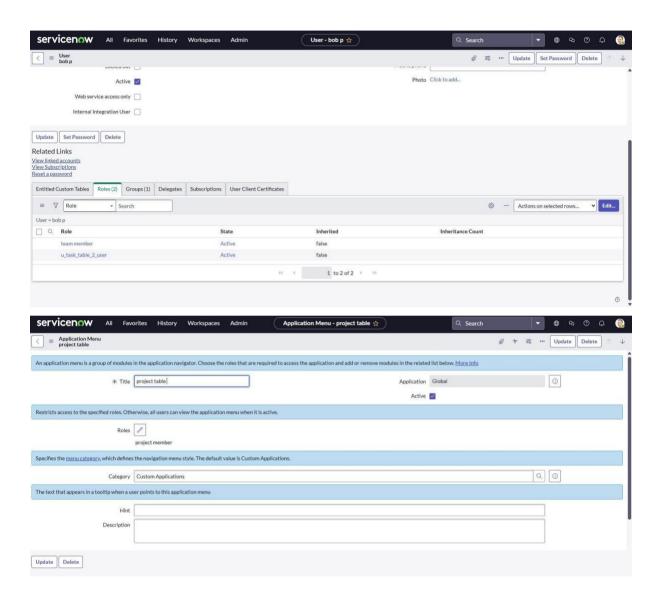
## 9.RESULT:

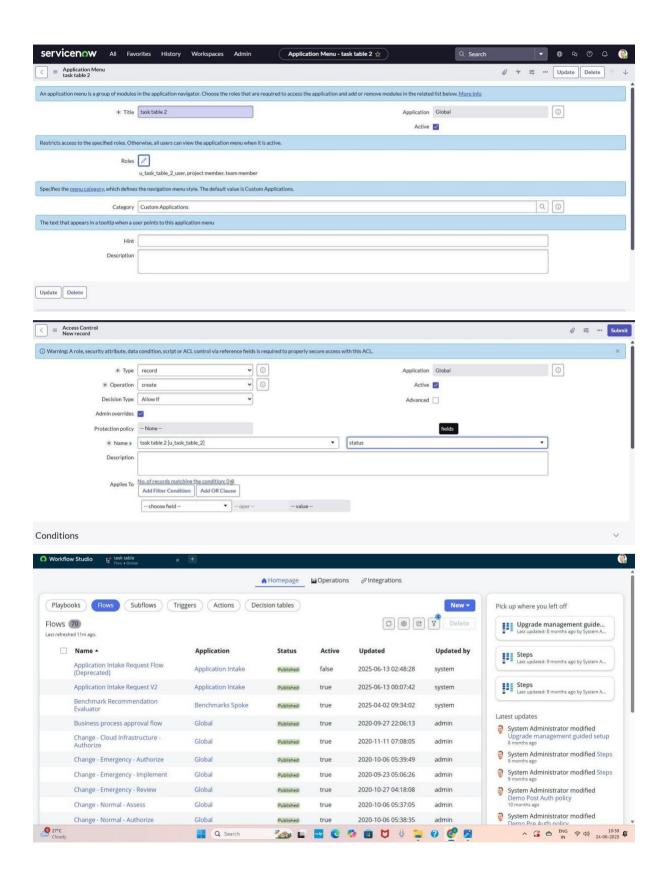
The project should demonstrate a complete and secure access management system built in ServiceNow, capable of:

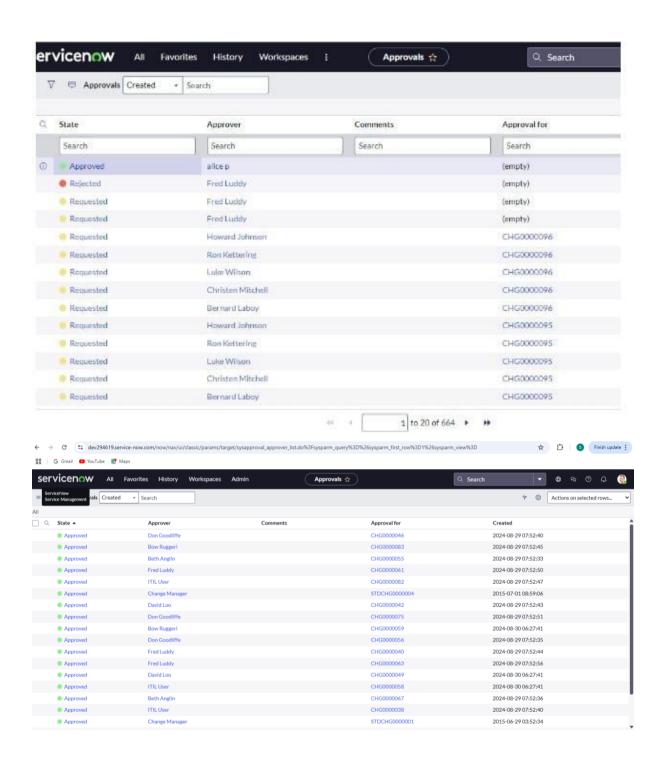
- Preventing unauthorized access

- Ensuring role-based task visibility
- Streamlining user onboarding and access provisioning









## **ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES**

#### **ADVANTAGES:**

- Granular control over user access using roles, groups, and ACLs.Reduces risk of unauthorized access to data and applications.
- Saves time by automating user-role assignments and access control.
- Easy to manage a large number of users via group and role hierarchy.
- Gives hands-on experience with ServiceNow administration.
- Teaches real-world ITSM (IT Service Management) best practices

#### **DISADVANTAGES:**

- Understanding ACLs, workflows, and role hierarchies can be confusing initially.
- If roles or ACLs are not defined properly, users may get more access than needed (violating the Principle of Least Privilege).
- As users and roles change over time, regular updates are needed to keep the system secure and efficient.
- Initial configuration of users, groups, roles, ACLs, and workflows can be time-intensive.

#### 10. CONCLUSION:

The project "Optimizing User, Group, and Role Management with Access Control and Workflows" successfully demonstrated how to efficiently manage users, groups, and roles within the ServiceNow platform. Through structured workflows and the implementation of Access Control Lists (ACLs), the system ensures secure and scalable access management across applications and data tables.

By dividing the project into key modules—such as user creation, role assignment, group management, application access control, and ACL configuration—the project achieved its core goal: to enhance administrative efficiency while maintaining strict security and data integrity.

This scenario highlights a structured approach to project management, showcasing the roles of Alice and Bob within a defined workflow. With Alice's oversight and Bob's execution, the team effectively collaborates to ensure project success. The use of tables organizes key information, facilitating easy tracking of projects, tasks, and progress updates. Overall, this system promotes accountability, enhances communication, and leads to the successful completion of projects.