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LeanKit Named “Cool Vendor” in Leading Analyst Firm Report

Vendors selected for the “Cool Vendor” report are innovative, impactful and intriguing

FRANKLIN, Tenn., July XX, 2013—[LeanKit](#), a visual collaboration tool for project and portfolio management, today announced that it has been recognized by [Gartner, Inc.](#) as a “Cool Vendor” in Program and Portfolio Management (PPM) for 2013¹. The report highlights vendors focused on streamlining complex project management by improving efficiency and productivity.

Each year, Gartner, Inc. identifies emerging vendors in key technology areas and underscores their innovation through a report, detailing new products and services. Vendors named in the PPM industry offered “ways for PPM leaders to make top-down governance more effective and back-end processes easier, and, in some cases, more fun,” according to Gartner, Inc.

“It’s difficult to coordinate assignments and track the progress of multiple work streams related to the execution of a project. Gartner’s report underscores the need for visual project management software such as LeanKit to increase team productivity and efficiency,” said Stephen Franklin, chief technology officer and co-founder of LeanKit, Inc. “With LeanKit, project managers can instantly see a project’s progress and easily scale from a single project to an entire portfolio of projects.”

LeanKit delivers project visibility through a virtual whiteboard that can map and track an organization’s project initiation through completion. Process steps are represented as vertical and horizontal lanes. Cards represent work items, which team members update and move across the board as activity progresses. With LeanKit, project managers can also receive insightful reports and analytics that allow for accurate forecasting and targeted process improvement. The analytical reports provide a variety of metrics including average task duration and priority distribution.

“Our growth has been steady and we’ve received great feedback from our expanding customer base, which has been energizing and strengthens our resolve to offer the best product in the market today,” said Chris Hefley, chief executive officer and co-founder of LeanKit, Inc. “This report is great validation and we appreciate being recognized by such a prestigious firm.”

LeanKit is based on the Kanban methodology, which is an adaptation of a concept from the world of lean manufacturing, now being applied to knowledge work under the agile umbrella. In Japanese, *kanban* means “signal card”, and it provides a visual cue to initiate work and the mechanism to track work through a process.

About LeanKit

LeanKit is recognized by the Agile and Lean IT community as the most flexible and powerful tool available for implementing visual project management based on Kanban systems. The company is also making a name for itself beyond IT with customers using their tool to manage and collaborate on all types of projects including those found in engineering, manufacturing, marketing, customer service, technical support, etc.

Since its founding in 2009, LeanKit has grown rapidly to serve more than 170,000 users around the world at companies such as Adobe, Siemens, NBC Universal, HP, GlaxoSmithKline and Spotify. For more information, visit www.LeanKit.com

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¹ Gartner, Inc. "Cool Vendors in Program and Portfolio Management, 2013" by Robert A. Handler, Matt Light, Jim Duggan, Daniel B. Stang, Donna Fitzgerald, Elise Olding, 29 April 2013.

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