

## **BRIGHT IDEAS**

# Implementing a policy administration system: keys to success

PUJA BARANWAL DIRECTOR, PROJECT DELIVERY SUNLIGHT SOLUTIONS



Puja Baranwal serves as the Director of Project Delivery at Sunlight Solutions, bringing over two decades of experience in IT consulting and project delivery to her role.

Connect with Puja on LinkedIn.

Successfully implementing a policy admin system requires clear goals, stakeholder engagement, clean data, seamless integration, and the right vendor partnership.

# Implementing a policy administration system: keys to success

Implementing a new policy administration system is a transformative step that sets the stage for Long-Term Success for any insurance business. It promises enhanced efficiency, scalability, and customer satisfaction, but the path can be challenging without proper preparation. From defining clear objectives to choosing the right long-term vendor, here are some of the most important steps in the insurance business, be it MGAs, Insurance holding companies or carriers must take to ensure a smooth and successful implementation.

#### Define Clear Business Requirements and Objectives

Before diving into implementation, it's important to clearly articulate what the business aims to achieve with the new system. Start by conducting a thorough assessment of current challenges and future needs. Consider questions like:

- What inefficiencies in the current system need to be addressed?
- How will the new system support long-term strategy and business growth?
- What features are critical for underwriting, policy issuance, billing, and claims?
- Prioritize the requirements based on the business value
- Should you implement all available modules of the Policy Admin system as a big bang or go with a phased approach?

By defining these requirements and aligning them with your company's strategic objectives, you create a solid foundation for selecting the right system and implementation approach.



### **Engage Key Stakeholders and Build a Cross-Functional Team**

The success of a new policy administration system depends on buy-in from across the organization. Engage stakeholders from underwriting, claims, IT, compliance, finance, and customer service early in the process. This cross-functional approach ensures that the system meets the needs of all departments. Define a change management plan to improve user adoption and satisfaction.

Additionally, assemble a dedicated project team with clear roles and responsibilities. A strong project manager and business analyst can bridge the gap between technical teams and business users, facilitating smooth communication and swift decision-making.



#### **Assessing Integration Needs and System Compatibility**

Modern insurance operations rely on multiple interconnected systems, from CRM platforms, AI UW tools to claims management and accounting tools that align with your implementation strategy. Before implementation, evaluate how the new policy administration system will integrate with existing platforms if those functions are not supported in the Policy admin system. This assessment should include:

- Reviewing APIs or middleware solutions to ensure compatibility.
- Identifying any potential gaps in integration and planning solutions.
- Verifying that the system meets regulatory compliance and industry standards.

A well-integrated system streamlines workflows and improves data accuracy, ensuring a seamless transition.

#### **Evaluate your data migration strategy and Prepare Data**

Data is the pillar of any policy administration system. Poor data quality can undermine even the best technology. Conduct a detailed audit of your existing data to ensure it is accurate, complete, and consistent. Identify gaps or redundancies and address them before migration, particularly if you are moving to a new policy admin system from an old one.

Develop a robust data migration plan that includes:

- Review the data source for your new policy admin system.
- Finalize the strategy and plan for data migration.
- Mapping data fields from the legacy system to the new platform if applicable.
- Establish quality control measures to detect and fix errors during migration.
- Testing migrated data in the new system to ensure it functions as intended.

A clean and well-prepared dataset minimizes risks and accelerates implementation.



#### Develop a Comprehensive Implementation and Training Plan

A well-thought-out implementation plan is the key to minimizing disruptions. Create a phased timeline with milestones, testing periods, and contingency plans. Pilot testing or a soft launch can help identify issues before a full-scale rollout. Equally important is user training. Ensure that employees across departments understand how to use the new system effectively. Provide ongoing support and resources to help them adapt.

### **Choose the Right Long-Term Vendor**

Selecting the right vendor is one of the most critical factors in successful implementation. A policy administration system is not a one-time investment, it's a long-term partnership.

When it comes to selecting a vendor, consider the following criteria:

• **Customizable and Scalable Platform:** Look for a comprehensive platform that is designed to adapt to your unique business needs, whether you're a small company or a large enterprise. If you plan to expand your business in multiple countries, consider a platform that can support multi-currency, multi-language and multicountry compliance.



• **Industry Expertise:** A solution provider should offer tailored solutions that align with your objectives, audit and regulatory requirements.

It's icing on the cake if your vendor partner comes with a deep understanding of the insurance industry

- **Seamless Integrations:** The platform should be built with robust integration and AI capabilities, ensuring smooth compatibility with any third-party applications or tools.
- **Ongoing Support and Innovation:** Choose a Solutions that is committed to your success, providing continuous product updates, enhancements, and top-tier customer support to ensure your system evolves with your business.
- **Proven Track Record:** Look for customer success stories, recommendations and a solution provider that has successfully partnered with insurance companies across various sectors, delivering efficient implementations and long-term value.

## Implementing a new administration system is a significant investment, but with the right preparation and the right partner, it can deliver transformative results.

At Sunlight Solutions, you're not just investing in a system—you're gaining a trusted advisor with deep insurance industry expertise and a long-term partner committed to your success.

With Sunlight's cutting-edge technology, customizable platform, and unwavering commitment to innovation, you'll address today's challenges while positioning your company for sustained growth and excellence in the future.

Contact Sales (sales@sunlightsolutions.com) for more information or to schedule a demo.