



ESSENTIAL

SPEND OPTIMIZATION SUITE ESSENTIAL (SOS Essential)

ISL Analytics' Risk Management
& Investment Optimization Suite
for Small Utilities

WHAT IS SPEND OPTIMIZATION SUITE (SOS)

Spend Optimization Suite (SOS)

The Spend Optimization Suite (SOS) application supports the Strategic Asset Management Planning process by delivering an optimized portfolio of capital and O&M spending plans. It enables asset managers, planners, and other stakeholders to collaborate to maximize investment portfolio value, considering realistic budget and resource constraints, all while managing risk and driving company strategy.



Introducing SOS Essential
**ACCESSIBLE PRICING.
FULL FUNCTIONALITY.
FAST DELIVERY.**

SPEND OPTIMIZATION SUITE ESSENTIAL (SOS Essential)

SOS Essential is a streamlined version of our enterprise platform, offering smarter, cost-effective capital and O&M investment planning for smaller utilities.

The following displays a summarized Asset Management linear process view and the direct alignment with the SOS Essential Modules.





What You Get with SPEND OPTIMIZATION SUITE ESSENTIAL (SOS Essential)



SOS ESSENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION



SOS FULL CUSTOM IMPLEMENTATION

FEATURE/BENEFIT

Significantly Reduced Cost
Typically 10-20% of Full Cost



Significantly reduced cost as consulting is limited with off-the-shelf approach and configuration is done remotely.



Standard pricing for full custom implementation of SOS including scoring development workshop facilitation.

All Cores Modules with Full Functionality*



All core module functionality is available.



All functionality is available (with the addition of the optional Risk Identification & Opportunities (RIO) Module).

Configurability
By Business Administrator



No difference - configurability options by an Administrator include text, questions, variables, lists, filtering and visibility rules, and more.



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Breadth of Investment Portfolio



Up to 15 Success Criteria scoring measures accommodating 1-2 business units (additional available for an increased fee).



Up to 25 Success Criteria scoring measures accommodating multiple business units.

Reduced Implementation Schedule



The targeted implementation schedule is 4-8 weeks.



Schedule typically ranges from 16-20 weeks, depending on the scope and modules included.

In-depth Onsite Consulting Support for Customized Implementation



ISL Analytics will review your strategy documents and configure the scoring pages for you, allowing for minor adjustments.



ISL Analytics and client core teams/SMEs work together over several weeks to determine the configuration of the value and risk of deferral scoring approaches.

Documentation



Full functional documentation is provided, including user, administrator and advanced IO manuals.



Full functional documentation is provided, including user, administrator and advanced IO manuals, as well as documented configuration and options for each IDS scoring page.

Training



ISL Analytics employs a train-the-trainer approach and provides slightly abbreviated Administrator / advanced user training, typically remotely.



ISL Analytics typically employs a train-the-trainer approach but can assist further with user training sessions. Administrator / advanced user training is also provided.



True optimization using linear programming



Scoring of investments based on value and risk of deferral



Standard and custom outputs, including Word business-case reports, automated PowerPoint decks, and interactive dashboards



Budget-aware portfolio planning with transparent trade-off analyses



Business admin configurability to maintain scoring logic and application rules without vendor or IT support



SOS ESSENTIAL IS A HIGHLY CONFIGURABLE 3-MODULE. SO, WHAT CAN IT DO FOR YOU?



USE STRATEGY TO DRIVE DECISIONS

Link strategy to risk management and investment planning decisions while setting priorities and adjusting for sensitivity analyses and business changes.



RUN WHAT-IF SCENARIOS TO ENSURE OPTIMIZED INVESTMENT PLANS

Create and compare multi-year investment plans across cost, resources, reliability, regions, and other constraints to balance spend, reduce bias toward small projects, evaluate value and risk of deferral, shorten analysis time, and better manage “must do” designations.



IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS WITH CLEAR AND TRANSPARENT OUTPUT

Use automated outputs to clearly communicate project selection decisions, portfolio benefits, and risk exposure to planners, executives, stakeholders, and regulators while supporting effective portfolio change management.



EMPOWERING SMALL UTILITIES THROUGH SaaS (SOFTWARE AS A SERVICE) SOLUTIONS

Subscription-based pricing reduces upfront costs while secure AWS hosting, automatic updates, and flexible monthly or annual options remove IT burden and allow small utilities to scale at their own pace.



ENABLE BEST PRACTICES

Facilitate practical, accepted cross business-unit optimization while aligning processes with ISO 55000 standards and applying a strategic framework that guides investment decisions within real-world constraints.

WORK WITH EXPERIENCE TO ENSURE SUCCESS

Benefit from ISL Analytics' 40+ SOS implementations worldwide by leveraging proven SOS software, experienced internal and external implementation teams, and deep industry and change management expertise throughout every step.

GET THE MOST VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY

Access high-value features at an affordable cost with a quick implementation timeframe, select right-sized configurations that can expand over time, and grow the application alongside your company and processes through built-in configurability and flexibility.



ESSENTIAL

Each module within the SOS Essential addresses key elements of the asset management decision process with line of sight linkages throughout. The following provides an overview of each module.

SA MODULE: STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT



The SA Module drives a two-level framework of objectives and relative priorities which is the fundamental building block for all decision-making throughout the SOS Essential application, evaluating projects and programs and determining an optimal near term budget and longer term plans up to 10 years.

Getting alignment on the company's strategic objectives and especially their relative importance in terms of where to spend the company's money is critical.



Increase awareness of company strategy and make achieving it part of everyday business.



IDS MODULE: INVESTMENT DEFINITION & SCORING



ISL Analytics applies an industry leading approach to evaluating investments in the IDS Module, including:

- Value and Risk of Deferral perspectives providing transparency to the benefit – risk trade-off critical to the optimization process
- A simple user interface combined with an underlying robust methodology to differentiate amongst investments
- Use of existing quantitative data wherever possible (e.g. Asset Condition assessments, outage/reliability/capacity data, and financials) for ease and consistency
- Greater visibility into drivers of mandatory investments and programs
- Mechanisms to capture the complexities of reality, such as inter- and intra-investment relationships
- These capabilities, in conjunction with approvals, email notification work flows and customizable reports, result in a powerful set of investment evaluation data.



Use this data to make optimal investment planning decisions via multi constraint optimization analysis and comparative scenarios or advanced optimization analyses.

The image displays two screenshots of the ISL Analytics IDS (Investment Definition & Scoring) software interface.

The left screenshot shows the "IDS ADMIN FUNCTIONS Investment Home Page". It features a navigation bar with options like "Strategy Definition SA", "Needs Assessment PDD", "Investment Analysis IDS", "Portfolio Optimization", and "Performance Tracking PPT". The main content area is titled "Step 1: Describe the Investment" and includes a "Load Project from AERO" button. Below this, there's a section for "Investment Description" with fields for "Investment Description" (containing "Station A Network 1 Reconnector") and "Optimizer ID" (containing "22089").

The right screenshot shows the "Investment Analysis IDS" tool. It displays a "Value" section with a table showing "Calculated Value" and "Normalized Value" for various metrics. Below this, there's a "Risk of Deferral" section with a table showing "Risk of Deferral" and "Risk of Deferral" for various metrics. The interface also includes a "Phase Select" section with checkboxes for "Phase Select Regions" and "Phase Select Circuits".

IO MODULE: INVESTMENT OPTIMIZATION

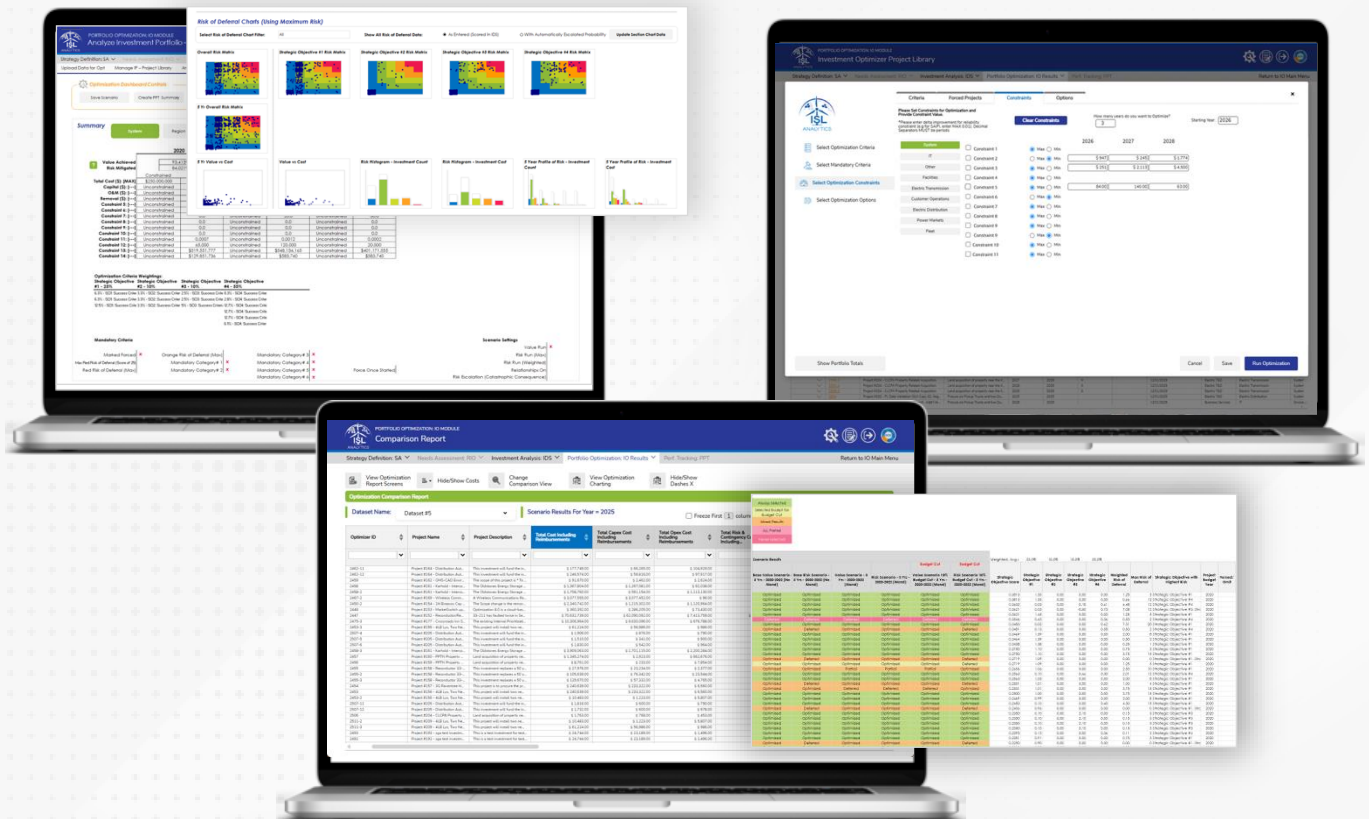


The IO Module applies advanced optimization techniques that let users run what-if scenarios across factors like total cost, capital, O&M, resource availability, contractor capacity, and reliability improvements. This approach ensures each investment delivers maximum value, minimizes risk, and aligns with organizational objectives.

After running and comparing multiple optimization scenarios, planners can create, refine, and store interim and final multi-year investment plans for funding decisions. Standardized outputs and reports help reduce planning timelines and enable clear, transparent communication with internal stakeholders and regulatory bodies.



Easily compare scenarios side-by-side to limit discussion sessions, saving time and effort. This results in a practical and justifiable near-term investment plan.



VALUE CASE EXAMPLE: USE TRUE OPTIMIZATION AND EFFICIENT FRONTIER ANALYSES TO SAVE MONEY AND REDUCE RISK

Investment Optimization: Achieving More for Less

In this risk of deferral example with a budget constraint of \$90M, we achieve more overall risk mitigation via investment optimization using SOS than by Risk or Risk/Cost Prioritization methods. In addition, Risk/Cost Prioritization fails to select a high-risk investment.

With Optimization (compared to the Risk prioritization example), we can achieve more overall risk mitigation for less cost (186 compared to 182, for \$81.2M compared to \$87M). This is a savings of \$5.8M or almost 7%!

SCENARIO INPUTS				SCENARIO INPUTS			
PROJECT NAME	BUDGET COST (M)	RISK OF DEFERRAL	RISK/COST	TRADITIONAL PRIORITIZATION		SOS OPTIMIZATION	
				INCLUDED IN \$90M BUDGET CONSTRAINT:		\$92M BUDGET	
				RISK PRIORITIZATION	RISK/COST PRIORITIZATION	RISK OPTIMIZATION	RISK OPTIMIZATION
Project 1	\$11.5	25	2.17	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 2	\$13.0	25	1.92	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 3	\$7.2	20	2.78	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 4	\$8.5	20	2.35	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 5	\$9.9	20	2.02	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 6	\$10.0	20	2.00	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 7	\$15.0	20	1.33	✓	✗	✗	✗
Project 8	\$5.7	10	2.81	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 9	\$6.2	15	2.58	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project 10	\$6.4	10	2.50	✗	✓	✓	✗
Project 11	6.5	10	2.46	✗	✓	✓	✗
Project 12	\$4.9	12	2.45	✗	✓	✓	✗
Project 13	\$2.8	8	2.86	✗	✓	✗	✗
Project 14	\$3.9	8	2.05	✗	✓	✗	✗
Project 15	\$4.0	8	2.02	✗	✓	✗	✗
Project 16	\$3.0	6	2.00	✗	✗	✗	✗

Further, with optimization (compared to the Risk prioritization example), we can achieve more overall risk mitigation (186 compared to 182) for less cost (\$81.2M compared to \$87M). This is a savings of \$5.8M or almost 7%

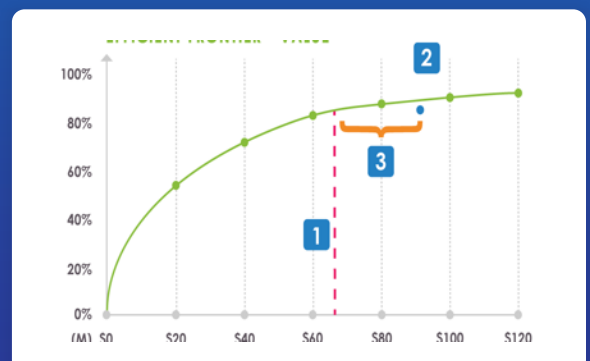
EFFICIENT VALUE FRONTIER VIEW: ARE WE OVERSPENDING GIVEN THE VALUE RETURN?

Taking it a step further, let's examine a view of value (benefits) rather than risk mitigation along with our budget constraint. The Efficient Value Frontier shows the maximum value that can be achieved for every dollar spent.

1. The dotted line shown in this chart is a "guideline" efficient budget constraint for the portfolio. It considers: the point where cost starts increasing faster than value plus any additional mandatory investments plus any additional high (red) risk investments.



2. The blue dot represents the performance of the scenario (here a \$90M Weighted Value Optimization Scenario) in terms of the efficient frontier.
3. This frontier chart shows that we are getting very little additional value for the money we are spending beyond the dotted guideline. Using this analysis along with human expertise, we could save up to \$25M and still ensure that we are maximizing value and covering high risk and mandatory investments





“SOS has created a ‘thought revolution’, enhanced the quality of Our risk discussion, and has driven our asset investment strategy process into the ‘front lines’.”

“Creating our 5-year plan with SOS was a snap compared to our old way.”

“SOS gave us the elements we needed of an enterprise product on a small-company budget.”

Contact us for more information or a demonstration

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