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If you have an article you would like to submit, or have a question about any aspect of Ripose, please [contact us](#).

Please also visit the Ripose web site and the resource centre to read or print any of our [brochures](#), [fact sheets](#), [white papers](#), [articles](#) and [press releases](#).

To view or print this newsletter with Adobe Acrobat  please click [here](#).

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### Editorial comments

Welcome to our second issue of the Ripose newsletter from [our team](#) at Ripose.

With the AIIA Software Showcase being held on the 5 September 2001, we decided to issue our quarterly newsletter one month early.

For those of you who will be in Sydney on the day, it will give you the opportunity to visit us to catch up on our latest developments.

As a special offer (valued at \$5,500), we will provide a Quick Ripose for the first CEO who is willing to spend an hour with our Grade 0 Ripose architect at 3:00pm. Please [contact us](#) ASAP to reserve this spot.

This issue addresses a major topic which seem to be high on management's agenda, namely 'What is knowledge management'.

After nearly 2 decades of research and development into providing a benign technique to help management clarify, store and communicate their strategic plans, we have started work on writing an e-book titled 'Business 101'. For more details about this or any other issue, please [contact us](#).

Happy reading  
**Charles Richter - Managing Director**

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Newsletter ...

### Ripose & knowledge management ...

Knowledge is the key driver of life, much more so than land, capital or labour. Knowing how to use land, capital and labour yields greater wealth than that of the individual asset. Present and future success in competition will be based less on the strategic allocation of physical and financial resources and more on the strategic management of knowledge (Bontis, 1996). The capacity to manage knowledge-based intellect is the critical skill of this era (Quinn, 1992).

If managing knowledge-based intellect is the critical skill, what exactly is knowledge management or KM for short?

To begin to understand what KM is we need to fully define the two words which create the concept.

Knowledge: knowledge is invisible and intangible, and thus it is not captured very well by any of the traditional measures, accounting or otherwise, that corporations master in their everyday operations. (Bontis, Dragonetti, Jacobsen & Roos 1999).

By definition, knowledge is:

- The clear and certain perception of that which exists or of truth and fact
- Skill in anything
- Familiarity gained by actual experience

By definition management is:

- The manner of treating, directing, progressing or using for a purpose

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Together, these two concepts provide this (amalgamated) or (combined) definition: 'Knowledge management is the manner of treating, directing, progressing and using the clear and certain perception of that which exists or of truth and fact'.

According to research completed at [Charles Sturt University](#) the definition of 'knowledge management' can also be described as: 'The field that examines how understanding, wisdom or intelligence, whether public or private might be captured, represented, cross referenced, stored and applied for a range of intensive tasks - whether that be decision support, computer assisted learning, research (eg. hypothesis testing) or research support'.

However, this still does not go far enough to fully explain KM.

The management aspect seems to be fairly straightforward, but the concepts of 'truth' and 'fact' are more difficult to explain. So, exactly how do we, at Ripose, define a simple answer to this paradox?

Ripose concentrates on solving the knowledge conundrum by:

- Separating the knowledge concept into information, knowledge and data
- Showing how these three assets can be clarified stored and communicated

For more details, please read [Ripose and Knowledge management](#) and/or [ask us](#) for our Knowledge management white paper.

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### FAQs ...

We have received several queries about what a Ripose architect is, and the skills required to become one.

Ripose handles objects on conceptual and logical levels rather than purely on the physical level. Therefore, the skills required to manipulate (clarify, store and communicate) these objects will be dependent on each individual person's abilities.

You may be pleasantly surprised to find you already have all the required skills to become a Ripose architect. All you would need is training in both the Ripose Technique and the use of the CASPAR engine.

Firstly, you need to understand the various grades of Ripose architects. This should highlight exactly which skills you'll need to produce the deliverables for each grade.

Grade	Description	Deliverable
0	Principal	All
1	Objectives modeller	Objectives
2	Knowledge modeller	Knowledge
3	Business strategist	Strategies
4	Data modeller	Facts
5	Data base designer	Data bases
6	Applications specialist	Pseudo code

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All grades of Ripose architects will require these skills

- Computer literacy
- Problem solving
- Research
- Self-management
- Writing

In addition, each grade requires these additional skills:

Grade	Skill
0	- All
1	- Facilitating - Negotiation
2	- Change management - Coaching - Mathematics
3	- Mathematics - Negotiation
4	- Mathematics
5	- Mathematics
6	- Mathematics

If you think you have the required skills and you'd like to train to become a Ripose architect, please [contact us](#).

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