



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

PMO Process – Executive Summary

One-page reference for the full SOP

Owner	Aman · Product FleetRobo
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Status	For review — PMO Lead, Product PMs, Eng Lead

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DISTRIBUTION
Product · PMO · Eng · QA · CS

CLASSIFICATION
Internal Use

NEXT REVIEW
2026-06-09

A living document. Use it, break it, tell me where it breaks. v1.1 in 4 weeks.

The Problem We're Fixing

- PMO is being used as QA → bugs reach customers
- Every bug goes through PM → PM is the bottleneck for routine fixes
- No release notes, no training → clients don't see the value of what we ship
- Dev release = client release → features pushed without rollout planning
- Verbal date commitments → trust erodes when we slip
- "Everything is P0" → engineering permanently firefighting

The Three Intake Lanes

Every item enters through one of three doors. The door decides the path.

Lane	For	Owner	Path
A · PM-Routed	Features, enhancements, anything needing product judgment	PM	3 phases (Planning → Dev Build → Rollout)
B · QA-Routed	Defects against agreed spec, clearly fixable bug fixes	QA Lead	Triage → direct to Dev → Type 1 or 2 rollout
C · Incident	P0 incidents only	Eng Lead	Mitigation → RCA → permanent fix back into A or B

Why this matters: PM is no longer the universal first-touch. CS-found bugs go to QA Lead, not PM. PM sees every Lane B item in the tracker (visibility, not gating) and can pull any item back to Lane A. **Default is QA-routed for bug fixes.**

Lane B → Lane A auto-promotion if: fix needs Type 3+ rollout, client comms beyond release notes needed, or product judgment surfaces.

The Three Phases

Every ticket moves through three phases. Different owner, different exit gate.

Phase	Owner	Duration	Exit Gate
1 · Planning	PM	Tier-dependent (15 min → 5 days)	Friday Decision — Accept / Decline / Park
2 · Dev Build	Dev Lead	Dev-decided (1 sprint, 2 sprints, scope-dependent)	Tuesday Dev Release — build on internal env
3 · Production Rollout	PM	Type-dependent (same day → 3 weeks)	Client Release + comms sent + monitoring on

Dev Release ≠ Client Release. Tuesday Dev Release is internal-only. Clients see it later, after rollout planning.

The Weekly Rhythm

TUE · PM ↔ PMO Sync – status check across all phases (visibility, not gating)
 TUE · Dev Release window – builds hit internal env, PM verifies
 WED–THU · Planning conversations (any day, not bound to Tuesday)
 FRI · DECISIONS DAY – every open ticket gets Accept / Decline / Park
 FRI · Sprint scope handed to Dev Lead for their own sprint planning

Dev runs its own sprint cycle. PM controls "by when," Dev controls "how many sprints."

The Four Rollout Types

PM picks the rollout type at **Planning** (Phase 1), not at release time.

#	Type	Use For	Time from Dev Release to Client	PM Effort
1	Direct	Single-client bug fix, P0 hotfix	Same day	30 min
2	Notified	Cross-client bug, visible UX change	1–2 days	1–2 hours
3	Demoed	New small feature, cross-client UX change	3–5 days	Half day
4	Piloted	New module, breaking change, field-dependent	1–3 weeks	1–3 days

Default mapping so PM doesn't think for routine items:

Bug (single client) → Type 1
 Bug (cross-client) → Type 2
 Small Change → Type 2 or 3
 Development / Enhance → Type 3
 Major Feature / Module → Type 4
 P0 Incident hotfix → Type 1

The Four Tiers (Severity)

Set per the 4-dimension rubric (Blast Radius · Functional Impact · Business Impact · Recoverability).

Tier	Response SLA	Dev Build Window	Default Rollout	Capacity
P0	30 min ack · 1 h confirm	Same-day hotfix	Type 1	Hot-swap
P1	4 hours	Next Tuesday Dev Release	Type 2	20% sprint reserve
P2	2 business days	1–2 sprints	Type 2 or 3	30% sprint reserve
P3	5 business days	Next quarter	Type 2 or 3	Surplus only
Stability	Per sprint	Per architecture roadmap	Type 3 or 4	20% parallel reserve

Capacity Allocation (per Dev Squad, per Week)

- 50% Core Product (major features)
- 30% Small Changes (PMO-originated)
- 20% Bugs (CS-originated)

Non-negotiable without Head of Product approval.

The Single Source of Truth

Odo — one project, phase-filtered views, fields grouped by phase:

- **At intake:** ID · Title · Type · Product · Reporter Dept · Affected Clients · Tier · Severity Notes · Evidence · Hot Flag
- **Phase 1 set:** PM Owner · PM Handover Date · Blast Radius · Workaround · Time Started · **Rollout Type** · **Decision Outcome** · Planned Dev Release · Planned Client Release
- **Phase 2 set:** Dev Handover · Sprint Estimate · Dev Release Date
- **Phase 3 set:** Rollout Status · Actual Client Release · Post-Rollout Notes

Excel is interim only — migrate this week.

The "Stop Being QA" Rule

PMO enters the loop **after** QA sign-off, not during bug-discovery. PMO does functional validation (does it work the way a real user will use it?) — not bug-hunting. The prod-mimic test environment (Infra team) is the unblocker. Product tracks weekly.

What Needs to Happen This Week

#	Action	Owner	Due
1	Define P0 categories	PMO Lead + Product	2026-05-13 EOD
2	Replicate tracker in Odoo with phased-field + Lane schema	PMO Lead	2026-05-16
3	Backfill Lane + Tier + Rollout Type on all open tickets	PMs + QA Lead	2026-05-14
4	QA Lead picks weekly triage slot (Tuesday morning, before PM↔PMO sync)	QA Lead	2026-05-14
5	QA Lead inventories regression suite + identifies gaps	QA Lead	2026-05-19
6	Confirm capacity ratio achievable	Eng Lead	2026-05-14
7	Confirm prod-mimic env timeline	Infra team	2026-05-15
8	Nominate pilot client per product for Type 4 rollouts	CS Lead	2026-05-16

Success Metrics (Monthly Review)

Process discipline:

- ≥95% releases ship with full artifact set (per rollout type)
- ≥85% Planned Client Release Dates met
- ≥90% rollout types assigned at Planning (not at release)
- Friday Decisions Day compliance → 100% of open Lane A tickets resolved by EOD

Lane health (cognitive load reduction):

- ≥60% of bugs routed Lane B (vs Lane A) — PM bottleneck removed
- ≥90% QA Triage SLA hit rate
- <5% PM pull-backs from Lane B to Lane A (routing accuracy)

Reliability:

- 0 repeat P0 categories (recurring → Stability Track)

- <10% regression rate in stabilisation windows
 - PMO QA-discovery rate → trending to 0
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Full detail, RACI, templates, decision flows, and rollout plan in the v1 docs.