

Comparison	Excel	CaseIQ
Purpose	A general purpose tool that is primarily used to draft business cases with custom templates and rules. In general, financials are almost always captured in Excel. For narratives such as Executive Summary, Background, and Risks, either the same Excel file is used or a separate Word file is created to manage just those aspects of business cases	A purpose-built tool that addresses the complete flow of business case management – draft → review → approve. It simplifies inputs, automates calculations, standardizes workflow, and above all introduces consistency, data integrity, and accountability across business functions, product teams, and client portfolios
Workflow	Strong dependency on other tools – predominantly e-mails and WebEx – to distribute business cases and collect feedback from SMEs and obtain sign-offs from the management	Built-in workflow that can be dynamically configured for routing to select participants based on rules. Feedback and sign-offs are stored as part of the business case in one source system
Management Presentation	Usually a PowerPoint or Word document is created from Excel for management overview	The on-demand executive dashboard overview brings together the key aspects of a business case on a single page in the form of charts, tables, and other executive visuals. Ability to export charts where required.
Versions	Multiple versions are created to accommodate draft revisions, review feedbacks, and management responses	Revisions to business cases are controlled through roles and org scope; and changes reflect who did what and when through audit facility
Version Management	In general, Sharepoint is used to manage different formats (Excel and PowerPoint) and versions (v1.0, v2.0, etc.) of the same business case	Version control and auditing capability —no separate tool required for managing file formats and versions. All stay together with audit enabled to trace who did what changes and when
Financial Building Blocks	A standard set of building blocks such as functions/formulas, roll-up rows, and data consolidation are available for use making it useful for building business cases	A scalable and customizable set of building blocks is available for building financials. Ability to create customizable formulas and calculations that is specific to your organization
Financial Calculations	Calculations such as ROI, IRR, and discounted cash flows may be automated with initial upfront effort and minimal ongoing maintenance	Calculations are standardized and automated across business functions, product hierarchies, and client portfolios—key drivers like FX rates and WAAC can be sourced from other systems/sources
Scenario Management	No inherent support from Excel to build scenarios or visually compare alternatives	A built-in feature to create what-if scenarios (e.g., Buy versus Build), establish ROI & value at the scenario level, and compare alternatives
Portfolio Views	Manual aggregation of business cases into portfolio-level dashboard views and C-level reports are resource intensive and manually generated periodically	Built-in real-time on-demand views of business cases are available along with filters and options. Aggregation of data reveals important KPI's and metrics to drive more informed decisions
Data Analytics	Extremely difficult to perform data analytics on the business case data as there is no underlying database	Relatively easy to perform such analytics as data is organized and preserved in a relational database
Knowledge Management	Storing business case in individual Excel files make them very hard to collect KPIs and focus on enterprise-level strategic objectives such as competitive advantage, product innovation, and continual organization improvements	A single source of truth coupled with structured business case data makes it easier to collect KPIs and focus on knowledge management and reuse
Alignment with Org Hierarchy	Business cases are either manually aligned with organizational structures (like functional hierarchy and product views) or not done	May be aligned with various organizational hierarchies by automatically integrating CaseIQ with those system of records
Alignment with General Ledger	Linking financials to organization's chart of accounts and cost centers are either manually done or skipped as the effort becomes large	Automatic and permanent linkage feasible through enterprise integration capabilities