

Using Microsoft Visio 2007 – Creating Sequence Diagrams

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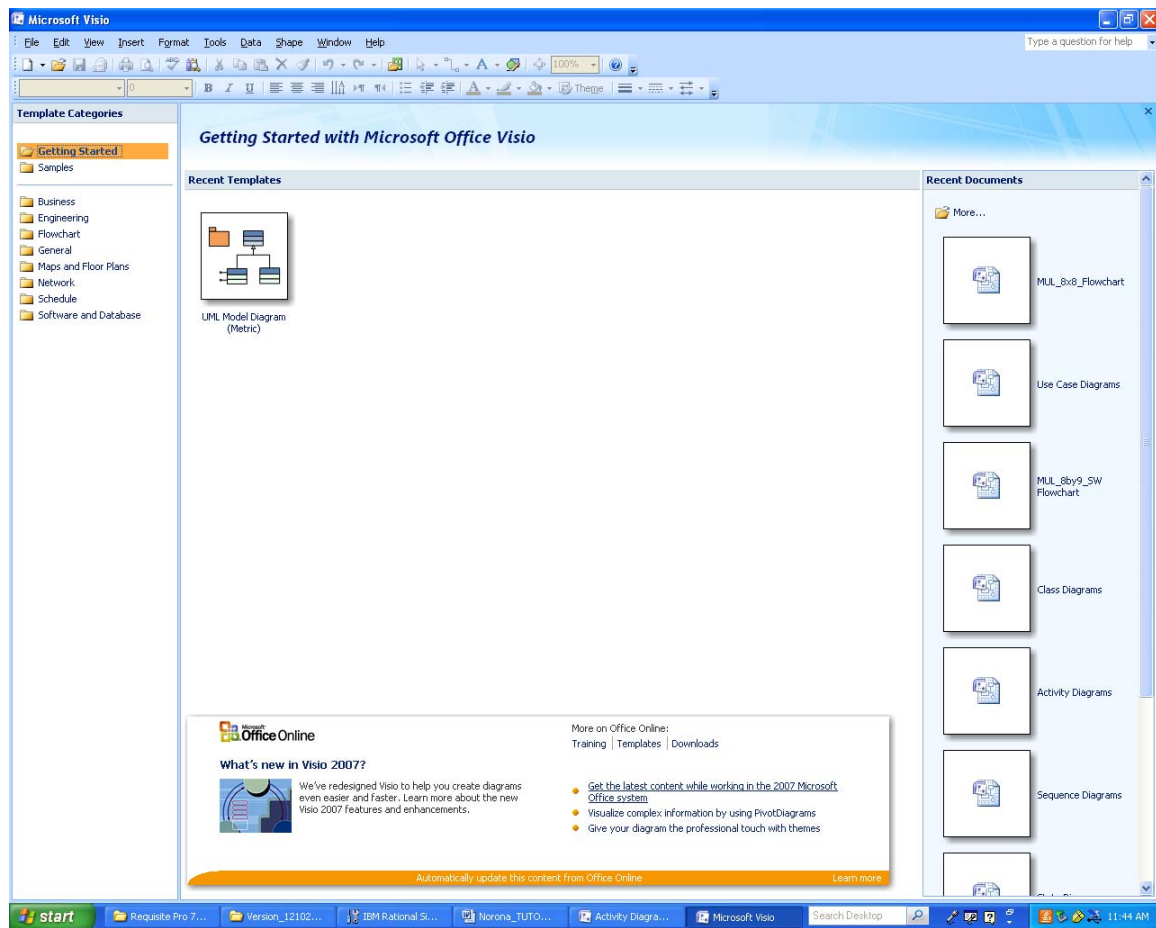
29th of January, 2009

Software requirements: Microsoft Visio 2007, Microsoft Word 97-2003, 2007.

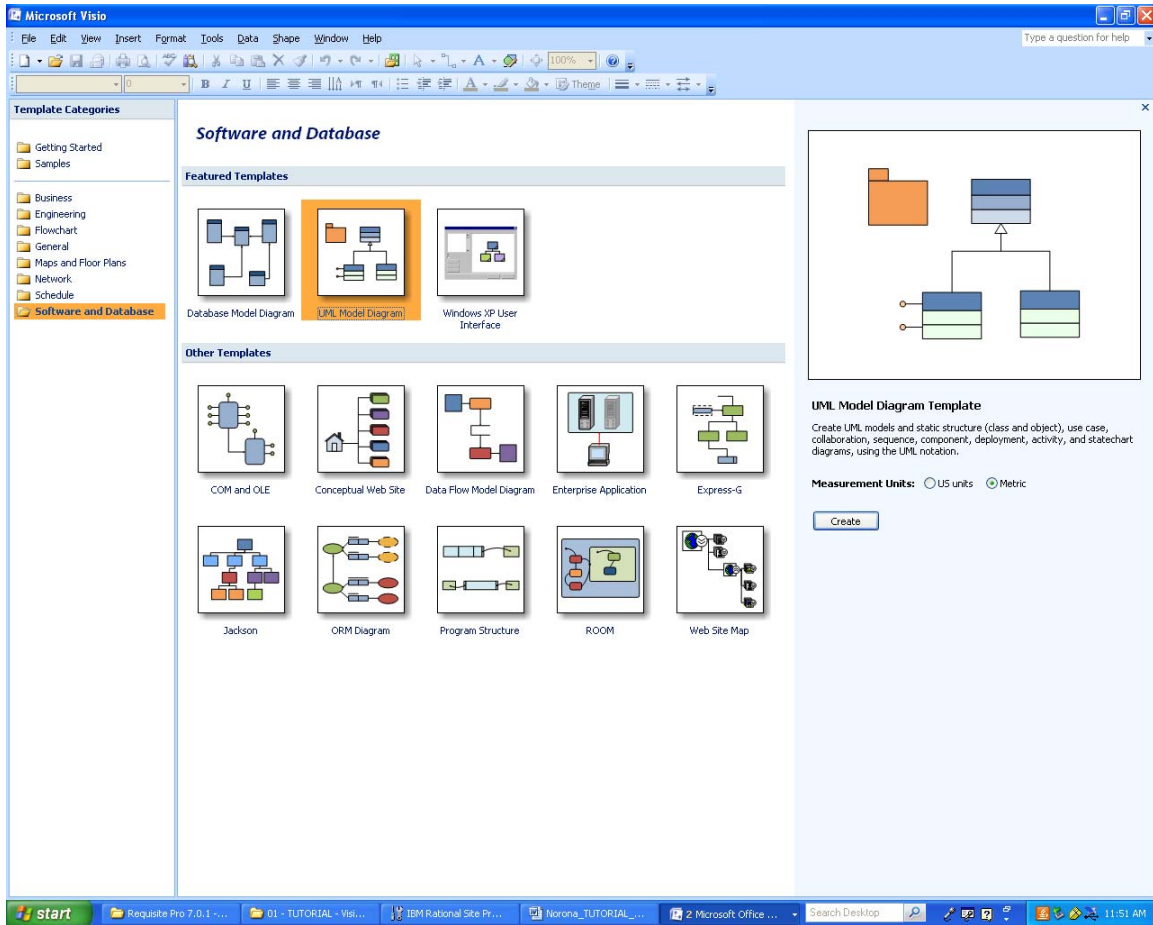
Note: This tutorial is based off of the usage of Microsoft Word 2003.

Getting Started

At the start up of Visio 2007 the window should look like this.

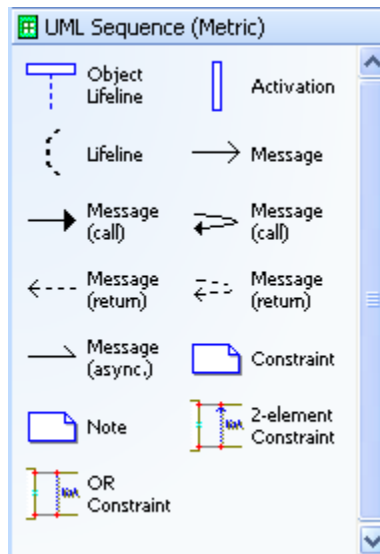


Click on **“Software and Database”** folder from the Template Categories tab then select **“UML Model Diagram”** from the Featured Templates section.



Creating Sequence Diagrams

Click on “**UML Activity**” in the left-hand side tab called Shapes. Then click on **UML Sequence** tab. Several shapes will appear that are all involved in the creation of sequence diagrams.



Sequence diagrams start out with placing the **Object Lifeline** objects onto the workspace. Extend the lifelines by clicking on the yellow diamonds and extend as necessary. **Note:** During the placing of the object lifelines you may be prompted to associate that object to a class. This is one of Visio’s features in creating skeleton code as well as making sequence diagrams easier but is not necessary at this time.

Use the **Activation** objects and place along the lifelines of the appropriate objects or actors. Activation blocks can be stretched to imply the length of time that action takes.

Use the **Message** objects to show the interaction between actors during their activation blocks.

The end result should be similar to the diagram depicted below.

