Microsoft’s EPM Solution Technology

Leverage Microsoft Office System 2007 technologies to provide a robust, familiar, and cost-effective enterprise platform. Whether installing the pre-integrated solution out-of-the-box, or extending the solution with integration to existing ERP, financial, HR, and/or other enterprise applications, users will enjoy such advantages as:

• Familiar Microsoft SharePoint user interfaces for centralized management views, analysis tools, team collaboration, document management, and workflow
• Tight integration with Microsoft Office personal productivity products (Outlook, Word, Excel, Visio, etc.)
• Transparent offline capabilities for working with projects and documents
• Seamless Windows authentication (users do not need another user ID/password)
• Powerful, scalable, and robust Microsoft SQL Server database back-end and reporting, & analysis tools
• Flexible configuration to support multiple processes and organizations that have project or portfolio management needs

In addition, the Microsoft Office System enterprise platform offers many benefits and advantages over standalone applications for IT, including:

Agile support of additional enterprise applications, while maintaining:
• High user familiarity with consistent user interfaces
• Common technology platform services and management
• Common IT support/administration skills and processes

Robustness
• Consistent feature/functionality across applications
• Flexible security models
• Reliable and scalable performance

Sustainability
• Data, application, and process integration
• Scalability and integration with other enterprise applications
• Continuity and long-term viability

In addition to finding out more about how the Microsoft EPM Solution can provide the focus, information, and tools needed to improve ROI across your organization’s portfolios, contact your Microsoft account representative.

To Find Out More…

Microsoft Enterprise Project Management (EPM)

Do the Right Things Right.
Portfolio Optimization
Unveil an integrated set of tools for managing your portfolios of projects throughout their life cycle – inception, alignment with business strategies, prioritization and selection, management of project execution, and monitoring project results.

- Use sophisticated algorithms to evaluate and prioritize projects objectively. The algorithms account for factors such as strategic alignment, financial value, budget, predicted use fit, and operational performance.
- Optimize your portfolio of project investments to maximize strategic alignment and ROI.
- Drive better risk management and portfolio decision-making.
- Improve organizational focus on results.
- More precise understanding of and control over contingencies.

The EPM Solution provides tools to help you optimize investments across your project portfolios. This example shows a selection recommendation based on a value score based on investments in prioritized business strategies, available resources, project dependencies, and mandatory projects.

Resource Management
Automatically account for work assigned to all resources, materials, and finances across all projects using a centralized resource pool. Robust Web-based reporting and analysis tools provide rich insight and forecasts of resource needs throughout the project life cycle.

- Plan, track, analyze, and forecast.
- Costs.
- Resource skills, utilization, and allocation.
- Streamline the allocation of resources to projects with genetic resources, flexible workflows, and assignment delegation.
- Gain a more accurate view of resource requirements to help you identify and mitigate resource contention before it occurs.
- Improve agility and flexibility in resource assignment changes.
- Reduce cycle times for project initiation.

The EPM Solution consolidates and centralizes information on available resources and assigned tasks across all projects. Resource profiles can be tailored to allow analysis by role, skills, locations, etc. This example shows a resource allocation forecast for a particular role over time, highlighting a period of significant over-allocation that will most likely cause contention for resources.

Executive Dashboard
Consolidated and centralized access to the most current information on every project in your portfolio helps improve visibility and accountability across your organization. This example shows a web-based dashboard view of all active projects and their current status, organized by sponsoring department.

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Team Collaboration
Leverage familiar team communication and collaboration capabilities to provide centralized, Web-based workspaces for each project.

- Centrally manage project artifacts and deliverables with a centralized document library featuring templates, check in/out, version control, workflow, archival, and search.
- Integrate tasks and calendars between EPM and Microsoft Outlook.
- Streamline common project work with integrated workflow automation.

Through an automatically created, centralized, Web-based project workspace for each project team the EPM Solution provides ready access to project information including: schedule, tasks & assignments, and risks & issues. Additionally, the solution user familiar SharePoint collaboration tools such as robust document libraries, team calendars, workflows, and e-mail notifications. This example shows how project team members can access and directly update progress on their tasks from the workspace.

Project Management
Help project managers create work breakdown structures and schedule, assign, and track tasks with Microsoft Project Professional.

- View, manage, and communicate current risks and issues of quality and project variance.
- Plan, analyze, prioritize, and automatically communicate work assignments.
- Support consistent project initiation and management processes with enterprise project and task templates, customizable project guides, and automated workflows.

The EPM Solution enhances Microsoft Project on the desktop and provides a centralized view of resource profiles and availability, allowing the project manager to work with enterprise information, such as project, task and resource attributes. This example shows the work breakdown structure (Gantt view) for a project, with a window open for assigning project resources.

Do the Right Things Right.
The Microsoft Enterprise Project Management (EPM) Solution streamlines the governance and execution of portfolios of projects throughout their life cycle – from proposal to post-implementation reporting and results. By improving the decision making, communication, risk management, and productivity within management processes, the EPM Solution helps you:

- Streamline common project work with integrated workflow automation.
- Centrally manage project artifacts and deliverables with a centralized document library featuring templates, check in/out, version control, workflow, archival, and search.
- Integrate tasks and calendars between EPM and Microsoft Outlook.
- Automate and enforce governance processes with flexible workflows.
- Gain timely insight throughout the project life cycle with centralized, Web-based views of the consolidated portfolio of projects.
- Track project performance, from business case to benefits realization, using centralized views.
- Optimize your portfolio of project investments to maximize strategic alignment and ROI.
- Drive better risk management and portfolio decision-making.
- Improve organizational focus on results.
- More precise understanding of and control over contingencies.

Consolidated and centralized access to the most current information on every project in your portfolio helps improve visibility and accountability across your organization. This example shows a web-based dashboard view of all active projects and their current status, organized by sponsoring department.