

9.12. Microsoft Project Server 2010

Version 2010



Microsoft
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 USA
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 www.microsoft.com
 (regional vendors see below)

Number of Installations and Users

Region	Installations	Users
Worldwide	> 5000000	> 5000000
North America	> 1000	> 1000
Europe	> 1000	> 1000
Germany, Austria & Switzerland	> 1000	> 1000

Number of Employees

Year	Total	Product	Developer
2004	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	55,000	300	100
2006	71,172	300	100
2007	78,565	350	130
2008	91,259	350	130
2009	92,736	350	130

Microsoft Project is well-known for its Desktop Client, a frequently used independent local installation suitable for planning individual projects. Together with the Project Server 2010, however, the Software offers a comprehensive solution for multi-project and project portfolio management, along with good functionality. The program is flexibly and broadly adaptable thanks to its powerful VBA programming language. The full potential of the program can therefore be realized only after additional implementation effort.

The 2010 version presents a more uniform face to the user than did its predecessor. Microsoft has combined the original three subcomponents into two components: Project Professional 2010, as a desktop client, and Project Server 2010. The former Project Portfolio Server has been integrated into the Project

Server. Both the user interface of the desktop application and the web application of the server are operated by the user via the ribbons that have been familiar features of Microsoft Office applications since 2007. Above all, the desktop application's clearly structured user interface is one of the leading applications in the PM software market when evaluated in terms of ergonomics.

The prerequisites for the use of Microsoft Project 2010 include a whole series of further Microsoft products; above all, Windows Server (64-bit) and SharePoint Server 2010 are required. This requirement and the close intermeshing of further Microsoft products such as SQL Server (64-bit), Excel and Visio makes the product particularly attractive to companies that are strategically aligned to adopt and to use Microsoft technologies.

Product history

1987-2000 Microsoft Project 1.0 - 2000 (with Project Central Web Server); 2002: First EPM Version (Project Server 2002); 2006: Introduction Project Portfolio Server 2006; 2010: Full integrated Project Portfolio and Project Management software

Functional Focus

Scope	56%
Time	90%
Cost	
Quality	
Resource	
Communications	
Risk	80%
Knowledge	76%
Portfolio	65%
Customer, Supplier & Order	35%
Process	48%
Administration/Config.:	

Software Maturity

Single	94%
Multi	83%
Enterprise	
Performance	
Knowledge	

Project Lifecycle Support

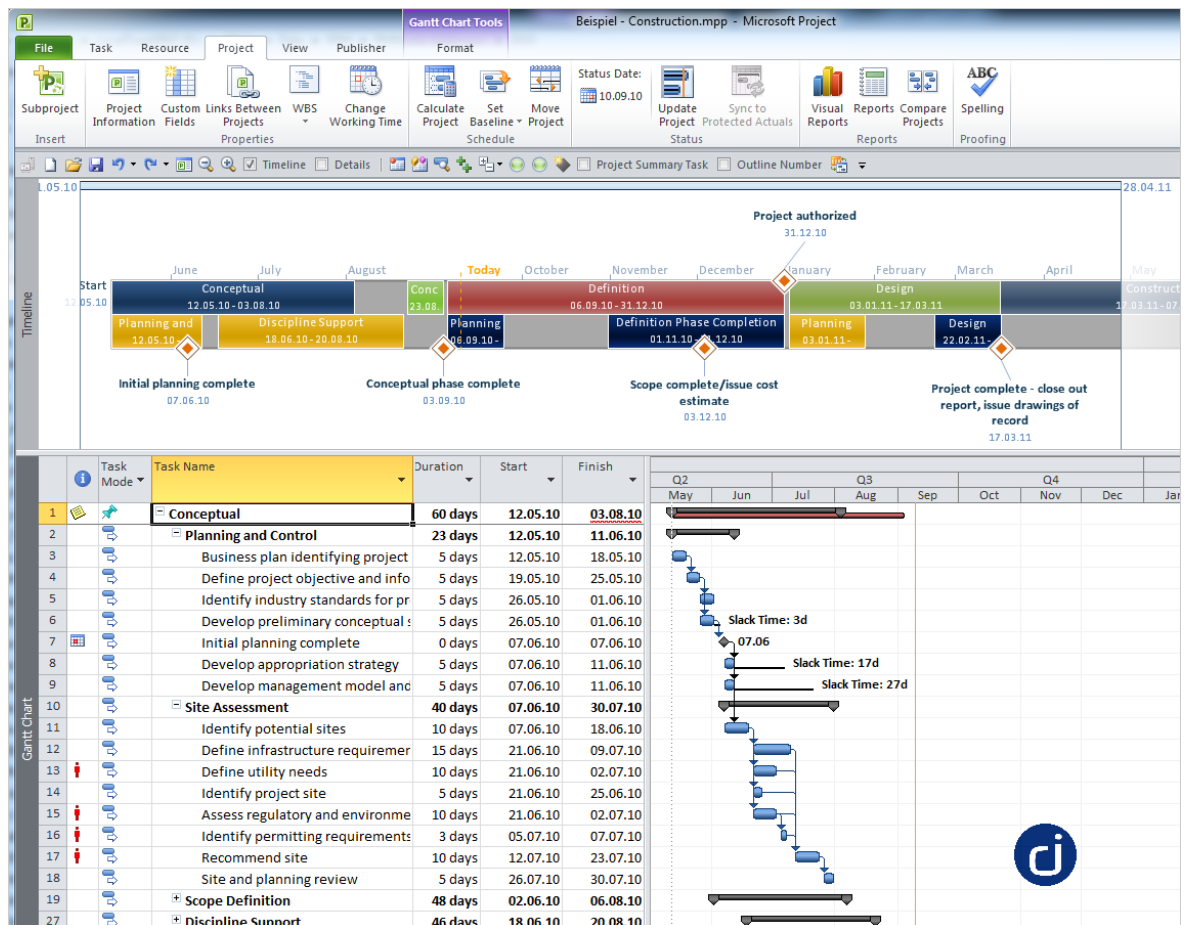
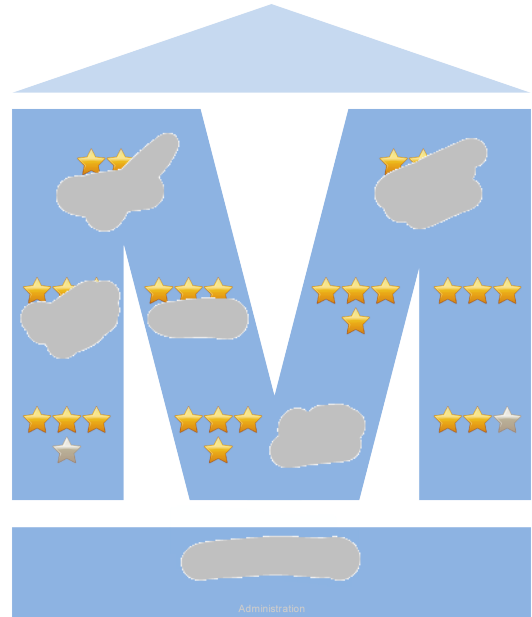


Figure 73.: Windows Client with Ribbon UI and Timeline

9. Product Assessments

Assessment Results

1	Idea Generation / Lead Mgmt.	★★★★☆	<i>sec. 7.1, p.41</i>
1.1	Creativity Techniques	S □ □ □ □	
1.2	Idea / Project Classification	██████████	
1.3	Lead Management	C C C □ □	
1.4	Project Status/ Project Process Mgmt.	██████████	
2	Idea Evaluation	★ ██████████	<i>sec. 7.2, p.43</i>
2.1	Estimation of Effort	S S □ □ □	
2.2	Resource Needs Specification	██████████	
2.3	Risk Estimation	S S S S □	
2.4	Profitability Analysis	██████████	
2.5	Project Budgeting	S S S S □	
2.6	Offer Management	██████████	
3	Portfolio Planning	★ ██████████	<i>sec. 7.3, p.49</i>
3.1	Organizational Budgeting	W W W □ □	
3.2	Project Assessment	██████████	
3.3	Project Portfolio Optimization	S S □ S □	
3.4	Project Portfolio Configuration	██████████	
4	Program Planning	★ ██████████	<i>sec. 7.4, p.52</i>
4.1	Project Templates	S S S □ □	
4.2	Resource Master Data	██████████	
4.3	Resource Assignment Workflow	S □ □ □ □	
4.4	Resource Allocation	██████████	
5	Project Planning	★★★★★	<i>sec. 7.5, p.54</i>
5.1	Work Breakdown Structure Planning	S S I S S	Visio required for WBS charting
5.2	Scope / Product Planning	██████████	
5.3	Network Planning	S S S S W	
5.4	Scheduling	██████████	
5.5	Resource Leveling	S S S S □	
5.6	Risk Planning	██████████	
5.7	Cost Planning	S S S S □	
6	Project Controlling	★ ██████████	<i>sec. 7.6, p.59</i>
6.1	Change Request Management	□ □ □ □ □	
6.2	(Travel) Expense Management	██████████	
6.3	Timesheet	S S S S S	
6.4	Cost Controlling	██████████	
6.5	Meeting Support	S S S S □	Provided by SharePoint Server

7	Program Controlling	★ [REDACTED]	<i>sec. 7.7, p.61</i>
7.1	Status Reporting	S S S S S	
7.2	Deviation Analysis / Earned Value	[REDACTED]	
7.3	Quality Controlling	S C C [] []	
7.4	Versioning	[REDACTED]	Limited to 11 unnamed baselines; full versioning via administration (PMO)
7.5	Milestone Controlling	S S S [] []	
8	Portfolio Controlling	★ [REDACTED]	<i>sec. 7.8, p.64</i>
8.1	Performance Measurement	S S S S []	
8.2	Dashboard	[REDACTED]	
8.3	Organizational Budget Controlling	W W [] [] []	
9	Program Termination	★★★	<i>sec. 7.9, p.66</i>
9.1	Knowledge Portal	S S S [] S	
9.2	Competence Database/Yellow Pages	[REDACTED]	
9.3	Project Archiving	S C W [] []	Basic backup/restore function available.
9.4	Searching	[REDACTED]	
10	Project Termination	★★★	<i>sec. 7.10, p.69</i>
10.1	Invoicing	W [] [] [] []	
10.2	Document Management	[REDACTED]	
10.3	Supplier and Claim Management	C C C [] []	
11	Administration / Configuration	[REDACTED]	<i>sec. 7.11, p.71</i>
11.1	Workflow Management	S S S [] []	Complete functionality available in SharePoint Server.
11.2	Access Control	[REDACTED]	
11.3	Report Development	S S S S S	
11.4	Form Development	[REDACTED]	
11.5	User-defined Data Structures	S S S S S	
11.6	Microsoft Office Project Interface	[REDACTED]	
11.7	Application Programming Interface	S S S S S	
11.8	Offline Usage	[REDACTED]	

Product Architecture and Technology

Architecture	Three-tier Client/Server; Web architecture
Database Management System	Microsoft SQL Server
Application Server	Proprietary Application Server (64 bit only)
Web Server	Microsoft Internet Information Server (64 bit only); Windows Server 2008 (64 bit only); (64 bit only)
Reporting Server	Microsoft SQL Server Analysis/Reporting Services
Operating System Server	Windows Server 2008 (64 bit only)
Operating System Client	Windows 2000; Windows XP; Windows Vista; Windows 7
Frontend Technologies	Windows GUI; ASPX (Project Web App Client)
Programming and Scripting Languages Used	ASP; ASP.NET; C; C#; C++; Visual Basic/Visual Basic for Applications
Languages Supported	All languages

9. Product Assessments

Service & Pricing

Contract Models	Licensing; ASP
Licensing Model	Per user on the desktop or web access
Types of Services	Telephone Hotline; Fax Hotline; Mail Support; Web-based Support System
24-7 Support	Yes
Languages	All languages
Service Rates	Price per Day
Project Manager	Individual pricing, quotation on request
Senior Consultant	Individual pricing, quotation on request
Junior Manager	Individual pricing, quotation on request
Trainer	Individual pricing, quotation on request
Programmer	Individual pricing, quotation on request

Product Pricing Examples (values indicate approximate dimensions)

Individual pricing, quotation on request

Company Profile

Product Portfolio	80%
Service Portfolio	20%
Number of worldwide subsidiaries	70
Worldwide sales and implementation partners	1000
Countries in which the software and corresponding service is available	worldwide
Average percentage of sales volume generated by the product	classified

Sales Volume

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
The manufacturer does not provide information on sales volume.	The manufacturer does not provide information on sales volume.	The manufacturer does not provide information on sales volume.	The manufacturer does not provide information on sales volume.	\$58,440 mio.

Vendors

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Industry and Reference Customers

Industries	Reference Customers (Users)
Automotive	BMW; Daimler Chrysler; Nissan

Industry and Reference Customers (continued)

Industries	Reference Customers (Users)
Banking, Insurance, Financial Industry	Axa; IKB; Leggett&Platt; Hannover Rück; Bankges. Berlin
Chemical	Rose Plastic
Construction Industry	Wicon
Energy/Utilities	
Food Industry	
Government, Public Administration	City of Braunschweig
IT	Cognis; Infineon; SAP AG
Pharmaceuticals, Healthcare	Novartis; Roche
Professional Services/Consulting	
Telecommunications	Deutsche Telekom; T-Systems; T-Mobile; Avaya/Tenovis; Swisscom IT Services; Swisscom Mobile
University, Research Institutions, Education	
Consumer Industry	Miele & Cie
Transportation and Logistics	Deutsche Bahn; Deutsche Post
Travel and Tourism	
Military, Space, Aviation	
Engineering	Vaillant; Dräger; Heidelberger Druck
Media	RTL; Gruner+Jahr
Other	

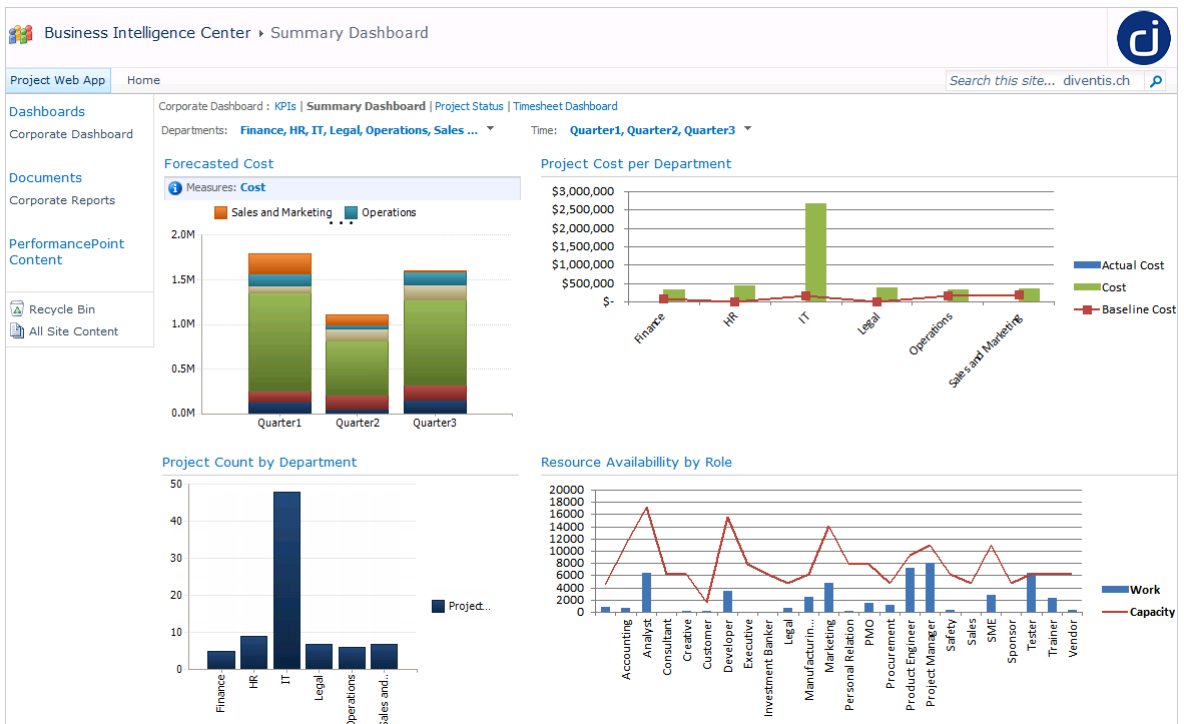


Figure 74.: Dashboard View

Assessment Summary

Microsoft Project 2010 is a modular enterprise project management system consisting of several building blocks. The desktop software Microsoft Project Professional includes functionality from the areas of resource management, definition of project plans, and maintenance of project templates.

Individual project plans can be edited, and projects can be planned and controlled, by using the desktop software. Microsoft Project occupies a special position in the market for PM software. To many users, the Desktop Client is an industry benchmark. Its use is very widespread; "Project" is occasionally used as a synonym for project management software. Some third-party suppliers even forego the development of their own functions for the editing of project data and integrate Microsoft Client into their own multi-project management solution instead.

Without supplementary software, however, the Client can only be used efficiently for single project management. For smaller multiproject management environments, Microsoft offers the option of synchronizing data by means of a Sharepoint Server. Nevertheless, the user can only obtain a full-value multiproject management solution if Microsoft Project Server is used as an additional component. This installation then requires Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010 as its third compulsory component.

The first desktop version of Microsoft Project was launched in 1989. Since then, the software has been steadily enhanced. The first EPM solution was brought to market in 2002. The 2003 release offered extended functionality for baselines, financial reporting, and the use of templates. With the acquisition of UMT, Microsoft gained momentum in providing project portfolio management functionality. The former UMT system became the Microsoft Office Project Portfolio server and completes the EPM solution in the area of strategic project management. The Project Portfolio Server has been integrated into the Project Server with the release of the 2010 version.

First Impressions and Usability

The Microsoft Project *desktop* solution is a well-known, generally recognized project management software product. Its look and feel, as well as its user interface design in terms of menu structures, toolbars, and shortcuts, all re-

semble those familiar from applications belonging to the Microsoft Office product family. Initial orientation will therefore be easy for users already familiar with Microsoft applications.

The ribbon operating concept already familiar from Office 2007 has been adopted both for the desktop client and for the web application of the Project Server in the 2010 version. The client offers a function that serves to highlight changes to the project plan. It also offers a new timeline view. This view displays excerpts from the project plan. For example, it can display certain milestones or important events on a timeline. The timeline can be exported to PowerPoint in order to develop a presentation.

The user interface of the *Project Server* combines ribbons with navigation features familiar from typical sharepoint webpages. A ribbon bar is available to the user at the top edge of the browser window. Further program functions are offered for selection at the left-hand side. This concept does not always appear to have been implemented consistently. For example, a "Risks" button appears both on the ribbon and in the left-hand navigation bar. Excel is used as a web application for individual functions, e.g., for budgeting. At times the ribbons of the Project Server overlap those of the integrated Excel application in use for this purpose. Overall, however, the new ribbons contribute significantly to the fact that the web interface appears tidy and intuitively operable.

With its new operating concept, the Desktop Client of the 2010 version ranks among the leading products in the market in terms of ergonomics.

Altogether, Microsoft Project offers one of the more ergonomic *web-based* user interfaces. The average user will be productive within a relatively short period of time. The former Microsoft Office Project Portfolio Server followed a slightly different user interface approach for historical reasons. This approach has been changed with Microsoft Project 2010. The portfolio management functions are now highly compatible with the operating concepts that govern the application as a whole.

Functionality

Microsoft Project's *scheduling* and time management support all dependency types. Constraints and time lags can be taken into con-

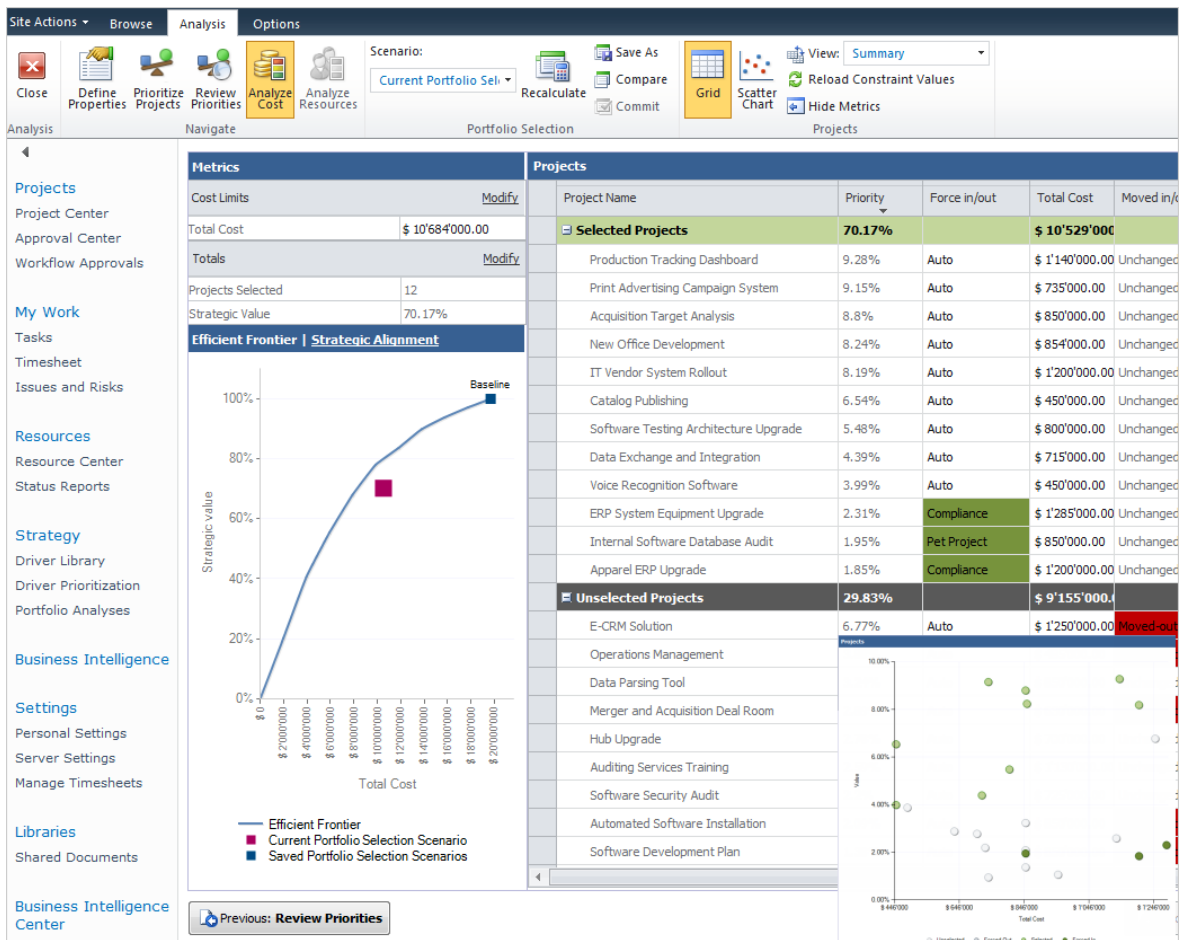


Figure 75.: The Efficient Frontier Analysis within the Web based Portfolio Management Module