

EPK-MPPlus

Web-based consolidator for Microsoft Office Project[®]

EPK-MPPlus enhances an organization's utilization of the world's most popular project scheduling system: Microsoft Office Project. EPK Group applied its years of experience in the project and portfolio management field to produce a system which enhances an organization's investment in its project scheduling software.

Key strengths of EPK-MPPlus are:

- *Consolidation of Project schedules. Managers and executives can now see the current Microsoft Office Project schedule detail task plans simply using just their web browser. Any number of projects and all levels of detail can be viewed quickly.*
- *Enables "management by key milestones". The system uses a variety of milestone symbols to identify milestone level and progress against the baseline dates is clearly shown by color coding of the symbols.*
- *Comprehensive Budgeting/Cost Management. Easily budget your projects with a user definable Cost category structure. Project budgets can be broken down by Labor (with Employee/Contractor breakdown and further breakdown by Role/Skill), Hardware, Software, Overheads, and Contingency.*
- *Multiple Rate Tables. EPK-MPPlus allows rates to be established at each level of your Cost Category structure, and also allows rates to be set by Role/Skill, Job Title, or for an individual resource. This means that your initial budget may have just one rate for Employee Labor and another rate for Contract Labor. But when your detail Project Plan is created, the time-phased cost for resources can be based on the rate for each resource on a task by Role/Skill or that particular resource's rate. And all rates can vary by timeframe.*
- *Compare Budget costs and manpower vs. the cost and manpower of the detail Project schedule in Microsoft Office Project.*
- *The system's documented, open database permits the use of standard reporting tools such as Microsoft SQL Server Reporting Services. Sample SQL Reporting Services RDL files are available to allow you to quickly develop comprehensive production reports.*
- *Integration with Windows SharePoint Services. Centralize your MPP files on WSS. Create views that show issues/risks (or any WSS "list") across multiple projects. These views can show graphical symbols for items that are late using the powerful views generator included.*
- *EPK-MPPlus is built on the latest Microsoft Windows .NET architecture and supports SQL Server 2005/2008 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0.*
- *A sophisticated security mechanism that is easy to administer allows control of what data can be viewed/edited, and what functions are available to specific users or groups of users.*
- *EPK-MPPlus allows for import/export of data with other applications and reporting systems.*
- *Works with any version of Microsoft Office Project.*
- *Low cost licensing. Just \$9995 for 50 users. Full credit for EPK-MPPlus license fees paid toward upgrades to EPK-Suite.*
- *Fast implementation. Get production results quickly. EPK-MPPlus installs in less than an hour and includes a Guided Tour and matching sample database which walks you through system functions and gives you a head start for creating your own Cost Categories, views, etc. The Guided Tours database can be accessed at any time as your production configuration of the system is enhanced.*

The view below shows one of the most powerful features of EPK-MPPlus, the ability to compare the resource man-hours and cost (based on the current or baseline Microsoft Office Project® schedule) with the estimate/budget done for each project. This view utilizes the “cell color graphical indicator” feature of the EPK-MPPlus views generator. Note the Cost Category structure of the Projax project showing a breakdown to the primary role level (Business Analyst, Consultant):

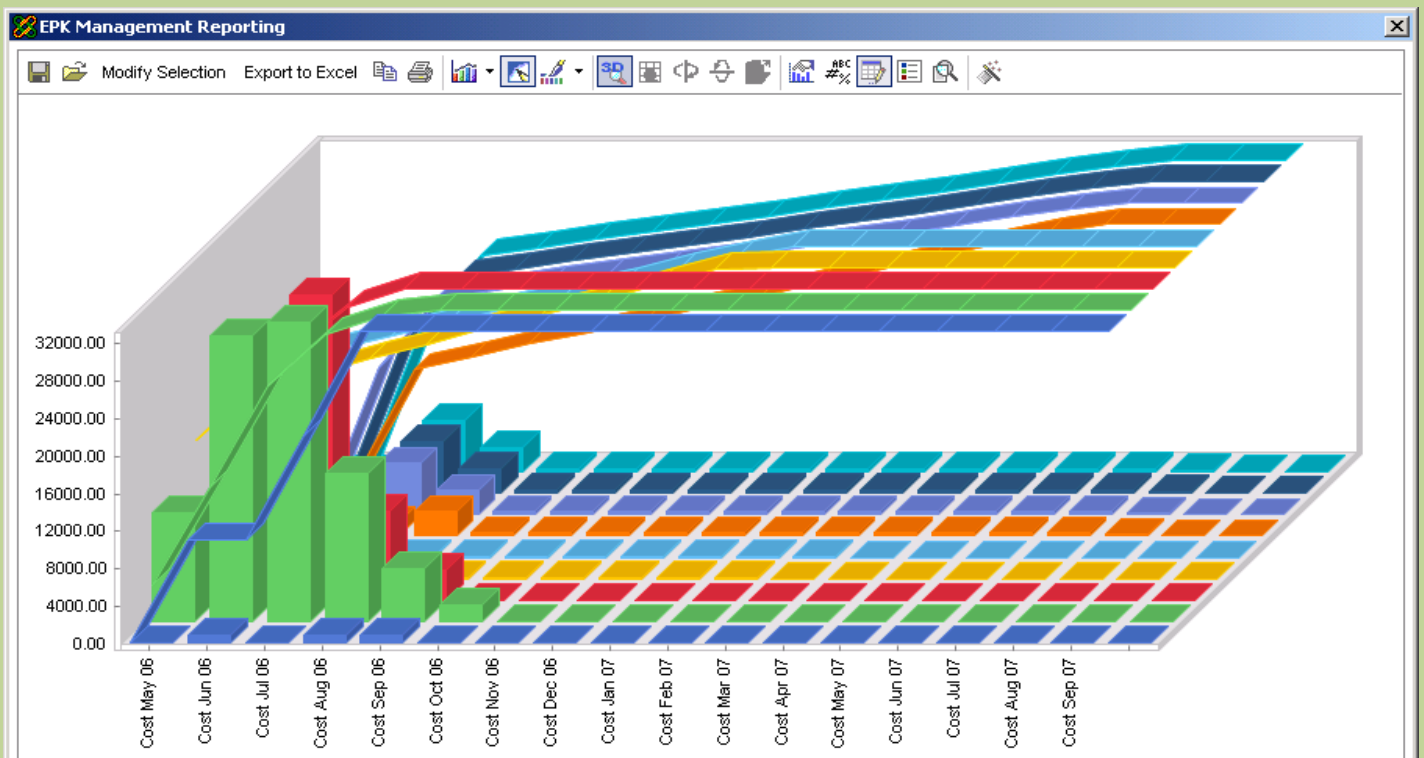
Status Date: 1/26/2008 Choose View: MSP Work vs Estimate

Options Sort and Group+ Filter Search

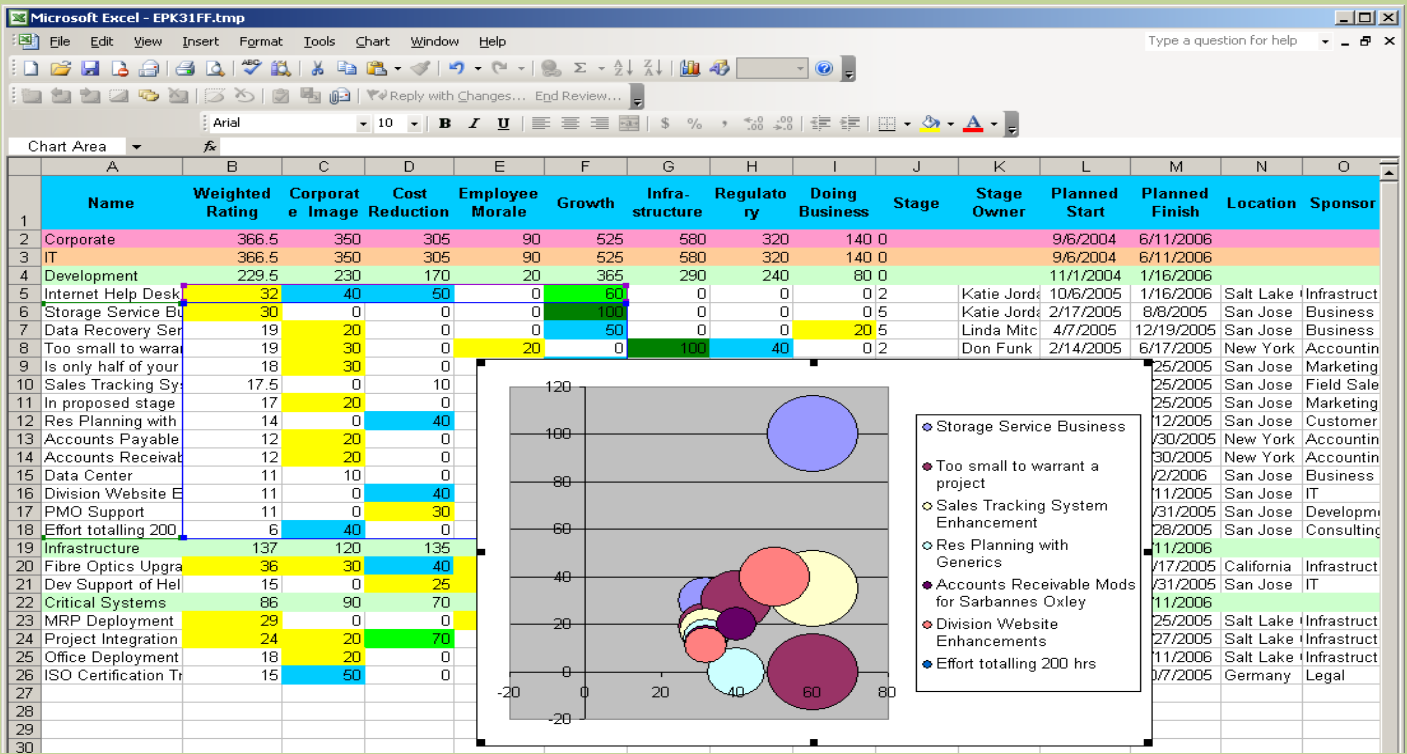
Create Details [Icons] [xml]

Open MPP	Name	Definition	PI Start	PI Finish	Category	UoM	Jan 08		Feb 08		Mar 08	
							Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		1/1/2008	7/18/2008	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimate		710	\$89,500	1370	\$68,500	1300	\$88,000
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSP Work		256.15	\$13,885	1443.69	\$97,292	1895.74	\$130,507
	Accounts Systems Review		2/11/2008	5/23/2008	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimate				180	\$9,000	160	\$8,000
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSP Work		62.4	\$3,120	273.6	\$13,680	396	\$19,800
	Assets Database Design		1/14/2008	4/25/2008	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimate		460	\$25,000	320	\$16,000	160	\$11,000
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSP Work		62.4	\$3,120	273.6	\$13,680	396	\$19,800
	Data Center Business		1/1/2008	7/18/2008	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimate		200	\$62,000	340	\$17,000	400	\$40,000
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSP Work		89	\$4,450	307.59	\$15,380	211.74	\$10,587
	Projax		1/1/2008	4/30/2008	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimate		50	\$2,500	530	\$26,500	580	\$29,000
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSP Work		42.35	\$3,195	588.9	\$54,553	892	\$80,320
					<input type="checkbox"/> CAP		42.35	\$3,195	588.9	\$54,553	892	\$80,320
					<input type="checkbox"/> Labor	hr	42.35	\$3,195	588.9	\$54,553	892	\$80,320
					<input type="checkbox"/> Inhouse	hr	42.35	\$3,195	588.9	\$54,553	892	\$80,320
					<input type="checkbox"/> Business Analyst	hr	34.68	\$2,428	144.58	\$18,121	296	\$28,728
					<input type="checkbox"/> Consultant	hr	7.67	\$767	444.32	\$44,432	596	\$59,600

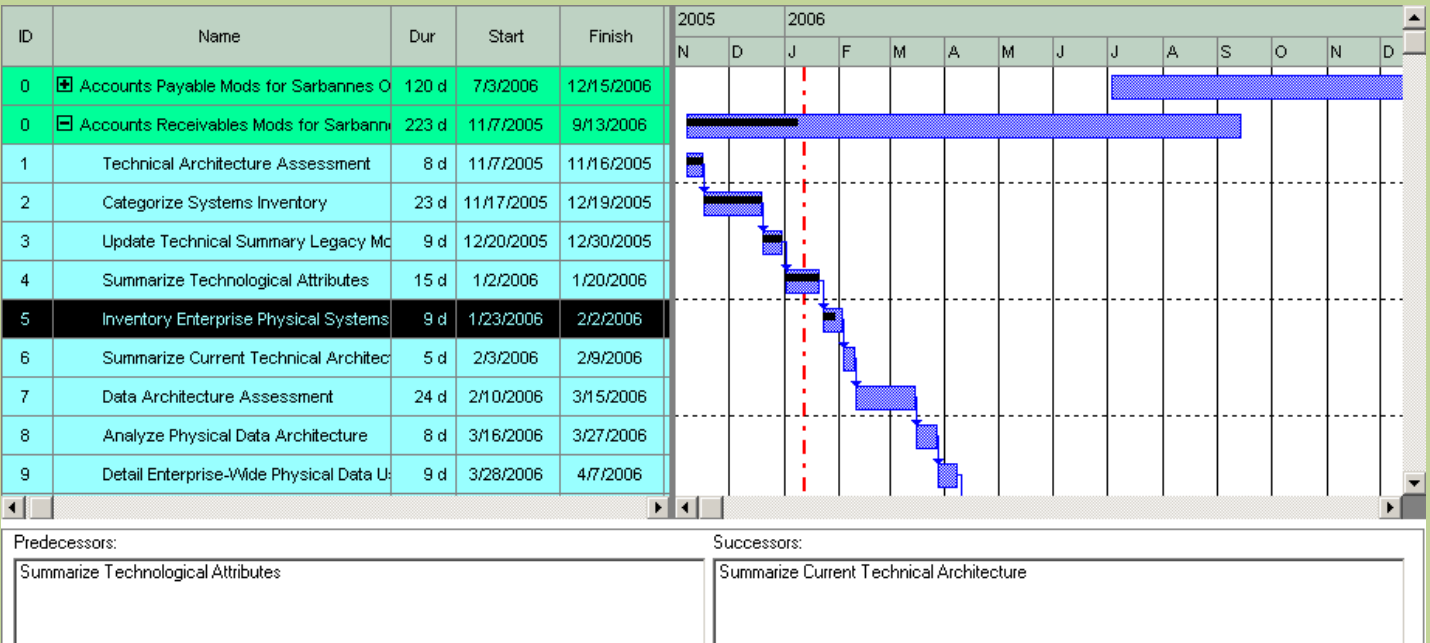
A management graphics view:



Views in EPK-MPPlus can be directly exported to Excel:



Drill into the detail tasks for multiple projects:









EPK-MPPlus Collaboration Features

EPK-MPPlus integrates with Windows SharePoint Services (WSS) for team collaboration, document management, and tracking issues, risks, change control items, etc. WSS is a powerful collaboration tool, providing for the creation of team workspaces for projects. The standard EPK-MPPlus project template provides the ability to track issues and risks on projects, and provides a common repository for project documents.

- EPK-MPPlus creates sites for new initiatives and support/operational efforts before a project schedule is established.
- The system’s views generator can show issues, risks, and any other collaboration list across multiple projects, answering questions like “show me the risks on all projects in the infrastructure department”.
- Views can have graphical indicators and complete printing flexibility.

This sample view shows issues across multiple projects and highlights critical ones:

Item Name	Issue Title	Issue Status	Owner	▲ Due Date	On Schedule	Priority
[-] (1) High						
In proposed stage before a project	Feasibility study taking significant effort	(1) Active		3/17/2005		(1) High
[-] (2) Medium						
Effort totalling 200 hrs	issue3 for Q	(1) Active				(2) Medium
Storage Service Business	Storage space problem	(1) Active		2/25/2005		(2) Medium
Supporting Financial Application	Lack of Java staff	(1) Active		3/10/2005		(2) Medium
Storage Service Business	Technology changing	(1) Active		3/18/2005		(2) Medium
Effort totalling 200 hrs	Delay in dependency	(1) Active		4/22/2005		(2) Medium

About EPK Group LLC

The EPK Group founders average more than 30 years experience in the project management field, including the consulting, implementation, and project management systems development. Over that period they have led the development and introduction to the marketplace of many leading edge project and portfolio management systems on platforms from mainframes to today’s web servers.

Next Steps:

Learn how EPK-MPPlus can work for your organization:

- Schedule a comprehensive webcast demo of the system. In just 60 minutes you will see the full capabilities of the system and understand how it can be configured to meet your requirements.
- Arrange for a 30 day, free evaluation of EPK-MPPlus on your hardware. The system installs in 30 minutes and includes a completely configured database and comprehensive Guided Tour which walks you through the system functions.
- Try the system out on our hosted service. Just connect to our web service for a week at no cost.

To arrange any of the above go to www.epkgroup.com and click on the respective link. Or contact EPK Group at: info@epkgroup.com or call (561) 310-7279.