TPG® Product Catalog

Simplify your daily work in project, program, portfolio and resource management with Microsoft Technology
TPG® The Project Group

Competent Consulting and Intelligent Solutions for a Higher PM Maturity Level

TPG The Project Group is an international full service provider of consulting and solutions for enterprise-wide project management. The company focuses on Microsoft technologies and their integration with SAP and other enterprise systems.

A Microsoft Gold Certified Partner, TPG provides international companies with expert advice, flexible implementation, intelligent PM solutions, and a higher PM maturity level that makes a real contribution to business performance. The company complements its offerings with seminars on Microsoft Project and project management methodologies.

Subsidiaries and Partner in an International Environment

With several subsidiaries in Europe, the USA and the MEA region as well as a global network of authorized partners, TPG provides its services to large and medium-sized companies in all industries that work with project management.

Products for Easy and Efficient Working

Tried-and-tested TPG products extend the capabilities of Microsoft Project, Project Server, Project Online, SharePoint Server and SharePoint Online for many recurring scenarios. They optimally support your roles and processes. Your work becomes easier and more efficient.

Produkt-Highlights

- TPG PSLink®: world-wide-leading and SAP certified product for the integration with ERP Systems
- TPG ProjectLink: transparency in multi-project and program management
- TPG TeamManager: clearly laid out resource planning and coordination between project and line managers
- TPG CoRePlanner: project and budget planning in SharePoint
- TPG PortfolioPlanner: portfolio planning with optimal resource utilization
- TPG MTA: milestone trend analysis for clear milestone reports

For more products and services please visit our website:

www.theprojectgroup.com/products

Microsoft Project and Portfolio Management (PPM)

Microsoft PPM is an enterprise-wide solution for project and portfolio management. It is a platform for planning, information, and communication that spans multiple projects and departments. The current version is Microsoft Project Server 2016.

Microsoft PPM is used for the group of components Microsoft Project Professional, Microsoft Project Server, and Project Web App in the versions 2007 to 2016 for browser-based access.

Embedded in SharePoint Server with the components Business Intelligence, Reporting, Document Administration, List Administration and Workflows, it provides one work environment for all stakeholders – from management to project managers through to project staff. Starting from Version 2010, it also includes features for portfolio management.

Project Online is the cloud-based solution of Project Server which is constantly updated.
TPG PSLink®
A Leading Product Integrating Microsoft Project with ERP Systems

THE BENEFITS:
- Simplifies multiple tasks with streamlined, end-to-end project management processes
- Integrated project planning, cost accounting, collaboration and document management
- Eliminates dual data maintenance
- Improved data quality for project leaders, accounting staff and management
- Mobile use of ERP data
- Multitenant capability

FEATURES AT A GLANCE:
- Very rapid implementation due to extensive configuration options
- Middleware with Web client and Microsoft Project add-in
- Bidirectional data exchange
- Comprehensive checking mechanisms for max. reliability
- Full integration with Microsoft Project Server security system
- Synchronization can be manual or automated with its own job queue administration
- Supports as many ERP systems, ERP clients and Project Server sites as required
- Proven solution since 1998 with multiple international customer references
- Multi-lingual interface

TPG PSLink® is a worldwide leading middleware product for data exchange between project management, ERP and other systems. The extensive checking mechanisms ensure the complete consistency of data shared between the systems. The SAP certified product is very flexible. Its configurability is unrivaled and the integration can be implemented in a minimum of time.

COMPUTABILITY: Microsoft Project Online, Microsoft Project Server 2010 - 2016, Microsoft SharePoint Online, Microsoft SharePoint 2010 - 2016, SAP ERP, SAP PPM, Microsoft Dynamics, Microsoft TFS, Atlassian JIRA

Other systems (CRM, LOB ...) as well as R/W on databases and files

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www.theprojectgroup.com/pslink
WORKING EASIER AND MORE EFFICIENT

TPG PSLink® and TPG ResourceLink are connectivity products that are essential for designing and implementing company-wide project and portfolio management solutions based on Microsoft Project, SharePoint, Primavera, JIRA and ERP systems such as SAP or Dynamics. They combine portfolios, projects, finance and human resources in a well-integrated solution that increases your project management efficiency.

IMPORTANT INTEGRATION BUSINESS CASES USING THE EXAMPLE OF SAP

- Any SAP module data can be exchanged by configuring the direction, conditions, allocations and filter criteria.
- Structures can be partly or fully synchronized with SAP PS in both directions. Structures can be filtered using any criteria, such as the relationship with Microsoft Project tasks or online code field definitions.
- TPG PSLink® covers a wide range of SAP network-based business cases. For example, Microsoft Project tasks can be mapped with SAP network activities, either directly or using configurable consolidation logic. The synchronization can also include the other SAP network objects, such as activity elements, material components and milestones.
- Exchanging data with PM orders works in a similar way, enabling the integration of projects for machine maintenance and plant inspection. Staff can perform scheduling and resource planning and monitor the project’s progress – all within Microsoft Project.

A key feature in TPG PSLink® is the exchange of internal and external costs with any SAP cost object. Planned values for work and primary costs can be aggregated to any cost accounting parameter, such as WBS element, internal order, cost center, and cost and activity type. With this SAP-compliant aggregation, the values can be transferred into SAP activity input and primary cost planning, always in relation to the relevant period of the fiscal year.

- Along with forecasts, TPG PSLink® can transfer posted time from Microsoft Project to SAP CATS or to CO activity allocation documents. It can also import in the other direction – from SAP into Microsoft Project.
- TPG PSLink® also supports the exchange of data between SAP and Microsoft SharePoint.
- Resource master data such as personal identification numbers or cost centers, are the essential basis for all additional business cases. TPG ResourceLink makes sure that the resource pool is in synchronism with SAP at all times.

„Using TPG PSLink, we have been able to reduce the time needed for our regular budget planning from three man-weeks to one man-day. The system delivers additional savings by avoiding the need to fill in timesheets twice, in MS Project and SAP. The bidirectional integration saves us more than 1 man-year of time and effort annually.”

HELMUT KÖLBL, HARMAN INTERNATIONAL

„With Project Server linked to SAP, we can gauge the financial success of projects, comparing actual with budgeted figures, and provide management with the ability to exert meaningful control.”

JANI SAARINEN, KEMIRA

SOME TPG PSLINK REFERENCES

Airbus, GER/FRA
BAE Systems, GBR
Bosch (BSH), GER
DESY, GER
Dimension Data, MEA
Dürr, GER
ELM, MEA
E.ON, GER
Exxaro Coal Mines, MEA
Goodyear, GER/USA
Grupo Leao, BRA
Hamburg Port Authority, GER
Harman International, GER/USA
Helsinki City Transport, FIN
Hydro Quebec, CAN
Irish Rail, IRL
Johnson Controls, GER
Karl Storz, GER
Kemira, FIN
KFW, GER
Lonza, GBR
MAN Diesel & Turbo, GER
NATS, GBR
QinetiQ, GBR
Rentschler Biotechnologie, GER
Rheinmetall, GER/CHE/CAN
Siemens Energy, GER
Siemens Mobility, CHE
Stora Enso, FIN
Swisscom, CHE
Tecnisa, BRA
Tyco Electronics, USA
Vailant Group, GER
Vorwerk, GER
Votorantim, BRA
TPG ProjectLink
Increased Transparency in Multi-Project / Program Management

Efficient collaboration across projects is a key success factor in multi-project management. Project managers use TPG ProjectLink to link external tasks to their own planning. They can mirror the bar charts or link data to existing tasks in their own schedule, enabling them to see at a glance which external tasks have changed and how. That makes it much easier to adapt information where necessary.

You can have multi-project overviews – containing information relevant to the management of the project, such as milestones and traffic light status indicators – created and updated automatically (bottom-up). With TPG ProjectLink, tasks can then be automatically transferred back into the sub-projects (top-down). This information flow forms the basis of consistent and convenient program management.

**THE BENEFITS:**
- Increased transparency through cross-project links between tasks
- At-a-glance, multi-project overviews of the project portfolio's current status (Status Board)
- Enforcing targets in program management
- Simple creation of project links between different companies
- Clear, graphical comparison of a project manager’s own tasks with external tasks
- Better performance with easy links to external projects without having to open each project

**FEATURES AT A GLANCE:**
- Choice of data sources including Microsoft Project Server sites, SharePoint lists and SQL databases
- Even notes and any user-defined fields are easy to transfer
- Configurable field mapping to suit a wide range of individual business cases
- Easy set-up of links with the innovative Task Picker (access rights are managed by the Microsoft Project Server permissions system)
- Mirroring of external tasks into the project manager’s own project
- Preview and update of linked information on demand

www.theprojectgroup.com/projectlink
**IMPORTANT BUSINESS CASES FOR PROJECTLINK**

TPG ProjectLink is very flexible and supports a range of different business cases. Project managers are able to connect their project with others using the innovative task picker or free configurable rules.

- **Multi-project overviews with status in MS Project:** You can run SQL queries and combine relevant milestones from individual projects into a multi-project overview for the steering committee. Alongside the time-related details, you can add information about the status of a particular project (e.g. with traffic light indicators). This is useful for reporting and forwarding schedules in MS Project format that only include a part of the information available (see figure, previous page).

- **Program management with MS Project:** Automated bottom-up and top-down links provide optimal support for the information flow between the steering committee and the project managers (see figure, previous page).

- **Linking single projects in MS Project:** Project managers can choose which tasks from external projects they want to link to their own schedules. Using preconfigured link options, they can decide whether to allow their schedule to be changed externally or to only let others view the data.

- **Ad-hoc queries on the task level:** As a project manager, you can run any queries you choose, e.g. display all tasks from different projects within a specific timeframe. You can view them without needing to open each of the relevant projects.

- **Coordination of project/line (line organization):** Depending on your organizational structure, project managers can request help from team leaders in the form of deliverables or work to be done by their staff. In a line organization, TPG ProjectLink enables you to align the data on the deliverables in the project plan with the detailed information in the relevant team plans (see figure above). For matrix organizations, see separate product TPG TeamManager.

“TPG ProjectLink has greatly facilitated planning as managers can see at a glance whether, and how, delays in a different project will have an impact on their own.”

PETER ZENK, LONZA AG
The TPG TeamManager is a web-based tool to help team leaders plan resources. It shows every team member’s complete workload plan, including line activities, absences and project work. In matrix organizations, team leaders need to be able to identify free project capacity, so that they can quickly agree to resource requests. This is exactly what TPG TeamManager does. It is a SharePoint app that runs in all common browsers.

The planning view for team leaders shows the capacity utilization of the team resources along with project requests in the overview. Ideally, all the project and resource fields would be green, meaning that no resource were overloaded and project requests for resources could be met. This is hard to do in the real world – but the tool enables team leaders to immediately spot the fields that are not green, indicating that something needs to be done.

**THE BENEFITS:**

- Project managers and team leaders can coordinate and agree on resource plans more easily
- Efficient handling of project resource requests and resource allocation in a single tool
- Increased reliability of project resource plans for project managers
- Minimized project delays and overbooked / overloaded resources
- Overviews provide a basis for decisions on additional resource requirements

**FEATURES AT A GLANCE:**

- Graphical traffic-light view of workload of every team member and of the teams
- Charts of resource requests and commitments with upward aggregation
- Optional integration with Microsoft Project Server, including the permissions model

**TPG TeamManager**

The Perfect Tool for Team Leaders to Manage their Entire Resource Planning

www.theprojectgroup.com/teammanager
INTEGRATION WITH MICROSOFT PROJECT SERVER

If required, you can also connect Microsoft Project Server – as your project management platform – to TPG TeamManager. This is how it works:

- The app imports the resource capacities from the Microsoft Project Server Resource Pool.
- Team leaders plan all non-project related activities and absences for each of their team members in TPG TeamManager.
- They import all resource requests from Microsoft Project Server into the app at the project level.
- They commit available resources from Microsoft Project Server into the app at the project level.
- They commit available resources to projects or redistribute activities to optimize the team’s workload.

CONNECTION TO PROJECTS

- TPG TeamManager joins resource requests from projects and the associated confirmations from the team leader.
- The confirmations from line managers are displayed in the project, where the project managers can compare them to their initial project requests.
- TeamManager provides a solid basis for comparing requests from the project side and confirmations from the line side, making it easier for both sides to agree.

STACKED UTILIZATION VS. CAPACITY

The bar charts show the overall utilization of the chosen resources and activities along with the resource capacity line. The height of the bars and the resource line are always the same in both charts. Users can select the resources on the left and activities on the right.

The detailed project view shows a project with resources allocated to it.
When you are planning projects and cost centers, you know how it is with Excel – you end up with different versions of the file, stored in different locations. And then you still have to add in your finance department’s budgeting requirements. You will not have this problem when you work with Microsoft Project Web App. Still, you will not be able to plan cost resources or enter time-phased information on work and costs. Using Excel or Project Web App for project and budget planning limits what you can do and is also more labor-intensive. This is where TPG CoRePlanner can help. Whether you are a project manager or a cost center manager, you can do all your budget and project planning with a tool that has been specially developed for that purpose. It will make you much more efficient.

THE BENEFITS:
- Simple and fast work and cost planning
- Easy-to-use interface with only the most essential functions
- Working like Excel but with more advantages
- Minimal training requirement (1-2 hours)
- Budget planning is based on flexible rates of exchange
- Maximum data quality with centralized data storage
- If required: direct data transfer to ERP systems

FEATURES AT A GLANCE:
- Centralized data storage in SQL Server
- Configurable structure for project tasks
- Resource capacity and cost rates are variable over time
- Currency conversion is be variable over time
- Check-in/check-out function

www.theprojectgroup.com/coreplanner
WORK COMFORTABLY AND EFFICIENTLY

TPG CoRePlanner allows you to work in your preferred browser in a similar way to Excel. The concise interface helps you concentrate on the essential functions and makes the product very easy to use.

Another advantage is that your data is stored in a central database. That eliminates the hassle of working with several different Excel files. You can also involve your finance department in the process by connecting the solution to an ERP system, such as SAP.

BUDGET PLANNING REQUIRES RELIABLE DATA

To really help you make your budgets more reliable, TPG CoRePlanner provides a time-phased conversion of work into costs.

If you are using resources with a currency different from the project, the tool calculates the costs accordingly using an exchange rate, you can adapt the rate every month if required.

The data is stored in a central database, an important prerequisite for the quality of your data.

VIEWS AND TOOLS TO SUPPORT YOUR TASKS

With a flexible range of options for views, you always have an overview of the current situation, even in large projects. As with Excel, you can work with spreadsheets and toggle between the task and resource views. You can also simply copy and paste your existing data into the tool from Excel.

As an alternative, an easy-to-read matrix enables you to assign resources to tasks. Using the “move selection right” command you know from Excel, you simply drag and drop your data along the time line.

ENHANCED DATA FOR THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The user-defined fields enable you to assign planning content and resources to objects from an ERP system, such as cost centers and types, WBS elements, CO orders etc.

Data sets prepared in this way can be sent to and from the ERP system, reliably and conveniently, using integration tools like TPG PSLink.

That makes a decisive contribution to efficient collaboration between your project managers and financial staff.
TPG PortfolioPlanner

Optimal resource utilization due to Easy Portfolio Planning by drag and drop

The Benefits:
- Manual ad-hoc optimization of resource and budget utilization by simple drag and drop
- Graphical simulation of the current state of projects and immediate view of the impact on the resources involved
- Summary of all project data in an easy-to-read diagram

Compatibility:
- Microsoft Project Server 2007 - 2016

When a great idea finally turns into a real, approved project, the first question is usually: Do we have the right resources and budget to enable us to start the project? TPG PortfolioPlanner allows you to aggregate the resource and budget allocations from new and current projects at the project level and show each one as a task in Microsoft Project. An additional view is available that shows you the capacity utilization per team and the budget as an overview that facilitates decision-making.

Current and new projects are displayed in different colors in the bar chart and histograms. Just drag the project bars in Microsoft Project with your mouse until the resource and cost peaks are below the overload level. You can simply activate and deactivate projects and adapt resource and budget capacity accordingly.

Features at a Glance:
- Simultaneous display of consolidated project schedules (one bar per project) along with several consolidated resource and cost histograms
- Variable portfolio resource and cost type summaries – by department, by subsidiary etc.
- Highly configurable graphics (bars and lines)
- Existing and new projects can be taken / loaded from the Project Server or any other SQL-based source
- Different simulation results can be saved

www.theprojectgroup.com/portfolioplanner
TPG MTA Server

The First Milestone Trend Analysis for Microsoft Project Server

COMPATIBILITY: Microsoft Project Server 2007 - 2013

Milestone Trend Analysis (MTA) is an easy-to-read combination of the history and forecast of selected project milestones. It gives users a graphical overview of time-related deviations arising during a project and ensures reliable planning by regularly updating the actual situation in relation to the milestone deadline. It also helps to enforce planning quality.

TPG MTA Server is integrated as a web part into Microsoft Project Web Access, where it can form part of a management dashboard. Project managers can select any project in the portfolio in accordance with their access permissions. In combination with the TPG MTA Client, the data is also available offline.

THE BENEFITS:
- Graphical support for reporting with a clear overview of how projects are evolving over time
- Timely detection of deadline bottlenecks
- Project participants have a better awareness of milestones and their deadlines, increasing planning reliability

FEATURES AT A GLANCE:
- Seamless integration into Microsoft Project Web Access / Web App
- Configurable, periodic saving of the data pool
- Filter capability across milestones
- Clear table view of deadlines and projects
- Deadlines can be displayed for every milestone
- Chart can be formatted and copied into Microsoft Office documents if needed
- Individually configurable permissions system based on the Microsoft Project Server

www.theprojectgroup.com/mtaserver
TPG ResourceLink

Simple and Flexible Updates of the Microsoft Project Enterprise Resource Pool

THE BENEFITS:
- Security and support for project managers, who can plan based on up-to-date resource information
- Administrators relieved of tedious and time-consuming data administration tasks

FEATURES AT A GLANCE:
- Creation, update, activation, deactivation and deletion of resources in the Microsoft Project Server Enterprise Resource Pool
- Supports a variety of resource properties of the Project Server (e.g. write / update / assign RBS)
- Updates and imports also resource cost rate tables, resource cost rate availability as well as resource cost rate calendars
- Import of any enterprise resource field into Microsoft Project Server
- Preview function for import
- Synchronization by personnel number, not by name
- Definition of the system for each resource property / field
- Detailed logging
- Scheduling of import tasks
- Administration of multiple Project Servers / sites per server
- Decentralized administration possible, not just from Project Server

COMPATIBILITY: Microsoft Project Online, Microsoft Project Server 2007 - 2016

Importing data manually into the Microsoft Project Server from different systems can be time-consuming, so the information may not always be up to date. TPG ResourceLink enables you to not only perform the initial population of the Microsoft Project Server Enterprise Resource Pool, but also to continually update it.

You can use any data sources, including SAP, Active Directory, Dynamics and SQL Server. This makes it much easier for administrators to create, update, activate, deactivate, and delete resources in the Resource Pool. In addition, the solution provides optimal support for project managers, as they can plan and calculate using the latest data on staff and costs.
TPG ProjectDetails
Making Detailed Information on Each Project Task Easily Available from External Sources

THE BENEFITS:
- Team members and project managers work with their own data independently
- All up-to-date details are immediately available for each project task
- Schedules stay streamlined while integrating extensive external information

FEATURES AT A GLANCE:
- Displays as many lists as required in corresponding tabs within the Project Client
- Also imports data into the project plan in aggregated form if required

Rather than including all details in the project plan, team members can administer information on the Microsoft Project work packages independently in SharePoint lists. This type of data is often shown as a percentage of completion, yet this lacks precision.

To improve planning, project managers can transfer the details from SharePoint into the work packages in MS Project.

When updating their plan, project managers can get a clear idea of project progress from the number of finished tasks in the lists rather than from the percentage of completion.

External lists can be taken from SQL databases, SharePoint or the Team Foundation Server; project managers can access them in the Microsoft Project Plan via TPG ProjectDetails.

If required, they can click to import information from the sources into their plan for further processing.

The team members do not need access to the actual project plan when maintaining the external lists.

TPG ProjectDetails provides related data for each project task from external lists, such as SharePoint. The external lists can be concerned with to-dos, risks, problems, documents etc. Project managers can access this information with one click exactly where they need it – within the relevant task, structured in tabs. This helps to optimize the collaboration of project managers with their teams. It also keeps project plans lean.

COMPATIBILITY: Microsoft Project Online, Microsoft Project Server 2007 - 2013
International TPG® Contacts

Competent Consulting and Intelligent Solutions for Your Higher PM Maturity Level

With several subsidiaries in Europe, the USA and the MEA region as well as a global network of authorized partners, TPG provides its services to large and medium-sized companies in all industries and on almost all continents.

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