Benefits of using PrimaveraReader in your PM environment

White Paper

Primavera Reader

Abstract

This white paper describes the user needs and identifies all of the factors that influence businesses to start using the PrimaveraReader to view projects exported from Oracle Primavera P6 .xer and .xls files formats.

Key words: PrimaveraReader, Primavera, project management, viewer, cost, .xer, .xls

Introduction

In today's digital world organizations of all types and sizes implement various IT technologies and solutions to streamline their business operations and gain return on investment (ROI). Over the past few years, we have seen a growing trend in using Project Portfolio Management (PPM) [1]. The PPM tools are designed to help project managers to schedule activities and allocate an optimal number of resources to deliver projects on time and within budget.

The current leader on the market is Oracle's Primavera P6 Portfolio Management [1]. The software is recognized by its capabilities to handle intensive industry projects among which are engineering, construction, aerospace, defense, utilities, oil and gas [2]. Also, Primavera P6 is based on a centralized database which enables multiple users to access projects at any given time and different authorities to be assigned to users.

Nevertheless, the great performance and functionalities always come at a considerable price.

How to cut costs on licensing?

Nowadays, due to economic uncertainties and a slow recovery from the global economic crisis, companies are tightening their budgets on advanced technology solutions. Striving to cut their operational costs, the price of a product and its associated services for them became one of the most important buying criteria. Businesses are looking for new ways how to make cost savings.
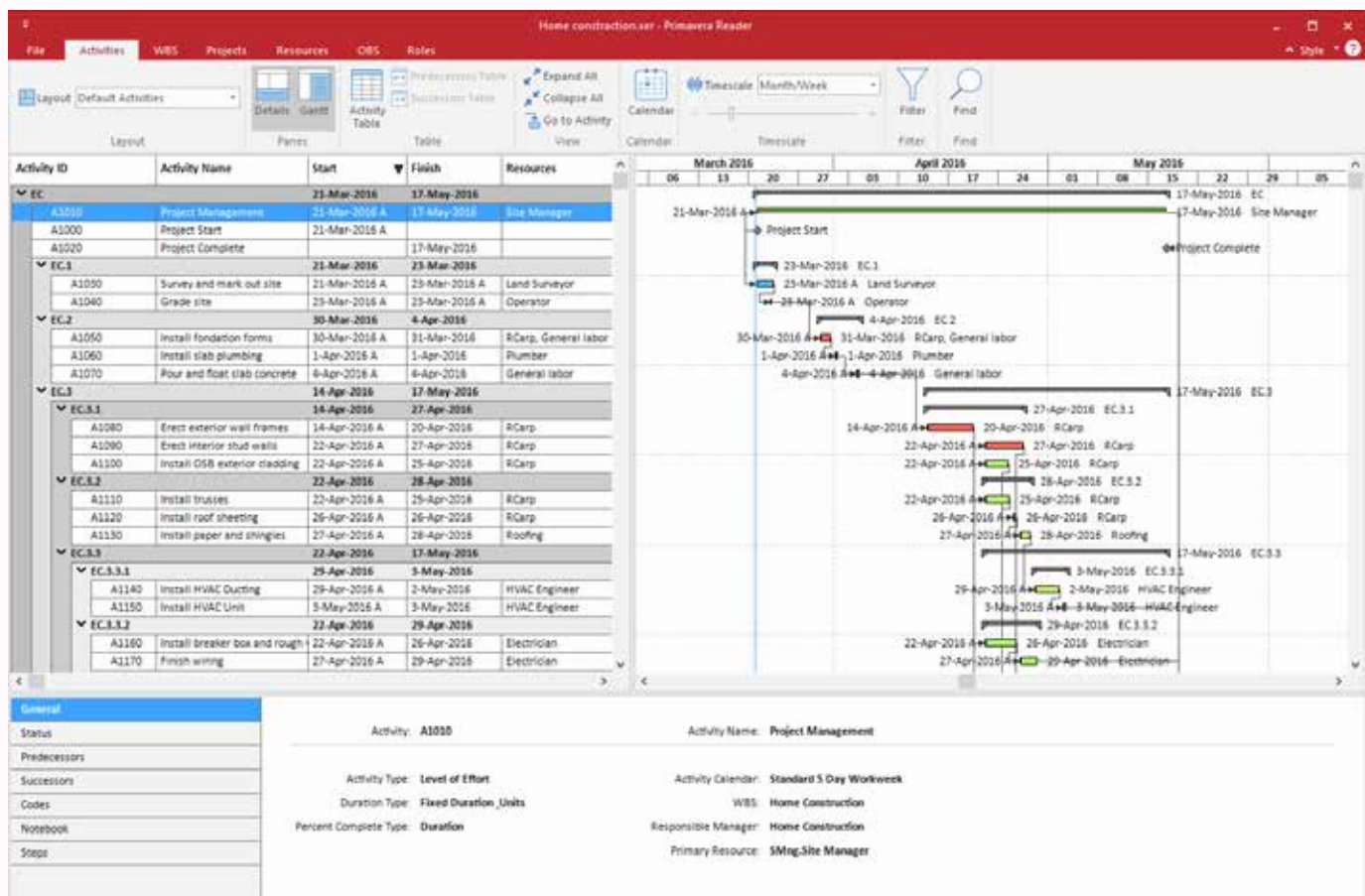
If we consider a single project we will see that not all project participants actually make changes on a schedule. Responsibilities are divided between project executives, managers and coordinators who plan activates, allocate resources and manage costs for the team members who actually work on their assignments. This means that a good percentage of a team will need to view only project information, or more precisely, to view the current status of their activities.

Here, we come to the need for use of a lightweight application to display project information which can dramatically reduce total businesses costs for software licensing, updates and support.

What is PrimaveraReader?

For team members who need to view only the progress of the project we have developed the PrimaveraReader. It is a Windows application that converts project data exported from native Primavera P6 .xer or .xls files and visually presents the schedule progress over time.

The application user interface is designed to have the similar look and feel of Primavera P6, so that a user picking up this viewer would already be familiar with the overall organizational structure. Users can easily navigate through the project views: Activity, WBS, Project and Resource to find details about their tasks, as shown on the figure below.
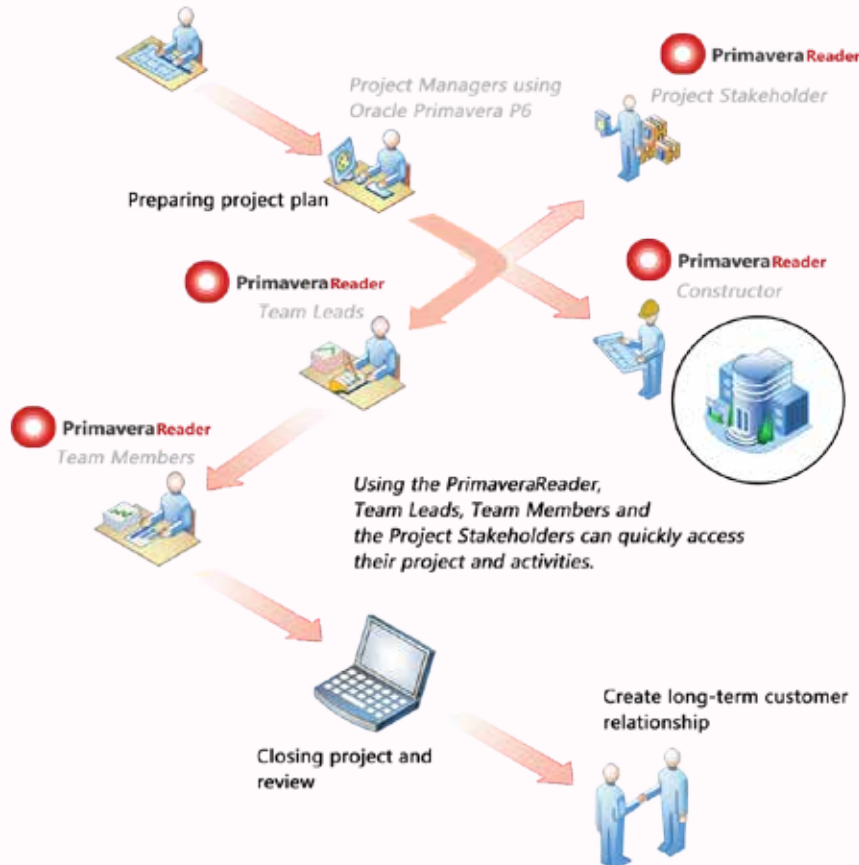
Use Cases

In the text that follows, we describe in detail two scenarios where PrimaveraReader can replace a licensed copy of Primavera P6. In both cases, we assume a building design and construction project that brings together a large number of professionals coming from different companies. The planned project duration is five years, thus we can expect that the team structure and composition may change over this period of time. Labor resources will be working on a site construction for several months, while others, such as project managers, contractors and subcontractors, engineers and consultants will be involved for a few years.
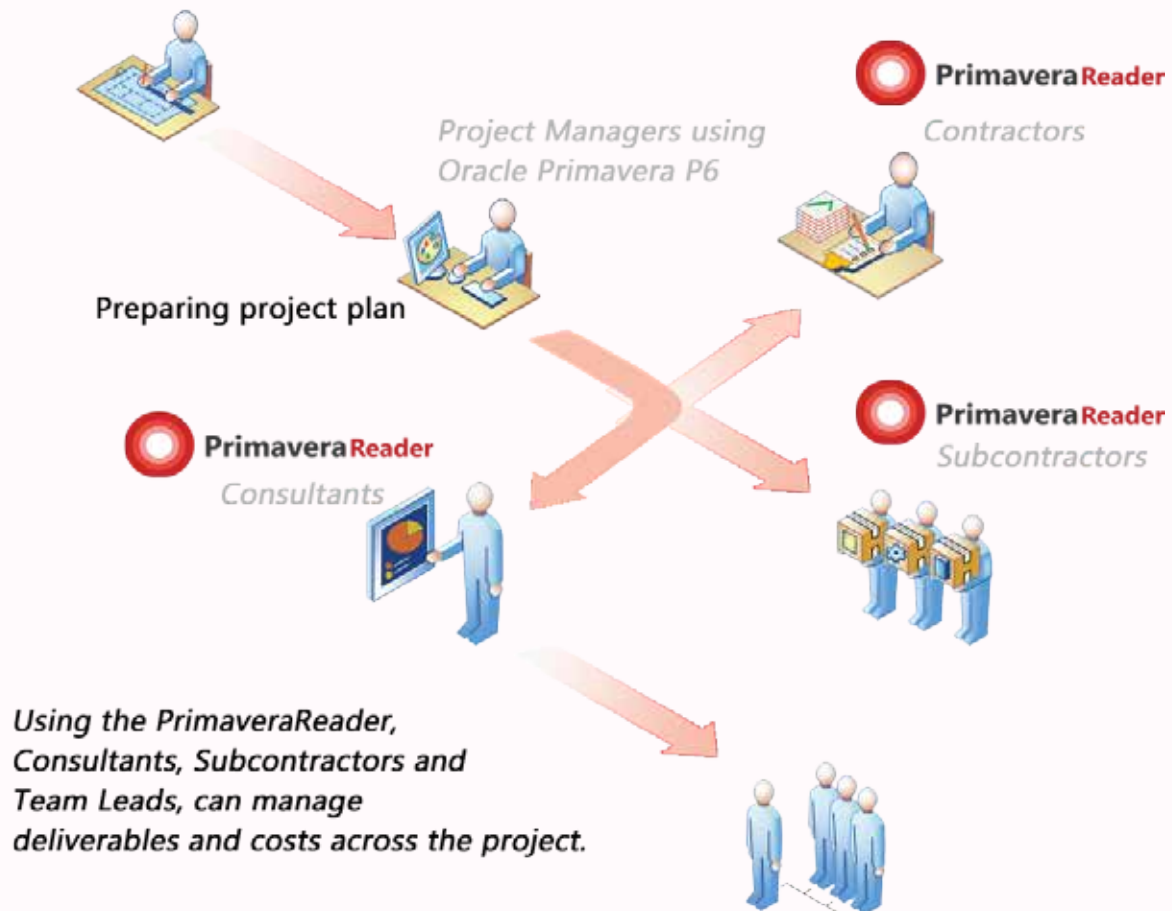
User Scenario 1:

In the first user scenario, PrimaveraReader will allow project managers, team leaders and other project participants to quickly access their projects, activities and documents and gain greater control of the progress of activities or responsibilities assigned to them. Using PrimaveraReader your company will cut costs on the P6 license for team members who need to view only specific project data.

User Scenario 2:

Beside the project team, there are a great number of consultants and subcontractors that are included in the project activities that manages the deliverables and costs across the project. Due to the high cost of purchasing a P6 license for the subcontractors to view only project files, with the help of PrimaveraReader, the subcontractors and the consultant(s) will have a consistent overview of the project information.

Conclusion

Based on the reasons and purposes given in user scenarios 1 and 2, we can see that in such complex projects that involve diverse teams, by using PrimaveraReader businesses can proactively respond to problems and eliminate contractor disputes.

Utilization of PrimaveraReader can help businesses that already use Primavera P6 to manage and control projects, to reduce their costs on licensing, updates and support for people that need to view projects information. The total saving for sharing .xer or .xls file can be up to 95%.

Furthermore, PrimaveraReader delivers a familiar work environment for all project participants to drive team collaboration to successfully achieve project strategic goals.

References

[1] "2014-2018 Global Project and Portfolio Management Software Market" by Technavio

[2] https://www.oracle.com/applications/primavera/industries/index.html, "Primavera PPM Industry Solutions"

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