

MS Project Now! LLC

January, 2012

www.msprojectnow.com

http://blogs.msprojectnow.com

Tel (800) 895-3254

CASE STUDY

MS Project Now! Delivers Results

- ◇ 100+ employees tracked through project management software
- ◇ Training and solution modifications required for widespread use
- ◇ All training and updates completed in two months
- ◇ Immediate use of full solution following on-site user training
- ◇ Resource transparency and improved efficiency key outcomes

*“Prior to this implementation, senior managers were not able to quickly analyze department workload — now, because of **MS Project Now!**, they can.”*

- Cynthia Nicholson, Director
Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers

MS Project Now! Drives Transparency, Efficiency

Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers, an Ithaca, New York-based subsidiary of the nearly \$2 billion Tetra Tech, Inc., needed to upgrade from their home-grown project management solution to one with advanced features and long-term support. The Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers project group supports over one hundred employees as they deliver complex building projects for schools, municipalities, sports teams and commercial builders. Cynthia Nicholson, a thirty year industry veteran and twenty-four years with Tetra Tech, oversaw the effort to improve the efficiency and transparency of project resources.

The Problem

As a leader in the field for more than forty years, Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers needed a project management software solution to keep pace with their growing business. In addition, all project managers needed full training on the features and functionality of the new software in order to excel at their jobs. With hundreds of projects completed, the company wanted to

streamline project management and fully arm project managers and senior management with the latest tools and information to better manage future projects. The software product to be replaced was a home-grown, web-based system running on a platform that was no longer supported. Nicholson, tasked with ensuring that senior management and project managers have the tools they need, knew a migration was required and Microsoft Project Server 2007 would fit their needs perfectly. She also knew that intensive training to bring users up to speed on the Project Server solution was a necessity. More important, Nicholson knew software experts would need to fine-tune the system to meet the specific needs of this industry-leading group.

A west-coast based consulting company was used initially, but Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers required a firm with more closely related experience and deeper, first-hand knowledge of Project Server. “We realized that we needed someone to help us use the tool more in line with what it can do, and started working with *MS Project Now!* in early Spring of 2011,” she said.





The Solution

Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers use Microsoft Project Server to verify and schedule team resources. Team leaders and department managers can track team and individual workloads which enables them to perform resource loading and analysis. In addition, senior management has a dashboard to see the overall workload of the company.

MS Project Now!, identified as a leading project management software consulting company through web research, was contracted to complete the implementation of Project Server.

MS Project Now! first conducted an assessment of the current system and project management needs, then held a series of eight tailored workshops on topics including OLAP cube management, security groups, resource assignments, project center, Gantt charts and resource availability. Recommendations were delivered on the best use of Project Server for the Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers business.

Once the workshops and recommendations were complete and the system was updated, *MS Project Now!* led a two-day, hands-on training session in Ithaca for twenty project managers. In all, the project lasted four months including discovery

phase, remote training, onsite training and follow-up workshops and exceeded expectations.

The Results

After the *MS Project Now!* updates and training, Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers resource managers were immediately able to incorporate the Project Server software to their daily routines. They now have a clear picture of mid- and long-term workload for each employee, and know the status of every team for better resource allocation.

Nicholson and Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers understand the value of immediate visibility, especially where company priorities are shifting and changing. Now, as soon as they receive a new proposal, management instantly knows if they have the appropriate resources available for the job. Easy access to the information they need helps facilitate business decisions and corporate direction.

The Next Step

With the help of *MS Project Now!* consulting, migration and training, Tetra Tech Architects and Engineers will be upgrading to Microsoft Project Server 2010 to leverage its new features and functionality.

About MS Project Now!

MS Project Now! is a project management and Microsoft Project Server solution provider committed to improving project management processes for Microsoft users worldwide. We provide expert services including consulting, planning, implementation, upgrades, migration, onsite and web-based training, and ongoing support. Our founders and delivery teams are PMP certified as well as Microsoft Certified Project Server Professionals who have successfully completed over 100 Microsoft Project Server solutions.

Contact *MS Project Now!*

Daniel Bell, Managing Director
(617) 596-9324 — Mobile
Daniel.Bell@msprojectnow.com

www.msprojectnow.com
<http://blogs.msprojectnow.com>

© MS Project Now! LLC, 2012



MPN
MS PROJECT NOW!