



WHITE PAPER

www.seavusprojectviewer.com

Product Overview

Seavus Project Viewer™ is a complete viewer for Microsoft® Project files that facilitates excellent cooperation in projects where the project stakeholders need to view and share information from project management. Seavus Project Viewer™ is a fast and lightweight standalone application that reads the native .mpp file format and does not require any previous installation of Microsoft® Project on the user's computer.

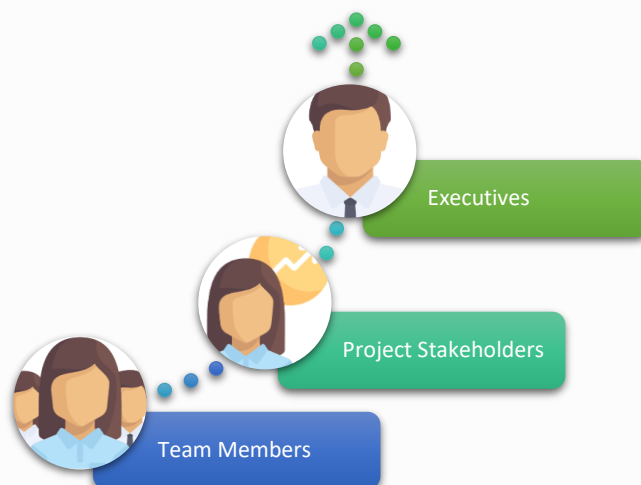
In general, users of Microsoft® Project plans can be categorized in the following way:

- Users that create/modify project plans, like project manager (the Authors of the project plans)
- Users that only need to review and/or analyze the information in the previously prepared project plans (the Viewers of the project plans).

The Viewers of the project plans can be categorized in the following categories:

- Team Members — personnel responsible for many of the day-to-day activities that are scheduled in one or more projects to which they are assigned, and need to frequently look at their assignments in the different projects, making sure they follow the project schedule,
- Executives — individuals who are responsible for one or more projects, such as an entire department or a specific region of the organization, and require visibility into all of the projects for Which they are responsible, to determine the overall status of projects and to ensure that the work is aligned with the strategic goals of the organization, and
- External Project Stakeholders (Vendors, Distributors, Suppliers, Sub-contractors, Customers, etc.) — personnel working at organizations other than the project owner, directly or indirectly involved in the project, and require a possibility to review their assignments or follow the overall project status.

Analysis shows that the number of Viewers of the project plans (potential Seavus Project Viewer™ users) is much greater than the Authors of the same. This is illustrated on the next figure.



Benefits of using Seavus Project Viewer™

With Seavus Project Viewer™, users are able to open native Microsoft® Project files (.mpp), read/view, and print project plans while eliminating the need to purchase the more expensive Microsoft Project suite of products.

Seavus Project Vlewer™ fully satisfies the needs of the Viewers of the project plans, by providing them with a complete set of views and additional features for reviewing and analyzing project information.

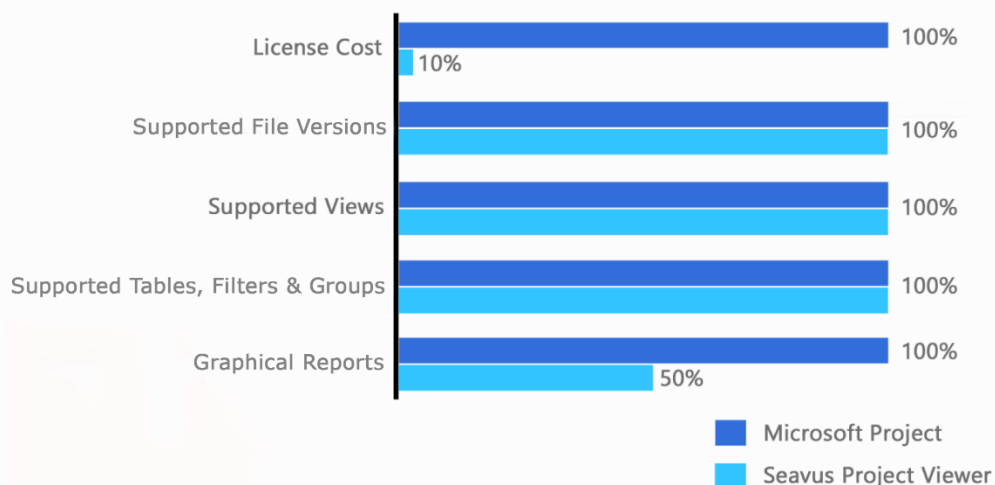
By using Seavus Project Viewer™ with its complete viewing capabilities, organizations can:

- Improve their project execution, control and monitoring processes by providing the same information to all users involved in a project
- Enhance communication between project managers the rest of the project users by showing all formatting, drawings, highlighting, grouping, and data organization in general as defined in Microsoft® Project.

Keeping a competitive price, while Offering complete and high quality features, Seavus Project Viewer™ not only reduces license costs in organizations substantially, it also enables a vast number of users that were fed with project information through alternative and inefficient means, like file exports or printed plans, due to high cost and complexity of using Microsoft® Project, now to directly communicate with other project stakeholders using the same information and as well.

Chart: Percentage of total features implemented in Seavus Project Viewer

Q: Approximately what percentage of viewing features are implemented in Seavus Project Viewer compared with the license cost?



Main Features

Views

Views are fully supported in Seavus Project Viewer™ they display in a particular format a subset Of the information the project manager typically enters in Microsoft Project. That subset of information gets stored in Microsoft®Project plan (.mpp file) and can be displayed in any view in Seavus Project Viewer™ that calls for that information. All 27 standard views, available by default in Microsoft® Project, are supported by the Seavus Project Viewer™.

In addition to the standard views, Seavus Project Viewer™ is capable to work with user-defined views, i.e. the views that the project manager have created in Microsoft® Project and saved in the project plan, i.e. the .mpp file.

Finally, the presentation of the views in Seavus Project Viewer™ fully matches Microsoft® Project views, providing the same display of the project information to any project stakeholder using Seavus Project Viewer™ as the display available to the project managers working in Microsoft® Project

Tables

In Seavus Project Viewer™ users can use both the predefined Microsoft® Project task and resource tables and user-defined tables created by the project manager to show only the fields you want or create your own tables. Seavus Project Viewer™ allows them to easily change the table associated by the currently active view by selecting a different one from the application menus.

If the users would like to manipulate the tables in Seavus Project Viewer™ they can use the application to edit, or even create tables of their own, or they can simply directly manipulate the active table and insert, modify, or remove fields from the table columns.

Filters & Groups

Seavus Project Viewer™ supports all standard task filters, available by default in Microsoft® Project, for viewing specific aspects of tasks and resource filters for viewing specific aspects of resources. In addition, project managers can create a new filter or modify an existing filter by customizing a filter's criteria in Microsoft® Project. These new filters and customizations of the existing ones can be used in Seavus Project Viewer™ as well. In addition to standard filters, Seavus Project Viewer™ features Auto-filter option, letting the user to specify filter criteria for each field in the table separately.

Graphical Reports

Seavus Project Viewer™ comes with brand new visual reports and dashboard, allowing team members, team leads and other project participant to view the health of the project plan. Using the visual reports team members can view the upcoming tasks, which tasks are behind the schedule or to get information regarding the critical tasks in the project plan while the team leads, project stakeholders can observe the tasks and resource costs and analyze Whether they are aligned according the project budget or to be informed about the project Status via the burndown reports.

The following categories and reports are implemented in Seavus Project Viewer™:

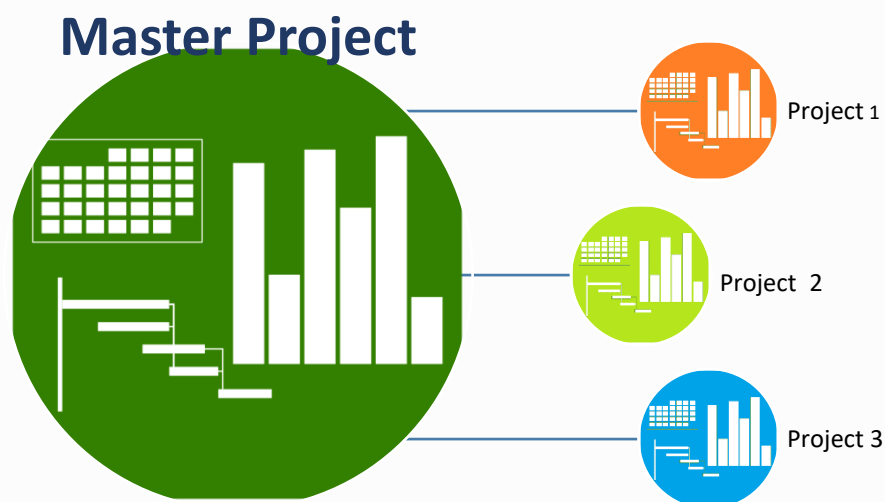
- Dashboard category
 - Cost Overview
 - Project Overview
 - Upcoming Task
 - Work Overview
- Resource category
 - Resource Overview
- Cost Category
 - Cost Overruns
 - Resource Cost Overview
 - Task Cost Overview

Master Projects, Subprojects and External Tasks

When opening a master project file in Seavus Project Viewer™, all of its inserted subprojects are loaded as well. Inserted projects are indicated in the Indicators column with the econ. Pointing at the icon with your mouse, a tooltip with the location of the subproject file appears.

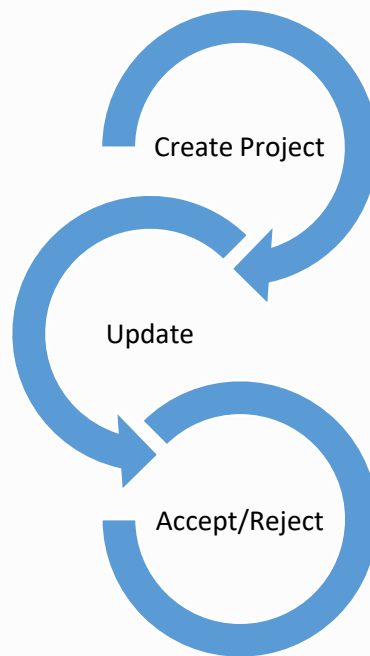
Tasks from different subprojects can be linked together, forming a predecessor/successor dependency. When you open one of the subprojects in Seavus Project Viewer™, all of the predecessor tasks from other subprojects will be shown next to the local tasks in the project being opened. They appear with different bar/box style and font in the different task views, e.g. in grey color, so they can be visually distinguished from the local tasks.

By having the external tasks shown in the views, Seavus Project Viewer™ is able to draw the links between them and the local task, providing a more realistic view over the whole set of tasks and their dependencies.



Task Update

Team members who do not need to alter project plans use Seavus Project Viewer™ to view the tasks they have been assigned. But wouldn't it be better to know the progress status of each task in real time as well? Seavus Project Viewer™ is the only viewer for Microsoft® Project that provides a collaborative environment for project teams without Server installation.



The process of sharing is very simple:

- The project manager creates a project plan in Microsoft® Project and uploads it on a shared location
- Team members open the project plan with Seavus Project Viewer™ and report task progress or assignment progress Completed, % Work Complete or Actual Work)
- The project manager then opens the project plan and accepts or rejects submitted task updates.

With this very simple task update process, teams can easily introduce a collaborative project environment where they can:

- Get real-time project status
- Continually evaluate team's performance
- Build knowledge for future projects

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