Powerproject®

Case study: Carillion plc

Carillion uses Powerproject to deliver the construction of the new library of Birmingham on time

Customer: Carillion plc

Software: Powerproject

Project: Construction of the new Library of Birmingham

Benefits of using Powerproject:

- Provide accurate progress reporting to the client
- Easily identify any changes to the project end date
- Use the schedule as the basis against which payments are made
- Integrate plans from third party supply chain partners to provide a more complete picture of the status of the project

A new library for Birmingham

September 2013 – The impressive new Library of Birmingham in Centenary Square in the city centre has now been completed. Carillion, one of the UK's leading support services and construction companies, secured the contract with Birmingham City Council in 2008. After working with design teams and architects and overseeing extensive archaeological investigations and the installation of wells for the ground source heat system, the company got the go-ahead to start the construction phase early in 2010. Carillion ensured successful completion of this multi-task project with the assistance of Powerproject, a leading construction project management software tool from Elecosoft.

Why Carillion chose Powerproject

Powerproject was used for the Library of Birmingham project because the majority of Carillion planners and project managers were familiar with its use and outputs. In addition, Powerproject is so widely used by construction companies that integration of contractors' project plans is simple, which is important when a project is as multi-faceted as this one.

Birmingham's flagship building will house the Library's extensive collection of archives, provide opportunities for public displays, and works also include a new 300 seat studio theatre for joint use of the Library and the Repertory Theatre. The new Library has an emphasis on information technology and includes an extensive children's area and music area, making it a Centre of Learning for Birmingham.

The right software for the job

All Carillion projects are run tightly. They have a programme in place demonstrating the design, procurement and construction activities. These are always fully logic linked. Progress against planned activity is reported regularly. The Library of Birmingham project was let under a NEC Contract which required that the programmes were rescheduled and updated at least monthly to identify any changes to the completion date. The Carillion team also took advantage of the cost/income facilities in Powerproject and the programme formed the basis of the activity schedule against which payments were made.

Bob Davis is Senior Planning Manager with Carillion and has been using Powerproject since 1994. He knows that it is the right software for a construction job of this magnitude and importance. "Powerproject has proved to be an excellent tool for this particular project because of its ability to produce fully integrated, logic linked programmes of several thousand activities that are easy to understand, backed up with cost and resource data as required."

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