

## Microsoft EPM solution to enhance Project Management Practices during Expansion phase of one of the largest single site Aluminum Smelter

### Company Information

The company is a state-of-the-art aluminum smelter complex supplying the world with high quality metal. The advanced smelter was producing approximately 100,000 tonnes of aluminum annually and wanted to increase its capacity by another 30% upon completion of the expansion phase.

### Business's Needs, General Problem Description

The company had embarked on an initiative to automate the process of planning, monitoring and executing various projects within the organization along with the migration of approximately 400 Projects. All the phases of project life cycle were manually processed using hardcopy forms like Enterprise Project Request, Pre-Capital Expenditure Proposal, Capital Expenditure Proposal etc.

Projects were created in data / document management system with auto-numbering based on Project Request Form [PRF]. Subsequently project data was updated at various stages again through various hard-copy forms for project life-cycle.

Project cost related information was managed using SAP whereas Project schedule, Project Progress, Project Reports were prepared either using Excel or using MS-Project.

### Solution

To address the challenges Project Server 2010 a Microsoft EPM solution was deployed and integrated with SAP (Finance Module) already in place; to provide end to end visibility of Projects across the organization.

Diametriks converted the entire manual process to PIMS (Project Information Management System) an online repository of enterprise wide projects. Process Template was created to streamline processes and ensure that projects follow all the stages of their lifecycle. This ensured that whenever a project arrived at the schedule stage, project plan with pre-defined task list was automatically created.

The Project Managers could then manually look up Resource availability, the skill sets required, and manually assign the resources to the Tasks applicable to them. Project Server 2010 out of the box provided Resource utilization and capacity available information.

Cost Performance Index (CPI) and Schedule Performance Index (SPI) for tracking cost and schedule were tracked by virtue of schedules created in the Microsoft Project 2010.

For enabling communication among various stakeholders for example notifications pertaining to task assignments, reminders to update their respective project plans etc., the solution leveraged Microsoft Exchange Server.

All Project documentation, issue logs and risks were stored in Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010 site where people from separate work streams and skills shared information with each other.

To enhance decision making Company used powerful and rich data driven reports and dashboards which gave a wider picture of the overall progress and could also be drilled down to activity level details. Customized views and reports were created to show projects in different phases and stages of their lifecycle, monthly flow of cash and status of KPIs.

Real time Project Narrative was created to keep senior management updated about the status of planned activities in current and milestones due in the following months.

## About Us

Diametriks Consulting is a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner and trusted for Microsoft Enterprise Project Management (MS EPM) & SharePoint implementation across various sectors. Our services include Consulting, Implementation, and Customization & Support for SharePoint platform, Microsoft Office 365 and various project & program management tools. Our core competence is built upon Microsoft Enterprise Project & Portfolio Server, SharePoint, Dot Net and SQL Server. We also provide trainings on project management concepts and project management tools. Diametriks has expertise at leveraging the strengths of organizations by delivering consulting services, deployment strategy, implementation of SharePoint & Enterprise Project Management system, Web Development and Resource Augmentation.