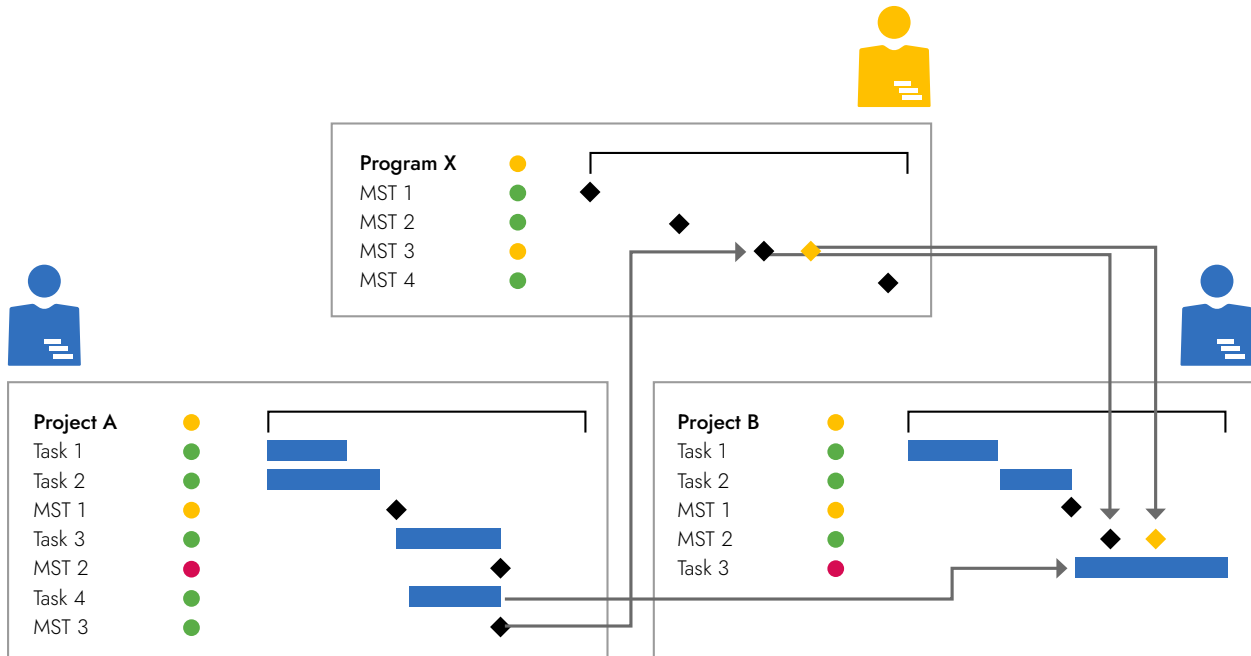


TPG ProjectLink

More Options in Complex Multi-Project or Program Environments

In program management, the sharing of information on deadlines, work, costs, etc. across projects is very important. TPG ProjectLink is a product for Microsoft Project Server and Project Online (PPM). This lets you incorporate the dependencies and responsibilities in a structured manner.



Linking tasks in Microsoft PPM using soft and mirror links

GOOD OVERVIEW OF IMPORTANT EXTERNAL TASKS

Project managers use TPG ProjectLink to link external tasks to their own plans in Microsoft PPM. Users can mirror external tasks (mirror link) or link external data about existing tasks to their own project plan (soft link). At all times, this gives them a quick overview of any changes affecting the external tasks without changing the schedule. If needed, schedule shifts can also be performed automatically in the schedule (hard links).

TPG Project Link does more than just link the tasks of individual projects, however. Multi-project overviews containing information such as the milestones and traffic light status indicators needed to manage the project can be created and updated automatically (bottom-up). With TPG ProjectLink, tasks can be automatically transferred from these overarching framework projects back into the sub-projects (top-down). This information flow forms the basis of consistent and convenient program management.

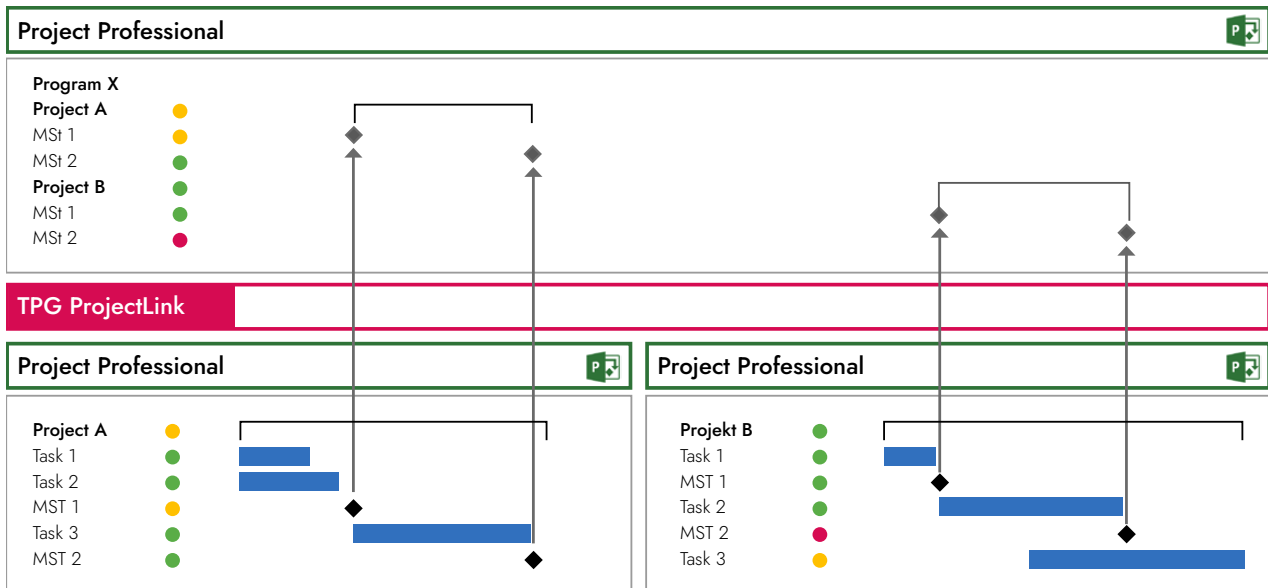
THE BENEFITS

- » A flexible tool with variable links across all projects (soft (hard) links or mirror links)
- » Clear, graphical comparison of your plans and any external tasks
- » Faster indication of, and reaction to, any changes in external projects
- » Multi-project overviews for managing the programs
- » Links to SharePoint lists
- » Links across companies

FEATURES AT A GLANCE

- » Project Server Sites, SharePoint lists and SQL data storage as data bases
- » Configurable field mapping for many individual use cases
- » Task picker makes it easy to configure the links (access rights via Microsoft Project Server)
- » Preview option before importing external data
- » Update of the linked information for single tasks or the whole project

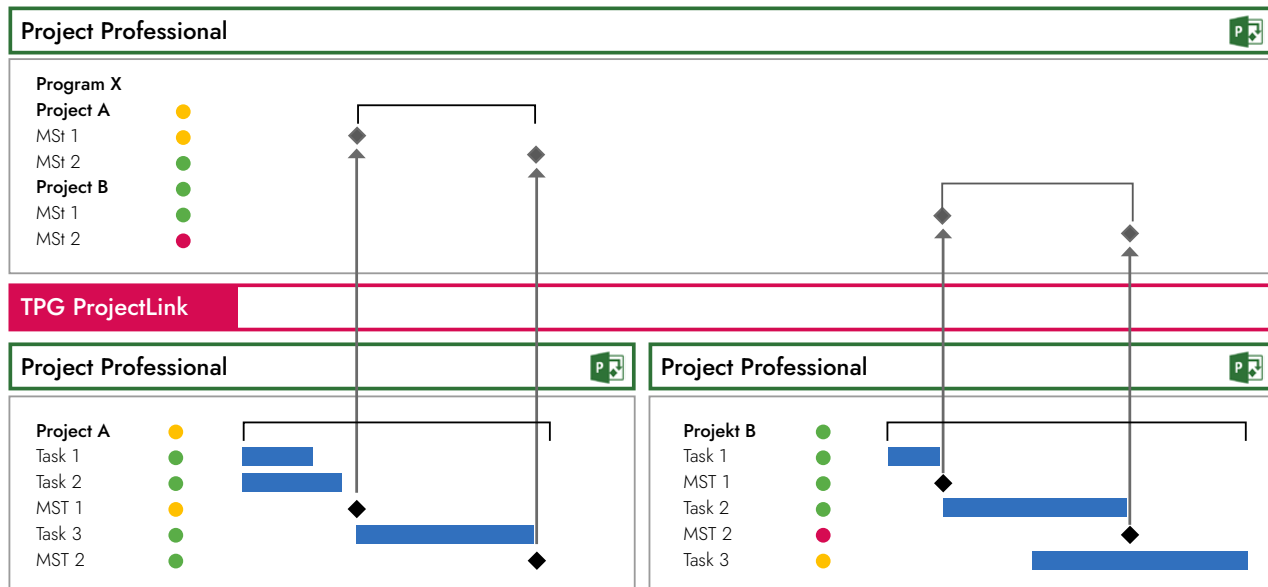
USE CASE 1: MULTI-PROJECT OVERVIEWS WITH MILESTONE ROLLUP



Use case 1: Overviews over milestones through rollups in Microsoft PPM

Relevant milestones and tasks from different projects can easily be consolidated into a multi-project overview. This enables you to forward Microsoft Project-format schedules showing selected partial information to specific groups such as external stakeholders. You can also create, and periodically update, various overviews based on any set of criteria.

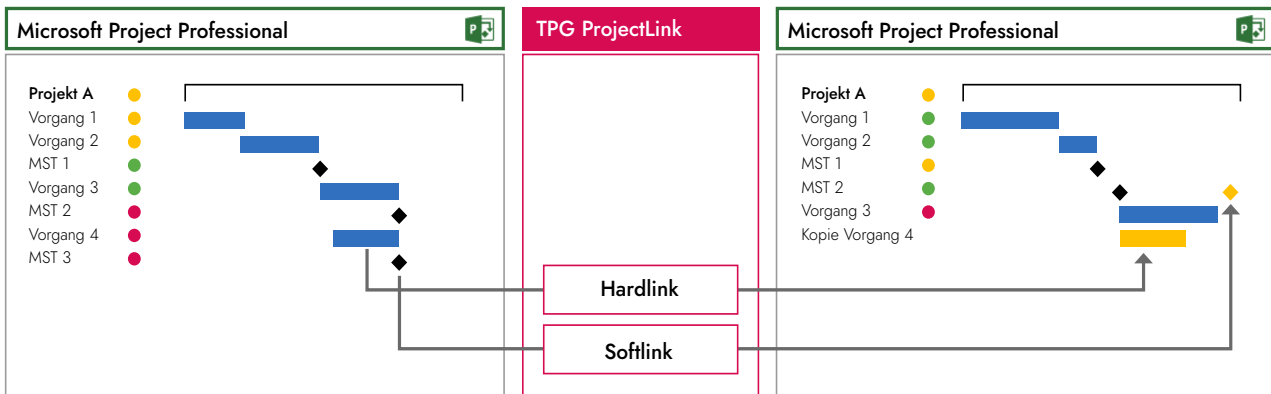
USE CASE 2: PROGRAM MANAGEMENT “DELIVERY DATES”



Use case 2: Overview of delivery dates through top-down and bottom-up program management

Automated bottom-up and top-down linking facilitates the interaction between the program's projects and sub-projects. The milestone rollup from the program's sub-projects clearly depicts the most important dates for the program manager. In the same way, you can display program-level targets in the sub-projects. This lets the sub-project managers use the program targets to update their plans. Deviations can be indicated using a bar chart.

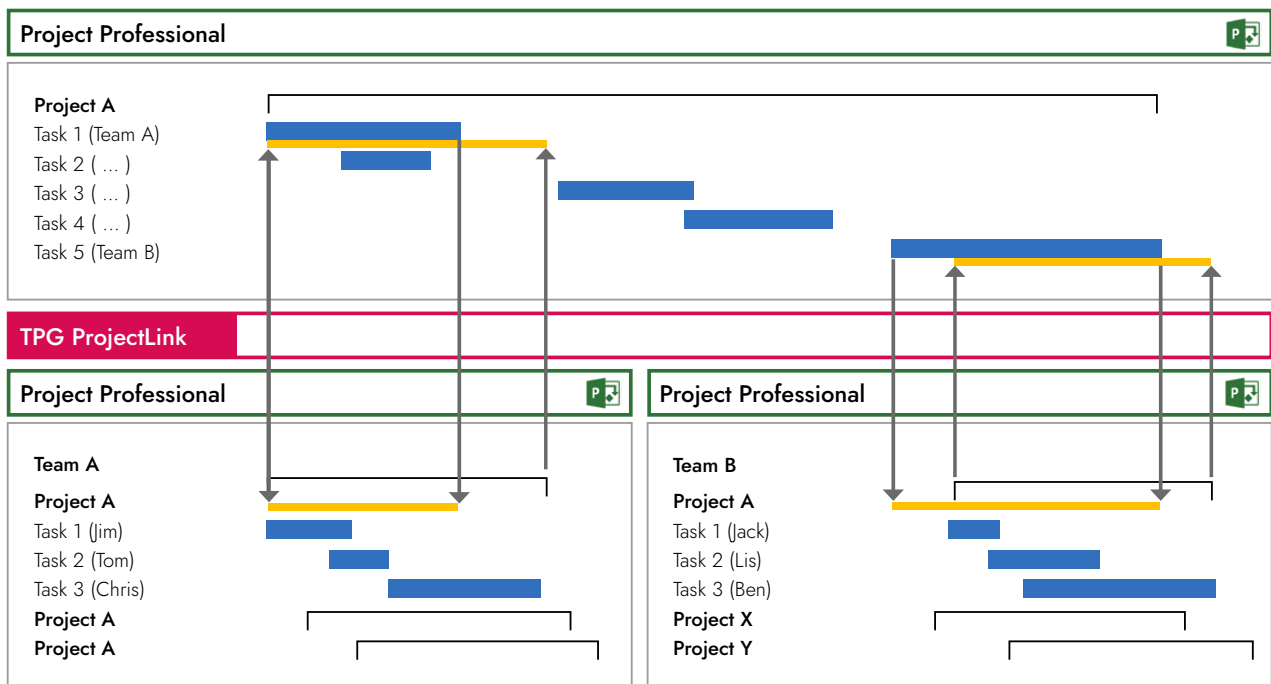
USE CASE 3: CROSS-PROJECT LINKS



Use case 3: Cross-project links with various link types

Project managers can choose which tasks from other project plans they would like to link to their own schedule. Using the task picker, project managers can select approved tasks from other projects. They can choose from three possibilities: hard link, soft link, and mirror link. They decide whether their schedules can be changed from the outside (mirror link / hard link) or whether the external data should be displayed as read-only (soft link).

USE CASE 4: DISTRIBUTED PLANNING IN PROJECT & LINE MANAGEMENT



Use case 4: Visual support for coordinating the work packages

In the line organization, project managers develop rough plans for the work packages. The detailed planning of the work packages is done by the line managers in their own Microsoft Project plans. In their own plans, the project managers can see the aggregated milestone dates from the detailed planning. So, the project manager's rough plan and the line manager's detailed plan each show the other plan's corresponding status, enabling them to easily identify any discrepancies and discuss these to reach an agreement.