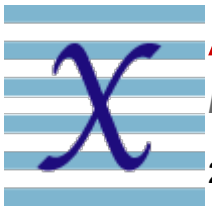

About DPC

Prof Mario Vanhoucke - U Ghent

2013

This is a short description of the DPC™ method produced by Prof Mario Vanhoucke of the State University of Ghent, Belgium - Faculty of Economy.

- The DPC™ methodology can be described as follows: a reference frame is set up by constructing the schedule of the project. The information contained in the schedule is injected into the process: tasks, sequences, start and finish date, allocated resources. The processes produce output, the physical progress. This progress is measured at regular intervals. These progress data are then handled by a feedback mechanism, the results of which are high-impact human readable reports. These reports focus on the dynamic behavior of the processes, hence produce status, track records, progress trends and progress rates. The reports also produces performance scores by which the comparison planned/actual is automated. At this point the project manager has all the needed information to be able to define a set of corrective actions, should these be necessary.
- Products: The DPC™ methodology has been developed from practical experience. It has been formalized in a handbook, “The Dynamic Project Control Handbook” written by Jean Pierre Tollenboom published in 2010. The methodology, together with some recent new developments, has been presented at numerous conferences (EVM 2010,2011,2012, IMS 2008,2009,2010,2011,2012). The current system consists of a DPC computing engine on a server, a cloud application for progress registration and a set of standard reports based on the Wolfram CDF technology. This technology causes the reports to be interactive tools, allowing for more profound analysis and even some simulations. The process of computing the reports from the entered progress data, and distribution of these reports is completely automated. There is also a battery of tutorials and training schemes as support for new users.
- Evaluation: The strength of the present system comes form the substantial experience built so far. Hundreds of projects, or thousands of project processes have been tracked with the system. The system has been been included into the SOP’s at some early adopters. The system is integrated online and is very easy to use: the learning curve is very short. The usefulness has been demonstrated many times over by the increased level of control over the projects, and by a marked increase in project performance measured in terms of timely completions.