



CASE STUDY

# BBC WORLDWIDE





## **BBC Worldwide invest in an online solution to deliver greater project visibility.**

BBC Worldwide, the commercial arm of the BBC, is a fast-growing media and entertainment company. Their primary purpose is to bring value to the BBC in the form of profits and programme investment. They acquire the commercial rights to programmes such as Planet Earth, Doctor Who and Top Gear and find ways of earning money from these across different media and markets. The funds then get channelled back into the BBC to be invested in new programmes and services.

## THE ISSUE

With their Head Quarters in London (White City) plus additional offices located globally, BBC Worldwide employ circa 2,000 people and can have up to 60 technology projects live at any one time. The Project Team were struggling with a lack of integration and visibility of resources and plans across multiple projects, divisions and streams of work. A solution was sought to gain a better insight into resource demand, supply, and current work allocation across all teams to drive greater efficiency and productivity.



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## THE SOLUTION

A number of small web-based resourcing specific tools were reviewed before the decision was taken to upgrade the existing Microsoft Project Server implementation to an online hosted version of the latest release in order to be up and running quickly and minimise costs. Jonathan Clark, Resource and Planning Manager at BBC Worldwide comments;

**“CPS were recommended to us by Microsoft as a trusted Gold Competency partner. They had the solution up and running extremely quickly; working closely with our Operations Resource and Enterprise Architect. It took just 4 months from initial idea to go live which meant we could start seeing our return on investment almost immediately.”**





The Microsoft qualified experts at CPS provided the technical installation and configuration, process and role design and post implementation support to help ease the adoption of the new system with the BBC Worldwide stakeholders.

The solution was rolled out to 30 Project Managers, 10 Executives and 5 PMO staff within the organisation and has provided greater visibility of current resource allocations and future demand, including under and over allocations. Now that the project data has been collated and integrated, the Project Team can instantly status their entire project portfolio and quickly make sound business decisions based on accurate, up-to-date information. The Business Intelligence functionality has also proved invaluable for the planning of annual budgets and quarterly cashflows thanks to the pre-configured reports that pull live project data into an instantly presentable format.



Jonathan adds;

**“We had a very specific requirement to improve our resource forecasting and CPS quickly delivered a solution that met this need. We now have greatly improved working practices that have given us the ability to plan resources at a corporate level.”**

## THE BENEFITS



The system is online meaning it is accessible 24/7, available from multiple locations worldwide and completely scalable.

The solution works via Microsoft Project so there was not a fundamental change to the Project Managers working practice resulting in there being little additional work as information was taken from plans that were already in place.

The Business Intelligence functionality can be easily configured via pivot tables in Excel meaning we can tweak it as our requirements evolve.

CPS were flexible in terms of meeting our requirements, and effective to work with to get the configuration set up in a short amount of time.

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## NEXT STEPS

BBC Worldwide are now investigating how to further develop the system from a reporting perspective to gain greater insights into their projects and resource forecasting.

**TALK TO US TODAY!**

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