

SoftRUNNER – Weekly Progress Report

This week we have concentrated on the functions that our system will have. We analyzed the requirements needed to manage a project, and try to determine the answer for the question “why management of a project is difficult”. In this way we generated our functions and fixed their properties. All the functions will be explained in analysis report in a more detailed way.

The main functions and their basic details are as follows:

Log-in

- Password authentication

Sign-up

- New user record with determined permissions

Groups

- Add/Remove individuals
- Update group details
- Change permissions of individuals

Resources

We have to accomplish the resource management in a way preventing deadlocks and conflicting usage of resources.

The term “resources” includes people (both individuals and groups), supplies, equipment and facilities. That is to say, anything which helps to complete the task is a resource.

- Build calendars for each resource
- View the resources available

- Add/Remove resource
- Sort resources
- Filter resources (getting the resources with a specific criteria)
- Assign resources to tasks

Tasks

- Add/Remove tasks
- Update the details of tasks (duration, group, etc.)
- Re-schedule tasks
- View which task is assigned to which resource(s)

Multiple Projects

We have decided that to work with multiple projects would be useful because of the following reasons:

- The value in a field in one project may depend on a value in another project (such as the start date of one project may be linked to the finish date of another)
- Coordination can be better by placing the projects together which are managed by different people
- A large project can be divided into sub-projects to manage easier. And so, these small projects should work parallel.
- Several projects may use the same resources, so they will need to be linked.

Gantt Chart Wizard

- Whole project schedule will be converted to a Gantt Chart

Resource Chart Wizard

- Whole project resource allocation will be converted to a Resource Chart

Viewing

- All the resources and resource allocation will be listed.
- All the tasks will be listed.
- All the groups will be listed.

Import/export

- Charts that are formed automatically by the system will be exported to other tools (such as excel, word, etc.) to be editable
- An excel sheet will be imported to MissProject playing an input role for tasks, resources, etc.

The spelling checker

Spell check would be a useful feature, but it may take a very long time to implement a spell checker. If we can find an open source ready-component, we are planning to embed it to our system.

Cost Information

We will use information held on tasks and resources to calculate project costs.

Tracking Project Progress

In order to compare the Current Schedule with the Baseline Plan (the first plan which is set once you have scheduled all your task and resource information at the beginning of the project) and view the difference between them, we have decided to implement a feature which helps project progress tracking.

As the project progresses, you will enter the latest information to track the project. It may be that a task is going to take a week longer than entered at baseline plan. The duration of the task will be changed, and the Gantt chart will be updated with respect to the change.