

Project Activator  
Developed by  
Business Propulsion Systems Inc.

CS846

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# Outline

- ✓ Overview
- ✓ Features
- ✓ Workflow
- ✓ Usability
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Technology
- ✓ Summary

# Overview

- ✓ Project Activator is A Lean Process Project Management Software
- ✓ The last version is 2.4
- ✓ Product of :
  - BPS Corporation
  - A member of the Auto Parts Manufacturing Association
  - [www.businesspropulsion.com](http://www.businesspropulsion.com)
  - Vice President : Claude Buffone
  - Project Activator team leader: William (Hobie) Orris
- ✓ Partners: IBM, Karora, ILOG, Sun  
Microsystems

# Overview

- ✓ What is a Lean Process?
  - Toyota example: in 1970-1980 the significant performance gap between the Japanese and western automotive industries
  - Japanese business methods used less of everything (human effort, capital investment, facilities, inventories and time) in manufacturing, product development, parts supply and customer relations
  - Removing wasted time and effort is lean production
  - In Activator it means: “ one can build and manage a project or process plan centrally and ensures that the team receives the work and information they need when they need it.” so it means removing repetition

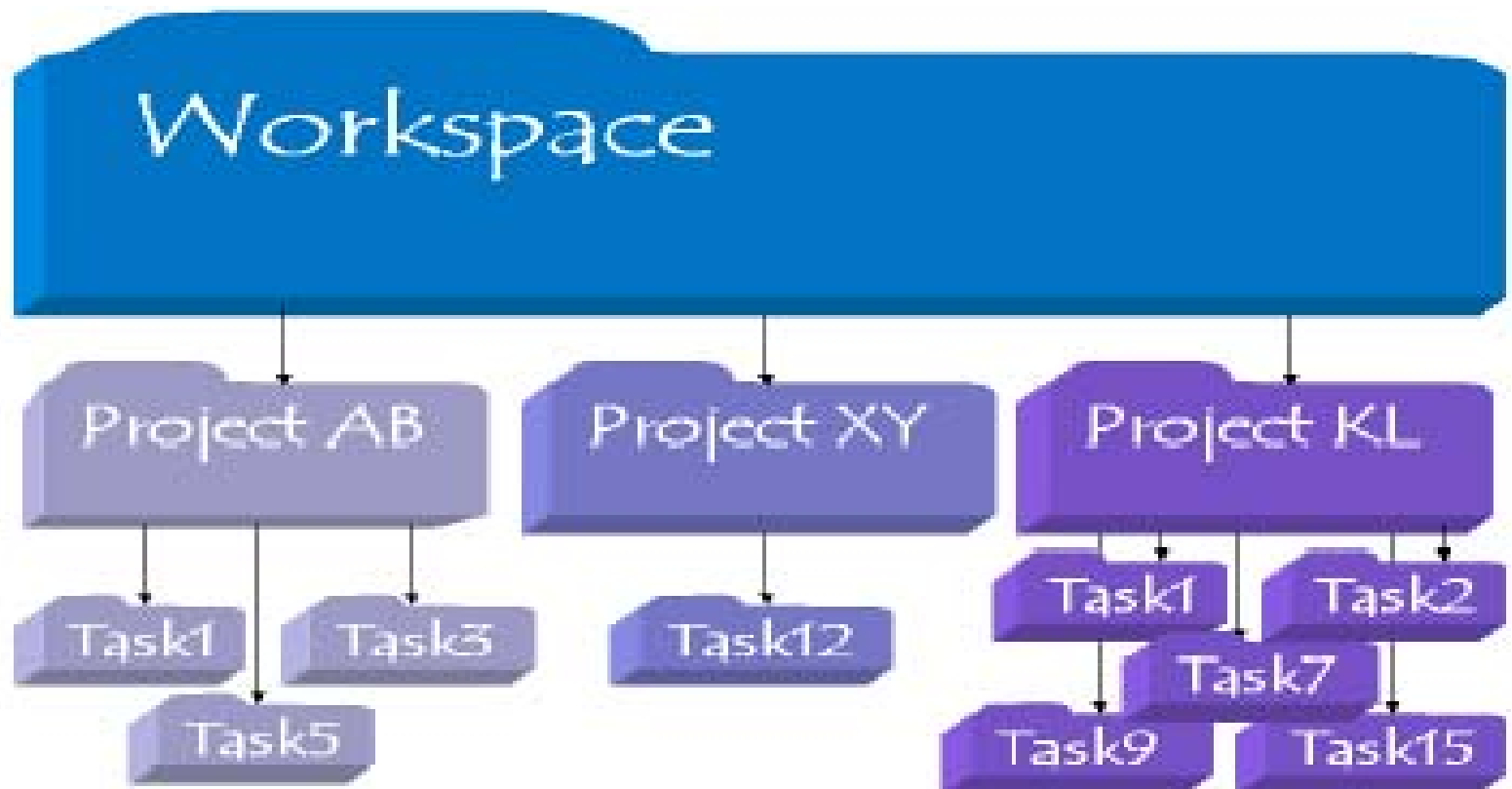
# Features

- ✓ Web native project system
- ✓ Information handling simplification
- ✓ Live visualization of the project: Gantt views
- ✓ Document and data management
- ✓ Resource allocation, and work delivery
- ✓ Real time reports
- ✓ Collaboration and issue handling
- ✓ Financial report display

# Workflow

- ✓ Activator handles full work delivery as scheduled by the project planning chart
- ✓ Three levels in the hierarchy of workflow:
  - **Workspace** provides a system-wide view for each user based on his authorization for viewing
  - **Project** level grants the access to the information needed to complete the project: tasks, resources, documents
  - **Task** level includes several criteria (work items) and resources assigned, documents, discussion threads and issues
- ✓ Based on authorization, valuable project and task can be shared with others who are not part of the project

# Workflow



# How does the system work?

- ✓ Project management is basically done through Gantt chart
- ✓ Each task on the chart has an automatically generated folder
- ✓ When Gantt chart shows work is about to begin task folder is delivered to the people assigned to it
- ✓ As work is being done Gantt chart shows the progress
- ✓ All works can be navigated real-time



# How does the system work?

- ✓ Any change to the Gantt chart affects delivery of tasks
- ✓ Search is available at project, task and document level
- ✓ Tasks can be reached through Gantt chart
- ✓ Projects can be linked together
- ✓ Folders contain instructions and also files to do the tasks

Relax for the moment and see the  
video

Project Activator Product Demonstration

Try the system

# Usability

- ✓ Simplicity of use: needs no formal training
- ✓ It can be used within hours of installation
- ✓ Work items are highly organized in different levels
- ✓ Easy project navigation between levels
- ✓ You can see what you can manage
- ✓ Provides notification of events before they are late

# Security

- ✓ Several levels of security:
  - Passwords and 128 bit encryption provide session protection
  - Administrator adds new users and define security roles for them by Admin module : it sets permissions at the **executive**, **manager**, **collaborator**, and **guest user** levels
  - Local manager can assign resources (users added via Admin module) to projects and tasks
  - Product is Department of Defense (DOD) compliant

# Technology



# Summary and Improvements

- ✓ Project Activator software introduced
- ✓ A sample project tracked on the system
- ✓ Its features, simplicity of use and its security levels mentioned



## Improvements:

- Risk handling
- Customization for different projects e.g. SPM
- Customization for financial reports

