

# Microsoft PPM and Power BI enables improved overview and better financial management

Canon Europe moves to the cloud with Microsoft Project Online and Power BI, eliminating manual work in excel, optimize financial management and generate a broader portfolio overview

# Canon



## CUSTOMER PROFILE

Canon Europe  
Located in the Netherlands  
Founded in 1937



## SITUATION

Canon Europe want to optimize financial management and have a better portfolio overview



## SOLUTION

Implementation of a cloud based Microsoft PPM solution including Power BI

## Overview

Canon Europe, leader in imaging solutions, moves to the cloud with Microsoft Project Online, to help eliminate manual work in Excel, optimize financial management and generate a broader portfolio overview.

## Challenge

The scale of Canon's business means that the company works on over 40 projects at any one time (like the projects in the Unity programme), communicates with a network of service partners supporting its daily operations and has more than 900 available internal and external resources (eg TCS). Due to Canon's scale and breadth of work, one of its main challenges was financial management. With so many resources, invoicing was a time consuming process. Additionally, Canon received timesheets in several formats and needed to cross-reference these with the invoices they received to track actual hours compared to budgeted hours, which was a resource-intensive process. With this in mind, the company was keen to implement one solution that was capable of handling a large project portfolio across the entire organisation, as well as giving the company a consolidated overview of finance, resources and projects.

## About Canon Europe

Canon Europe is the regional sales and marketing operation for Canon Inc., represented in 116 countries and employing 19,000 people across Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA).

Its solutions comprise products, ranging from digital compact and SLR cameras, through broadcast lenses and portable X-ray machines, to multi-function and production printers, all supported by a range of value added services.

For more information visit  
[www.canon-europe.com](http://www.canon-europe.com)

## Solution

To manage the organisation's project portfolio, Canon chose Microsoft's PPM solution, Microsoft Project Online. As Canon was already using the Office 365 suite, Project Online was seamlessly integrated into the IT strategy. The many out-of-the-box functionalities (eg timesheet management, portfolio analysis, project websites and project scheduling) were a key benefit for Canon as it could fulfil the company's needs in terms of management and overview of project portfolios, finance and completing time sheets.

## Implementation

To implement the solution, Canon chose Projectum, the global Microsoft PPM Partner of the Year 2015. Projectum was part of the entire process, from defining the initial scope and vision to implementation and user training. Projectum uses an iterative delivery model to ensure that the customer is constantly involved in the implementation process and knows exactly what the end result will look like. In this process, Projectum also served as a trusted advisor, working closely together with Canon's portfolio management team to collectively decide on the right solution based on best practice. Furthermore, Projectum provided training to ensure that users were ready to take advantage of the solution from day one.

Thanks to Project Online, Canon's service partners can now fill in their hours directly into Canon's timesheet system. When Canon receives an invoice, the company can easily check if the invoiced hours correlate with the logged hours in the timesheets – opening up a whole new world of efficient financial management.

## Benefits

As Project Online is a cloud-based solution, there is no need for local maintenance or installation. The PPM solution also seamlessly integrates with the rest of the Office 365 suite and the company is able to use the SharePoint technology on project site level.

**“With Microsoft Project Online we achieved a Cloud solution which will save cost and realize our business case, whilst also achieving an improved performance and more visual portfolio overview in Power BI”**

Felix Arons, Senior PMO Officer ICT, Canon Europe

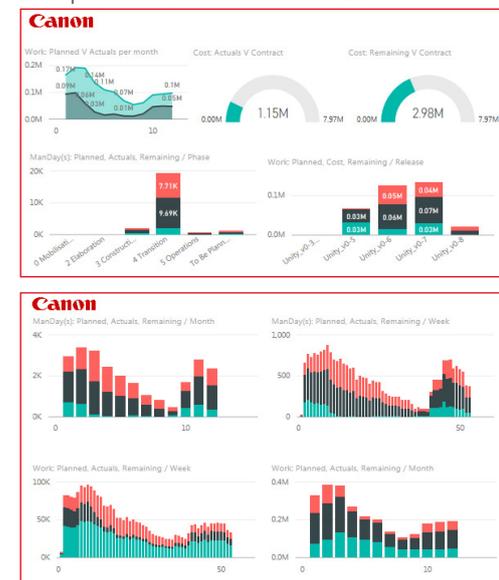
The Microsoft PPM solution relieves Canon of a lot of manual work and speeds up invoicing, thereby saving the company time and resources. The solution also improves collaboration across the organisation through the use of project sites. This allows employees to track changes on projects and programmes, share documents and tasks, and view project summaries. With Project Online and Power BI, Canon now has the right data quality, and a complete overview of the entire project portfolio.

**“Due to its great flexibility and usability, Project Online is capable of supporting the PPM needs for large enterprises like Canon Europe to define and manage its project portfolios and improve delivery cycles,” says Felix Arons, Senior PMO Officer at Canon Europe.”**

Felix Arons

Senior PMO Officer ICT, Canon Europe

Examples of the solution in Power BI



## About Projectum

Projectum was founded in 2004 with the distinct vision of becoming a leading solution partner within Project & Portfolio Management Solutions in Europe. As two time worldwide Microsoft PPM Partner of the Year winner in 2015 & 2017 and finalist in 2016, Projectum has a unique expertise within PPM and specifically Microsoft PPM. Our experiences give us the right industry and “change management” insights, as well as a long and proven track record of creating user-friendly solutions.