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| Posted By: | * [**wynnewmiller**](http://profiles.yahoo.com/wynnewmiller)
	+ [wynnewmiller](http://profiles.yahoo.com/wynnewmiller)
	+ [Send EmailSend Email](http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/BFR/post?postID=QyNTSv9cOK2wG-DsSijLi2Z3Ueg-R7hpaE0__qUl_mx02rzX7gm72Sy0CjZvtiidOxWj6MjbmgDGOI6E8V5ZcG_xJ7ngvLDiUSVupttuMvI5qQ)
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| I hereby join the ranks of effusive beneficiaries of your expertise and generosity. Here’s the cut and paste. I don’t need any more suggestions, and apologize that I got to a point where I could no longer respond individually!MS Project is the classic product for this. I'd be curious to know what products the Project Management Institute recommends to the people who take its training and exam.I really like Microsoft Project. It is very easy to learn, easy to manipulate, shows process holders, multiple views and designed to work across departments. If the Company is paying for it, all the better!I believe he should check out the features in www.basecamphq.com. It's one of the most popular and highly rated options available.Try SmartSheet. It's in the cloud and you can play with it for a single project for free. [Smartsheet.com](http://Smartsheet.com)My company, eVisioner, makes web-based project management software that may fit what your son is looking for. Our product MetaTeam addresses the full set of project activities, from chartering to planning, team organization, scheduling, decision-making and delivery. <http://www.evisioner.com/site/products/metateam>MetaTeam comes with ~20 built-in planning, status, resource management and decision-making reports -- all printable and management-ready. MetaTeam can collect and report status across projects and groups. And if he is a Microsoft Project user he can load Project files into MetaTeam and/or export to Project easily.Picking a project management tool can be challenging. MetaTeam stands out for its focus on chartering, planning and day-to-day team management, where most other tools limit themselves to the narrow task of scheduling. Experts say that project performance is primarily determined by strong governance -- planning, people management and decision-making. Our tools help project and department managers boost performance by making it easy to use best-practices. I would be very happy to speak with your son, help him do a quick evaluation of MetaTeam and answer any questions. Cheers.David **David Kershaw** Founder, CTO (617) 290-1667 (direct) dkershaw@... http://www.evisioner.com eVisioner Inc., 109 Dudley Road, Wayland MA 01778 2 companies that I have worked for use (and swear by) Microsoft Project software.I have been using MS Project for a number of years; with great success. It should be able to meet your son’s needs.Microsoft Project is the program that I've seen used most frequently. I'm not sure of all the functionality but I'm sure it would meet your son's needs.Computer Associates (CA) sells a product named Clarity for project management that web based and shares a common database. This is may be much more than what you need, however, the schedule/planning tool can be run independently and it is available for free download (open source). The name is "Open Workbench". The core of the tool has been a long term competitor with Microsoft Project and has much of the same functionality (although under different brand names (ABT, NIKU. . . ). With just this stand-alone, desktop tool, open source tool, you can add notes at a task level, move tasks, or blocks of tasks, create phases, etc. You can log progress. You can create custom reports. If the project file is on some shared server, others could update it (one at a time). If you want team members to log their own time, provide users with views into the project from the web, etc, you need to contact Computer Associates about Clarity.There are so many questions that this request begs, many of which need to be answered directly. Among them are: How big is the company and how big is the IT department? What are you using now? Why not import between what sounds like MSProject to an Excel Sheet—it’s easy enough and can be annotated? Usually by changing parameters in MS Project (like marking something complete)—it should show progress. Some larger companies have 3-tiered software—company view, project view, and individual contributor view—can he buy new software? There are sites on the web that preview and rate software? Does he belong to PMI? They may have capability to ask the experts. He may even be able to contact someone in the Seattle area—I am sure they have a PMI group there. As far as letting others know, he may want to make up his own dashboard tool that can show projects in progress and “the emergency interrupters”—generally that would need to be shown by indicating the projects who had resources taken. He should probably be letting people know when their work is interrupted or which project is robbing the hours for the interruption? Even better may be to have an emergency fund of hours, for which a percentage is drawn from each project. For example 1% of project estimated hours for each project is set aside for fires. So each project has a 1% increase in estimated time to complete—and advertise so that the company knows you are aware of how projects work and how life works and that everyone contributes equitably. He may need to publish the project priorities in IT for everyone’s knowledge, and in fact may need to get that straight from the CEO.I am about 8 years away from PM software, so I am sure there have been changes and improvements. I would be interested in the right answer though. http://l.yimg.com/a/i/space.gif***617-232-4848******Brookline, MA USA***[***www.win-coaching.com***](http://www.win-coaching.com)***If we’re not supposed to dance,*** ***why all this music?******--Gregory Orr******From the poem, To Be Alive******Welcome 2011!*** |