

Keynote Speakers

If Time Is Money, Accuracy Pays Dividends:

An Overview of Past and Future Project Management Research

The presentation will start with an overview of the history of the Earned Value Management (EVM) related research collaboration that has occurred within Europe including the establishment of the EVM Research Center of Excellence at Ghent University, Belgium. Past research findings and their influence on EVM practice will be summarized, which will include the results of the research study published in "Measuring Time (using EVM data): A Project Performance Simulation Study" that received the 2008 International Project Management Association (IPMA) Research Award at the IPMA World Congress held in Rome. In that study, the utility of the historic EVM time conversion techniques, Earned Schedule, and Earned Duration metrics were compared. The findings and their positive impact on EVM practice will be demonstrated. Due to the extraordinary levels of global interest in this research, the results have been published as a book *Measuring Time: Improving Project Performance using Earned Value Management* by Springer.

The address will provide an overview on current European research studies on "dynamic scheduling" that focus on integrating baseline scheduling, risk analysis, and project control, including an overview of the plans for the late 2011 awarded funding of more than € 1 million from the Belgian government for an integrated project management research study on the dynamic use of project performance (including EVM) and schedule risk information during project control. Each individual building block of the research study will be explained, and its relevance to practice will be highlighted. Future expected research results will be briefly summarized with their possible relevance shown based on preliminary tests done on projects from companies in Belgium. An innovative Practitioner Review Committee (PRC) has been formed in collaboration with the EVM Europe Association which will consider the implications to practice of the academic research findings obtained over the planned 6 year duration of the research project. Details on the application process for possible membership to the PRC will be announced for the first time. The presentation will conclude with suggestions for future research and an overview of possible European initiatives on project management, control and EVM.



Ing.* Stephan Vandevoorde

Ing.* Stephan Vandevoorde is head of the Airport Systems Division of Fabricom N.V./S.A. Fabricom is the Belgian reference of innovative technical

installations and services for the energy, tertiary and infrastructure industry markets. The Airport Systems Division specializes in providing technology for high-performance baggage handling systems, including 100% hold baggage screening systems (HBS) around the globe. Mr. Vandevoorde has an Industrial Engineering Diploma. He has been working as project manager on a number of large-scale projects in Europe and Asia across many industries including construction, retail, automotive industry and airport technologies. Mr. Vandevoorde is a founding member and Director of the EVM Europe Association, which aims to advance the uptake and use of the EVM method in Europe. He is also a past director of the PMI Belgium Chapter. He has extensive experience in using EVM in the commercial sector. EVM is used as a project control tool by Fabricom for most projects. His particular interest is in EVM techniques that assist in evaluating and predicting project performance, including the newly developed Earned Schedule concept. He has published research papers validating the Earned Schedule method using real project data from Fabricom Airport Systems. Mr. Vandevoorde teaches courses on project management topics for Ehsal Management School, Brussels Belgium, Boston University and Institute for Business Development of Bruges. He is a regular speaker at Ghent University, and Vlerick Leuven Ghent Management School.

* Ing. is the official Belgian designation for Professional Engineer



Dr. Mario Vanhoucke

Prof. Dr. Mario Vanhoucke is a professor of Business Management and Operations Research at Ghent University (Belgium), Vlerick Leuven

Ghent Management School (Belgium, Russia, China), and University College London. He has a PhD in Operations Management from the University of Leuven (Belgium) and a Master's degree in Commercial Engineering from the University of Leuven (Belgium). At Ghent University, he is the program director of the Commercial Engineering program where he teaches Project Management and Applied Operations Research. At Vlerick Leuven Ghent Management school, he teaches Decision Making for Business and Business Statistics to Master students. He advises for several PhD projects, has published papers in 40+ international publications, and has authored two project management books. He is a founding member and director of the EVM Europe Association and a partner in OR-AS creators of ProTrack 3.0 project management software. Prof. Dr. Vanhoucke has received multiple awards: the International Project Management Association Research Award and the Notable Contributions to Management Accounting Literature Award from the American Accounting Association. In 2011, he led a group that obtained Concerted Research Actions funding of more than € 1 million from the Belgian government for an integrated project management research study, to be performed over the next six years in collaboration with Ghent University, The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), the University College of London, George Washington University, and the EVM Europe Association.