

SimulTrain®: The Project Management Simulation

SimulTrain is a Project Management simulator that allows the trainees to integrate into one coherent whole all of the Project Management factors: costs, deadlines, quality, functionality and human factors.

It is particularly useful to put all of the acquired knowledge into practice at the end of a Project Management course.

1. Learning goals

At the end of the simulation the participants are able to:

- Plan the resources in a project;
- Use the project management tools;
- Run a project effectively;
- Make group decisions in stress situations;
- React correctly when confronted with typical problems of project management.



2. Learning methodology



Training is done in small groups. The simulator confronts the groups with different situations, which require quick decisions. The participants therefore learn how to work and make decisions as a team.

The feedback and consequences of the different decisions are immediately visible. Human factors such as motivation, team spirit and communication are very well integrated.

At the end of the simulation, the trainees assess the mistakes made and the lessons learnt individually and as a group.



3. Prerequisites

This simulation does not require any prerequisites, however, we recommend:

- A general knowledge of Project Management and project life cycle;
- Knowledge of the Gantt-Diagram and the Activity Network.

These can be covered within the SimulTrain session.

4. How to learn with SimulTrain®?



Training is done in small groups of 3 or 4 people, in two sessions of 3-4 hours each. Each group has one computer with the simulation program.

The simulator allows the group to work on the progress and execution of an important project. The participants are confronted with different situations which require them to make decisions quickly, while taking all of the project parameters into account (costs, deadlines as well as all human factors).

The simulator uses multimedia technology, and the participants receive phone calls, e-mails and voice-mails, thus immersing them in a realistic project atmosphere.

5. From the trainer's point of view



The participants work in groups of 3 to 4 people. One trainer can manage up to 16 people.

The only materials needed for the course are a computer – preferably a laptop – for each group, with an external loudspeaker, and the project documents for the simulated scenario.

6. Typical session structure

Usually, a training session with SimulTrain consists of two sessions, with a duration of 3-4 hours each. A sample structure is provided. This can be modified and extended to meet your requirements.

Session 1	Session 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Introduction (30 mins)■ Simulation period 1 (2 hrs 30 mins)■ Debriefing (30 – 60 mins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Reports (30 mins)■ Simulation period 2 (2 hrs)■ Debriefing (30 – 60 mins)

