



TIME CHAINAGE

PCF has been delivering innovative graphical software solutions that interface directly with Primavera or Microsoft Project since 1982, and became a Primavera Technology Partner in 2002.

LinearPlus is a product designed for organisations managing complex linear projects and provides the capability for organisations where many civil engineering projects take place in worksites with restricted access along an overall line of route. Such projects include:

- Roads
- Power Lines
- Railways
- Sea Defences
- Tunnels
- Waterways
- Pipelines

In this type of environment, organisations must pay particular attention to the physical restrictions associated with the worksites in addition to the normal constraints imposed by activity sequencing and resource availabilities. Unfortunately, traditional planning tools based on Gantt charts cannot display where activities are taking place, nor do they take account of any location-related constraints when performing a time analysis. Time Chainage charts (also known as Time Distance or Time Location charts) were developed to resolve this problem.

We deal with organisations involved at all stages of the asset lifecycle, from the initial planning or design stage, through construction, testing and commissioning, and on to operation and maintenance. Past and present customers of our time chainage products in the UK include Transmanche Link, Crossrail, London Underground and Network Rail, while overseas clients include New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Parsons Brinckerhoff and Leighton Contractors.

What Makes LinearPlus Unique?

LinearPlus is customisable at the corporate and user level to allow maximum flexibility for users to maintain corporate consistency.

Cross-Product Integration

LinearPlus works in environments that use different scheduling tools and other corporate systems

Leveraging Existing Systems

Organisations can leverage existing project management systems. A library of views and reports allows users to view data through a common interface, reducing the need for additional applications on the desktop.

Business benefits of LinearPlus

In many cases, LinearPlus is capable of revealing for the first time issues that escape current systems, by combining data from several sources into a clearly understood visual representation. It is also excellent for breaking down complex programmes or projects into easily understandable pictures.

Specific benefits include:

- Easy “what if” modelling with fast response
- Automation of the production of non-standard reports
- Automation of the generation/distribution of reports



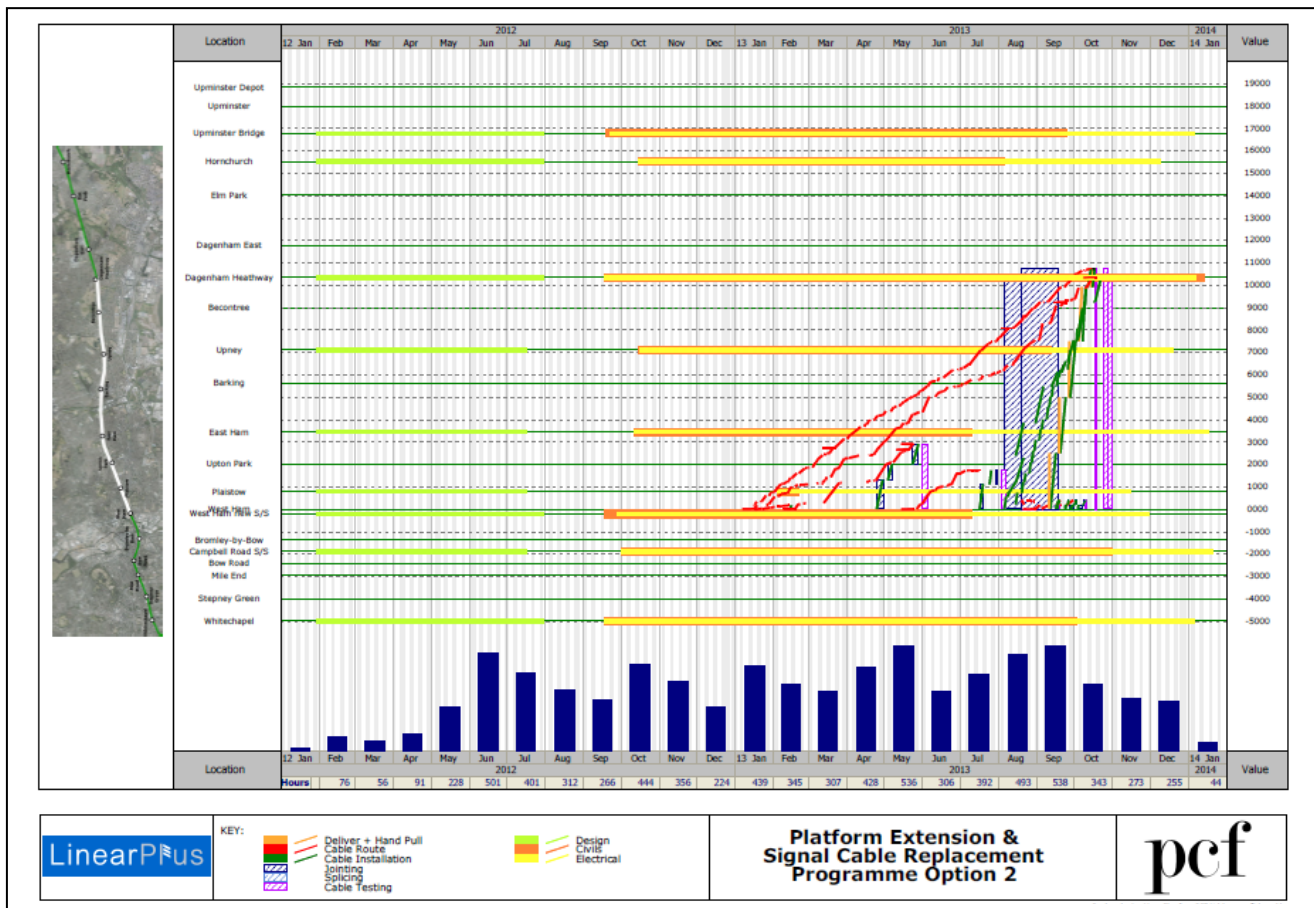
LinearPlus™



LinearPlus provides organisations working on linear projects with Time Chainage charts, and completely eliminates the three principal historical problems associated with their creation:

- Speed** Once set up for your project, LinearPlus can create a chart automatically in a matter of seconds, instead of the hours or even days associated with manual or semi-manual processes.
- Accuracy** LinearPlus can import data directly from a wide variety of sources, ensuring that schedule and resource information is correct and up to date. Organisations can even enforce this by preventing users from modifying any imported values whilst allowing them to format or display data in any way they wish.
- Ease of Use** LinearPlus has been designed specifically for the creation and manipulation of Time Chainage reports.

Example



The diagram above shows what LinearPlus is capable of producing. This example is a report which has been used to illustrate many of the key features of the product.

Activities at stations appear as horizontal bands, with their vertical position based on the distance of the station from the datum.

The diagonal lines show cable related work and the staggered sequences of blocks show the Design, Civils and Electrical services. To either side of the main report area a graphic of the intended route has been added on the left and on the right the location points are shown. The report has been framed to allow for the insertion of logos, legend and project description and the date ribbons are shown both top and bottom.



VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION

LinearPlus allows you to generate any number of views from the same data based upon. You can for example WBS elements rather than activities, break down a long worksite into a series of short sections to be presented individually, or filter the activities to produce a report based on one specific type of work. Standard rules for colouring activities can be defined and combined together to produce a “look and feel” for a particular report(s).

LinearPlus also knows where your work is taking place by defining start and end locations for activities as you plan. Linearplus can display the progress of work along the worksite, for all views, you can elect to display resource loads and availabilities. LinearPlus provides sophisticated resource display functions, including the ability to generate incremental or cumulative curves, to stack curves together, or even create curves based on spreadsheet-like operations.

You can import or create symbols for use as annotation on the plan or associated with locations; these can be stored in a library for reuse. Photographs or drawings of the worksite can be imported and incorporated alongside the plan to enhance the presentation (as seen in the Example above).

LinearPlus can produce output in a variety of formats, depending on your requirements. It supports paper sizes up to A0 or greater, and can print out to any device supported by Microsoft Windows, including PDF generators. You can group views together for printing in a single operation.

LinearPlus also provides facilities for publishing plans to the Internet or a company intranet as web pages.

SYNCHRONISATION

One issue when importing data is keeping it up to date with any changes so importing from an existing planning system and then periodically update LinearPlus with changes is one way and this is not a problem as LinearPlus has been designed to integrate with external sources such as Microsoft Project or Primavera, and can import and export data in a wide variety of formats. When transferring a project for the first time, the system will import all relevant data (including resources and working calendars) to ensure that both versions remain completely synchronised. Changes made within LinearPlus can then be exported back to your planning system, providing a truly “round trip” synchronised facility.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

LinearPlus copes with importing data from Primavera or Microsoft Project through standard wizard interfaces including all key information including baseline, schedule, resource and progress.

Hard copy of reports can be produced on any windows compatible printer, or even roll feed plotters. Output can be scaled to fit one page or multiple pages.

Users can combine multiple reports on to one sheet and thereby produce quartile reporting that is required by some organisations.

Users can publish reports to the Internet by converting the reports to either JPEG or SVG formats.

Users can import graphic symbols and store them in symbol libraries in order to annotate reports.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Any modern PC running 32/64 bit Windows (Windows Vista up to Windows 8) will be more than adequate.

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LinearPlus™



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