Have an eye on important projects

In pharmaceutical companies. project business comprises much more than the mere development of medicaments. In order to make reliable decisions, the management requires a transparent project portfolio In the Dr. Willmar Schwabe corporate group, a new software generates a more clear overview of the numerous simultaneous business projects. The persons responsible have an eye on the status of each project and can focus more easily on the really important projects.

The Dr. Willmar Schwabe company group employs 1600 employees at three sites in Karlsruhe and its surroundings and produces herbal and homeopathic medicinal products. Schwabe plans an average of 300 simultaneously running projects for a period of about 12 months.

Problem Prior to Implementation of the New Software
Prior to the implementation of the new software, the company's projects could only be outlined rudimentarily in the form of a SharePoint-list. The number of simultaneously running projects and the parallel loading of employees was not transparent. Information on project status, project period, and date of completion of each individual project were not easily accessible either

Definition of Objectives
All company projects are to be readily accessible. The core roles (purchasers, project manager, project core team, steering board) should be able to monitor all relevant project information. like project core data, milestones, project phase, resources, at any time and should be able to read status reports directly in the project portfolio. During the quest for a suitable new software, no own solution was taken into consideration. Instead, three products which are currently on the market were tested. In December, Schwalbe decided in favor of PLANTA. The PLANTA project, PLANTA portfolio, PLANTA customizer, PLANTA link components were implemented. The existing rudimentary SharePoint-solution was replaced. The technical concept for the new software solution was drawn up by Schwabe themselves. It was turned into a technical solution with the help of a PLANTA consultant.

Rapid Software Implementation
The software was implemented expeditiously. Only 5 months passed from the definition of the problem up to the decision for PLANTA, and another 2.5 months passed until operation went live in March 2019. 150-200 employees were involved in the implementation phase. The competence team for implementation consisted of two employees from PMO and one employee from organization development. Feedback loops were carried out with 10 users. The new software system is used nearly in the entire corporate group:

Unternehmensgruppe
Dr. Willmar Schwabe
From Nature. For Health.

in the areas of finance, HR, quality, IT, purchasing, production, supply chain, infrastructure; technology. In planning, 50 project managers and 25 portfolio managers access the PLANTA software. Main milestones allow 300 stakeholders to see the current status of their project at one glance. A resource planning with a quite pragmatic approach is applied, which is primarily focused on the number of simultaneously running project proposals.

Adjustments to PLANTA Standard
To map company specific processes adequately, some adjustments have been made to the Standard system. Schwabe carried out half of the adjustments themselves, while the other half was carried out by PLANTA: Own project rolls and other project types have been defined, views have been changed and the calculation of the project phases has been solved by means of milestone fulfillment. A user data interface for reading a CSV file from SAP ERP has been created.

Benefit of Software Implementation
After the new system has been in operation for half a year, the benefit can be outlined as follows:
• Adherence to schedule has been increased, since the project status is more transparent now and it is monitored more consequently.
• The number of simultaneously running projects has been reduced. The focus has increasingly and noticeably been placed on important projects.
• Simultaneously running projects/project ideas with equal target area can be identified and synchronized earlier on

Short Portrait Dr. Willmar Schwabe
The Dr. Willmar Schwabe company is a global leader in research, development, and production of herbal medicinal products, called phytopharmaceuticals. Our innovative medicinal products are effective and well tolerated. The quality of our phytopharmaceuticals is at the highest level: From the natural raw materials up to the packaged drug, at Dr. Willmar Schwabe, everything comes from a single source.

PLANTA
the project professionals

Extract of List of Customers

PLANTA customers come from a wide range of economic sectors. These are primarily:
IT, banks, and insurance companies, engineering and plant construction, as well as automobile manufacturers and suppliers.

Allianz Suisse · ATRUVIA · Basler Versicherungen · BAUSCH+STRÖBEL

beyond gravity · BMW · CURTISS-WRIGHT · Deutsche Rentenversicherung Baden-Württemberg

Die Mobiliar Versicherungen & Vorsorge · entega · Frenzelit creating hightech solutions · GEMA

GIRA · HEIDELBERG · HERMES ARZNEIMITTEL · Instrument Systems light measurement

JÄGER a schlatter brand · Kanton Zürich Baudirektion · KETEK · LEONI

LWO PRÜFAUTOMATION · LOSAN PHARMA · LUXFORGE metal conception · Luzerner Kantonalbank

MAX FRANK BUILDING COMMON GROUND · micro automation · oerlikon balzers · PROVINZIAL Die Versicherung der Sparkassen

schreiner Group · SEEPEX. · SIG · SIGNAL IDUNA

STADTWERKE ROSTOCK · staiger FLUID CONTROL EXCELLENCE · steffen holzbau · STIHL

TDK · VAC VACUUMSCHMELZE · VOLKSWAGEN FINANCIAL SERVICES AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT · YAMAICHI ELECTRONICS

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