**OVERHAUL FACILITY PLANNING AND CONTROL TOOL SELECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION ANALYSIS**

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**Introduction**

The “Área de Material RIO CUARTO” perform overhaul and services for more than 400 active aeronautical assets, as well as Depot level inspection for different weapon systems. Within the efforts of increased productivity and efficiency the Planning and Control Department became a target for improvements. Certainty and visibility should be achieved to enhance support decisions and better use the scarce resources. 

Sponsored by the Materiel General Directorate the purpose of this research is to find and compare different planning and control tools to better help on gaining visibility and certainty over the ongoing works. Implementation issues will also be addressed and measures to avoid or minimize them will be recommended.

**Research Questions**

1. Are the actual planning procedures enough to fulfill the mission of the Planning and Control Department?
2. What should be the main characteristics for a software planning tool to better support the Planning and Control Department?
3. Which measures should be taken to install and implement a software planning tool?

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**Methodology**

**Planning and Control Department Analysis**
- MAPO 55 analysis: Duties and Responsibilities.
- Procedures Registry Analysis: Procedures in effect.
- Year Plans DATA, issues and needs analysis.

**Project Management Framework**
- Unified Best Procedures for Successful PM.
- Select UBP needed by PCD as a framework.

**Software Selection**
- Set the criteria to scope the available software.
- Search software options over COTS, OS, BS and AMS.
- Select best 2 options out of each group.

**Software Comparison**
- Set grading rates: support and coverage for UBP's.
- Grade different software capabilities over selected UBPs.

**Implementation Issues**
- Assess implementation issues: SIL & key success factor.
- Recommend actions to avoid or moderate issues.

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**Framework of comparison**

**Results and Conclusions**

An IT tool could improve the planning processes, enhancing standardization, visibility and certainty over the production, better supporting decision makers and resource management. After grading and comparing, Microsoft Project® and LiquidPlanner®, becomes the most suitable options and should be recommended to evaluate on site.

The research recommend to take at least the next implementation actions:

1. Commit a high level civilian personnel from the PCD to lead the implementation effort.
2. Review the actual planning and control procedures to update and improve them, covering the grey areas over the planning, controlling and reporting processes.
3. Conduct Department meetings to inform and clearly state the goals and update issues and experiences.
4. Plan and implement a training process.
5. Incorporate small steps at a time.

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**Microsoft Project® and LiquidPlanner®**

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