

# Project Management Simulation Managing by Project



Auris Bean

Training beyond anything you've ever done ...



## **Global Work Renaissance**

#### Work changes have outdated most management skills . . .

The world of work is being so dramatically redefined by enterprise and government that our present skills of managing and leading are mostly ineffective, and often counterproductive. What worked in the past no longer does. Something very basic has changed.

#### We work now in a world of information and knowledge . . .

You and everyone else are gaining unlimited access to unlimited information. We are all learning to apply our new knowledge, and we are seeking the freedom to innovate. We expect work of meaning and purpose that makes full use of our creativity and imagination, that unleashes the human spirit at work. The working world and the nature of organizations are being transformed. We are all caught up in the changes.

#### New leadership skills beyond the old are required . . .

We can change with the times or be left out. Those who choose to change will need new skills that few managers and leaders now have. These skills must be learned, and can only be learned by actual experience and practice. That takes time.

#### You can experience new ways to learn . . .

The time needed to learn these new skills can be accelerated and made risk-free in **Davis&Dean's "Flight" Simulations for Leaders**™. These workplace simulations are specifically designed for managers and leaders who decide to sharpen their competitive edge and stay in the game. That's our only business.

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## What is a "Flight" Simulation for Leaders like?

#### You'll experience all the stages of learning . . .

In a **Davis&Dean "Flight" Simulation for Leaders**, all stages of learning are experienced, from the *Bliss* of not knowing a skill exists, to the early *Frustration* of not having the skill, through the *Awkwardness* of trying a skill for the first time, and advancing to the *Natural* behaviors of the truly skilled. Continuing on, multiple skills are *Integrated* into new skill sets, which may then either *Align* with personal belief systems or engender new beliefs.

#### You'll learn by doing it yourself . . .

A Davis&Dean "Flight" Simulation for Leaders is a personal experience in which fully involved participants do the learning themselves, while being coached and guided by experts. Your learning is not directed simply at the acquisition of knowledge, but towards practicing and using relevant new leadership skills.

#### You'll work in a leaderful team . . .

In a workshop, up to six teams of three to five participants are immersed in realistic long-term workplace situations. Teams make everyday decisions, plus they deal with dilemmas and unplanned events that must be resolved within specified times, budgets, and other parameters. Each team's progress unfolds differently depending upon the decisions they make using their existing and newly learned skills and knowledge.

#### It's real work, not a game . . .

These simulations authentically replicate the workplace, although they are more focused, risk-free, and performed in compressed time. Success in a simulation, just as at work, is achieved not by manipulation, but by consistently applying good leadership and management practices, effective people skills, an integrated strategy, and the targeted functional skills being learned.

#### Your guide is an expert . . .

**Davis&Dean** Guides (instructors) must meet very high standards, including professional or advanced education supplemented by years of significant and applicable experience. In addition, they must successfully complete our comprehensive and demanding certification process before guiding **Davis&Dean** *"Flight" Simulations for Leaders*. A Guide's certification is reviewed regularly.



# Managing by Project

Increasingly, work is done by short-lived, real-time, project-specific teams.

As the core of an organization shrinks, better use must be made of the resources that remain and of the growing numbers of contractors, temporaries, and part timers.

The complex resource management challenges that result are natural applications for project management skills.

Project management skills apply to all of our work. They facilitate any activity comprised of defined interrelated tasks that must be completed on time and within budget, while meeting specified customer requirements.

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# Managing by Project Workplace Simulation Objectives

In this very practical hands-on workshop, participants manage a complete project. They learn by actual experience and practice how to:

- ▲ Manage by project
- ▲ Use fundamental principles and tools
- ▲ Organize and lead a project team
- ▲ Plan, schedule, and control a project
- ▲ Get quality work done on time and within budget
- Emphasize the human side of project management
- ▲ Experience a project from beginning to end
- ▲ Value the customer's viewpoint

Participants work in teams of three or four to plan and manage their project.





## The Project

Participants plan, staff, and manage a project modeled after an actual product development project—MegaDriver.



## **Project Definition/Statement of Work** MegaDriver Development Project

Project Name: MegaDriver Development Project

Project Customer: (the user) M.S. Caine, plus the successor TRP projects: MiniDriver, MicroDriver, and Upgrade Control Building

Project Manager: Participant Team (Us)

Project Sponsor: Lincoln Miller

Project Objective(s):

To deliver a working MegaDriver 21 weeks after start date, at a cost of \$750,000, and with a MTTF of 1200 hours.

What we expect to produce:

- 1. Driver bearing
- 2. Bearing incorporated into a mechanical package of our design
- 3. Driver subassembly (the bearing and mechanical package)
- 4. User software in two versions-domestic and foreign language version
- 5. Operating software
- 6. Driver final assembly
- 7. User documentation and manuals

What we expect **not** to do:

- 1. No development work on Micro- and MiniDrivers.
- 2. No other work related to TRP (Technology Renewal Program).
- 3. No work toward making MegaDriver a stand alone commercial product.
- 4. Nothing that increases MTTF substantially beyond 1200 hours.

What someone else **must** do:

- 1. To the extent we are not able to see the big picture, be responsible for our interface with successor TRP projects and products.
- 2. To the extent we are not able to, coordinate between us and the Control Building Upgrade project.











# Virtual People

To accomplish the project's work, the project team will consist of three to ten virtual (simulated) team members, depending upon the stage of the project. These are selected from the twenty people available.

Notice that all have names; have primary skills, which implies secondary skills as well; have specific personality types (in the same proportion as in the general population); reflect the aging of the work force; and have been with the company for varying lengths of time. Ages are never disclosed to participants.

Some of the virtual people are contractors.

Personality types (Myers-Briggs Type Indicators) are not disclosed to participant teams, unless they take advantage of education opportunities for the MegaDriver Project team that result in discovery and definition of personality types.

The people and relationship side of project management, a weakness of many project mangers, balances the technical skills learned in this workshop.





## Available Virtual Team Members



Name	Primary Skill	Туре	Age	Years With Co
Agee, Wallis E.	Programmer	ISTJ	42	21
Beal, Marion M.	Technical Writer	ISFJ	63	4
Caine, Tony S.	Design Engr, SW	INTJ	36	3
Darr, Kim É.	Programmer	ISTP	40	Contr
Eaton, Morgan F.	Programmer	ISFP	29	7
Frey, Clary N.	Technical Writer	INFP	34	16
Gott, Sam H.	Product Technician	ESTP	50	27
Hart, Orris P.	Exper Machinist	ESTP	58	Contr
Jager, Willie	Product Technician	ESFP	27	2
Kolb, Lou D.	Design Engr, Electr	ESFP	38	1
Lamb, Pat C.	Product Technician	enfj	24	Contr
Miles, Lynn A.	Design Engr, Product	ESTJ	54	26
Nance, Kelly L.	Design Engr, Electr	ENTP	32	5
Omar, Oksana O.	Exper Machinist	INFJ	52	Contr
Park, Leslie N.	Design Engr, SW	ESTJ	21	1
Reil, Sandy W.	Product Technician	ESFJ	30	Contr
Sosa, Lee R.	Programmer	ESFJ	44	Contr
Tong, Dia M.	Design Engr, Electr	INTP	47	Contr
Wood, Chris G.	Design Engr, Product	ENFP	49	4
Yuko, Gerry A.	Design Engr, SW	ENTJ	45	Contr

Note: Ages are not disclosed to class participants, but do affect virtual peoples' interests, work style, motivation, needs, maturity, wisdom, etc.

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## **Resource Planning**

A participant team selects its project team on the basis of personal information provided in the workshop manual. This data may be biased, of course—the *Performance Review* by a former/current supervisor; the *Resume* by the writer himself/herself.

The workshop manual includes a page, like the one on the next page, for each available virtual person.



Years With Compa	<b>1y:</b> 26	
Exceeds basic job requirements		Does not meet basic requirements
Meets agreed upon "stretch" goals		Maintains status quo and equilibrium
Works well without clear direction		Prefers or requires detailed instructions
Prefers creative, adaptive situations		Prefers routine and predictability
Prefers working alone		Prefers working
Supports own needs and goals		Supports group needs and goals
Seeks out new ideas and concepts	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Adheres to the tried and true
Uses m usual Name: Finds w in most Career Experie Commei Up0 eve leve leve PM	Lynn A. Miles <b>Objective:</b> To continue working with this 26 productive and satisfying <b>Ence:</b> A variety of increasingly responsible pos on nearly every facet of product design an ary major new product manufactured by the el of management responsibility. <b>fion:</b> P Certified Project Management Professional PMI	s company, where I have spent years. itions in the company, touching d fabrication, and upon nearly e company, and at nearly every
MS BS	EE University of Texas EE University of Texas	Observations Natural head for business and technical matters. Focused. A natural organizer at work and in other activities. Most successful when others' feelings are remembered.

# **Contingency Planning**

**Unplanned events** occur as the project progresses, and teams respond, adapt, or recover according to their contingency plans.

Although there is a minor random effect, most unplanned events occur as responses to decisions made by the participant team.



Contingency Plan							
	For Task No						
Unplanned Event / Windfall	UNATION O	CONSEQUENCE	VINDOCT C	Action to Take	Who is Responsible for Action?		
Maple resigns *	2	9	18	Replace with Ives			
Rios available *	7	6	42	Put on Task 16; watch it sing!			
Task 8 finishes early $\ast$	3	9	27	Start early; pick up pace			
Team forms faster	7	2	14				
Team bldg burns down	0.1	10	1				
Team resigns en masse	1	10	10				
Materials cost lower	2	8	16				
Task 5: 2 wk delay *	5	8	40	Add a person; educate			
Caine pulled temporarily $*$	6	4	24	Caine works OT next week			

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# Budgeting

To complete the planning process, all of the data developed so far are translated into a simple *Budget...* 





# **Planning for Quality**

Quality is emphasized throughout the project.

- ▲ Quality customer relations
- ▲ Quality project management processes
- ▲ Quality of individuals selected
- ▲ Quality of project team (as a unit)
- ▲ Quality meetings
- Quality education
- ▲ Quality penalties for out-of-spec work
- ▲ Quality as a corporate value

## Quality principles are supported in all respects!



#### Mean Time To Failure

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# Managing the Project

When planning is complete, the 21-week project begins . . .

- 1. Participant teams review their strategies
- 2. Make strategic and current decisions
- 3. Apply decisions to the MegaDriver Project
- 4. Work project for one week (simulated)
- 5. Read and analyze feedback on monitor
- 6. Respond interactively to situations and dilemmas
- 7. See immediate feedback to their responses
- 8. Print weekly management summary reports
- 9. Track progress on project control charts (KPIs)
- 10. Review and analyze short and long term results
- 11. Make next round of decisions
- 12. Continue for 21 weeks, or until project completes

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# **Project Scope Changes**

As their project progresses, participant teams are asked to perform additional tasks not included in their original plan.

Teams can decide to ask for additional budget to cover the added project scope. If they do, negotiations begin with their virtual project sponsors, resulting in an increased budget.

The Task List, Work Breakdown Structure, Network Diagram, Bar Chart, Resource Plan, Contingency Plan and Key Performance Indicators are then officially changed to reflect the added project scope. Project tracking is altered accordingly.

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## Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Project performance is measured and tracked by the participant team each week. They can choose any number of measures to track, but at a minimum they must track these four KPIs:





# Application to Job

Participants' learning in this workshop has value only if they can apply it to their everyday work.

Our experience is that participants apply what they have learned the *very next day*!

Everything participants experience in this workshop is related to their real world. In addition to the hundreds of decisions and actions already described, they also make—



- ▲ periodic planning reviews and reports
- ▲ monthly project progress reports
- ▲ final project completion review

Before leaving the classroom, participants commit *in writing* to what they will apply—

next week at work



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# Why do "Flight" Simulations for Leaders work?

Compressed experience methods have been used in flight simulators for many years. These methods give airplane pilots risk-free experience in a short time so they can learn and integrate new skills.

**Davis&Dean "Flight" Simulations for Leaders** are much the same, replicating management and leadership situations so new skills can be focused on, practiced, and learned quickly.



## Time is short, but ...

- What if . . . there were a fast, effective way to learn the new, complex skills required of today's successful leaders?
- What if . . . in a classroom, you could immerse yourself in a relevant, realistic re-creation of your workplace, accurately reflect the complexity of your job, inundate yourself in the dozens of simultaneous, multi-dimensioned dilemmas that leaders face, and add the urgency and intensity of a collapsing time-line?
- What if . . . you could learn to quickly assess a situation, integrate all the data available to you, forge a team decision, see results instantly, and get continuous, timely performance feedback?
- What if . . . you could lock in your learning with actual reinforced experience, and capture how it feels to successfully apply your new skills with the confidence of an accomplished leader?
- What if . . . it could be done in two or three days?

That's what we **guarantee** with *Davis&Dean "Flight" Simulations for Leaders*, and what we do for the world's most progressive companies on six continents.

These unique, computer-based workplace simulations are designed to seize your attention and give you the best value-added education there is: skills you can take to work that will change forever how you live and lead.



## Workplace Simulations from Davis&Dean

Davis&Dean offers many other "Flight" Simulations for Leaders™ in the field of Project Management.
Please visit our web site or call us for complete information.

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