

## Case study: Batavia Werf

### Batavia Werf Uses Powerproject for 17th Century Warship Reconstruction

A replica of the 17th century Dutch admiralty warship, The Seven Provinces, has been reconstructed at the Batavia Werf, a traditional shipyard in Lelystad, the Netherlands, with the help of Powerproject - a project and resource management solution from Elecosoft.

The 163 foot long and 43 foot wide ship is an exact copy of the original Seven Provinces built in 1664-1665 for the Board of Admiralty of Rotterdam. This ship was used in the Anglo-Dutch maritime conflict waged in the late 17th century.

The project is the second of its kind at the Batavia ship yard, the first being the reconstruction of the 17th century United East India Company ship, The Batavia, which set sail on its maiden voyage to Batavia (now Jakarta, Indonesia) in June 1629.

#### The Challenge

Built without the aid of a project management solution the rebuild of The Seven Provinces was hindered by many challenges in the project planning, resource management and budgetary areas.

Aryan Klein, project manager at Batavia Werf, explained: "The planning processes employed in the construction of The Seven Provinces lacked efficiency. Without a project management solution our plans were manual and a little bit rough and ready. We lacked visibility of how our resources were being used and where they were needed most. Similarly, we couldn't track our budgets accurately resulting in cost and budget overruns."



#### The Solution

Keen to avoid these problems the team at Batavia Werf implemented Powerproject to help them plan and manage the rebuild of The Seven Provinces.

The replica is being made using traditional methods based on historical knowledge and Powerproject has been implemented to ensure efficiency in the area of project planning and resource and financial management.

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Aryan Klein, Project Manager,  
Batavia Werf”



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### The Solution

Powerproject is being utilised to control the supplies and materials needed for the construction of the ship. The ship is being built with timber imported from Denmark and the solution is used to ensure that the right quantity is ordered in time to avoid any project delays. The shipyard can only hold a limited supply of timber and therefore it is vital that the right amount is ordered.

There are a variety of teams involved in different aspects of the project. This includes skilled craftsmen, government funded apprentices and researchers responsible for ensuring that the reconstruction is an exact historical replica of the original.

As part of the sponsorship programme, companies are invited to sponsor different part of the ship such as the mast or wood-carvings. However, in order to do so sponsors require accurate costings.

Powerproject is being used to track the materials used, the labour and skill involved at every stage of the re-construction and the number of hours accrued so that a value can be assigned to provide sponsors with accurate costings for their proposals.

From a financial perspective Powerproject is improving the management of budgets and helping to accurately track costs. As the project is funded solely by public money from tourism, over 3 million people have visited the Yard since 1985, and some corporate sponsorship, it is essential that Batavia Werf maintains a watertight rein over its finances.

Aryan Klein concluded: "Using Powerproject is a major step forward for us. With a project of this scale, there are many unforeseen risks and with the help of Powerproject we are overcoming some of the many challenges we faced with The Seven Provinces rebuild. We can now pre-empt materials running out, accurately assign our resources and have advance warning if we are running over budget. I am confident that by 2012 we will see The Seven Provinces in all its, historically accurate, glory."

Michael McCullen, Elecosoft's managing director commented: "In this unique environment, cost control and the visibility of resources is vital to the successful completion of this huge project. I am delighted that Powerproject is behind a project of such historical importance. The solution will help to ensure that it is delivered on time and budget without compromising quality."

“ With The Seven Provinces it was difficult to track these re-sources and ensure that parts of the project were adequately staffed. Powerproject provides the management at Batavia Werf with a complete and accurate picture of exactly how their resources are being utilised and where they are most needed to guarantee that the entire operation runs efficiently. ”