

Software Product Description

PRODUCT NAME: DECplan Version 1.2A for VMS*
33.09.03

SPD

* The terms VMS and OpenVMS Refer to the OpenVMS Operating system.

DESCRIPTION

DECplan is an integrated time and project management tool designed to help users plan, track, schedule, and report on projects and meetings. DECplan is a client/server, DECwindows-based tool that provides a server and two clients, the DECplan client and the DECplan Time Manager client. DECplan Time Manager is a subset of the DECplan client. (See SPD 31.27.xx for details on the DECplan Time Manager client for VMS.) The DECplan server manages a single DECplan database of information delineated by a series of planners: project, personal, equipment, and locations. Multiple DECplan or DECplan Time Manager clients can connect to a single server. These clients, when connected to the DECplan server, allow users to share project information stored in a common database.

Features

Distributed and Interoperable Clients and Servers

- DECplan clients and servers of the same version can run and are able to interoperate with one another on a single hardware system or multiple systems running the VMS Operating System.

Planners

- DECplan stores all information about a project, a person, a piece of equipment, or a location resource in a single place called a planner. DECplan supports single or multiple projects. Users can create planners for each project and set up dependencies on other planners. Given the right security level, users can access and review multiple planners of various types in a variety of DECplan views located on the user's local DECplan server. Cross-functional subprojects can be linked to facilitate enterprisewide rollups of cost, effort, and dates.

- DECplan allows views, reports, and scheduling of multiple planners within one server. Cross-project dependencies and rollup activities can be performed across multiple servers.

Views

- DECplan allows users to enter and display planner data in many user-selectable views:
 - The Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) is a graphical, hierarchical tree structure that shows the organization of tasks in the project.
 - The Precedence Network (PN) allows users to assign the order in which tasks and milestones are to be achieved. The PN diagramming method supports Finish to Finish, Start to Start, Finish to Start, Start to Finish, with lag and overlap. It shows critical path, and, on a color monitor, it can highlight the critical path in user-defined colors. Supernode structures allow users to collapse or expand user-defined collections of tasks and milestones.
 - Both the WBS and PN views have a navigation window that allows users to zoom in and zoom out to traverse large project diagrams that normally do not fit on one screen. The navigation window is also used to scale the views, which can then be used as the default printer output size.
 - A table view is a spreadsheet-like view of data in a planner. Table views can be used to view information on resources, milestones, tasks, meetings, time charges, and other objects in a planner. DECplan provides default table views as well as allows users the capability to modify and save custom table views.
 - The Task Table is one type of table view that shows a hierarchical breakdown of the work (tasks) in spreadsheet form.
 - Customized views, based on the standard views, can be created and saved. In addition, users can select any view to appear as a default view specific to a planner.

- DECplan has an integrated Annotation Editor that allows end users to customize the data presented for each task or milestone node in the WBS and PN graphical views. Shading characteristics, the fields to display in or around the node, and the size of the node can all be defined by the user.

Scheduling

- DECplan provides critical path scheduling, constrained resources scheduling, and shared resources across multiple projects; uses actuals in calculations; and allows the user to enter specific constraints in running schedules.
- The user can ask the scheduler to use project and task priority in computing schedules. Once tasks have been assigned and the scheduler has computed dates, the user can see scheduled tasks in the day view.
- Users can modify or create additional scheduling options and selectively key on specific fields to be used in the scheduling calculation.
- DECplan scheduling also allows replanning/rescheduling for refinements and updates.

Charts

- DECplan provides standard and customizable charts.
 - The Gantt chart is a graphic display of task duration and milestone occurrence in relation to time. Information in the Gantt chart can be directly manipulated, and color may be used on appropriate monitors. Users can customize the data, select the time scale and resources, and select the symbology when displaying on the screen and in report output. The Gantt chart can be used for one project or a series of multiple projects in the same view.
 - DECplan also provides Earned Value Charts, Effort Rate Charts, Resource Loading Charts, Cost Performance Charts, and Cost Variance Charts. Users may define what style of chart to present, which project planners to use, what colors to use, timescale, and dates to use in the charts.

Cost Management

- Forecast and actual cost information can be displayed in Cost Charts. In addition, a series of Earned Value Charts can display ACWP, BCWS, BCWP, schedule and cost variances, and estimated time to complete.
- DECplan supports a variety of Earned Value progress crediting methods: full on start, full on finish, half-and-half, level of effort, and percentage variances.

- DECplan's cost management follows the DoD/DoE CPR and CSSR report structure (STD 7000.10). In addition to the graphical Earned Value Charts, a variety of tabular reports show cost information and allow users the flexibility of creating customized reports.

Reports

- DECplan provides a user-defined report creation and layout tool, the Report Layout Editor (RLE). The RLE is used to define reports on any object stored in the database. Users select items from a class of objects to place in either the report title page, detail pages, or trailer pages to build customized reports. The RLE provides subtotalling of columns, control breaks, and other editing features such as bolding, centering, underlining, and aligning fields using a grid. The user decides which project(s) data to include and prints the report.
- DECplan also provides approximately 30 standard reports covering all phases of the project management life cycle (planning, control, costs, replanning). Each of the standard reports can be used to build customized reports.

Plotter Support

DECplan offers plotter support for HP-GL[R]-format plotters for graphical and tabular output.

Keywords, Sort, Filters

- DECplan keywords provide users with a user-defined alphanumeric string to associate with tasks or other objects in the database. Keywords can be used for a sort or filtering mechanism in views and reports.
- The sort feature is consistent across the tabular views and provides ascending or descending sorts, and sorts in groupings.
- Filtering allows users to selectively pull any data from the database for use in reports, charts, and task table views.
- The user can also build a selection expression filter to access and display data stored in one or more project planners.

Export/Import Feature

- DECplan allows users to import data using the DTIF CDA interchange format. Several CDA Extended converters exist to allow data transformation from a non-DTIF format to DTIF, which can then be imported into the DECplan database.
- Users can also export an entire DECplan planner in DTIF format to other applications that accept DTIF, like DECdecision. The exported planner can also be reimported into DECplan across servers.

- DECplan exports graphical and tabular views and reports in DDIF format, which is consistent with the data format accepted by other DECwindows applications like DECwrite, DECwindows Mail, and DECpresent.

DECplan Time Manager Client Features

DECplan Time Manager is a subset of DECplan. All features listed here are included with DECplan.

Day, Month, and Year Views

- Users reserve time and schedule tasks in their Time Manager Day view, which DECplan then uses to schedule and coordinate time across planners.
- A user can view the calendar in daily, monthly, or yearly views.
- The DECplan server scans the individual contributor's Time Manager calendar entries looking for available time to schedule task assignments.

Meeting Scheduling, Free Time Scans

- Users can set up meetings with other DECplan Time Manager users by selecting duration of meeting, agenda, location, and performing a free time scan of those users' calendars to pick an agreeable meeting time.
- Users can also use distribution lists for groups or network mail addresses (sent only to non-DECplan users) to book meetings and conference rooms and send out agendas.
- Meetings can be repeatable in various intervals, for example, daily, bi-weekly, or monthly, or they can be individually scheduled.

To-Do Table

- Time Manager users access the task table as a means to store action items and to-do lists. These tasks can be personal items or tasks negotiated and delegated as part of a task by the project manager using DECplan.
- The Time Manager users can view and manipulate their own data and can easily customize table rows and columns.

Goals Tracking

- Users can define goals, associate a series of tasks required to achieve the goal, set a priority and status for goals, and finally track the goal to completion using DECplan Time Manager.
- Users have the ability to modify goals as time progresses and priorities change.

Alarms

- Users can set alarms or reminders on tasks and meetings and can select from a range of icons to depict graphically the activity in their daily calendar view.
- Alarms are repeatable for successive meetings and only need to be set once.

Negotiation

- DECplan provides for negotiation of task assignments and meeting assignments between two individuals: the originator and the responder. This feature enables the originator to propose assignments to other users (responders). The responder has the option of accepting or rejecting the assignment and providing a message in response to the proposal. Once an assignment is accepted, a copy of the original assignment is stored in the responder's planner.
- DECplan also provides a mandate operation for situations where negotiation of an assignment is not desirable or appropriate.

Time Charges

- Users can report work completed in their day view or from a table view by creating a Time Charge. Time Charges are rolled up into the expended effort of a task, thus showing progress made against that task. The individual updating status in this manner, using Time Manager, automatically updates the DECplan project management views.

Help and Online Training

- In addition to the above features, DECplan provides context-sensitive online Help to provide users with an understanding of how to use DECplan and Time Manager.
- DECplan also provides modular, Bookreader-delivered online training to complement the context-sensitive Help. The training modules include a set of training planners and exercises.

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

Processors Supported

VAX: VAX 4000 Model 100,
 VAX 4000 Model 200,
 VAX 4000 Model 300,
 VAX 4000 Model 400,
 VAX 4000 Model 500,
 VAX 4000 Model 600

VAX 6000 Model 200 Series,
 VAX 6000 Model 300 Series,

VAX 6000 Model 400 Series,
VAX 6000 Model 500 Series,
VAX 6000 Model 600 Series

VAX 7000 Model 600 Series

VAX 8200, VAX 8250, VAX 8300,
VAX 8350, VAX 8500, VAX 8530,
VAX 8550, VAX 8600, VAX 8650,
VAX 8700, VAX 8800, VAX 8810,
VAX 8820, VAX 8830, VAX 8840

VAX 9000 Model 110,
VAX 9000 Model 210,
VAX 9000 Model 300 Series,
VAX 9000 Model 400 Series

VAX 10000 Model 600 Series

VAXft Model 110,
VAXft Model 310,
VAXft Model 410,
VAXft Model 610,
VAXft Model 612

MicroVAX: MicroVAX 3100 Model 10/10E,
MicroVAX 3100 Model 20/20E,
MicroVAX 3100 Model 30
MicroVAX 3100 Model 40,
MicroVAX 3100 Model 80,
MicroVAX 3100 Model 90,
MicroVAX 3300, MicroVAX 3400,
MicroVAX 3500, MicroVAX 3600,
MicroVAX 3800, MicroVAX 3900

VAXstation: VAXstation 3100 Model 30/40,
VAXstation 3100 Model 38/48,
VAXstation 3100 Model 76
VAXstation 3200, VAXstation 3500,
VAXstation 3520, VAXstation 3540

VAXstation 4000 Model 60,
VAXstation 4000 Model 90,
VAXstation 4000 Model VLC

VAXserver: VAXserver 3100 Model 10/10E,
VAXserver 3100 Model 20/20E,
VAXserver 3300, VAXserver 3400,
VAXserver 3500, VAXserver 3600,
VAXserver 3602, VAXserver 3800,
VAXserver 3900

VAXserver 4000 Model 200,
VAXserver 4000 Model 300,
VAXserver 4000 Model 500

VAXserver 6000 Model 210,
VAXserver 6000 Model 220,
VAXserver 6000 Model 310,
VAXserver 6000 Model 320,
VAXserver 6000 Model 410,

VAXserver 6000 Model 420,
VAXserver 6000 Model 510,
VAXserver 6000 Model 520,
VAXserver 6000 Model 610,
VAXserver 6000 Model 620,
VAXserver 6000 Model 630

DECplan supports the VT1200 and VT1300 class of DECwindows display terminals.

Processors Not Supported

VAX: VAX-11/725, VAX-11/730, VAX-11/750,
VAX-11/780,
VAX-11/782, VAX-11/785

MicroVAX: MicroVAX I, MicroVAX II, MicroVAX 2000

VAXstation: VAXstation I, VAXstation II, VAXstation 2000,
VAXstation 8000

Disk Space Requirements (listed in Block Size)

	During Installation	After Installation
Client Only		
Without Optional Software	19,300	16,800
With Optional Software	49,900	36,600
DECchart	5,200	5,000
Server Only		
Without Optional Software	25,000	20,200
With Optional Software	44,500	44,200
Both Client and Server	62,400	59,500
Optional Software		
DECwindows Calendar Conversion	5,500	800
VAX Product Manager Conversion	5,500	1,900
Database Verification	5,500	3,000
On-line_Training	19,500	14,300

These counts refer to the disk space required on the system disk. The sizes are approximate; actual sizes may vary depending on the user's system environment, configuration, and software options. Database verification is available only when installing the DECplan server. *Memory Requirements for DECwindows Support:*

The performance and memory usage of DECwindows applications are particularly sensitive to system configuration. Less memory may be required on the DECwindows client system (the system where the software is installed and executed) if the DECwindows server (the component that displays the application) resides on another system. More memory may be required on a system with several applications running or may be desirable to improve the performance of an application.

DECplan displays on all PCs supported by PATHWORKS for VMS. In order to operate the DECplan or DECplan Time Manager DECwindows client interface efficiently on the PC, it must be either a 386- or 486-based PC with a minimum of 4MB of memory. Refer to the Software Product Description for PATHWORKS for VMS (SPD 30.50.xx) if the PATHWORKS for DOS software is to be used in a server/client environment.

CLUSTER ENVIRONMENT

This layered product is fully supported when installed on any valid and licensed VAXcluster* configuration, although there are a few restrictions. Users cannot install more than one DECplan server in a cluster unless the server is installed on system-specific machines in the cluster. In addition, DECplan servers installed within a VAXcluster configuration cannot share the same database.

* V5.x VAXcluster configurations are fully described in the VAXcluster Software Product Description (29.78.xx) and include CI, Ethernet, and Mixed Interconnect configurations.

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

For the DECplan Server:

- OpenVMS VAX Operating System V5.4 or later. DECplan has successfully installed on the OpenVMS VAX Version 6.1 and Version 6.2 systems running RDB V4.2 and RDB V6.1 respectively.
- VMS DECwindows at least at V2.0
- VAX Rdb/VMS Run-Time V4.0A - V4.1 plus mandatory upgrades

For the DECplan Client and DECplan Time Manager Client:

For Workstations Running DECwindows

- OpenVMS VAX Operating System V5.4 or later. DECplan has successfully installed on the OpenVMS VAX Version 6.1 and Version 6.2 systems running RDB V4.2 and RDB V6.1 respectively.
- VMS DECwindows at least at V2.0

OPTIONAL SOFTWARE

- CDA Converter Library V2.0 (SPD 31.31.01)

GROWTH CONSIDERATIONS

The minimum hardware/software requirements for any future version of this product may be different from the requirements for the current version.

DISTRIBUTION MEDIA

9-track 1600 BPI Magtape, TK50 Streaming Tape

ORDERING INFORMATION

DECplan Server

Software Licenses: QL-YPB**-**

Software Media: QA-YPB**-**

Software Documentation: QA-YPBAA-GZ

Software Product Services: QT-YPBA*-**

DECplan Client

Software Licenses: QL-XC6A*-**

Software Media: QA-YPB**-**

Software Documentation: QA-YPBAA-GZ

Software Product Services: QT-XC6A*-**

DECplan Time Manager Client

Software Licenses: QL-XC8A*-**

Software Media: QA-YPB**-**

Software Documentation: QA-XC8AA-GZ (DECplan Time Manager only)

Software Documentation: QA-YPBAA-GZ (DECplan and DECplan Time Manager client)

Software Product Services: QT-XC8A*-**

DECplan Time Manager Upgrade License to DECplan Client, VMS Systems

Software Licenses: QL-XNVA*-**

* Denotes variant fields. For additional information on available licenses, services, and media, refer to the appropriate price book.

SOFTWARE LICENSING

This software is furnished under the licensing provisions of Digital Equipment Corporation's Standard Terms and Conditions. This layered product supports the VMS License Management Facility.

For the DECplan Server, license units for this product are allocated on an Unlimited System Use basis.

For the DECplan Client, license units for this product are allocated on Concurrent Use and Personal Use basis. Each Concurrent Use license allows one individual at a time to use DECplan client. Each Personal Use license allows one identified individual to use DECplan client.

For more information on the License Management Facility, refer to the OpenVMS Operating System Software Product Description (SPD 25.02.xx) or the License Management Facility manual of the OpenVMS Operating System documentation set.

For more information about Digital's licensing terms and policies, contact your local Digital office.

SOFTWARE PRODUCT SERVICES

A variety of service options are available. For more information, please contact your local Digital office.

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