



SimProject – The Alliance Prototype Project



Fissure: n. (Geological): A breakthrough

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SIMULATION POWERED LEARNING®. TEST AND PERFECT YOUR PROJECT MANAGEMENT SKILLS ON FISSURE'S SIMPROJECT

Fissure's SimProject simulated project from Fissure Corporation is used by many academic institutions around the world as part of their project management curriculum. The Alliance Prototype project is SimProject (our simulation engine) loaded with a project that has 7 tasks and 10 potential team members. SimProject can be given as standalone home work for students (individual or teams), or utilized as a classroom activity with teams of three or four students sharing the role of project manager.

In SimProject students will read about the virtual company, virtual project and virtual people available to work on the project, the student(s) play the role of the project manager. As the project manager the student(s):

1. Plan the project (resources and budget) and make typical project decisions each week (staff assignments, meetings, education, etc.).
2. Run the project a week at a time, analyzing their results each week, referring to their weekly reports, and making their decisions for the next week.

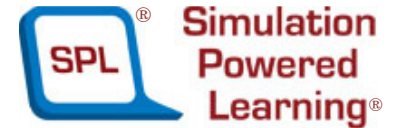
As they run each week they will be presented with communications from people within the company, team members, or other parties related to the project. They will have a choice on how to respond to these communications and all the decisions they make will impact how their project progresses.

Educators know that that real learning occurs not when the answer is given to a specific question, but when students are given the knowledge and skills that can be applied to all kinds of different situations to find their own answers. This realization is especially true when it comes to project and leadership decision-making skills. Most challenging situations are going to be different from past experiences and cannot always be resolved by "having" an answer. Good decisions result from knowing what questions to ask of others and of ourselves, by knowing what to pay attention to and what to ignore, and by listening to both the logical and intuitive sides of our brains.

The retention rate from the addition of a real-life dynamic simulation is significantly higher because of the "learn by doing" hand on approach (see side bar) and also because the simulation significantly raises student emotional levels which has a huge impact on memory retention.

Fissure simulations are designed to look beyond the obvious to focus on the subtleties of feedback as a result of different decisions in different contexts. In the process, the participants develop the ability to predict results based on experience and to learn from their mistakes.

Fissure is a world leader in the development and use of computer-based simulation in learning and skill development. We have been developing and using Simulation Powered Learning® workshops since 1992 for leadership, business analysis and project management skill development.



About Simulation Powered Learning®

Simulation Powered Learning® is Fissure's own unique approach to training that incorporates hands-on experience into course work rather than the traditional lecture/textbook methods of teaching. We begin by giving you the base of knowledge you need in each class. We then immerse you in computer-simulated situations that take you through real-life project management successes and mistakes – both critical to learning. SPL® takes you far beyond the traditional "listen and practice once" model to provide hands-on learning experiences by planning and managing projects from beginning to end.

STUDY ON LEARNING RETENTION RATES
NTL - Institute for Applied Behavioral Science

