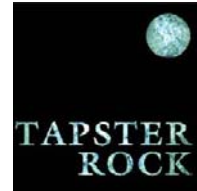


# PRESS RELEASE

Release date: 4 March 2003



## **Tapster Rock announces Open Source Microsoft Project integration.**

Tapster Rock Limited, the emerging leader in Strategic Change Management software, today announced the availability of a new Open Source software library called Microsoft Project Exchange in Java (MPXJ). MPXJ has been designed to allow Microsoft Project files to be created, read, and written using the industry-standard Java language. This library is unique as it is the first time that any software to integrate with Microsoft Project has been made freely available.

Commenting on the release of the new library, Tapster Rock's Technical Director Jon Iles said "Considering Microsoft Project is such a ubiquitous part of project management, it's surprising that there weren't the tools available to retrieve data from it, unless you actually bought a copy of Project and ran it on a Microsoft platform."

"With the availability of MPXJ, the platform independence of the Java language means that anyone can now add support for Microsoft Project to their software, whatever platform they choose, from PDA to mainframe"

MPXJ allows Microsoft Project's native MPP files to be read, and the MPX file format to be read and written. MPXJ also supports Microsoft's new XML-based replacement for MPX, the Microsoft Project Data Interchange format (MSPDI) that was introduced with Microsoft Project 2002. This is a unique feature, and so far Tapster Rock appears to be the only vendor outside of Microsoft that has implemented support for this important new file format.

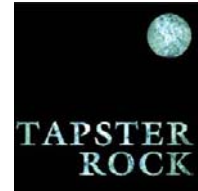
MPXJ was originally implemented to support Tapster Rock's own Microsoft Project integration requirements for their flagship Strategic Change Management product, Oriel. In a novel move, the company chose to release the package as Open Source software, under the terms of the GNU LGPL license.

"The implementation of Oriel has benefited a great deal from a number of high quality Open Source projects", Jon Iles explained. "So we're pleased to be able to contribute something in return. After all, as other people use and improve MPXJ, we'll continue to benefit from its development."

## **ABOUT TAPSTER ROCK**

Tapster Rock is the emerging leader in Strategic Change Management software, enabling organisations to align their business model and strategy to their corporate objectives ensuring benefits realisation and return on investment. Oriel, Tapster Rock's Strategic Change Management solution helps organisations to design, plan, and implement strategic change across the breadth of their business.

# PRESS RELEASE



Release date: 4 March 2003

## **ABOUT ORIEL**

Oriel creates a comprehensive and integrated strategy model by capturing environmental drivers that surround the organisation, together with the business model and key performance indicators that drive organisational performance. With this in place, organisations use Oriel to select and prioritise initiatives by considering both the strategic fit in addition to traditional investment appraisal techniques. Oriel tracks the implementation of the strategy by forecasting and reviewing the performance of strategic initiatives and the resultant performance improvements across the organisation. Critically, this is delivered in a highly graphical and structured manner using language pertinent to executive users. Through Oriel's central repository, these executive views are linked directly to the underlying implementation activities, removing the need for manual processes that most organisations have in place to analyse and consolidate information.

Supporting the implementation of the strategic initiatives are comprehensive programme management and portfolio management tools that track the status, costs, benefits, dependencies, issues, risks, and changes; all supported by extensive and automated reporting. This builds on emerging de facto standards such as Managing Successful Programmes (MSP) and Prince2. Organisations can use these features in conjunction with other industry standard applications such as Microsoft Project.

For more information about Tapster Rock and Oriel visit our web site [www.tapsterrock.com](http://www.tapsterrock.com) or contact the following:

Kevin Deeley-Graham  
Tapster Rock, Beoley Hall, Icknield Street  
Beoley, Redditch, B98 9AL, UK

Phone: +44 1527 595723  
E-mail: [kevin.deeley-graham@tapsterrock.com](mailto:kevin.deeley-graham@tapsterrock.com)  
Website: [www.tapsterrock.com](http://www.tapsterrock.com)