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Analyzing Information Flows for Coordination within Projects – A Mini Case Study Analysis

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Abstract:

An important task of management is to design the communication within the organization in an effective way. In projects, people with different know-how have to work together as an organization in order to fulfil a pre-defined task within a predefined period of time and within a limit on budget. Constantly, decisions have to be made based on information exchange between the participants. Especially in large international or interdisciplinary projects, foreign and technical language barriers have to be overcome. Therefore, the effectiveness of any project is strongly influenced by the accurate setup of information channels. However, there is hardly any methodology available to design the information flows within projects in a structured way and to assess the quality of a organization. Based on two mini case studies carried out at we show how the informational and organizational setting of projects can be assessed by applying a theory originally grounded in cybernetics.