Gantt Chart Project Enterprise (Soyatec)

Note: recently an Enterprise edition was released and the following will concern it. So far the most popular and well-known plugin, but does it live up to the hype? Not really. In fact, you do not even need to read this review to get the idea - simply look at the marketplace grades. A measly two stars!

The top menu promises a lot: Resource plan, Portfolio plan, Agile plan, Tracking, User schedule. Nice! The global config has some good-sounding options, like Agile integration and project restricting. It looks terrible, but works.

Going to the Gantt chart brings back the times, when Windows XP’s user interface was something new. No, really. The colors, icons, layout - everything just screams Windows XP. Round, bubbly, colorful and not very intuitive. A minor, but dreadful detail is the fact, that Soyatec apparently never heard of popups. When you put your cursor on any button, it will enlarge, which is confusing and slows you down. This can be fixed (seen below), but why on Earth is this the default setting? Luckily the view filtration options hidden under these buttons are rather extensive.
Heck, even the promotional materials look like they were made back when DirectX 9 was something hip:

The similarities to an old desktop app do not end here - for instance, right-click is essential to working. Sync with JIRA can be manually turned on and off and a session mode is there, too.

What about the earlier feature list? You see, the Agile Plan is simply a Gantt created based on JIRA Agile boards rather than projects - that's the only difference. Resource management in turn is a chart sorted by specific resources:
Similar results can be achieved in pretty much all other Gantts with grouping and sorting features of them, they’re just exposed more prominently here and have the columns predefined. Export is available and includes Project, Excel, Planner and GCP. Import from Project is definitely the star of this add-on. The FAQ mentions quite a lot of problems, many of them mission-critical. The supported browsers end at Firefox 10.X and Chrome 17.X, the latter released in...2012.

There’s quite a bit of wasted space (see the bars above), but the Gantt is big enough to try and do stuff. No real issues with performance and it’s nice that the issue bars can show task progress right on them. Generally, no big flaws were found with this product - but at the same time, nothing really made me feel like choosing this over BigGantt or Gantt-Chart for JIRA. This may not sound like a big issue, but it is when you take prices into consideration. The difference is staggering, a 10-user license for Soyatec’s offering is TEN TIMES as much as two other products that perform as good, if not better. The price-quality ratio is way off, basically you’re paying a premium price for a standard product. For this alone it’s hard to really recommend this particular plugin.