PROJECTING SUCCESS

Programme Guide

Level 4 AI and Automation for Project Controls

STARTS
21 January 2027
Eight months • 25 places

The next rockstars of project controls



Transform the project review.

Connect schedule, cost, risk and resources. Build simulations to challenge the forecast and test recovery choices while there is still time to act.

25 people. Three modules each.
75 modules of practical capability.

Apply soon

Training: projectingsuccess.co.uk
AI and simulations: projectcognition.ai

Become the person who helps the room see what comes next

A great DJ brings the right elements together and changes the audience's experience. The next rockstars of project controls will do something equally valuable: connect the evidence and help teams make better decisions.

Your craft is the starting point

You know the difference between a credible update and a convenient assumption. Bring that judgement to AI, automation and simulation. Turn the project review of last month's variance into a discussion of emerging exposure, feasible options and the decision needed next.

Tailored to the controls you work with

Your discipline

Planners can test logic, float and resource constraints. Cost engineers can examine productivity and forecasts of final cost. Risk specialists can explore uncertainty and the conditions that change the outcome.

Your organisation

Build around your reporting cycle, coding structures, approved tools and delivery priorities. Connect work packages, cost accounts, risks and resources using shared definitions and suitable data.

Your challenge

Choose a problem you can judge: inconsistent updates, a milestone under pressure or a recovery plan whose cost and resource assumptions need testing. Agree what a useful result would look like.

For planners, cost engineers, risk specialists, project controllers and PMO professionals. Bring practical experience and curiosity; you do not need to be a software developer.

The craft behind the headline act

Eight connected areas, applied to project controls through practical builds.

Learning area	Project controls application
Flow and systems thinking	Trace how approvals, information, resources and handovers affect progress. Test whether a local recovery moves the project milestone.
Data analytics and assurance	Interrogate baselines, updates and forecast assumptions. Reconcile sources and expose missing data, inconsistent coding and weak comparisons.
Visualisation for decisions	Show forecast ranges, emerging exposure and the options available. Make assumptions and uncertainty visible in the project review.
AI and workflow automation	Use AI to support schedule checks, source comparison and draft variance analysis. Test quality and retain professional review.
Ontologies and integration	Give activities, work packages, cost accounts, risks and resources shared definitions. Connect modules through explicit interfaces.
AI harnesses and agents	Build the layer that gives agents context, tools and boundaries. Set permissions, checks, exception handling and human approval.
Simulation and scenario testing	Explore resource limits, uncertainty and alternative sequences. Compare time, cost and risk before recommending an intervention.
Testing and scalable capability	Version models, prompts and data. Record tests, evidence, limits and ownership so that modules can be reviewed, connected and developed.

Build a portfolio you can defend

Develop three working modules. Demonstrate the question each one answers, the evidence it uses, the tests it passes and the limits that matter to a decision-maker.

Where will final cost land? What is driving it?

Bring planned value, earned value, actual cost and forward scenarios into the same conversation. Investigate the assumptions the forecast makes about remaining work, productivity and completion.

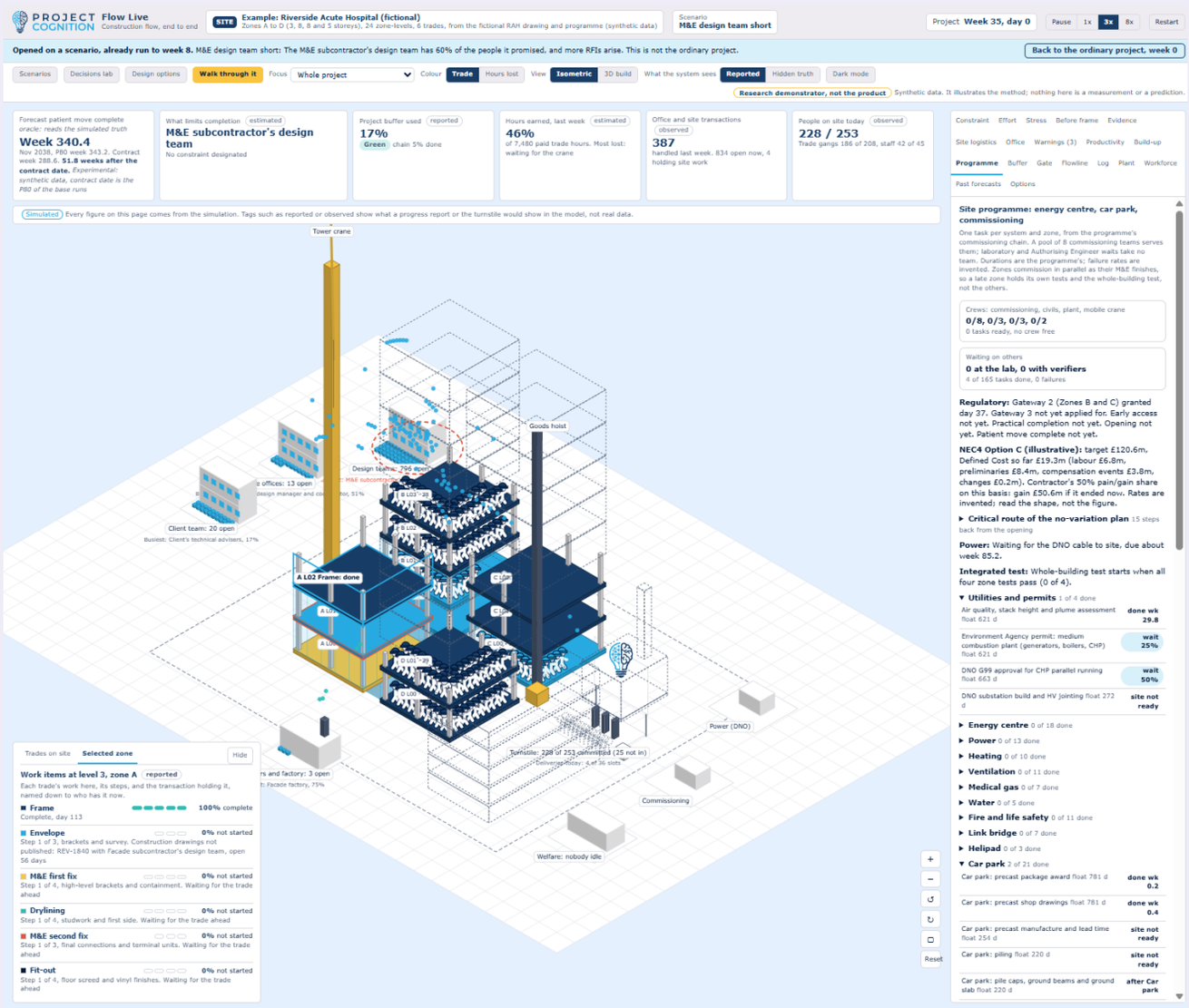


Illustrative Project Cognition simulation using synthetic data. Values, dates and forecast ranges are scenario outputs, not predictions for a real project.

A stronger project review asks what would change the forecast, and why.

The report shows progress. What is holding the project back?

Explore the links between design capacity, workface readiness, resource use, buffer consumption and completion. Follow the constraint through the project.



Illustrative Project Cognition research demonstrator using synthetic data. The displayed dates, costs and performance figures belong to the example scenario.

What would you change first?

Test whether adding people, releasing design information or changing sequence improves the milestone, and what it does to cost and risk elsewhere.

Bring three questions your project needs answered

Agree a practical scope with your organisation. These examples show how your three modules could turn familiar controls problems into decisions you can explore and explain.

01 Milestone and recovery choices

Which intervention improves the completion outlook?

Model dependencies, resource limits and uncertainty. Test resequencing, additional capacity or a changed handover; compare the effect on the milestone and the next constraint.

02 Cost and productivity exposure

Is the forecast assuming performance we can achieve?

Connect remaining quantities, production rates, resources and cost assumptions. Test alternatives and explain how changes affect forecast cost and completion together.

03 Constraints and emerging risk

Which unresolved issue needs a decision now?

Link approvals, design queries, procurement and access to affected work packages. Explore response times, escalation rules and the knock-on effect of delayed release.

Build the enablers as well as the simulation

Shared ontologies align the meaning of activities, cost accounts and risks. Interfaces connect the data; AI harnesses coordinate tools and agents. Tests, version control and human oversight help the capability scale.

Learning outputs are tested demonstrators. Live use needs separate approval, validation and ownership.

Serious practice.
Capability you can demonstrate.

This is a substantial commitment for you and your employer. Over eight months, you'll develop new skills and turn a project controls challenge into three working simulation modules.

Make room for the work

For the apprenticeship route, learners with no relevant prior learning need at least **420 hours of off-the-job training**. Across eight months, that averages **about 12 hours a week**, including eligible time learning to build and test your modules.

Agree protected learning time within your paid working hours before joining. We'll confirm your individual training plan and schedule with you. Bring access to approved tools, suitable data and an employer who supports the work ahead.

What you build with that time

Build three modules you can run, test and explain, with evidence and clear limits. Focus on reducing waiting, protecting milestones and improving productivity.

75 modules of practical capability

Their value comes from the improvements they support in decision-making.

Which risks need attention now?



When could a lifting window close?



Explore how weather and crane operating limits affect the lifting plan, then test the consequences for deliveries and sequence.

Illustrative Project Cognition simulations. Figures and dates shown are example scenario data.

The next headline act could be in your project controls team.

For you

• Build three working simulation modules around project controls decisions you understand.

• Strengthen your ability to challenge forecasts, expose assumptions and evaluate recovery options.

• Show a portfolio of models, test results and the reasoning behind your recommendations.

• Develop the AI, analytics and integration skills to shape how your profession works.

For your organisation

• Develop in-house capability around your schedule, cost, risk and reporting priorities.

• Explore the consequences of interventions before committing to a recovery plan.

• Retain working models, test records and documentation for further development, on agreed terms.

• Use the project review to understand exposure, compare options and agree action.

Bring a question for your next project review

We'll discuss your challenge, learning needs, approved tools and data, and employer support. Enquire about entry requirements, delivery arrangements, fees and any funding eligibility.

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