3 Point Estimation
3 Point Estimation is an application developed in order to help your team in evaluating the factors, positive or negative ones, bring an increased accuracy and a better evaluation, in order to prepare you, and your project for many variables.

3 Point Estimation can be used to estimate a given task. This is very useful for a project manager in order to lower the risks or the negative factors with a non-accurate estimation.

Below, you have the instructions on how to use the application.

### Introducing the columns

In order to introduce the three columns in your project:

1. Open your plan in Microsoft Project
2. Press the **POWER2PLAN** ribbon
3. Press on the **3 Point Estimation** button
4. Now press on the **Task** ribbon, then press **Gantt Chart**
5. The three columns, **Pessimistic**, **Best Guess** and **Optimistic** are now introduced in your project.

### Mean and Standard Deviation Columns

In order to get the **Mean** and the **Standard Deviation** of your tasks, you need to introduce the values for the previous three columns. Based on the values introduced, the **Mean** and **Standard Deviation** will be calculated.

1. Go to your project
2. Introduce the values in the **Pessimistic**, **Best Guess** and **Optimistic** columns

Based on the values you enter, you will be calculated the final values of the project.
**Confidence Level** is tight up with Work column, because this column is calculated based on the chosen **Confidence Level**.

- **Confidence Level**: the number of hours required for the tasks
- **Estimate Work – Selected Tasks**: the estimated work hours for the selected tasks
- **Estimate Work – All Tasks**: the estimated work hours for all tasks

Confidence Level is set by default to:

- 50%
- 68%
- 90%
- 95%
- 99.7%

In order to set the **Confidence Level**, do the following steps:

1. Open Microsoft Project
2. Press the **POWER2PLAN** ribbon
3. Click on the **3 Point Estimation** button
4. Fill in the information in the columns
5. Go back to the **3 Point Estimation Gantt** tab and select the **Confidence Level**, then select the **Estimate Work**

Now based on your %, the work values will be calculated/changed

For example: If for a task which has 52 hours is divided in 12 working days and we chose a 50% Confidence Level, the result will be as shown in the picture below.
If we change the Confidence Level, so will the results. Since we have changed the Confidence Level, the work hours changed as well.