

Blue Ant

Update Information 25.0



Dear Users,

In this document you will find an overview of new functions and functional enhancements that are available to you with Blue Ant version **25.0** (LTS 2025). The most important new features are:

- Redesign of Blue Ant (Page 4)
- Revision of GANTT views (Page 8)
- Current status report information in project overviews (Page 18)
- REST API for absences, project key figures and resources/contacts (Page 19)
- Extension of connectors to include invoice proposals and invoice proposal items (Page 22)
- Upgrade to BIRT 4.19 (Page 19)

As part of a **penetration test conducted by the external IT security service provider HiSolutions AG**, potential vulnerabilities were specifically analyzed. Based on the results, we have further optimized various security-relevant aspects of Blue Ant.

Important notes:

With this version there are some technical and functional changes in Blue Ant

- The technical migration to **Jakarta EE 10** has taken place. This will require **Apache Tomcat 10.1** as a new installation requirement, older Tomcat versions are no longer compatible.
- The following features have been removed:
 - NTLM-SSO (BlueAntSSOFilter)
 - Exchange Synchronizer
 - Service Assignments
 - Reservation Plans

If you have any questions or suggestions, please let us know via the Blue Ant support page (at blueant.de).

Wishing you success in your project work with Blue Ant

Your Blue Ant Team

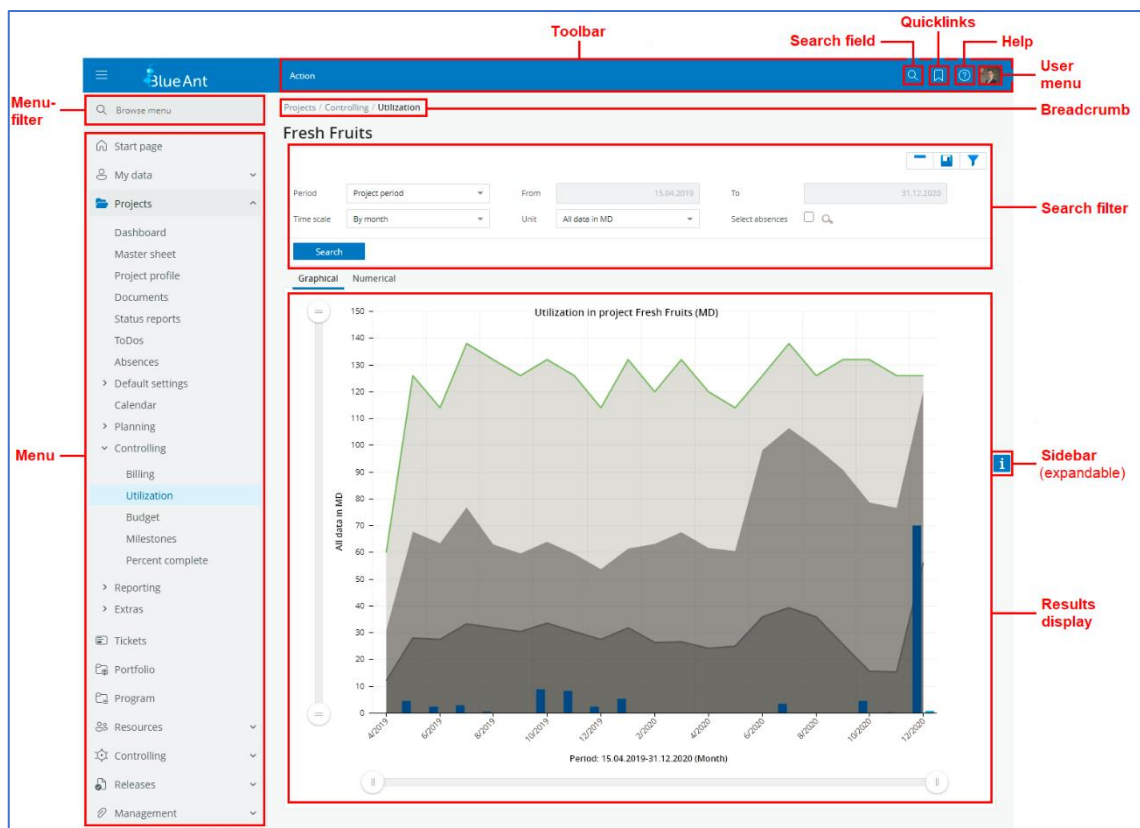
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1. Basic system

Redesign of Blue Ant





Blue Ant's design has been completely redesigned and now offers a modern, fresh look with bright colors and flexible spacing. You can now choose your own design style (Light, Classic) and density (Compact, Normal, Advanced). Modern, scalable icons (e.g., for the main navigation and the user menu) have been integrated for more intuitive navigation.



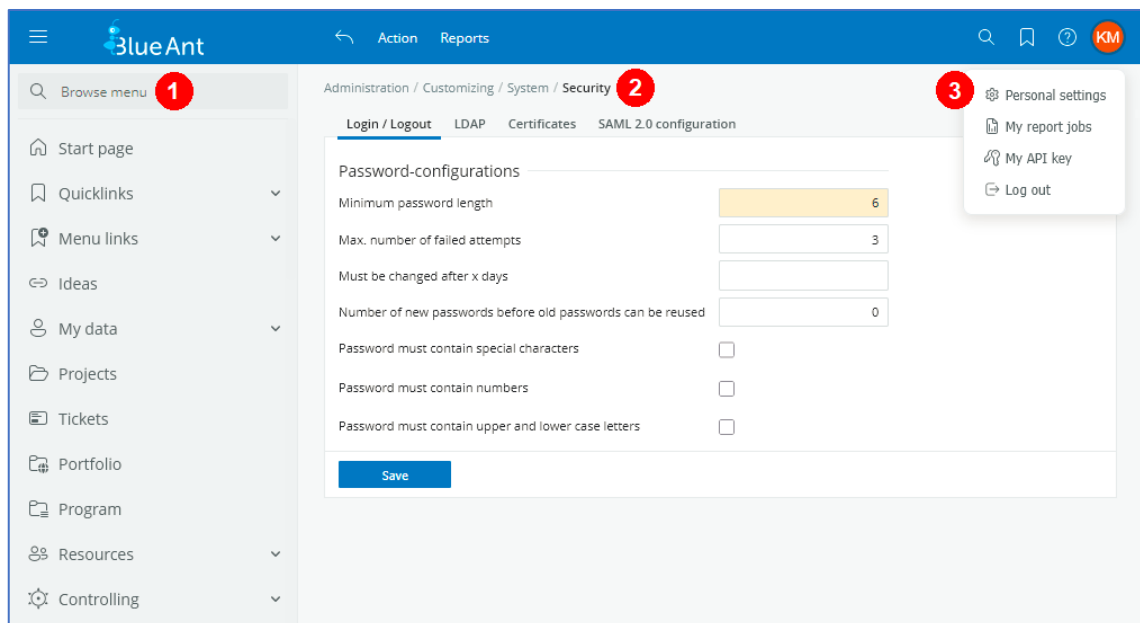
New Blue Ant design

General adjustments

The user-specific functions and information have been summarized in a user menu (3).

-  - Personal settings
 - Profile (now **NEW** with option to access your **Own profile** and **Change password** function)
 - Display (now **NEW** with settings for **Design style**, **Density** and **Notifications about new features**)
-  - My report jobs
-  - My API key
-  - Log out

The current mask is now highlighted in the breadcrumb navigation bar (2). For better accessibility, the menu filter has been moved to the top of the main navigation (1).



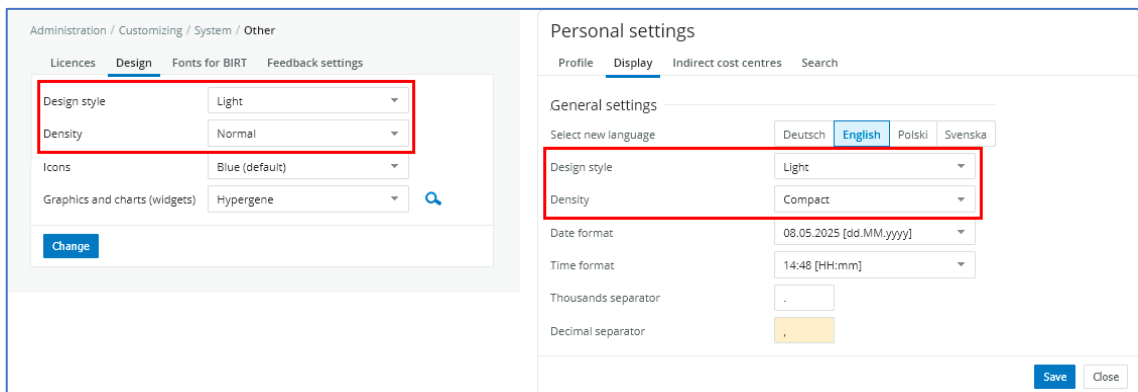
General adjustments

New design settings

The central customizing settings for the **Blue Ant** design (ADMINISTRATION / CUSTOMIZING / SYSTEM / OTHER **Design** tab) has been expanded to include the new settings **Design style** and **Density**.

- Design style
 - **Light** - Blue Ant's new standard design style with light, modern colors
 - **Classic** - Blue Ant's classic design style with dark navigation, sidebar and menus in the header
- Density
 - **Compact** - for a high display density through minimal distances, heights, widths and sizes of various surface elements
 - **Normal** - for a medium display density
 - **Advanced** - for low display density

Initially, you can specify the design style and density via the new **customization settings** and **user profiles**. Each user can configure the design style and density settings in their **Personal settings**.



The screenshot displays two side-by-side panels from the BlueAnt system settings interface.

Left Panel (Administration / Customizing / System / Other):

- Navigation tabs: Licences, **Design**, Fonts for BIRT, Feedback settings.
- Design style:** Light (selected, highlighted with a red box).
- Density:** Normal (selected, highlighted with a red box).
- Icons: Blue (default).
- Graphics and charts (widgets): Hypergene.
- A blue **Change** button is at the bottom.

Right Panel (Personal settings):

- Navigation tabs: Profile, **Display**, Indirect cost centres, Search.
- General settings:**
 - Select new language: Deutsch, **English** (selected), Polski, Svenska.
 - Design style:** Light (selected, highlighted with a red box).
 - Density:** Compact (selected, highlighted with a red box).
 - Date format: 08.05.2025 [dd.MM.yyyy].
 - Time format: 14:48 [HH:mm].
 - Thousands separator: .
 - Decimal separator: ,
- Blue **Save** and **Close** buttons at the bottom right.

New design settings in customizing and personal settings

Migration

The previous settings for the Blue Ant design under ADMINISTRATION / CUSTOMIZING / SYSTEM / OTHER **Design** tab will be migrated and reduced as follows as part of the update to version 25.0 LTS:

- Blue (default)
 - Is still present after the update.
 - Only causes a **blue** color for the icons in the content area (e.g. tables).
 - The update sets the new settings design style to **Light** and density to **Normal**
- Blue (using compact tables)
 - Has been removed by the update.
 - The update sets the new settings design style to **Light** and density to **Compact**
- Grey
 - Is still present after the update.
 - Only causes a **grey** color for the icons in the content area (e.g. tables).
 - The update sets the new settings design style to **Light** and density to **Normal**
- Grey (using compact tables)
 - Has been removed by the update.
 - The update sets the new settings design style to **Light** and density to **Compact**

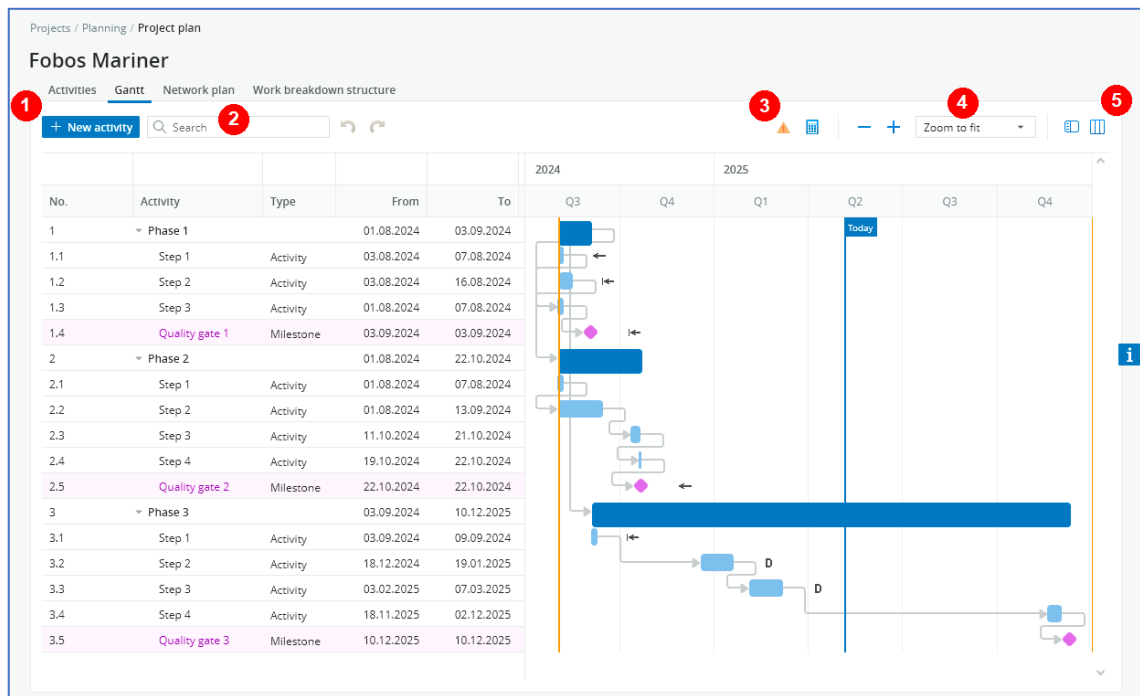
Revision of GANTT views

The Gantt chart has been comprehensively modernized and is now available with extended functions in the following areas:

- Project planning (agile and classic): PROJECTS > PLANNING > PROJECT PLAN
- Projects: PROJECTS
- Portfolio: PORTFOLIO, PORTFOLIO > PROJECTS
- Program: PROGRAM, PROGRAM > PROJECTS
- Controlling: CONTROLLING > LANDSCAPE

New features in project planning

- **Customizable table area**
 - The table area can be flexibly configured – all available activity information can be displayed using the column configuration (5). The size can be individually adjusted using the mouse.
- **Edit dialog for activities**
 - New activities (1) can be added or edited directly via a dialog – changing the mask is no longer necessary.
- **Optimized zoom and navigation**
 - Starts with full project view (4) (*Zoom to fit*)
 - Zoom via +/-, *dropdown* or *Ctrl + mouse wheel*
 - Click on activity name to jump directly to its position on the timeline
- **Improved overview & operation**
 - Quick search (2) by activity name for large project plans
 - Critical path can be shown or hidden as needed (3)
 - Table area can be completely hidden
- **Efficient planning through direct interaction**
 - Dependencies can be created or removed by connecting activities
 - Drag & Drop actions can be temporarily undone and redone – until you leave the tab:
 - Changing the order of activities
 - Postponing or adjusting the duration
 - Adding or removing dependencies



New features in project planning

Functional enhancements in portfolio and program management

You also benefit from the new Gantt functions in the **portfolio** and **program** areas:

- Zoom functions, text search and hideable table area analogous to project planning
- Add and remove project **dependencies** **directly** in the Gantt

2. Absences

New columns in absence tables

Two new columns are now available in absence tables. The **Creator** column contains the resource who recorded the absence. The **Origin** column displays the mask or interface in which the absence was recorded. No values are available for inventory data, so these columns are empty after the update.

The new information is displayed in the following screens, or you can add the columns to your column configuration:

- MY DATA / ABSENCE REQUESTS
- RESOURCES / ABSENCES
- MANAGEMENT / RESOURCES/CONTACTS/ ABSENCE
- DASHBOARDS Widget Absence requests

3. Work-Times

New column in work-times evaluations

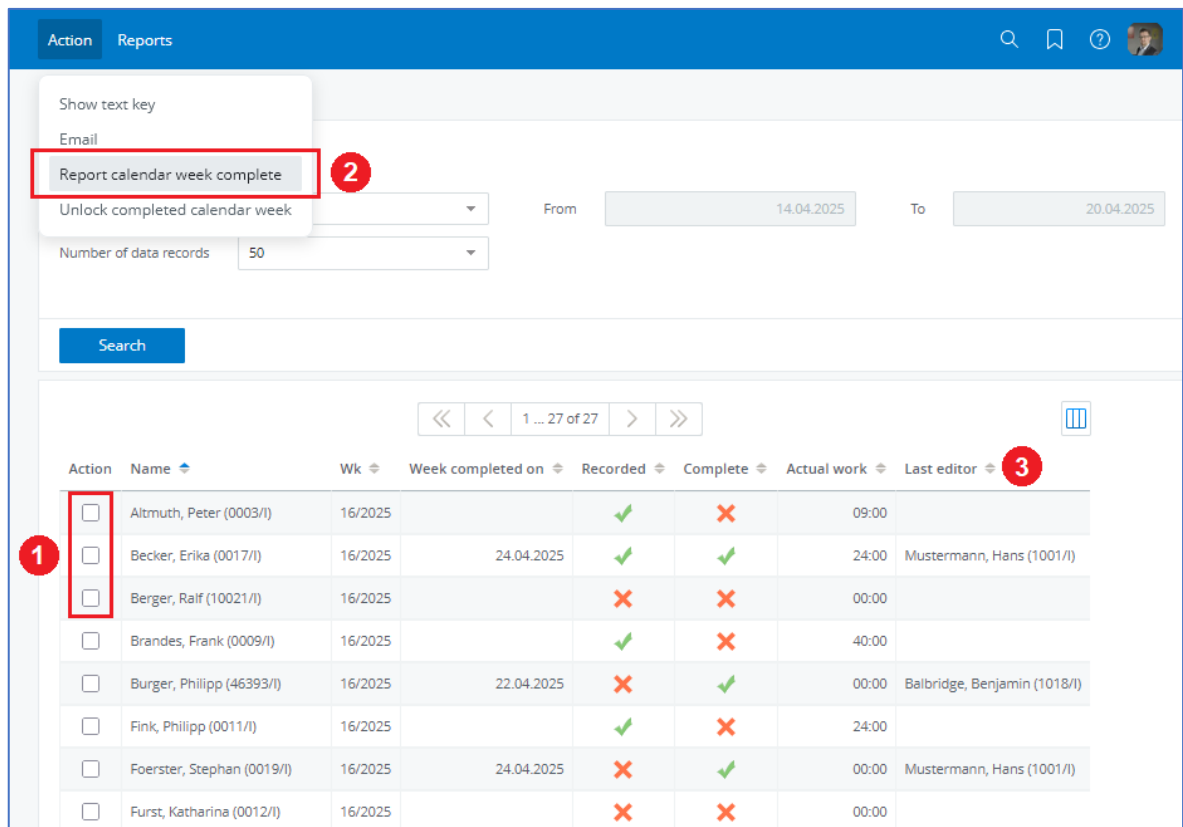
With version 25.0, we're providing you with the new **Created on** column for work-times evaluations. This column displays the day on which a work-time was recorded.

You can add this column to your column configuration in the following masks:

- MY DATA / TIME RECORDING / EVALUATE WORK-TIME
- RESOURCES / WORK-TIMES (Detail display)
- RESOURCES / WORK-TIMES (PM) (Detail display)

Report calendar weeks complete for other resources

Previously, resources could only report completion of calendar weeks for themselves under MY DATA / TIME RECORDING. Under RESOURCES / WEEK COMPLETED, calendar weeks can now also be reported for other resources. To do this, select one or more calendar weeks in the table (1) and click **Action > Report calendar week complete** (2) in the toolbar. The column configuration has also been expanded to include the **Last editor** column (3). This will make it easier to track who has completed a calendar week in the future. No values are available for inventory data, so this column will be empty after the update.



The screenshot shows the BlueAnt interface with the 'Action' menu open, highlighting 'Report calendar week complete' (2). Below the menu, a table lists resources with their work-time completion status. The table has columns: Action, Name, Wk, Week completed on, Recorded, Complete, Actual work, and Last editor (3). The first three rows are highlighted with a red box (1).

Action	Name	Wk	Week completed on	Recorded	Complete	Actual work	Last editor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Altmuth, Peter (0003/I)	16/2025		✓	✗	09:00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Becker, Erika (0017/I)	16/2025	24.04.2025	✓	✓	24:00	Mustermann, Hans (1001/I)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Berger, Ralf (10021/I)	16/2025		✗	✗	00:00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brandes, Frank (0009/I)	16/2025		✓	✗	40:00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Burger, Philipp (46393/I)	16/2025	22.04.2025	✗	✓	00:00	Balbridge, Benjamin (1018/I)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fink, Philipp (0011/I)	16/2025		✓	✗	24:00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foerster, Stephan (0019/I)	16/2025	24.04.2025	✗	✓	00:00	Mustermann, Hans (1001/I)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Furst, Katharina (0012/I)	16/2025		✗	✗	00:00	

Report calendar weeks complete for multiple resources

4. Dashboards

New widget memo field

Would you like to display the subject, current project status, important information or "rules of the game" for your team members, or other notes on your dashboard?

Use the new **Memo field** widgets to display the contents of individual or standard project memo fields on your dashboards.

Projects / Dashboard

Fresh Fruits

Standard memo field "Subject"

The project subject defines what should be achieved as a result at the end of a project.

Individual memo field "Achievements in the project"

- Project phase 2024 completed
- Budget targets for the first half of 2025 approved
- Rough planning for Q3 and Q4 2025 submitted

Key figure	Quarter		
	Q3 2024	Q4 2024	Q1 2025
Risk index	25	38	57
Work coefficient	18	45	68
Revenue (evaluated)	800.000	1.205.000	375.000

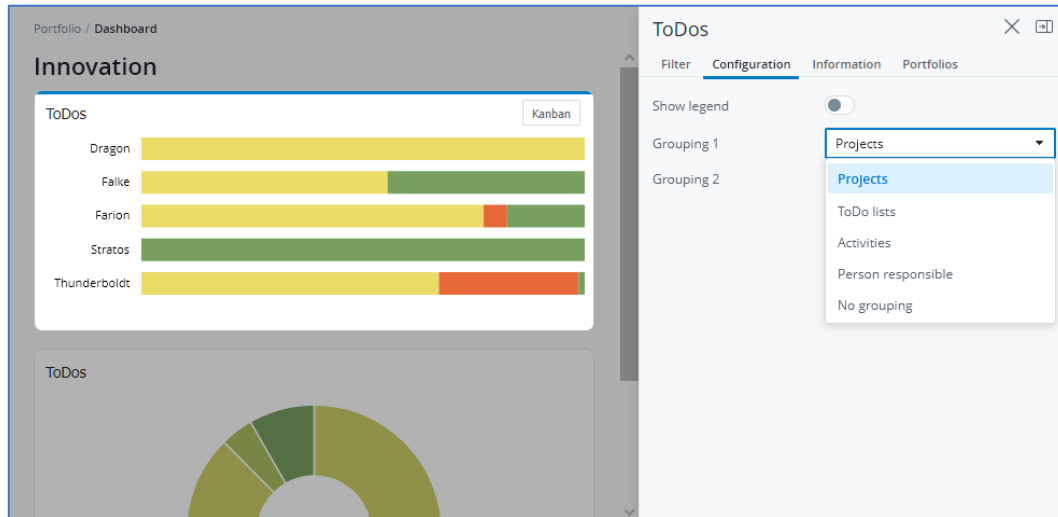
Individual and standard memo field in the project dashboard

The widget is available on the following dashboards:

- START PAGE
- PROJECTS / DASHBOARD
- PORTFOLIO / DASHBOARD
- PROGRAM / DASHBOARD

New grouping in the ToDos (Stacked bar chart) widget

In the dashboard widget ToDos (Stacked bar chart) you can now also group the ToDos by projects.



New grouping for projects

5. Projects

Activity details

In project planning (*PROJECTS / PLANNING / PROJECT PLAN*), the detailed data of an activity can now be edited directly via a dialog (1) without switching the mask. The column configurations of the tabs from the old detail screen have been transferred to the new dialog. Context-specific help (2) for the selected tab can be accessed via the dialog. The new editing view also replaces the previous dialogs below the menu items *PROJECTS / CONTROLLING* and *PROJECTS / REPORTING*.

Projects / Planning / Project plan

Fobos Mariner

Activities Gantt Network plan Work breakdown structure

▼

			Work plan				
No.	Activity	Activity	Duration	Type	From	To	
1	Phase 1	16			01.08.2024	03.09.2024	
1.1	Step 1	3		Work	03.08.2024	07.08.2024	
1.2	Step 2	5		Work	03.08.2024	16.08.2024	

Edit properties for "Step 2"

Properties Todos [0/0] Resources Target knowledge Dependencies Conflicts Stakeholders Risks Documents [0]

Description Step 2

Type Work Work 22 MD Limitation None

From To Priority 0

Billable Fixed billable Reason not billable Goodwill

Note

Further information

Delivery item Acceptance on Accepted by

Status

Save Save and close Close

Activity details as a dialog

New features in the Resources tab

The **Resources** tab has been completely redesigned. It now offers the same features as under PROJECTS / PLANNING / RESOURCES.

- General functions
 - Configuration options (2) for periods and key figures
 - Navigation between periods (1)
 - Linking to the editing of a resource
 - Detailed information as a tooltip
- Column configuration extension (3)
 - New project resources fields
 - New fields for periodic key figures
- Individual editing
 - The quick allocation of resources is no longer done via the checkbox, but via the new resource icon (4)
 - The estimated work and percent complete values can be edited depending on the project settings
- Collective editing (5)
 - The values for % Cap., Work and Role can be edited
 - The estimated work and percent complete values can be edited depending on the project settings

Edit resources for "Step 2"

Properties ToDos [0/0] **Resources** Target knowledge Dependencies Conflicts Stakeholders Risks Documents [0] Quote items Costs Investments Tickets

Wk: 19 2025

Project resource

Name	% Cap.	Work (%)	Work	Result	Role	Cost rate/h	Basis for calculation
Team resources							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development	50,00 %		15 MD	69,77 %/15 MD	Developer	32,00	Cost rate = Team resource cost rate, Invoicing/Travel rate = Standard role
<input type="checkbox"/> Marketing sim	50,00 %				Developer	25,00	All rates according to standard role
<input type="checkbox"/> Quality management	40,00 %				Developer	25,00	All rates according to standard role
Resources							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becker, Erika (0017/I) [40h]	100,00 %				Developer	50,00	Cost rate = Resource rate, Invoicing/Travel rate = Standard role
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mustermann, Hans (1001/I) [40h]	2,30 %				Senior consultant	35,00	Cost rate = Resource rate, Invoicing/Travel rate = Standard role
<input type="checkbox"/> Ziegler, Caroline (B0005/E) [40h]	50,00 %		5 MD	23,26 %/5 MD	Developer	25,00	All rates according to standard role
		0,00 %	20 MD	93,02 %/20 MD			

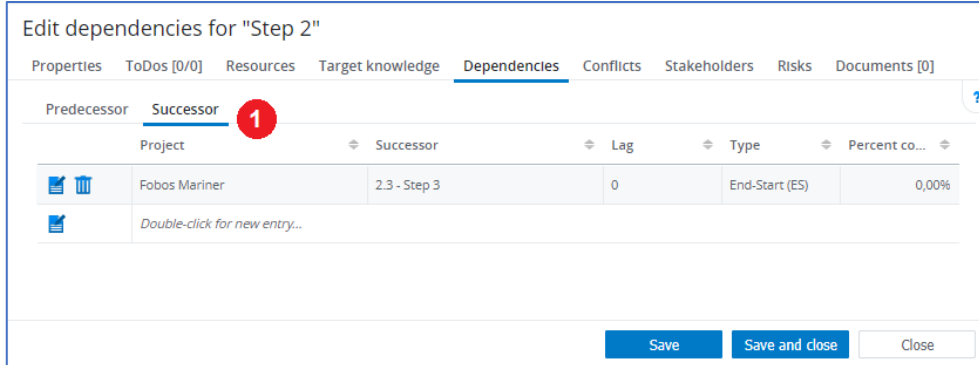
☒ Edit 3 lines collectively
☒ Assign resource(s) 2
☐ Remove resource(s) 1

Add new resource Close

New features in the resources tab

Adjustments in the Dependencies tab

The contents of the **Dependencies** and **Notification** tabs have been combined. In addition to predecessors, successors (1) of an activity can now also be defined.



Edit dependencies for "Step 2"

Properties ToDos [0/0] Resources Target knowledge **Dependencies** Conflicts Stakeholders Risks Documents [0]

Predecessor **Successor** 1

Project	Successor	Lag	Type	Percent co...
Fobos Mariner	2.3 - Step 3	0	End-Start (ES)	0,00%
Double-click for new entry...				

Save Save and close Close

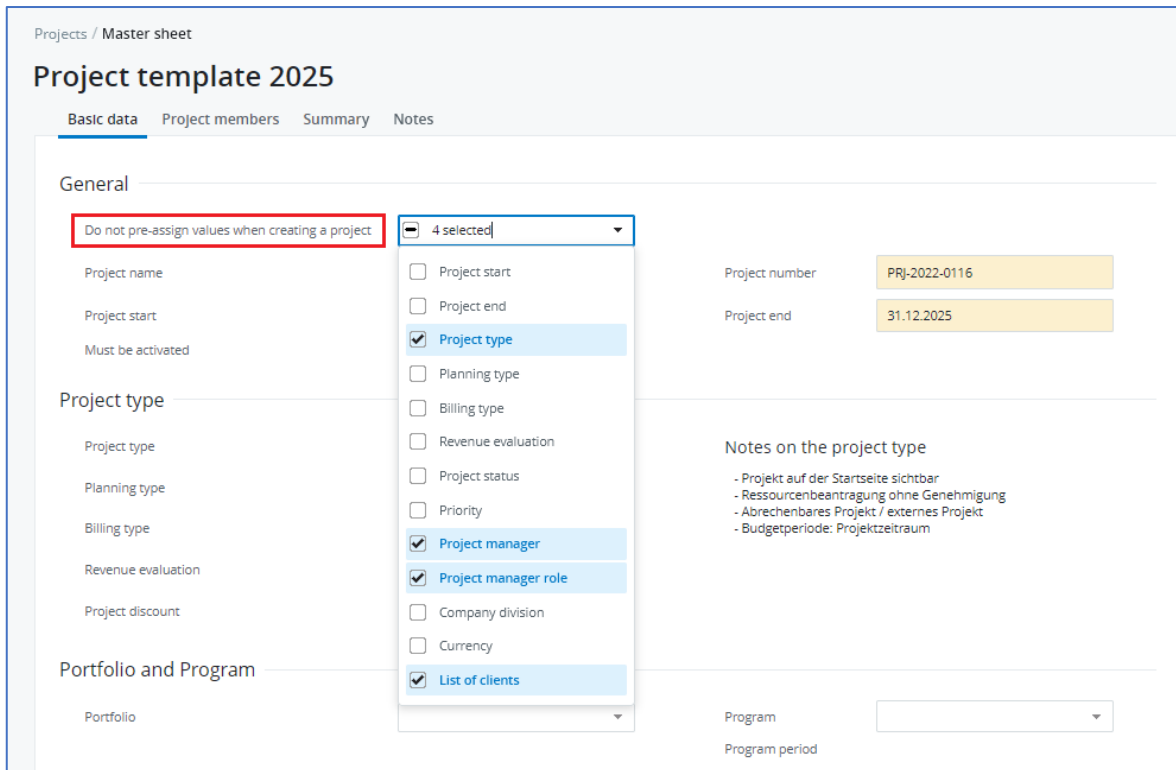
Definition of successors in the dependencies tab

Further adjustments

- New dialog for activity details:
 - ToDos tab
 - Multiple editing of ToDos
 - Extended column configuration to include individual fields from the **Project** and **Ticket** contexts
 - Ticket tab
 - Extended column configuration in the **Allocated or linked tickets** area to include individual fields from the *Ticket* context
- Activities and Gantt tab under PROJECTS / PLANNING / PROJECT PLAN
 - New column: **Ticket costs (Actual)**

Transfer of mandatory fields from template

With this version, when creating/editing templates, you can specify which required fields are adopted from the template when creating a project. New project templates are still created as usual, including all required mandatory information. A multi-select list box has been added to the template, allowing you to select the required fields that should **not** be pre-assigned when creating a project. These fields remain empty when creating a new project based on the template, but are validated accordingly, meaning that creating a project without manually completing these fields is not possible.



Projects / Master sheet

Project template 2025

Basic data | Project members | Summary | Notes

General

☒ Do not pre-assign values when creating a project

Project name

Project start

Must be activated

Project type

Project type

Planning type

Billing type

Revenue evaluation

Project discount

Portfolio and Program

Portfolio

4 selected

- ☐ Project start
- ☐ Project end
- ☒ Project type
- ☐ Planning type
- ☐ Billing type
- ☐ Revenue evaluation
- ☐ Project status
- ☐ Priority
- ☒ Project manager
- ☒ Project manager role
- ☐ Company division
- ☐ Currency
- ☒ List of clients

Project number: PRJ-2022-0116

Project end: 31.12.2025

Notes on the project type

- Projekt auf der Startseite sichtbar
- Ressourcenbeantragung ohne Genehmigung
- Abrechenbares Projekt / externes Projekt
- Budgetperiode: Projektzeitraum

Program

Program period

Definition of non-preassigned mandatory fields in a project template

Current status report information in project overviews

You can now also display **current status report information** in the project overviews. All fields of the currently valid status report configurations are available in the column configuration. The values of the most recently saved status report are displayed.

This functionality is available on the following masks:

- PROJECTS
- PORTFOLIO / PROJECTS
- PROGRAM / PROJECTS
- CONTROLLING / LANDSCAPE

New columns in the report history of status reports

In the report history under PROJECTS / STATUS REPORTS, you can now display **all** status report fields using the column configuration. This allows you to perform historical evaluations of the status report fields. You can now also export the information using the new **Current view** report.

6. Interfaces

Upgrade to BIRT 4.19

The **BIRT runtime** in Blue Ant has been updated to version 4.19. However, reports can still be created and edited using the existing designer. To use the latest features of BIRT 4.19, **BIRT Designer** must be updated to version 4.19 ([BIRT download page](#)). The latest version of the **Blue Ant BIRT Eclipse Plugin** can be installed in BIRT Designer via the URL <https://blueant-update-site.blueant.cloud/ba-birt-plugin/25.0/>.

REST API for absences

You can now retrieve employee absences and the associated master data.

New REST services GET master data/absence type


You can retrieve the **master data for all absence types** using the `/masterdata/absencetypes` service. You can retrieve the **master data for a specific absence type** using the `/masterdata/absencetypes/{absencetypesId}` service.

New REST services GET human/absence

You can use the `/human/absences` service to retrieve the **absences of all resources**. A maximum period of 365 days must be specified. Alternatively, you can query the **absences of a specific resource** (staffId) without restrictions. You can retrieve **a specific absence** using the `/human/absences/{absencesId}` service.

Update

The new entry (absences) in the rights management tree of the **Web service (REST)** is explicitly set to **Prohibited** during the update. This is intended to prevent unauthorized access to personal data. To use the service, you must adjust the corresponding entry in the rights management system.

-  The scope of resources for whom absences are displayed is **not** restricted by the **Access to** option. Absences are **not** restricted by the **Privacy** options or **Hint permitted**. All information is displayed. The only exception is the comment for an absence. Unlike the display in Blue Ant, the comment for an absence is always hidden (even from the requester) if the **Comment only visible for approvers** option is enabled.

REST API for project KPIs (controlling key figures)

You can now retrieve a project's key figures using the new REST API.

New REST services GET `project/{project}/kpis`

You can retrieve a project's key figures using the `/v1/projects/{projectId}/kpis` service. By default, the key figures are delivered in three periods:

- ACTUAL_YEAR -> provides the key figures for the **Current year**
- TODAY -> provides the key figures **To date**
- TOTAL -> provides the key figures **Total**


To retrieve the key figures, a project must be specified. In addition to the key figure, you will receive the **data type** and **unit** of the respective value. The following data types are delivered:

- Currency
- Duration
- Number
- Percent

For the duration data type, the unit also distinguishes between man days (MD) and hours (h). The output of the unit is based on the project settings.

You can use the following filters to limit the scope of the key figures:

- KPI-Ids -> for entering key figures-Ids
- Periods -> to select the expression
- DataTypes -> for entering data types (Currency, Duration, Number and Percent)

 Notes: Only numeric key figures and individual fields are delivered via the REST API. The key figures in the REST API are always determined at runtime and therefore do not come from the cache, even if cache is configured in the project.

New key figure - Actual percent complete (average)

A new key figure, Actual percent complete (average), is available for calculating completion as a percentage. This indicator calculates the average completion **without** weighting the underlying effort. This allows completion to be calculated even for projects in which no effort is planned for resources.

The key figure is also available under CONTROLLING / KEY FIGURES and in individual calculation fields.

REST API for resources/contacts extended

In **Blue Ant version 25.0** we provide you with various extensions for creating and editing resources/contacts via **REST API**.

New REST service GET master data/holidaycalendars

You can retrieve the **master data for all holiday calendars** using the /masterdata/holidaycalendars service. You can retrieve the **master data for a specific holiday calendar** using the /masterdata/absencetypes/{holidaycalendarsId} service.

New REST services for retrieving personal data

- GET human/persons/{id}/departmentMembershipHistory
 - To retrieve the **history of the company divisions** of a specific resource
- GET human/persons/{id}/holidayCalendarHistory
 - To retrieve the **public holiday calendar history** of a specific resource
- GET human/persons/{id}/staffCostHistory
 - To retrieve the **cost rate history** of a specific resource
- GET human/persons/{id}/staffVacationHistory
 - To retrieve the **annual leave history** of a specific resource
- GET human/persons/{id}/worktimeCalendarHistory
 - To retrieve the **work-time calendar history** of a specific resource

Extension of REST services for retrieving personal data

The scope of data for the /human/persons and /human/persons/{id} services has been expanded. Almost all data from the **MANAGEMENT / RESOURCES/CONTACTS / BASIC DATA** mask is now output in the REST API. A few options in the Settings section are excluded. However, the two most important settings, **Access to** and **Type of work-time recording**, are included.

New REST services for creating/changing personal data

With this version you can create or edit new resources (internal/external) and contacts.

- POST human/persons
 - For **creating** resources and contacts.
- PUT human/persons/{id}
 - To **change** resources and contacts. Data not included in the request will be deleted or reset to the default.
- PATCH human/persons/{id}
 - To **change** resources and contacts. Data not included in the request will be retained.

💡 When changing the following assignments, the current day is always used as the date. Unlike the user interface, it is not possible to specify a date.:

- Company division
- Public holiday calendar
- Cost rate
- Work-time calendar

💡 You can also convert resources to internal or external resources. However, it's not possible to convert a resource to a contact or a contact to a resource. This can only be done through the user interface.

Extension connectors

Two new connectors are available for **billing** purposes. In addition, the **export** transfer direction has been added for two existing connectors.

The following connectors have been added:

- Invoice proposals (import & export)
- Invoice proposal items (import & export)

The export transfer direction has been added for the following connectors:

- Budget
- Clock in/Clock out