

Taming Time

– Schedule Projects for Success

Introduction

Careful, methodical planning and then scheduling are the keys to the success of any project. Planning is the simulation of a project on paper before going into the field. Proper planning determines approach, methods, resources, supervision, schedule, even jobsite layout.

Purpose:

To build the cornerstone skill of scheduling using critical path, critical chain, change control.

Synopsis:

Schedule a ProjectMAN® simulation using the StickyPathMethod™. Learn to calculate time and use buffers to protect the critical path. Build the simulation using the SPM™ to monitor and control progress. Use project management software to plan a second simulation. Build the simulation using the software to monitor and control progress.

Learning Objectives:

- Use the Work Breakdown Structure to plan the project.
- Learn the Precedence Diagram “Critical Path Method.”
- Build Durations using six different techniques.
- Differentiate effort and duration
- Calculate EST, LST, EFT, LFT, Total Float, Free Float, Interfering Float.
- Understand Critical Chain theory. Build Buffers out of Float. Buffers protect the critical path and warn of impending infringement.
- Use the schedule to monitor progress. Use earned value of time to identify productivity and time variances.
- Understand the programmer logic embedded in a scheduling software package.
- Use the software to communicate plans, logic, strategy.
- Exploit the software to measure and control execution.

See the project at different points in time. Look at it from strategic, tactical, and operational reference points. Plan the project at each level of reference. Schedule using network techniques and theory of constraints. Then use the plan, estimate, and schedule for executing and controlling the project.