PROJECT MANAGEMENT AN INTRODUCTION

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What is Project?

Project : Project is an activity to meet the creation of a unique product or service

A group of milestones or phases, activities or tasks that support an effort to accomplish something

What is Project Management?

Project Management : Project Management is the art of managing all the aspects of a project from inception to closure using a scientific and structured methodology.

Who uses Project Management?

- Nearly Everyone to some degree People plan their Days, their Weeks, their Vacations and their Budgets and keep a simple project management form known as "To Do" list
- Any Process or Means used to track tasks or efforts towards accomplishing a goal could be considered as Project Management

Project Characteristics

A project is

Not a normal day to day activity undertaken by organization

Rather it is specific, non-routine activity of varying time frame

It impact viability of the business in the long run.

Project Characteristics

A typical project has following characteristics:

Timeline: A project has a definite timeline with measurable starting and end point.

Resources: A project has limited resource of capital and manpower.

Tools: Special type of tools and techniques are used for project management (Gantt Charts, etc.)

Team: Project management requires diverse team stretching across departments and functions.

Project Life Cycle

A typical project is divided into following phases. Each phase of the project has its own importance and impact on overall success of the project.

Initiation or Proposal Phase: In this phase of the project, feedback received from customers is analyzed and brainstorming is done as to develop new product or modify existing product to meet the new demands.

Project Definition Phase: In this phase of the project efforts are made to define the solution for the problem posed by customers.

Project Life Cycle

Feasibility Study: In this phase, planning of the project is made and definite milestones are established.

Project Execution: In this phase all activities and milestones established in the earlier phase are executed in a timely and orderly manner. This phase utilizes maximum of all resources.

Project Conclusion: This is the last phase of the project. In this phase, final product or service is handed over to the operations team for commercial production.

Project Management Activities

Project management activities are mainly divided into three main categories Planning, Organizing, Scheduling, Controlling and Measuring.

Planning: Planning activities include defining project objective, resource planning, etc.

Organizing: Orderly fashion (Contingent/ Prerequisites)

Scheduling: Scheduling activities include developing detailed milestones and guidelines for the project. These activities are performed typically before actual initiation of the project.

Project Management Activities

Controlling: Controlling activities include developing budget and finance control points, measuring of scheduled tasks are performed.

Measuring: To determine if we accomplished the goal or met the target?

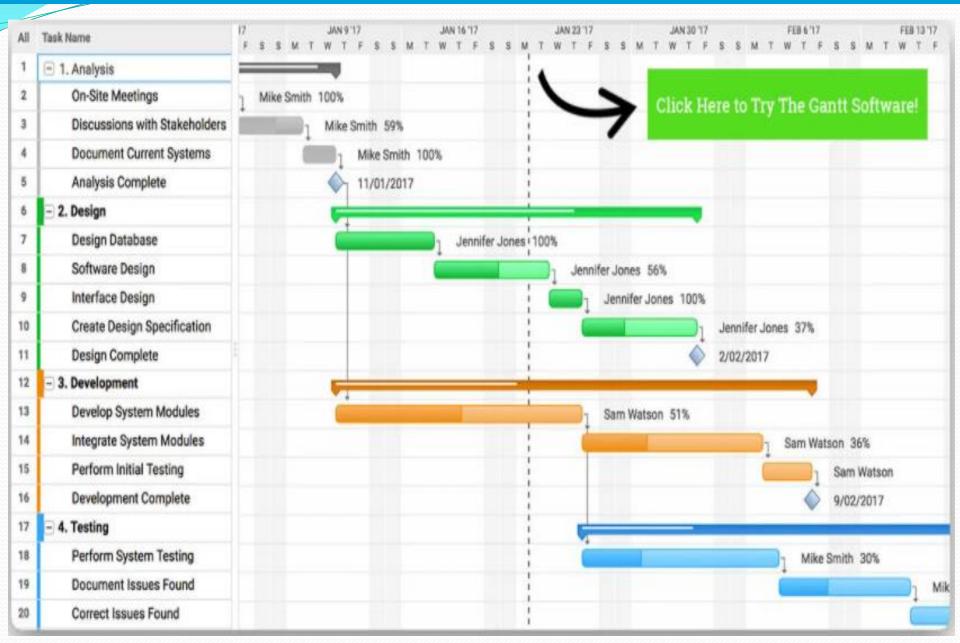
Measuring.....

- Are we efficient?
- Are we productive?
- Are we doing a good job?
- What is the outcome?
- Is it what we wanted to be?

If you can't plan it, You can't do it If you can't measure it, you can't manage it

There are several techniques utilized for project management. Some of the techniques mainly used for project scheduling are.

Gantt Charts: These charts are used to depict the project tasks against time. It monitors progress of individual project tasks and also highlights dependency if any between those project tasks.

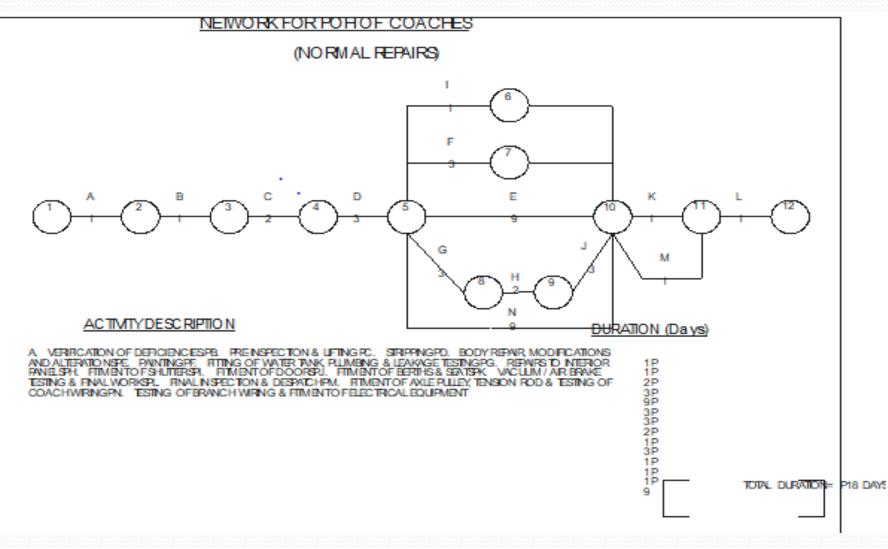


Network Planning Techniques: These techniques show the relationship between project activities, project duration, critical path, constraints of non-critical activities and resource utilization.

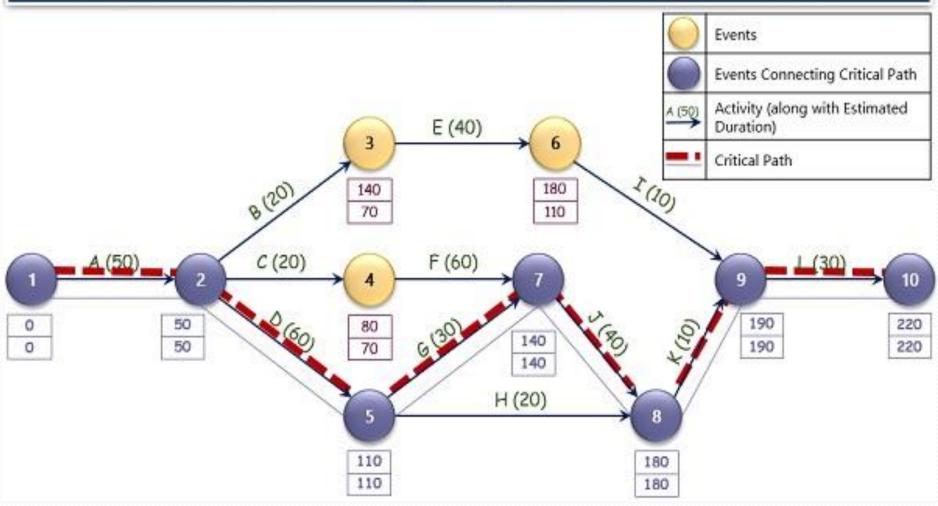
There are two types of network planning techniques

- Critical Path Method (CPM) and
- Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT).

Critical Path Method (CPM)







Why is Project Management used?

 It is necessary to Track or Measure the progress we have achieved towards a Goal we wish to accomplish

 We use Project Management to Aid us in Maximizing and Optimizing our resources to accomplish our goals

How much time does Project Management take?

 Not much. Probably more time is wasted as a consequence of lack of Project Management tool than is spent to Plan adequately, Organize, Schedule, Control effectively and Measure appropriately

How long: As long as there are things to do

Why is Project Management Important?

- Enables us to map out a course of action or work plan
- Helps us to think systematically and thoroughly
- Unique Task
- Specific Objective
- Variety of Resources
- Time bound

Advantages

- In built Monitoring/ Sequencing
- Easy and Early identification of Bottlenecks
- Activity based costing
- Identification and Addition of missing and new activities
- Preempting unnecessary activity/expenditure
- Timely Completion
- Assigning tasks
- Reporting

Consequences of not using PMT

- DELAY
- COST
- WASTE OF RESOURCES
- QUALITY
- DISSATISFACTION
- REPUTATION

WORKSHOP PROJECTS ORGANIZATION Designing workshops, defining excellence.

Vision

"Workshop Projects Organisation entails to become nodal organisation for execution of any project related to Workshops and Production Units for Indian Railway."

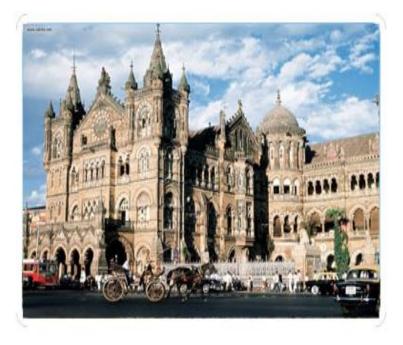


- The Workshop Projects Organization (WPO), established in October 2002
- Has the responsibility of setting up of Production Units and Workshops on turnkey basis over Indian Railways.
- This organization reports to Railway Board (AM/PU).
- This organization comprises officers and staff from Mechanical, Engineering, Stores, Finance, Electrical, S&T and Personnel and is headed by Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Its Headquarter is at Patna.

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Project Management....



Work Smart Not Hard !!!

