

An Essay on Scheduled Management Plan

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During our courses I hadn't the opportunity to develop a scheduled management plans per se; we did add many of the components into an established project schedule. That isn't to imply we hadn't studied the process only that as an artifact for this portfolio we did accomplish one. Therefore this essay will define the process and components of a Schedule Management plan to meet the academic requirement for this process.

Scheduled management is part of the plan to develop plan schedule management process. The process may be formal or informal based upon the needs of the project. When formally developed it may include:

- **Project schedule model development.** The scheduling methodology and scheduling tool to be used in the development of the project schedule model are specified
- **Level of accuracy.** The acceptable range used in determining realistic activity durations estimates is specified and may include an amount of contingencies
- **Units of measure.** Each unit used in measurements (such as staff hours, staff days, or weeks for time measures or meters, liters, tons, kilometers or cubic yards for quantity measures) is defined for each resource.
- **Organizational procedures links.** The WBS (Section 5.4 provides the framework for the schedule management plan allowing consistency with the estimates and resulting schedule.
- **Project schedule model maintenance.** The process used to update the status and record progress of the project in the schedule model during the execution of the project is defined.

- **Control thresholds.** Variance thresholds for monitoring schedule performance may be specified to indicate an agreed upon amount of variation to be allowed before some action needs to be taken. Thresholds are typically expressed as percentage deviation from the parameters established in the baseline plan
- **Rules of performance measure.** Earned value management (EVM) rules or other physical measurement rules of performance measurement are set.
- **Reporting Formats.** The formats and frequency for the various schedule reports are defined
- **Process descriptions.** Descriptions of each of the schedule management processes are document. (Project Management Institute (PMI), 2013 pp.148-149)

Most of the projects we completed this process was less formally organized and was simply part of the project scope statement. Organizational procedures links were established using WBSs developed in either MS Project or Excel. As viewed in many of the provided project scope management plan examples in this portfolio.

In a much larger project there may be a benefit to a formal schedule management plan. In this case it would reference all the items above to plan for “developing, monitoring and controlling the schedule” (PMI, 2013, para 6.1.3.1).

Many of the parts that make up the schedule management plan are attribute that get loaded into software and plans are developed. For Example, MS Project has the writer stipulate the type of hours, costs, performance measure etc. Much of the scheduling in modern projects will more than likely be accomplish using one of these tools. An understanding of the concepts is important to be able to set the parameter of the software tool you are using.

Conclusion

As informally used during this course the components of the plan schedule management plan were intertwined in the several project plans we developed. As you proceed through the included portfolio artifacts look to observe these components.

Reference

Project Management Institute (PMI). (2013). *A guide to the project management body of knowledge (PMBOK Guide)*. Newtown Square: Project Management Institute.