

In This Issue

- CPM News
 - CPM launches NEW website
 - CPM moves its Edmonton office
 - CPM training courses are a huge success
- Oracle purchases Primavera
- Primavera 2008 Project Management Report
- Primavera's P6 Web Access Module Improves Organizational Performance by Optimizing Team Collaboration
- Comparison Between Primavera P6 v6.1 Windows Client and Web Access Modules
- Primavera Contract Manager v12 Top Features
- Earned Value and Enterprise Project and Portfolio Management Return on Investment Highlights
- Primavera Software Tips and Tricks
- New Hires
- Training

CPM News

CPM Solutions Launches NEW Web site

CPM Solutions is excited to announce the launch of our new interactive web site www.cpm solutions.ca. Responding to our customers' requests for web-based technologies this innovative service provides FREE resources such as a growing knowledge-base of tips, tricks and tutorials on Primavera software and project management.

The web site also features our new online training programs that include in-depth content and the convenience of learning at your own pace.

We invite you to visit www.cpm solutions.ca to discover innovative tools to maximize your project profitability.

CPM Solutions Moves Its Edmonton Office

CPM recently opened the doors to its new office in Edmonton at #201 - 9644 - 54th Ave. The new office boasts an improved training capacity where we can now train twelve people at a time. We welcome you to check out the training section of our web site for upcoming training sessions in our new premises.

CPM Solutions Training Courses Are A Huge Success

CPM Solutions has had overwhelming success with its Primavera P5/6, Contract Manager and CPM300 P5/6 for Plant Maintenance and Turnaround training courses.

Comments from recent training course attendees:

"Excellent teacher"

"Great course, powerful tool"

"Overall course was very informative and the instructor was excellent"

"Very useful course"

"That was a great course. The instructor helped me understand how to use the Primavera P5/6 software and to understand the very important reasons for using the tools in the first place."

Oracle purchases Primavera

On October 8, 2008 Oracle announced it has entered into an agreement to acquire Primavera. An Overview and Frequently Asked Questions can be viewed at <http://www.oracle.com/primavera/primavera-faq.pdf>

CPM believes this purchase will benefit its customers in many ways as described in the document referred to above. CPM will now be able to offer our services to a broader customer base and extend the types of services we provide in the marketplace.

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Primavera 2008 Project Management Report: “Standardized Best Practices and Technology Adoption in the AEC Industry”

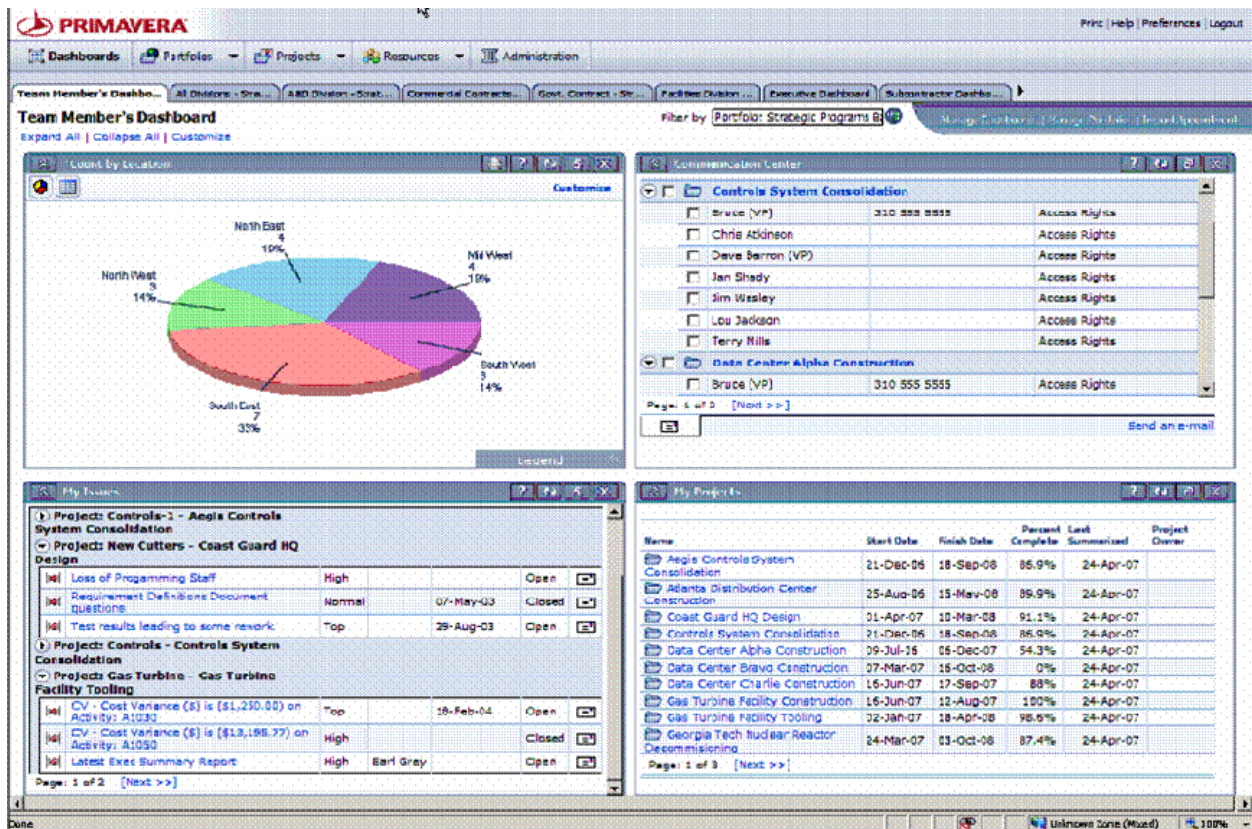
Primavera Systems conducted a survey in late 2007 to examine the technology, business procedures and best practices in use by North American firms and owners in the Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) industry. Analysis of the survey results show that companies which implemented standardized best practices coupled with technology solutions complete a higher percentage of projects on time and on budget, are better able to mitigate the impact of late and/or over budget projects on their organizations and have better knowledge about the causes of poor performance.

This survey presents the findings of 390 online interviews with project managers, engineers, executives and schedulers in the AEC industry, including construction management companies, general contractors, and owners in the United States. In order to reach respondents with specific knowledge of project management tools and procedures, Primavera weighted the survey so that AEC project managers and executives represented a slightly higher percentage of the total number of respondents than they would in a completely random survey.

Please contact CPM Solutions for a copy of the eight page AEC Industry Survey Report.

Primavera’s P6 Web Access Software Module Improves Organizational Performance by Optimizing Team Collaboration

P6 Web Access facilitates team-based collaboration to improve decision-making, streamline execution, and improve efficiency. P6 Web Access provides personalized connectivity to the people and data needed to accomplish organizational goals. Most importantly, P6 Web Access enables easy communication as part of the typical work process rather than requiring users to put work aside to communicate and collaborate.



Solution Capabilities

Personal Workspaces	P6 Web Access users may access a consolidated view of their tasks, documents, workflows and collaborate with other users throughout the organization through Personal Workspaces.
Virtual Project Team Workspaces	Project teams can work together even though they are spread out may be spread out across the world. The Virtual Project Team Workspaces enable users to share and route information, provide feedback and resolve issues in a single, secure environment.
Communication Center	The P6 Communication Center enables project participants to share data and communicate with other project stakeholders including the project owner.
Alerts	Collaboration capabilities such as automatic email notifications, workgroups and project news alerts are available to the team member and ensure effective communication across the project team.
Discussion Threads	Discussion Threads in the Project Workspace and on Workgroup pages enable users to participate in online project discussions.
Document Management	Enterprise-class document management functionality helps to eliminate disparate areas for storing project documents and provides a centralized, secure repository.
Workflow	P6 provides native workflow capabilities for initiating new projects based on organizations' defined governance models. In addition, P6 Web Access may invoke workflows for project processes like budget approval, change approval etc.

Comparison Between Primavera P6 v6.1 Windows Client and Web Access Modules

Over the past few years Primavera's project planning, scheduling, resource and cost management software suite has migrated from a primarily fat client (Windows Client module) oriented software tool with minimal web based (Web Access module) functionality to increased fat client and significantly increased web based functionality.

Some people guesstimate that the Web Access module now has 90% of the Windows Client functionality with the major differences being that the Windows Client is used for system security and administration, organizational and structural set up purposes. Super users typically use the Windows Client to manage the larger more demanding projects. Resource Leveling is performed in the Windows Client and not in the Web Access module. Project templates are usually managed and stored in the Methodology Manager Server with the Windows Client and accessed by the Windows Client and Web Access modules.

Web Access does have the ability to manage projects but these projects are usually not as challenging as those managed by the Windows Client. This is often dictated by the fact that the size of data related to larger projects and the requirement for data to be telecommunicated over the web often prohibits larger projects from being managed by Web Access.

The Web Access module has many features that the Windows Client does not have. Collaboration includes the ability of Web Access users to share and manage documentation. Work Flow including document approval management is included in Web Access. Enterprise-wide Portfolio Analysis assists Web Access users select which projects they should work on based on those projects that most closely match the company's strategic objectives. Web Access also helps select which roles and specific resources will be required for the chosen projects. Graphically rich Web Access interactively provides project Capacity Analysis and Resource Requirements suitable for predicting hiring requirements.

Dashboards in Web Access allow mid level and upper management to easily view and drill down in to multiple customized enterprise-wide based dashboards that graphically depict innumerable often sought after on screen reports. These on-screen dashboards can include a rich collection of charts, score cards and Key Performance Indicators which can be easily accessed to facilitate the process of solving problems before they become unwieldy.

Primavera Contract Manager v12 Top New Features

Approval Processing With Flexible Workflow

- Multiple level approval processes particularly for enterprise deployments
 - Anyone can approve workflow
 - All must approve workflow
 - Linear approval workflow
- Subset of Contract Manager users can approve documents
- Documents with new workflow options include:
 - Contracts and Purchase Orders
 - Requisitions
 - Change Orders
 - RFI's approval
- New Document Owner concept designates who is responsible for the approval of a document

Document Management

- Track and record workflow distribution of design reviews, key deliverables, specifications and shop drawings
- Link several documents such as a submittal, daily report, RFI, and attached files to gather all related documents that led to a formal change
- Capture priority and status
- Collaborate with email

Job Costing Options

- Option to restrict invoice creation if over Contract/Purchase Order amount
- Option to restrict creation of requisitions, invoices, change orders against unapproved Contracts and Purchase Orders
- Planned to Commit column in cost worksheet is now editable

Change Management Processing

- Capture, record and document the entire change process including parties involved, schedule delays and costs
 - Build standards and analyze change
 - View complete history of change
- Maintain documentation and compile accurate records around event to easily resolve issues
 - Approved PCOs can now be collected
 - Dialog sorted by number

Capture Email From Microsoft Outlook or Other E-mail System

- Capture project email documents in new Email Log
- Support IMAP/POP compliant email servers
 - Outlook
 - Lotus Notes
- Capture email from Correspondence Received Log
 - New Import Email Action or Batch Process

Additional Web Application Server Support

- Supports Weblogic
- Decouple Application and Web Server for Weblogic

Tightly Integrated With ERP and Accounting Systems

- Extend project and cost-control capabilities to existing systems
 - Establish connections to existing enterprise applications including: JD Edwards®, Oracle®, Projects®, and SAP®
-

Earned Value and Enterprise Project and Portfolio Management Return on Investment Highlights

The first quotation regarding Earned Value was taken from the USA Department of Defense based on 700 contracts reviewed. The second lists the benefits of a formal Project Management environment as reported in Standish Group “CHAOS: A Recipe for Success” endorsing the deployment of enterprise-wide project and portfolio management solutions.

Highlights

- **Earned Value**
 - Once a contract is 15% complete, Overrun at completion will not be less than overrun to date & Percent overrun at completion will be greater than percent overrun to date i.e. You cannot recover
 - (Based on over 700 DOD contracts since 1977)

- **Benefits of formal PM**
 - 88% increase in ROI of projects
 - 36% increase in employee satisfaction
 - 49% improvement in budget performance vs. prior to implementation
 - 49% improvement in schedule performance vs. prior to implementation
 - 50% improvement in resource utilization vs. prior to implementation
 - Standish Group “CHAOS: A Recipe for Success,”

Primavera Software Tips and Tricks

Tips 1 to 6 were provided in our previous e-newsletters. These e-newsletters can be viewed on our web site at www.cpm solutions.ca.

Tip 7: How the Duration Type affects Duration, Units/Time and Units calculations

The Duration Type drop down on the General Tab of the Activities Detail Panel controls two separate calculations. They are:

1. **Remaining Duration = Remaining Units / Remaining Units/Time**
2. **Original/Planned Duration = Budgeted/Planned Units / Budgeted/Planned Units/Time**

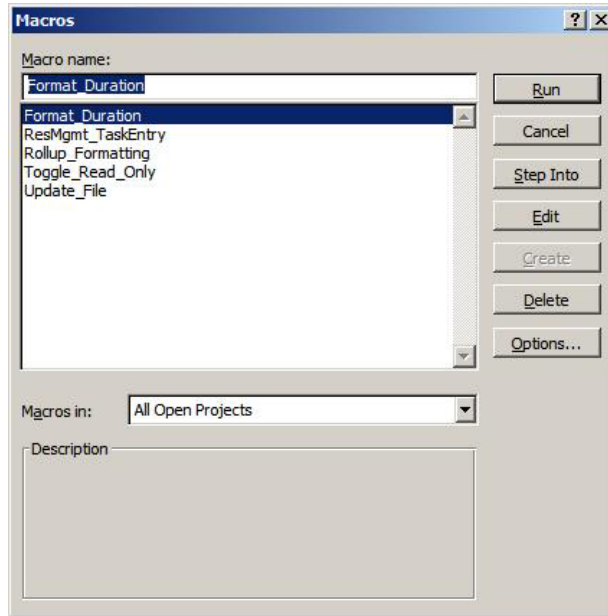
The above two equations must always hold true. The Duration Type rule determines which field has the most importance. Below is a matrix that identifies which fields are recalculated based on the Duration type. The first column indicates the Duration type selected. The five fields across the top are what you are changing. For example, if Fixed Units/Time is the Duration type and the Remaining units are changed, the Remaining Duration is recalculated.

Duration Type	Change Units	Change Duration	Change Units/Time	Add_1st resource	Add additional resources
Fixed Units/Time	Duration	Units	Duration	Units	Duration
Fixed Duration & Units/Time	Units/Time	Units	Units	Units	Units
Fixed Units	Duration	Units/Time	Duration	Units	Duration
Fixed Duration & Units	Units/Time	Units/Time	Units	Units	Units/Time of each Resource

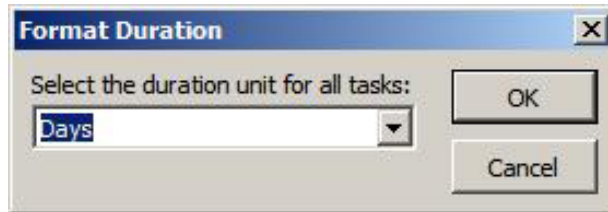
Tip 8: Relationship Lag Differences Between Primavera Project Management And MS Project MPP formats

- 1) Relationship Lag is not exporting correctly to MPP format
- 2) Relationship Lag moving to another activity
- 3) Project exported from Project Management has different lag when opened in Microsoft Projects
- 4) Relationship Lag is incorrect in Microsoft Project when viewing a project exported from Project Management

Solution: Export using the MPX file format. In the MPX format all durations are exported in hours. Open the project in Microsoft Project, go to *Tools, Macro, Macros* and choose *Format Duration*, click *Run*.



Select the Duration unit and click OK.



New Hires

CPM Solutions is pleased to announce the addition of one staff member since our last e-newsletter. We welcome Nick Burton as a Senior Application Consultant to our consulting team.

Short Biography for Nick Burton

Nick has a Masters of Engineering (Honours) in Environmental Engineering with Resource Management. He has seven years of experience implementing project management focused software and related training and implementation consulting services. Nick has in-depth knowledge of web-based project collaboration, document management solutions, architecture, engineering and construction processes. His practical engineering experience facilitated the performance of customer-facing roles throughout the software sales and implementation lifecycles providing pre-sales technical consultancy, business analysis, application configuration and end-user training.

Training

October – December 2008 Schedule:

Primavera v6 for Plant Maintenance and Turnarounds, Course #CPM300: October 20-24, Burnaby

Primavera v6 Basic Course #102: October 20-22, Edmonton

Primavera v6 Advanced Course #106: October 23-24, Edmonton

Primavera Contract Manager, Course #202: October 27-28, Burnaby

Primavera v6 Basic Course #102: October 27-29, Edmonton

Primavera v6 Basic Course #102: November 3-5, Burnaby

Primavera v6 Advanced Course #106: November 6-7, Burnaby

Primavera v6 Basic Course #102: November 24-26, Edmonton

Primavera Contractor, Course #700: November 27-28, Edmonton

Primavera v6 Basic Course #102: December 10-12, Burnaby

Primavera Contract Manager, Course #202: December 15-16, Burnaby

Course Registration: Contact Leanne Messina at (604) 294-1577 ext 117 or lmessina@cpmsolutions.ca

See our updated October – December 2008 Training Schedule on our website - <http://www.cpmsolutions.ca/training>

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E-mail us at lmessina@cpmsolutions.ca.*

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