

# PROGRAM MANAGEMENT



*Control costs with detailed planning, estimates, and forecasting.*

*Gain efficiency by managing projects across your enterprise.*

*Lower costs with application integration.*

Large enterprises and project-based organizations have long recognized the value of leveraging project knowledge across multiple projects, yet today, 50 percent of IT projects are delivered over budget. Now Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Program Management gives project managers the tools they need to manage projects across the organization while leveraging common standards and procedures. With Program Management, you increase organizational efficiency while saving money. You can:

- Use the enterprise program tree to group similar projects together to summarize project data and create project dependencies accurately.
- Use the combined power of Program Management with Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Project Costing to identify trouble spots with analytics such as cost estimate to complete variance and earned value.
- Instill best practices by comparing similar project efforts.

## **Detailed Project Planning and Estimating Lowers Costs**

Project planning and estimating are the building blocks of successful project management. But too often, project managers estimate costs on disparate project systems. Lack of a central repository of project planning tools promotes inconsistency and inefficiency. With one solution for planning and estimating projects, you can standardize data, leverage project knowledge, and lower costs. You can:

- Build project plans or use templates to list and relate project activities, create a work breakdown structure, schedule activities, identify resources, and estimate project costs.
- Use advanced planning functions such as work and percent resource effort.
- Improve the accuracy of project estimating by standardizing the cost rates associated with resources and creating a single source of information for estimates.
- Integrate labor, material, and asset resources for a project so that you can plan and estimate for all resource types in one repository.
- Leverage enhanced workbenches for additional visual indicators for each major project component, such as scope, schedule, budget, resources, risk, and issues—giving program and project managers an accurate pulse on their projects.
- Define releases and release types, associate projects, issues, change requests, and risks to releases, and view a dashboard that shows projects by release with Release Management.

The screenshot displays the Oracle Manager Workbench interface for the 'Activity' tab of project BCPBR. The project description is 'BCP - Branch offices', the status is 'Open', and the manager is Nicola Hill. The Project Health section shows overall health as 'Good' with green indicators for Schedule, Budget, and Resources, and red indicators for Issues and Risks. The Milestones table lists activities like 'Construction Complete' and 'Rollout Complete' with their respective dates and completion percentages. The Top 5 Issues table shows an issue related to 'India Branch office manager re' with an 'OPEN' status. The Top 5 Risks table shows a 'Potential' risk for 'Offshore project mat issues'. Navigation buttons like 'Return to Search', 'Previous in List', 'Next in List', and 'Notify' are visible at the bottom.

**The Manager Workbench Page**

The Manager Workbench is organized into two pages. Managers can view information about a project on the Manager Workbench page and click the Activity tab to view workbench information about the project’s activities.

**Project Visibility Reduces Risk**

Every project is subject to risks that can lead to increased costs, delayed schedules, and increased resource requirements. Failure to manage these risks often arises from the inability to decide what to do, when to do it, and whether enough has been done. Project Risk Management, a new feature in this release of Program Management, addresses these challenges with the functionality to:

- Identify risks that impact projects and document their characteristics.
- Develop procedures and techniques to enhance opportunities and reduce threats to the project’s objectives.
- Monitor residual risks, identify new risks, execute risk reduction plans, and evaluate their effectiveness throughout the project lifecycle.

**Real-Time Project Management Tools Increase Efficiency**

Scope creep and issue management can be the principle reasons why a project runs over budget or even fails. Program Management includes a full-featured scope and issue management solution that is embedded throughout the application. Tracking changes in a single location provides consistency, accuracy, and real-time updates to project data. You can:

- Utilize Oracle’s PeopleSoft project scheduling to create, organize, and schedule project activities.
- Organize the WBS by using icons on a tool bar in hierarchical grid format.

The screenshot displays the Oracle Project Activities interface. At the top, it shows the project name 'FMS-UPGRADE' and description 'Financial Systems Upgrade'. Below this is a table of activities with columns for WBS ID, Activity Name, Activity ID, Duration (Days), Start Date, End Date, and Calculate. The activities listed include 'Financials Upgrade', 'Initial Scoping', 'Gap Analysis', 'Conduct User Sessions', 'Document Procedures', 'Other Requirements', 'Data-warehouse integrati...', and '3rd party software integrat...'. Below the table are buttons for 'Recalculate Schedule' and 'Save as Template'.

WBS ID	Activity Name	Activity	Duration (Days)	Start Date	End Date	Calculate
1	Financials Upgrade	0000000000000001	40	02/21/2005	04/15/2005	Duration
1.1	Initial Scoping	0000000000000002	40	02/21/2005	04/15/2005	Duration
1.1.1	Gap Analysis	0000000000000003	30	02/21/2005	04/01/2005	End Date
1.1.2	Conduct User Sessions	0000000000000004	10	02/21/2005	03/04/2005	End Date
1.1.3	Document Procedures	0000000000000005	30	03/07/2005	04/15/2005	End Date
1.2	Other Requirements	0000000000000006	20	02/21/2005	03/18/2005	Duration
1.2.1	Data-warehouse integrati...	0000000000000007	5	03/14/2005	03/18/2005	End Date
1.2.2	3rd party software integrat...	0000000000000008	5	02/21/2005	02/25/2005	End Date

### Enhanced Project Activities Page

The Project Activities page supports Dependencies and Constraints, Gantt Charting, and an improved user experience for creating and maintaining work breakdown structures (WBS).

- Leverage the Project Activities page that supports dependencies and constraints, Gantt charting.
- Review the workload in grid format of all resources in a user-defined workload scope with the Master Resource Schedule.
- Establish critical finish-to-start activity relationships, both within a single project and across projects, by supporting activity dependencies and constraints.
- Track project changes in real time with the completely configurable change control that allows project managers to choose which attributes of a project to track.
- Require users to enter reasons for changes or track changes automatically in the background.
- Enter issues with one click from many high-use project pages, such as the timesheet submission window.
- Enhance visibility of critical issues with executive level dashboards, analytics, and automated workflow.

Robust forecasting capabilities allow organizations to react quickly to changing internal or external conditions. Organizations that institute a successful forecasting process are rewarded with accurate project progress information and can:

- Create and track a program budget that is completely separate from the project budgets.
- Use a bottoms-up forecasting feature in which project team members who are assigned activities can enter forecasts to complete estimates.
- View online analytics to anticipate future projected costs and revenues.

Inform managers and executives so that they can make go, no-go, and financial impact decisions.

Status reporting is essential to ensure the success of project delivery. Status reports are critical for both internal and external communication and can:

- Remove personal subjectivity out of project status reporting with automatic project health and percent complete calculations.
- Define the frequency of status report submission.
- Automatically summarize multiple reports into an overall project status report.
- Email preset reminders to project team members for submissions of project time, cost, and activity status.
- Leverage Resource Usage Graphs to improve a project manager's ability to view the workload for all the resources on a project.

### **Application Integration Lowers Implementation Costs**

On average, 35 percent of the IT budget for new applications is spent on integrating applications. Program Management not only increases project visibility but also saves money for your organization because of the deep cross-product integration that is built into the solution.

Program Management has extensive two-way integration to Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Project Portfolio Management. Project requests that need detailed cost estimates automatically create planned or pending projects, enabling you to:

- Summarize detailed cost estimates used to optimize the project portfolio.
- Activate projects on project request approval so that work can begin.
- Send actual costs to the portfolio analyzer as projects progress with Project Costing.
- Leverage the new Flexible Project Activity Planning module with project charging level options when using project management and project accounting to assure consistency and accuracy of financial transactions in the WBS.
- Utilize the two-way Project Portfolio Management integration to gain greater insight and visibility into detailed cost estimates.
- Identify trouble spots by using analytics such as cost estimate to complete variance and earned value with integration to PeopleSoft Enterprise Project Costing.

Tight integration between project planning and resource management is crucial to efficient utilization of resources. Program Management integrates with Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Resource Management to accurately plan and estimate resource requirements and staff projects when they get they green light. This integration enables you to:

- Identify skills requirements for job functions.
- Search for resources that have appropriate skill sets.
- Look up resource calendars for conflicts.
- View resource use across programs or projects to level workload.

- Optimize resource utilization to improve project results and increase efficiency.
- Use generic labor requirements on a project resource list to either create a Resource Management service order, or directly assign a known resource.

Unlike individual project management tools, Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Program Management is an enterprise program management application that is the enterprise-wide repository for all project-related data. One source of integrated individual and group project data means that you now have the intelligence to make business decisions about project plans, cost, time, and resources for individual projects across the enterprise. You can:

Set up project resource list, activity assignments, work, and percent resource effort in either system to manage data flexibly.

- Use two-way integration at the project milestone and activity level to share data, which reduces redundancy and increases accuracy.
- Attach Microsoft Project files directly to Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise project data tables to simplify architecture administration.
- Use the process scheduler for highly scalable and fast performing process request queuing and load balancing.
- Simplify integration setup with integration options administration.

### **ESA Is Your Complete Solution**

Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Service Automation (ESA) is an integrated, complete solution designed specifically for CIOs and IT managers to align projects with corporate objectives, reduce project delivery costs, and increase resource utilization.

Leading companies, including Marriott International and Sun Microsystems, use ESA to reduce spending, achieve faster returns on IT investments, and become more effective partners with business units across their organizations.

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