



Software Project Management

Concepts, Terms and Definitions



Lecture Objectives

- Project Concepts, Terms and Definitions
 - Project
 - Project Attributes



What is a Project?

“...A project is a temporary endeavor undertaken to create a unique product or service.”

- *Temporary* means that every project has a definite beginning and a definite end.
- *Unique* means that the product or service is different in some distinguishing way from all similar products or services.

* From the Project Management Institute's (PMI) *Project Management/Book of Knowledge (PMBOK)*, page 5.
<http://www.pmi.org>



Important Project Attributes

- Objectives
- Stakeholders
- Plan
- Schedule
- Budget
- Risks and Issues
- Estimation
- Change
- Process & Methodology
- Measures and Metrics
- Project Manager



Project Objectives

- What the project is to achieve:
 - Must be aligned with business goals
- Project objectives are defined by:
 - Measurable definition(s) of success
 - Project acceptance criteria
 - Requirements
- Multiple stakeholders may have conflicting objectives & requirements:
 - Must be identified & resolved at the beginning of the project



Project Objectives

- Measurable definition(s) of success. Example:
 - “Increase service order throughput capacity by 50% without increasing time, errors or effort.”
- Project acceptance criteria:
 - The quantifiable criteria that must be met for the project to be considered successful.
 - Product, Deliverables, Cost, Schedule, Quality, etc.



Stakeholders

- Anyone who participates in or can influence your project, typically:
 - Project Sponsor(s)/Customer(s)
 - Executives
 - Project Team
 - Users
 - Contractors
 - Functional Managers
- The project manager must identify them.
- The project needs to “satisfy” them.



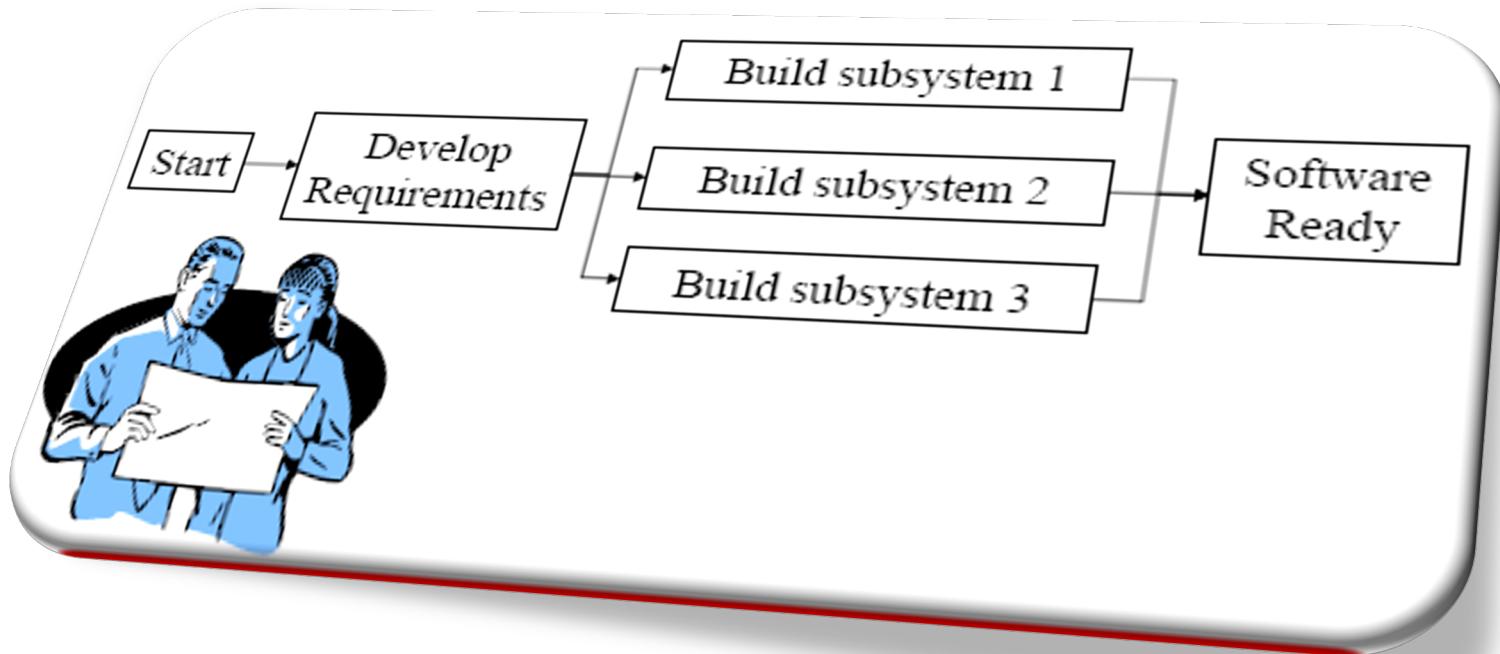
Plans

- “A method devised for making or doing something or achieving an end.”*
- Describes project scope.
- Describes the approach for completing the project (methodology & process).
- Describes how the project deliverables are to be built.
- Describes the schedule, resources & budget.
- Varies as is appropriate for project.
- Needs to be documented for effective communication.



Plans

- What do you notice about this plan?





Planning Documents

Example Planning Documents:

- Scope Planning
- Scope Definition
- Activity Definition
- Activity Sequencing
- Activity Duration Estimating
- Resource Planning
- Cost Estimating
- Cost Budgeting
- Risk Planning
- Schedule Development
- Quality Planning
- Communications Planning
- Organization Planning
- Staff Acquisition
- Procurement Planning
- Project Plan Development



Project Plan Outline (IEEE 1058.1)

1. Introduction

2. Project Organization

- Process model
- Organization structure
- Organization boundaries and interfaces
- Project responsibilities

3. Managerial Process

- Management objectives and priorities
- Assumptions, dependencies & constraints
- Risk management
- Monitoring & controlling mechanisms
- Staffing plan



Project Plan Outline (IEEE 1058.1)

4. Technical Process

- Methods, tools and techniques
- Software documentation
- Project support functions
- Quality assurance
- Configuration management
- Verification and validation

5. Work packages, schedule and budget

- Work packages
- Dependencies
- Resource requirements
- Budget and resource allocation
- Schedule



Many Different Plans

- Not “one size fits all.”
 - Planning must be appropriate for the project.
- Never fill in templates blindly.
 - Always know how templates help your project. Ignore sections that aren’t useful.
- Your organization may have templates, or get them from:
 - Institute of Electric and Electronic Engineers (**IEEE**)
 - Project Management Body of Knowledge (**PMBOK**)
 - Capability Maturity Model Integrated (**CMMI**)



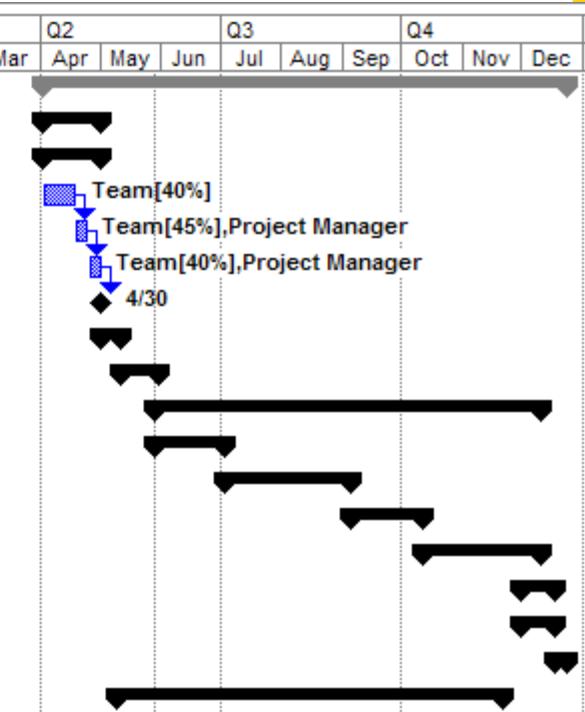
Schedules

- The Tasks, Deliverables and Milestones that will achieve the plan.
- Tasks, Deliverables and Milestones ...
 - have Resources assigned to them ...
 - have Predecessor and Successor tasks ...
- Resource Hours worked = **Effort**
- Elapsed Calendar time = **Duration**
- Schedules will have a **Critical Path**



Sample Schedule

ID	Task Name	Cost	Work	Start	Finish
0	Project Plan V1.0	\$233,325.54	4,959.27 hrs	Mon 4/2/07	Mon 12/24/07
1	Planning	\$7,480.00	129.6 hrs	Mon 4/2/07	Mon 4/30/07
2	Project Plan	\$7,480.00	129.6 hrs	Mon 4/2/07	Mon 4/30/07
3	Draft Project Plan	\$2,880.00	38.4 hrs	Mon 4/2/07	Tue 4/17/07
4	Review Project Plan	\$2,360.00	46.4 hrs	Wed 4/18/07	Mon 4/23/07
5	Revise Project Plan	\$2,240.00	44.8 hrs	Wed 4/25/07	Mon 4/30/07
6	<i>Project Plan Signed-off</i>	\$0.00	0 hrs	Mon 4/30/07	Mon 4/30/07
7	Kick-Off	\$4,307.27	58 hrs	Tue 5/1/07	Fri 5/11/07
16	Inception & Elaboration	\$13,992.44	192.05 hrs	Fri 5/11/07	Wed 5/30/07
27	Construction	\$174,754.26	4,104.5 hrs	Mon 5/28/07	Tue 12/11/07
28	Work Package 2 / CAP2	\$32,100.00	756 hrs	Mon 5/28/07	Tue 7/3/07
42	Work Package 3 / CAP3	\$53,013.00	1,354.9 hrs	Tue 7/3/07	Wed 9/5/07
56	Work Package 4 / CAP4	\$33,660.85	717.8 hrs	Wed 9/5/07	Fri 10/12/07
70	Work Package 5 / CAP5	\$55,980.42	1,275.8 hrs	Fri 10/12/07	Tue 12/11/07
84	Transition	\$9,900.00	140 hrs	Fri 11/30/07	Tue 12/18/07
85	User Acceptance Test (Syst)	\$9,900.00	140 hrs	Fri 11/30/07	Tue 12/18/07
89	Close-out	\$5,677.81	91.2 hrs	Tue 12/18/07	Mon 12/24/07
95	Administration	\$17,213.75	243.9 hrs	Wed 5/9/07	Wed 11/21/07





Tasks, Deliverables & Milestones

- Tasks define the work to be done.
 - Tasks should be measurable, should include a verb and should be associated with a deliverable.
- Deliverables are the goods that the project is producing.
 - Some provided to customer.
 - Some used to manage/control the project.
- Milestones are tasks with no duration.



Resources

- Work takes resources over time.
- Three types of resources:
 - Reusable (Trucks, Equipment)
 - Consumed (Cable, Natural Resources)
 - Human



Predecessor & Successor Tasks

- *Hard Task Relationship*

- Based on tasks
- Four types of hard task relationships:
 - Start to Start
 - Start to Finish
 - Finish to Start
 - Finish to Finish

- *Soft Task Relationship*

- Based on available resources
- Task Relationships can have **delays**, called '**lag**'
 - For example: Finish to Start + 3 days



Budgets

- A budget describes the total project cost:

- Start-up costs
- Hardware & Software costs
- Resource costs
- Outsourcing and Contractor costs
- Travel & Entertainment costs
- Product Development costs
- Testing costs
- Production costs
- Overhead & Management costs
- Project Closeout costs
- Etc.



Risks

- A risk is an event that could happen, but has not yet occurred.
- Risk Management consists of:
 - Risk Assessment
 - Risk Identification
 - Risk Analysis
 - Risk Prioritization
 - Risk Control
 - Risk Management Planning
 - Risk Resolution
 - Risk Monitoring



Risks

- Important risk attributes:
 - Description of risk event, including what can happen if the risk event occurs.
 - Impact if the risk event occurs.
 - Probability of the risk event occurring.
 - Response for managing the risk.
- Risk Priority = Impact * Probability



Example Risk

- “Vendor is 4 weeks late on their deliverable.”

- Description:
 - The vendor has told us that they may be up to 4 weeks late with their deliverable. This will cause our project to slip by 4 weeks.
- Probability (1 – 5, where 5= high probability):
 - 4
- Impact (1 – 5, where 5 = high impact):
 - 4
- Response:
 - Negotiate additional resources with vendor.



Problems and Issues

- Problems and Issues are events that have already occurred.
- Problem & Issue Attributes:
 - Description, including the impact
 - Issue owner
 - Assigned date
 - Due date
 - Status (open, working, rejected, tested, closed)



Example Issue

- Issue: Development server continues to crash, causing lost data and lost productivity.
 - Owner: Luong, Vo Van
 - Assigned Date: May 10, 2011
 - Due Date: May 11, 2011
 - Status: Open



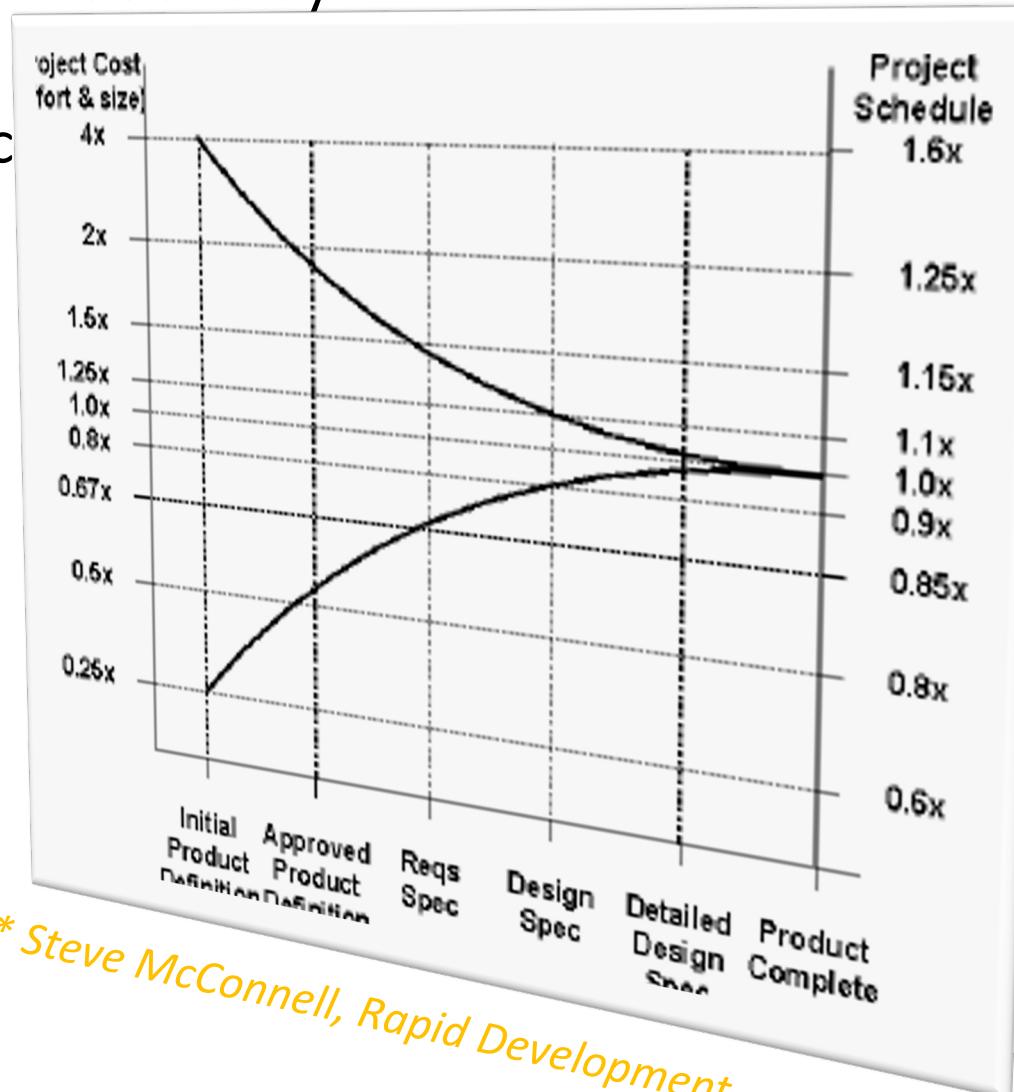
Estimation

- Typical goals are to complete the project, with quality, in as quickly and as cost effectively as possible.
- Estimation provides answers to:
 - When will it be done?
 - How much will it cost?
- Many software engineers don't like to estimate.
 - They may have been “burned” in the past.



Estimation Accuracy

- Estimation accuracy scales done.*





Project Change

Change can occur anytime.

Sources of change:

- Your Executives
- Customer's Executives
- Your Development Team
- Market
- Competition
- Regulations
- Technology
- Others ...



Project Change Alternatives

- Change alternatives:

- Prevent
- Manage
- Embrace



Process

- “Any repeatable set of actions a team decides to perform on a regular basis to make sure that something is done in a certain way.”*
- Example:
 - How code gets checked in, tested and built.



What makes a Good Process?

- Characteristics of good processes:*
- They accelerate progress.
- They prevent problems.
- They make important actions visible and measurable.
- They include a process for changing or eliminating the process.
- People impacted by the process are in favor of the process.



What About Bad Processes?

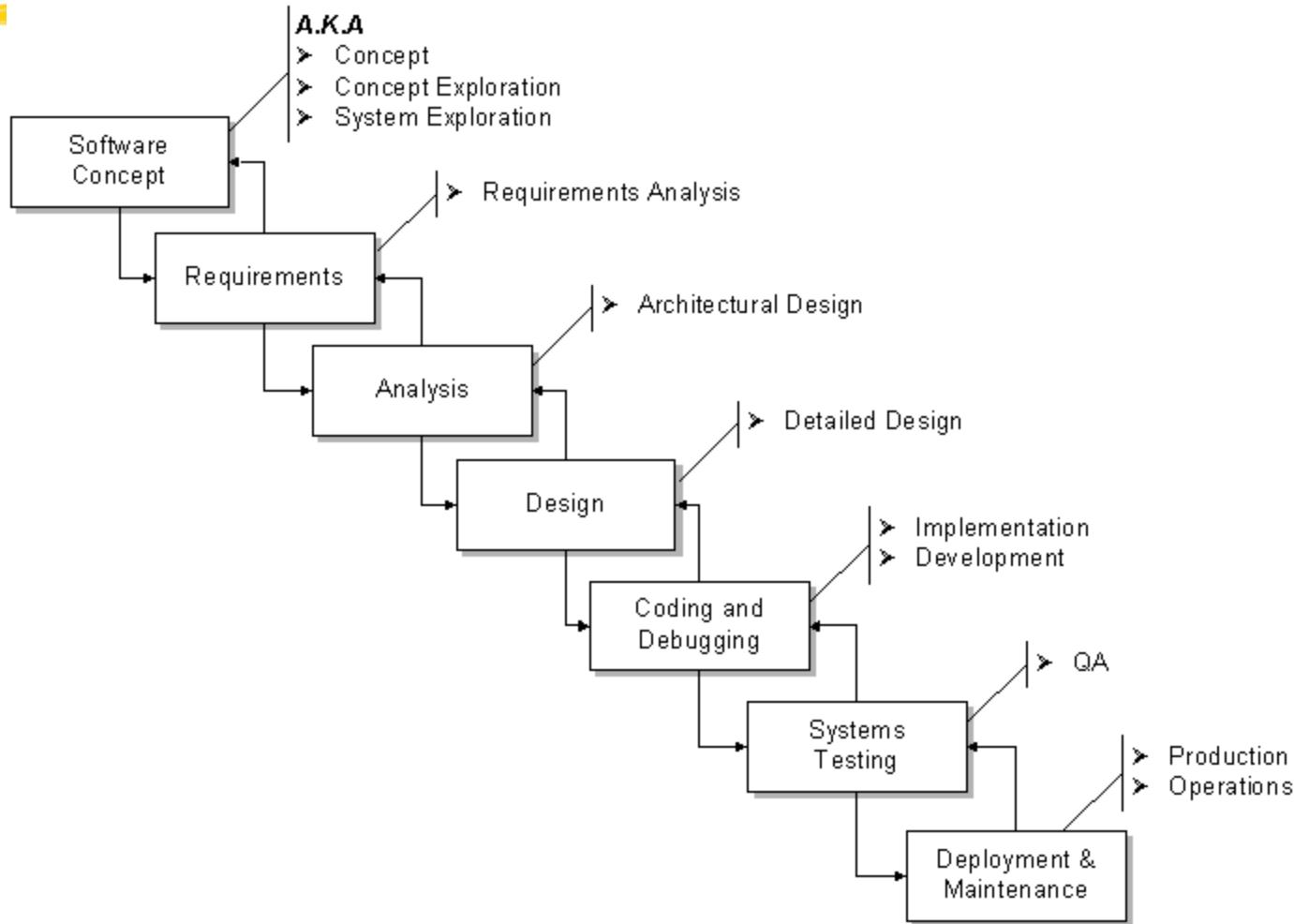
- Bureaucracy (n): “An administrative system in which the need or inclination to follow rigid or complex procedures impedes effective action.”*
- If the bad process is within your domain of control:
 - Change it.
- If the bad process is Not within your domain of control:
 - Shield your team from it.
 - Rally your team around a counter process.
 - Ignore the process (may be a “CLM”).



Methodology

- A prescriptive model of the collection of all activities from the time a product is first conceived until it is no longer in service.*
 - Establishes the order in which a project specifies, prototypes, designs, implements, reviews, tests and performs its other activities.
 - Establishes the criteria used to determine whether to proceed.

Example Methodology - Waterfall





Measures and Metrics

- **Measure**

- The size or extent of something, especially in comparison with a known standard. For example:
 - Number of defects.
 - Thousand Source Lines of Code (KSLOC).

- **Metric**

- A calculated or composite indicator based on two or more measures.
- A quantified measure of the degree to which a system, component or process possesses given attributes.

For example:

- Number of defects per KSLOC.



Example Metric

- A combination of two or more metrics gives information meaning. For example, compare:
 - 10 defects/KSLOC (Is this good? Bad?)

Versus

- Release 1 - 14 defects/KSLOC
- Release 2 - 10 defects/KSLOC
- Release 3 - 8 defects/KSLOC
- (The trend is clearly good)



Why Measure?

- To establish realistic project expectations.
- So you can control the project and communicate status and progress.
- To understand the software process.
- To focus people's activities on the process.
- To improve morale by bringing attention to chronic problems.
- To improve business performance.
- To lay the foundation for long-term improvement.



Why Project Managers?

- To augment the value of everyone around them.
- To help organize the team and the work.
- To shield the team from politics.
- To communicate with the stakeholders.
- To find clever workarounds for difficult and unexpected problems.
- To boost enthusiasm and morale.
- To “make good stuff happen.”
- ...



Summary

Described the characteristics of:

- Objectives
- Stakeholders
- Plan
- Schedule
- Budget
- Risks and Issues
- Estimation
- Change
- Process &
- Methodology
- Measures and
- Metrics
- Project
- Manager



Questions & Answers

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