Alignment Conditions of Satisfaction (CoS) Worksheet

This worksheet is intended to help project managers determine and document CoS for a particular project.

CoS is supported by an on-going dialogue, but is not the dialogue itself. (The CoS should be documented and may be changed through dialogue, but we won't be successful in an "I'll know it when I see it" world of client perception of expectations – which can be in constant flux if not nailed down.)

CoS for a project is defined as:

Mutually clarified and agreed upon quality of solutions, schedule, cost and project communication.

- A continuous dialogue between client and EP so that expectations are continuously set.
- A common baseline from which team members can tie their individual efforts to customer objectives.
- The criteria for meeting the SOW.

Key Components	Key Questions
Deliverables	 What are the project assumptions around deliverables; are they explicit? Are client deliverables to EP explicitly defined? Are EP deliverables to client explicitly defined? Is the format for each deliverable defined? Is method of delivery for each deliverable defined?
Timeline	 What are the project assumptions around timeline; are they explicit? Are they realistic? Are due dates and times detailed enough? COB and EOD specified Preferred time zone specified Are due dates and times tied to specific deliverables? Have holidays (local, global, religious), vacation schedules, and other likely absences (personal, medical, professional obligations) been considered?
Cost	 What are the project assumptions around cost; are they explicit? Are all project costs accounted for? Are all costs tied to specific measurables (time, materials, deliverables)?
Communication	 Has a regular communication schedule been established with the client? Is the client explicitly aware of the communication schedule? Has the PM taken the client's communication style into account?
Measures of Success	 Have specific measures of success been discussed and agreed upon? How will measures of success be tracked?
Overall	Is client fully informed of EP project value added?Will all parties be satisfied if the above CoS are met?