Overview

Estimated durations for steps in a linear workflow scenario

In this scenario, a linear workflow has nine steps. You want to track whether a job is on time or behind schedule from the time that the job enters the workflow until it completes the **PrintJobs** step. The first two steps process a job immediately. Four steps each take five minutes to process a job. One step takes ten minutes to process a job. You set estimated durations for those seven steps. You do not set estimated durations for the two steps that follow the **PrintJobs** step.

> *Linear PDF workflow*
> **SetJobPropsFromTextFile**: 1 second
> **DetectInputDataStream**: 1 second
> **CountPages**: 5 minutes
> **RunExternalProgram** (runs a program for the accounting department): 5 minutes
> **PrintSetup** (lets the operator verify that the requested paper is loaded in the trays): 5 minutes
> **CreatePageRanges**: 5 minutes
> **PrintJobs**: 10 minutes
> **RetainCompletedJobs**: no estimated duration
> **RemoveJobs**: no estimated duration

With this workflow, you can see the percent complete, the tracking status (**On schedule** or **Behind schedule**), and the predicted completion time.

When a job completes the **PrintSetup** step, the job is 50 percent complete because three five-minute steps have run of the 30-minute total. Based on the two remaining steps with estimated durations, RICOH ProcessDirector sets the **Predicted completion time** property to 15 minutes from the time when the job completes the **PrintSetup** step.

If the job completes the **CountPages** step within five minutes and two seconds after starting the **SetJobPropsFromTextFile** step, the **Tracking status** of the job is **On schedule**. If the job completes the **RunExternalProgram** step within ten minutes and two seconds after starting the **SetJobPropsFromTextFile** step, the **Tracking status** of the job continues to be **On schedule**.

If the job does not complete the **PrintSetup** step within 15 minutes and two seconds of starting the **SetJobPropsFromTextFile** step, RICOH ProcessDirector sets the **Tracking status** of the job to **Behind schedule**. If the **Tracking status** of a job is **Behind schedule**, RICOH ProcessDirector adds a yellow dot in the **Deadlines** portlet and in the **Schedule risk** column for the job in the Jobs table.

Parent topic: [Usage scenarios for Deadline Tracker](#)