**Strategies to avoid schedule slips**

**Date:** 07/24/2019

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During the implementation of the project, the team members noticed that they are falling behind the schedule of the project. The team has agreed to add a one-month buffer at the end of the project to ensure that the project deadline is met. To avoid potential schedule delays in the future, the management of the project has developed the following strategy:

1. Review previous similar projects and adjust activity durations accordingly keeping in mind the date necessary for completion of the project.
2. Determine the free slack and total slack for each project activity. Free slack is the amount of time an activity can be delayed without delaying the early start date of any immediately following activities. Total slack is the amount of time an activity can be delayed from its early start without delaying the planned project finish date.
3. Evaluate each activity in terms of priority and availability of resources.
4. Use the critical path to shorten a project schedule. Make proper adjustments by assigning additional resources to the tasks in order the meet the deadlines.
5. Use crashing techniques to shorten project schedule. Crashing is a technique for making cost and schedule trade-offs to obtain the greatest amount of schedule compression for the least incremental cost.
6. Use fast-tracking to keep-up with the schedule. Fast tracking involves doing activities in parallel that is normally done in sequence.