

Managing Projects Using Microsoft Project

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Introduction:

Description

The overall aim of this course is to train participants on the use of MS Project software and enable them to discover all its features. Additionally, participants will be able to develop project plans and calendars, customize different charts, views and tables. The course also aims at training participants on different project related techniques such as resources assignments and leveling, tracking progress and consolidating project plans.

Course Methodology

The course relies heavily on hands-on training using Microsoft Project software. The methods used will also include a mix of interactive techniques; brief presentations by the consultant and the participants, group exercises and discussions.

Target Competencies

- Planning
- Scheduling
- Organizing
- Executing
- Controlling
- Report designing

Note

This course relies on hands-on training on MS Project. Laptops will be made available by BTS for the duration of the training. In addition, the book 'Microsoft Project 2013: Step By Step' will be distributed at the course, in hard and electronic copies.

Who Should Attend?

Project schedulers, project planners, project coordinators, project managers, members of project office and anyone interested in project management.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Define projects and identify project constraints
- Develop project files and calendars
- Schedule tasks and entering recurring tasks
- Produce resources and assign them to tasks
- Identify critical path and apply resource leveling
- Prepare baselines and track project progress
- Design project status reports and customize charts
- Create resource pools and consolidate project plans

Course Outline:

Understanding projects

- Project definition
- Triple constraints
- o Project management processes
- Project life cycle

Starting a new project

- o Create a project file
- Setting project calendar
- Entering and manipulating new tasks
- Entering milestones

Scheduling tasks

- Establishing tasks dependencies
- Setting up task constraints
- Entering recurring tasks
- Splitting tasks

• Managing resources

- o Adding and entering resource capacity
- Resource calendar
- Assigning work resources to tasks

- Finding the right resources
- o Effort driven scheduling

Identifying critical path and resource allocation

- Network diagram
- Critical path analysis
- Resource allocation
- Resources leveling

Tracking progress

- Saving project baseline
- Tracking project as scheduled
- Entering task completion percentage and actual values
- Rescheduling incomplete work
- Updating baseline

Organizing and formatting project details

- Sorting and grouping project details
- Filtering project details
- Customizing tables, views and Gantt charts
- Customizing and printing reports
- Viewing and reporting project status
- Spotlight report

Consolidating projects and resources

- Creating resource pool
- Linking projects to resource pool
- Consolidating project plans
- o Creating dependencies between projects
- Earned value calculations