

“Project Scheduling Approaches”

- Aligning Scheduling Practice with Objectives

As **project managers**, we are constantly trying to come up with the right balance of **formal project management** activities to **hands-on execution of actual project work**. After all, project management is not a value-add but is a necessary project cost overhead, required to bring our projects under control and then to keep them in control.

While we make many decisions about the various project management tools and techniques that we will deploy or forgo on a given project, the creation of a **project schedule** utilizing an **automated scheduling tool** is an almost **universal choice for projects of all sizes**. It is the “meat and potatoes” of project management.

That said; there are many **approaches to project scheduling** from which to choose. There are many **project-scheduling techniques** that we can **adopt** or **by-pass** on any given project.

In this fast-paced presentation, we will:

- Review some of the **common objectives of project scheduling**, these include objectives that we take on **intentionally, traditionally, sub-consciously**, as well as some **important objectives that we often ignore**
- Consider the **project scheduling tools and techniques** that **align** with each of the possible **objectives**, including a review of the management **cost of maintaining the tool or technique** throughout the project management lifecycle
- Consider some **common project scheduling techniques** that **do not reflect best practices**

Designed to be **thought provoking**, it is hoped that the presentation will **inspire all to review the specific scheduling objective on each new project** in the light of the key project stakeholder management requirements. With the objective identified, the presentation will encourage you to **adopt only and all of the scheduling practices that fulfill the objective**.



Adapting project tools and our own personal scheduling behaviors while abandoning common but valueless scheduling practices will help us to achieve project management balance.

By adjusting your scheduling approach for individual projects, you will right-size schedule management effort and cost, meeting all key project stakeholder requirements while keeping management overhead to an appropriate cost.

Instructor:

Glenn Searle, PMP, is the President of Portfolio-Engineering, Inc. Portfolio-Engineering is a provider of portfolio, program, resource and project management consulting services, including PMO build-outs and Microsoft Project Server installation / configurations. Their full-service offerings include process definition, tool selection, training, mentoring, and governance services. Recent clients include Amgen Biotech, Pepsi-Co, Los Angeles World Airports (LAX), and General Electric.

Glenn's 20 years and more than 100 million dollars of hands-on project management experience, practiced in Fortune 100 companies and vertical industries including information technology, software and web development, biotech, travel and hospitality, construction and utilities, makes him uniquely qualified to assist with pragmatic selection, training, and utilization of management techniques to effect permanent, effective change. Formally trained in teaching, speaking, facilitation and process re-engineering, management consulting remains his true passion.

