

What's New in the Project Management module?

Branding changes

- Timesheets is now Progress Reporter. The Group Server, which hosted the Timesheets application, is now called the Progress Reporter server.
- Contract Manager is now Contract Management.

Hours per timeperiod set per calendar

- A new administrative preference on the Admin Preferences, Time Periods tab, enables the default hours per timeperiod to be defined for each calendar, rather than defined globally in Admin Preferences. The values specified for Hours per Time Period are used to convert hours to other time increments for display, and to convert all non-hourly time increments to hours for storage in the database. Defining the hours per time period per calendar results in more accurate display, conversion, and storage of data when users view or enter data in time units other than hours. See Defining default hours per time period in calendars for details.

Auto-number activity IDs when pasting activities

- When copying and pasting activities, you can now specify new activity IDs for pasted activities. You can automatically increment existing IDs, specify new auto-numbering properties, or replace a specific number of characters with new characters. You can specify new activity IDs for pasted activities after you use the Copy WBS Options dialog box to copy and paste a WBS element or the Copy Activity Options dialog box to copy and paste an activity.

Renumbering activity IDs

- You can now select activities within a single project in the Activity Table and renumber the selected activity IDs. You can automatically increment existing IDs, specify new auto-numbering properties, or replace a specific number of characters with new characters.

Display a progress line in the Gantt Chart

- A progress line can be applied to the Gantt Chart in the Activities window. The progress line is a way to graphically trace progress on activities and to quickly see how a project is performing relative to the baseline project. See Apply a Progress Line to a Gantt Chart for details.

Add activity code values on the fly

- You can now create new activity code values while assigning activity codes. See Assign activity codes and values to activities and Select Activity Code Value dialog box for details.

Display activity units and costs for remaining late dates

- You can display unit and cost values in activity usage and activity profiles by both remaining early and remaining late dates. Previously, the display was limited to the display of remaining early dates at the activity level. See Project/Activity Usage Profile Options dialog box for details.

XLS import

- A new global privilege, Import XLS, controls the ability to import XLS files into the module. Previously, the ability to import XLS files was controlled by a global privilege that also controlled XER and MSP import.

P6 integration with Oracle ERP and Fusion

- ERP integration - A new project privilege, Allow Integration with ERP Systems, allows integration with an ERP system.
- New project-level fields - To support integration with Oracle ERP systems and Fusion products, there are two new project-level fields. You can display these fields in the Projects window, Tracking window, and project reports.
- The Integrated Project field indicates if the project is integrated with an Oracle ERP or Fusion project. If you are assigned the new "Allow Integration with ERP System" privilege for a project, you can integrate the P6 project with an Oracle ERP system using P6 Web Access. Refer to the P6 Web Access Help for more details.
- The Last Apply Actuals Date field displays the most recent date timesheet actuals that were applied to the project. This date is used to determine if new, approved timesheet data exists when P6 data is sent to the ERP system.

Calendar used for rolled up duration and unit values

- The calendar used for calculating rolled up duration and unit values can vary. Previously, the default global calendar was always used. See How data is summarized for details.

Licensing replaced by module access

- The Users dialog box Licensing tab is now the Module Access tab. Use this tab to grant access to P6 modules. Within P6 Project Management, administrators use the Users dialog box to grant users access to any of the following modules of the product suite:
 - Project Management
 - Progress Reporter
 - Web Access Portfolios
 - Web Access Projects
 - Web Access Resources
 - Integration API
 - Web Services

User count

- You can also use the Users dialog box to quickly display the number of users assigned to access each P6 module. This will be helpful in tracking how many licenses are assigned to P6 since the removal of the license file constraint. See List number of users having access to P6 modules for details.

Copy baseline

- You can now select and copy a baseline to create a new baseline while retaining the selected baseline.

Progress Reporter Administrator

- Progress Reporter can now be administered using the Progress Reporter Administrator. To avoid conflicts, most Progress Reporter administrative settings have been removed from the Project Management module. In Admin Preferences, the Timesheet Privileges tab and most options on the Timesheets tab have been removed.

What's New in the WEB Based Management module?

Improved Activity Gantt

- **New grouping options:** Group Gantt chart by date intervals such as day, week, month and financial period.
- **More flexible filter definitions:** increased the number of filter criteria from 5 to 10.
- **Access more project information from one screen:** additional activity detail windows for documents, codes, expenses, feedback and WBS, are available from the Activity Gantt view; detail windows can be tabbed, floated, or tiled for a consistent look and feel that does not interfere with the activity table and Gantt chart, maximizing screen real estate.
- **Easier activity navigation:** jump to successor and predecessor activities from within activity detail windows.
- **Formatting:** new options for selecting the font and font size of text in activity table.
- **Performance improvements** when displaying baseline and earned value information.

New Activity Gantt Bar Customization Options

- Display a third bar on the Activity Gantt.
- New bar definitions for planned date bar, float bar, free float bar, and display percent complete.
- Neck" the bars to show activity and/or calendar non-work time.
- Customize the height of each of the three available bars.
- Customize font and size of bar labels.
- Color-code bars based on activity code.
- Non-driving relationships shown as dashed line.
- Expanded and collapsed state of groupings now saved during each session in the activity Gantt.

Progress Line

- A new progress line can be shown on the Gantt chart to graphically communicate variances in project progress. The progress line can be displayed with activity current bars and display schedule variance. In addition, the progress line can be drawn on top of baseline bars, plotting the progress point of each activity on its baseline bar. The progress line shows where the progress should be relative to the data date. (This feature is also available in the P6 Windows client.)

Improved Project Gantt Portlet

- A new dashboard option displays the baseline bar in addition to the current bar in the Project Gantt Portlet.

New Calendar View

- The new Calendar view displays the upcoming project work in a familiar calendar format. This view has the same filtering capabilities as the Activity Gantt view. It can also have the activity detail windows displayed for making resource assignments, modifying activity information, and even navigating to predecessor and successor activities.

New Activity Network View

- Project managers and schedulers can now view the project WBS, activities and project logic through an interactive Web-based activity network. It is easy to collapse WBS elements for a summary view, or expand WBS elements to drill down to the activity details such as steps, relationships and resource assignments. Customize activity boxes as well as specify how activities are to be grouped. In addition, non-driving relationships can be toggled on and off.

Web-Based Import and Export

- Project plans can be exported to a variety of formats, updated offline, and then imported back into P6 to update existing project plans. P6 v7 provides Web-based capabilities to import and export project information using the following formats:
 - Export to Primavera XML, Microsoft Project or Microsoft Excel
 - Import from Primavera XML and Microsoft Project to add new activities and/or update existing activities in the project.
 - Import from Microsoft Excel to add new activities to the project, supporting additional import fields.

Addressable P6 Web URL

- The P6 Web client can be passed customized URLs with internal project IDs to navigate individuals directly to the project section.

AutoVue Integration

- For organizations that have deployed P6 and Oracle's AutoVue Enterprise Visualization, project-related design documents can be accessed directly from within the P6 web client. AutoVue Web Version enables viewing, reviewing and collaborating on technical documents and information across the enterprise. AutoVue delivers a network-friendly method of sharing large CAD data even over low bandwidth networks.

Improved Content Management Integration

- In addition to JackRabbit, P6 v7 can use Oracle Universal Content Management (UCM) and SharePoint as a repository for project documents. Documents can be uploaded through the P6 and stored in UCM or SharePoint. Additionally, individuals may search documents in the content management system, as well as link documents to projects and activities. Document review workflow is supported through the native workflow capabilities of UCM and SharePoint, but will no longer be available with JackRabbit.

Work Day Definition

- P6 v7 will provide a system-wide option to convert durations between hours, days, weeks, months, and years based on new calendar settings. In addition to the existing Admin Preference, each calendar will have its own settings for the number of hours in a day, week, month, and year. There will be a new option to determine if the conversion is based on the Admin Preference settings or each calendar's settings.

Grouping/Summary Duration Calculations

- Summary and grouping band durations will now be calculated based on the corresponding activity- or project-level calendar. Durations that are displayed in grouping bands on layouts, views and reports will now be calculated using the following logic

Adding Code Values on the Fly

- Individuals can now add new code values to the dictionary while assigning codes to activities, without having to navigate to the activity code dictionary. They will simply be prompted to specify the activity code value and description.

Copy Baseline

- A new copy option will be available for creating a new baseline from an existing project baseline.

Improved Feedback and Communication

- P6 v7 provides activity-level feedback capabilities so that the project managers and schedulers can collaborate with field personnel on an activity-by-activity basis. Project managers are notified when notes have been added from the field, and then may easily view and respond to the notes. The field personnel will then have access to the feedback. The feedback field is also time-stamped with non-editable history to maintain an accurate audit log.

Activity Usage Histogram

- The activity usage histogram has new ability to spread usage over the late dates in addition to the early dates. This late-date spread is shown as histogram bars and cumulative Scurves, and may be combined with baseline, budgeted, actual and early-date spreads.

Activity ID Renumbering

- New renumbering options are available when pasting a set of activities, as well as for renumbering existing sets of activities. Options include incrementing existing numbers, autorenumbering and replacing the prefix.

Activity Field-Level Security

- P6 v7 introduces new field-level security for project activities. Each user can be assigned edit privileges to only the activity fields they are required to update, while all others are read only.

Excel Import Security

- The security privilege for importing from Excel has been separated from the privilege of importing XER, MS Project and P3 file types.

Standardized Server Platform

- The timesheet Group Server has been moved to the Java platform, removing the requirement of being a Windows-based service on a Windows server.

Scalability, Performance, Availability

- P6 v7 includes new technologies to help further improve scalability, performance and availability. Support for WebLogic JRockit JVM has been added for improved performance and scalability. Also, improved support for WebLogic clustering has been added to increase availability and scalability of the P6 solution. In addition, the Java server platform has been moved to version 6 of Java, which provides better performance and scalability for P6.

WS-Security

- WS-Security provides ways to secure your services above and beyond transport level protocols such as HTTPS. Through a number of standards such as XML Encryption, and headers defined in the WS-Security standard, it allows you to:
 - Pass authentication tokens between services
 - Encrypt messages or parts of messages
 - Sign messages
 - Timestamp messages

WS-Policy

- The WS-Policy framework provides a general purpose model and syntax to describe the policies of a Web Service. For example, a company may require transport-level security for protecting web service messages. This requirement can be defined by using a policy. For detailed information on WS-Policy and the syntax for writing policy expressions, please visit <http://www.w3.org/Submisson/WS-Policy>.
- P6 Web Services has the ability to enforce policy assertions via the underlying CXF services framework. The policy assertions are defined in a single file called policies.xml (see user guide for enabling WS-Policy). For the shipped version of P6 Web Services we officially support policy assertions for enforcing WS-Addressing and transport level security. When transport level security is enabled (by enabling the policy), P6 Web Services will only service requests that are invoked via an HTTPS connection.

WS-Addressing

- WS-Addressing is a standardized way of including message routing data within SOAP headers. When WS-Addressing is enabled, P6 Web Services will only accept client requests that contain addressing information in the SOAP headers. One benefit of using WSAddressing with P6 Web Services would be a case where asynchronous processing of messages is required. In this case, clients will send messages to P6 Web Services and can specify the endpoint where P6 Web Services will send the response. This endpoint can be the original endpoint that sent the request or a different endpoint.

Platform Support

- Oracle continually delivers extended and new platform support to leverage new advances in technology and provide organizations with flexible options. For P6 v7 there are new platforms supported to increase the value of your P6 investment while minimizing cost of ownership. The major additions and updates are listed. For full details, see the tested configurations document.
- Firefox and Internet Explorer (IE) 8 will be supported browser platforms in addition to existing IE 7 support. IE 6 support will be dropped.
-
- Oracle HTTP server is now a supported web server (new for 6.2.1).
-
- Oracle Universal Content Management (UCM) – In addition to existing Jackrabbit support for content management, Oracle UCM will be supported.
-
- Oracle Enterprise Linux – Oracle Enterprise Linux will replace Red Hat Linux support (new for 6.2.1).
-
- Oracle XE – Oracle Express will replace Microsoft SQL Server Express for standalone desktop installations.
-
- Microsoft SQL Server 2008 will be added as a supported RDBMS for P6 v7.0. Microsoft SQL Server 2005 will continue to be supported and SQL 2000 will be dropped.