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STAYS & DAYS[®] & SCHEDULES: ADVANCED SCHEDULING WORKSHOP

Quantitative insights, a competitive simulation, and personal workshops

A 1-day, 7 PDU (0.7 CEU) facilitated game

An exciting day of sequential simulations, Stays & Days[®] combines individual initiative and team cooperation with competition, risk analysis, gut instinct, and some exciting dice rolls to introduce the players to several advanced-management concepts.

Along the way, you will experience task activities that vary with the roll of the dice, the frustrations presented by Risk and Opportunity cards, the satisfaction of beating your targets for cost and schedule, and the joy of outscoring the other teams in a particular round.

Game debriefs will focus on how best to revise target schedule and costs as a project progresses, how to sensibly incorporate highly probable risk into your project plans, and how gaming your project can help your team work smarter. Implications for senior management will be explored.

Note: This is an advanced sequence of games, primarily intended for the experienced project manager with an analytical bent and a love of team competition. However, an enthusiastic novice who pays close attention to the briefings should be able to constructively participate in a team's play.

At the conclusion of this program, you will be able to:

- List the important project manager skills and techniques used in the simulation
- Measure and balance stakeholder interests of cost, schedule, and risk more effectively
- Plan for extraneous risk events
- Make adjustments to cost and schedule that maintain a consistent level of risk
- Calculate merge
- Set up a real project to be gamed with a pair of dice

Who will benefit?

- Program managers who coordinate several projects
- Project managers who balance scope, schedule, and cost
- Project leaders who help teams make decisions
- Team leaders who work to establish team consensus
- Project team members who must learn to work as a team
- Senior executives who want to understand advanced scheduling techniques

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AGENDA

Morning

- What are the fundamentals of range-based estimation?
- How do you use range-based estimates to capture the true variation of effort and duration?
- How do a PERT's beta distributions compare to triangular distributions?
- First rounds of Stays & Days[®]: Elementary management of cost and schedule.
- What is the strategy for optimal play in the game and in a real project?
- How do the dice-game adjustments compare to a real project's earned-value adjustments?
- What are the fundamentals of risk management?
- How should you handle highly probable risks?
- More rounds of Stays & Days[®]

Afternoon Activities

- What are the subtle effects of schedule path convergence?
- Why does convergence generate incorrect CPM estimates of a project schedule?
- Hands-on exercises to familiarize everyone with the basic calculations
- More rounds of Stays & Days[®]
- A round of Stays & Days[®] that incorporates a full schedule from a large project
- Everyone will prepare a personal project and each team will pick a team member's project to play.