SEER® Project Monitoring & Control

SEER® Project Monitoring & Control couples traditional Performance Measurement (Earned Value) methods with Parametric Estimating techniques to provide advanced monitoring and control capabilities for software development projects offering timely and accurate indications of project health that are connected with the root causes of potential trouble.

Value Proposition

SEER Project Monitoring & Control (SEER Control) enables you to use your software project plans for tracking and forecasting. It is fully integrated with SEER for Software (SEER-SEM), which provides a single environment in which to create and track project plans. Furthermore, once a project is completed, the project data can be used for post-mortem calibration, allowing you to apply actual project experience to future estimates.

Designed to enable project managers to track in-process activities and make appropriate course corrections when necessary, SEER Control is highly flexible. Actual project metrics can be used to do performance-based forecasting for a project in process. In addition to tracking progress to date, SEER Control also tracks defect discovery and removal rates as well as software size growth.

SEER Control functionality enhances the estimation capability of SEER-SEM by providing performance measurement, performance-based forecasting, control limit-driven metrics status indication, and supporting charts and reports.

Project Baseline

SEER Control allows you to set a project baseline, against which you can measure progress. The project baseline lets you evaluate trades and what-if scenarios with your current estimate without having to change your baseline. Your project baseline can be updated at any time as project conditions dictate. To provide maximum flexibility, the analysis features can measure progress against your current estimate as well as the baseline.

Project Snapshots

Project "snapshots" are the inputs to SEER Control which describe project progress in terms of accomplishments and expenditures. You can enter a project snapshot at any time during the project.

Performance Measurement

SEER Control enables project managers to plan, update and monitor traditional performance measures and metrics. Project progress can be described in four dimensions:

- Activity completion (planned vs. actual)
- Expenditures (budgeted vs. actual)
- Size growth (planned vs. actual)
- Defect discovery/removal (predicted vs. actual)

This data is combined to yield an aggregate earned value that is a comprehensive reflection of project progress.

Performance Based Forecasting

SEER Control utilizes SEER-SEM's intrinsic planning capability to generate a forecasted plan based on actual in-process performance to date.

Control Limit-Driven Measures and Metrics Status Indication

SEER provides project managers with key management measures and metrics in an at-a glance format that can be used in project reviews and status reports to quickly determine the health of the project and to highlight potential problems. The Health & Status Indicator chart allows for a range of eligible metrics and measures to be shown with the following capabilities and features:

- *Traffic Sign Metaphor*
Indicates the state (normal, marginal, questionable) of each measure with a series of easily recognizable symbols.
- *Customizable Control Limits*
Determines the state of any specific metric or measure at a particular time, based on user-definable control limits.
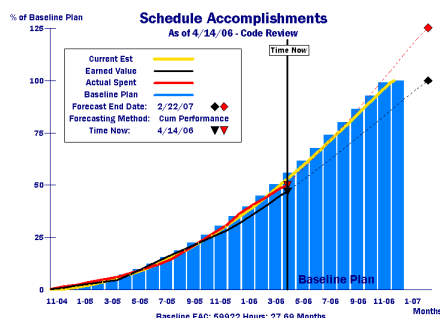
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Project Monitoring & Control Report

This report quickly summaries the indicator measures and metrics at all levels of the project. Users choose which outputs and columns are displayed for a comprehensive, interactive analysis of the data.

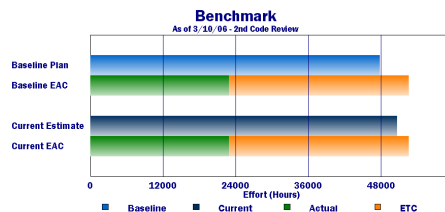| PPMC Report		
Data Value	Baseline Plan	Baseline EAC
As of 4/14/06 - Code Review		
Development Schedule Months	25.17	27.27 8%
Development Effort Months	314.50	343.66 9%
Development Base Year Cost	5,378,013	6,045,901 12%
Start Date	11/01/04	11/01/04
Completion Date	12/06/06	2/09/07
Forecast Method		Cum Performance ...
Effective Lines Only	30,860	
Effective Functions Only	0	
Effective Size	30,860	
PERFORMANCE INDICES		
Cost Performance Index (CPI)	1.07	
Schedule Performance Index (SPI)	0.92	
Time Performance Index (TPI)	0.95	
VARIANCE		
Cost Variance (CV) (Hours)	1,504	
Schedule Variance (SV) (Hours)	-2,081	
Time Variance (TV) (Months)	-0.80	
ACCOMPLISHMENTS		
Hours thru 4/14/06 - Code Review	21,494	
Earned Value thru 4/14/06 - Code Review	22,998	
Planned Hours thru 4/14/06 - Code Review	25,080	

Schedule Accomplishments

The Schedule Accomplishments chart allows for a quick view of what is currently planned, earned, spent, and forecasted at any time during the project. Forecasts for schedule and expenditure at project completion are based on performance to date and recent performance.
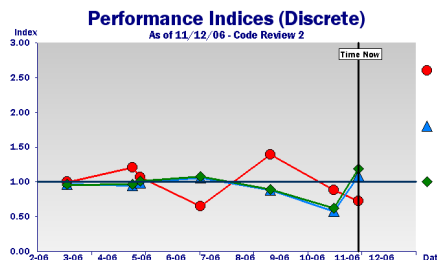
Benchmark

The Benchmark chart compares the effort, schedule and cost of the Baseline Plan with the Estimate at Completion. This chart displays how much has been spent to date and the current status of the project as compared to the original plan as well as compared to current performance.

Performance Indices

The Performance Indices chart displays the cumulative or current Cost Performance Index (CPI) and Scheduled Performance Index (SPI) for each date of entry. This chart also displays either the cumulative or current Time Performance Index (TPI), which is the time efficiency of the project. The Performance Indices chart shows current status as well as the trend of the index over time.
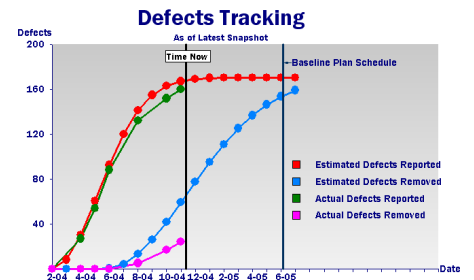
Health and Status Indicators

The Health and Status indicator chart assesses a series of key measures of the project using a familiar traffic light metaphor. Specific colors and text provide an indication of the state and trend for each measure.

	Schedule Variance	Time Variance	Cost Variance	Size Growth	Defects
Project: Trading Support System					
Rollup: New York Hemisphere					
Analyst Support	BETTER	BETTER	WORSE	BETTER	WORSE
Vendor Data Mining Solution	BETTER	BETTER	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE
Trading Support	BETTER	BETTER	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE
Client-Server Support Infrastruc...	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE
Report System (SQL)	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE	NO CHANGE	WORSE
Rollup: Chicago Hemisphere					
Prices Database	BETTER	BETTER	WORSE	NO CHANGE	WORSE
Intranet Library (Perl)	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE	WORSE

As of selected snapshot in each Program element

Defect Discovery and Removal

The Defects Tracking chart displays the defect profile of the baseline plan compared with the actual defects reported and actual defects removed. This allows you to detect trends that may not be observed in other performance measures.

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