

AACEI

Recommended Practice: Forensic Schedule Analysis Abstract

The purpose of AACEI Recommended Practice: Forensic Schedule Analysis (RP/FSA) is to provide a unifying, standard technical reference for the forensic application of CPM scheduling. The belief is that such a standard will alleviate, if not eliminate, the confusion among practitioners regarding terminology, definitions and techniques of forensic scheduling. The end result is to decrease the number of unnecessary disagreement concerning technical implementation and allow the practitioners to concentrate his or her skills on resolving disputes over substantive and legal issues.

To that end, RP/FSA will define, describe and explain the usage of various forensic scheduling techniques in current use. It is not the intent of the RP to exclude or to endorse any technique over others. However, it will offer caveats for usage and offer examples of best current practices and implementation for each technique.

The focus of the document will be on the technical aspects of forensic scheduling as opposed to the legal aspects. However, relevant legal principles will be discussed to the extent that they would affect the choice of techniques and their relative advantages and disadvantages.

Basic Premise

- Forensic scheduling is a technical field that is related to, but distinct from project scheduling and controls. It is not just a subset of traditional scheduling.
- Technical standards for forensic scheduling can and should be established independent of legal standards and theories governing claims related to scheduling, delays and disruption.
- Factual analysis is the primary purpose of forensic scheduling. This, however, does not preclude the practitioner from opining on causation and liability after the factual analysis has been performed.
- The technical theory behind a forensic scheduling method can and should be distinguished from the implementation of that method.