Emerald
A S S O C I A T E S

EP·datawarehouse

Are you getting the most out of your project data?
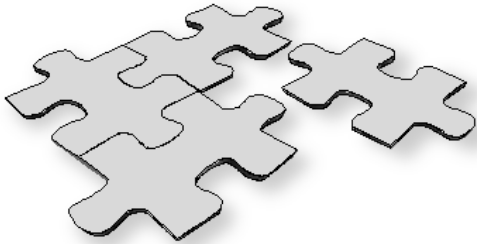
INNOVATIVE REPORTING METHODOLOGY

EP-datawarehouse is part of Emerald's Innovative Reporting Methodology, combining best-of-breed software with innovative approaches, proven processes and industry standard KPI reports. Emerald provides custom training and hands-on implementation support to get clients up and running as quickly as possible. Data conversion and system integration services are also available to leverage third-party technologies.

# EP-datawarehouse for Enterprise Reporting

THE CHALLENGE

As users of Oracle Primavera P6 EPPM, many corporations find it difficult to fully capitalize on their project data. Because the data in Primavera P6 is constantly changing with each update to the schedule, gaining access to resource and expense information for true period-based analysis can be a major challenge.

P6 users lack a secure method to take project snapshots of actuals through the life of a project in order to keep a historical record of critical project information. Also, since many IT departments in larger corporations prohibit read access of the P6 database, a standalone reporting database is needed.

THE SOLUTION

To fill the gap in enterprise reporting technology, Emerald Associates designed and built EP-datawarehouse®. Clients are able to track changes in project scheduling data while preserving the data in a secure database. EP-datawarehouse is a flexible standalone enterprise reporting database that takes snapshots of selected projects in P6 to capture the resource and expense actuals by time period. With EP-datawarehouse, clients no longer have to maintain project baselines in P6.

Reporting tools (such as Emerald's EP-dashboard) can pull from the warehouse to generate powerful time period reports. For example, clients can easily chart project actuals over time, or generate delta plots showing the difference between this month's and last month's project spending forecast.
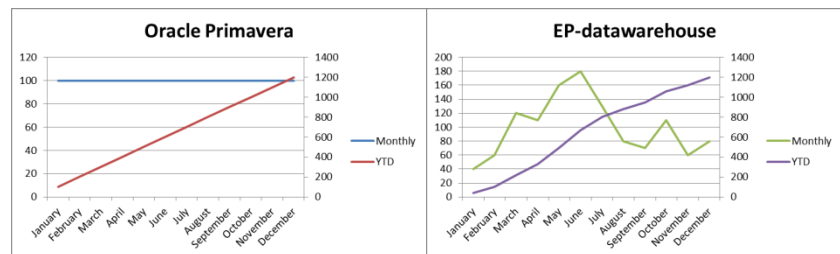
Oracle Primavera distributes actual values using a linear spread. With snapshots, EP-datawarehouse allows reporting on the values as they actually were.

BENEFITS

- Develop reports and graphs that are unavailable in P6
- Develop reports and graphs quicker and easier
- Easily combine P6 data with data from other systems
- Report on actual spreads more accurately than P6
- Report on expense spreads more accurately than P6
- Reduce effort and cycle time for monthly reports
- Develop reports and graphs using industry standard tools
- Avoid excess data and traffic on crucial operational systems

PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS

Track Resources And Expenses Over Time

EP-datawarehouse publishes time-distributed expense and resource information from P6 into database tables, where it is available to other systems.

Data published by EP-datawarehouse is accessible by reporting tools like EP-dashboard, Crystal Reports, Sybase InfoMaker or, any other RDBMS reporting package.

Streamlined Reporting

The P6 database is designed to handle large and complex coding structures; therefore, it can be challenging to develop reports quickly and reliably.

EP-datawarehouse does the heavy lifting for you, storing data in a simplified schema that allows reports to be written much more easily and freeing up time for executing and analyzing your reports.

Snapshotting

P6 provides limited capability to create baselines and to compare those baselines to the current plan.

EP-datawarehouse allows capturing an arbitrary number of point-in-time data snapshots, enabling reporting on how they compare to the current plan but also on how the plan has evolved over time.

VERSION 8 ENHANCEMENTS

Improved Performance
Re-architecture of the internal engine using new multithreading features adds the possibility to process data in several parallel streams allowing full and efficient utilization of multicore and multiprocessor hardware. Testing has shown performance improvements of 2-3 times better, depending on the number of CPUs and memory allocated.

Snapshot Project Issues and Activity Steps
Two new modules introduced in this version that complement the 10 already existing modules including: Activity, Activity Expense, Project, Resource, Resource Assignment, Activity Period Actuals, Activity Spread, Expense Spread, Project Resource Spread and Resource Assignment Spread.

Fine-grained Control Over Modules to be Snapshotted
By disabling unnecessary modules, we reduce the amount of data to be transferred and processed by EP-datawarehouse. This ability to turn modules on and off depending on your needs helps to further improve performance, minimize your reporting data footprint, optimize storage requirements and ease database administration. The configuration can be specified per project basis as different projects and EPS's may have their own specific requirements.

Snapshot Removal
Clean up retired and erroneously taken snapshots. P6 users had to contact database administrators to manually wipe out unwanted records. With v8.0, it is possible to delete snapshots using the standard EP-datawarehouse interface.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

EP-datawarehouse is installed on Linux or Windows.

- Tested configurations:
  - **Microsoft Windows**
    - 10, 8.x, 7 SP1, Vista SP2, Server 2008 R2 SP1
  - **Linux**
    - kernel 2.6.16 or above, glibc 2.4 or above, NPTL 2.4 or above
- Requires an external database
  - Oracle Database 10.2.0.2 or higher or Microsoft SQL Server 2005 or higher.
- RAM dependent on project size and number of parallel processors
- On average 4 GB RAM required
- 500 MB free disk space

Implementation
Automation
Integration
Training
Risk Analysis
Dashboards
Turnaround Assistance
Engineered Hardware

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