Development of a Project Cost Estimating Capability

ICEAA

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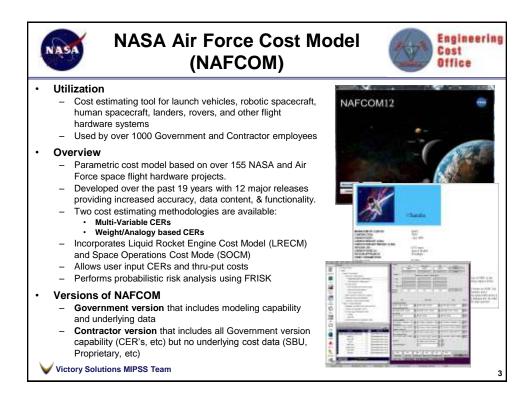


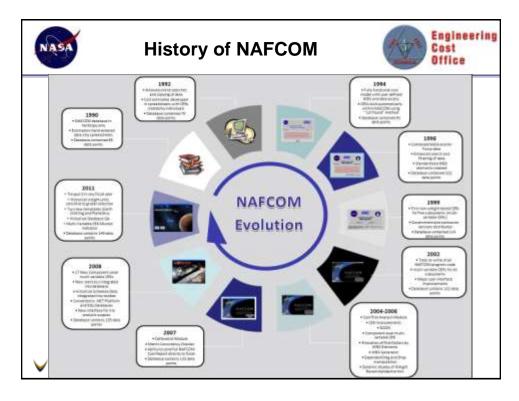
Outline



- Overview of the NASA/Air Force Cost Model (NAFCOM)
- Rationale for Developing a New Project Cost Estimating Capability (PCEC)
- Overview of the Requirements and the Architecture for the PCEC
- Demo of PCEC (Library and Interface)

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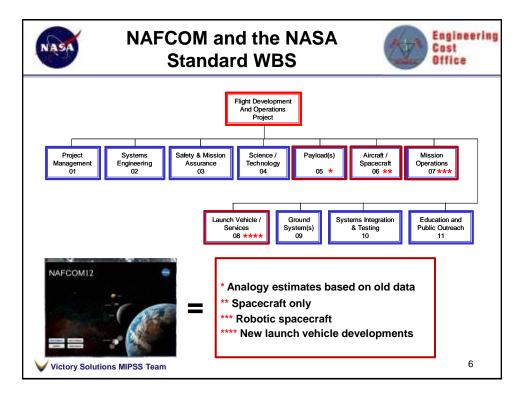
Changing World



- New Agency Requirements (e.g., JCL and Life-Cycle Cost Estimating)
- NASA Standard WBS
- Shrinking Budgets
- Distributed IT Infrastructure
- · IT Security Requirements
- Sophistication of the NASA Cost Community
- New and Challenging Estimating Requirements

Unfortunately, the NAFCOM software as it stands today is not well-suited to adapt to these new estimating needs of the NASA cost community

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Why PCEC?



The Project Cost Estimating Capability (PCEC) modeling construct was envisioned to adapt to this new environment:

- Address all elements of the NASA Standard WBS as defined in NPD 7120.5E
- Change the focus of the NASA investment portfolio from automation centric to research centric
- Create an environment that addresses the diverse estimating and analysis requirements across NASA
- Enable the entire NASA cost community to have ownership and add value to an Agency-wide capability
- Emphasize good analysis as a critical component of credible cost estimating (problem driven analysis vs. tool driven analysis)

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PCEC Philosophy



- Simple, Robust, Transparent
- Focus on Flexibility and Capability versus Ease of Use
- Don't Duplicate Existing Capabilities / Models (NICM, LRECM)
- Use Existing Software to the Greatest Extent Possible (e.g., Argo, @Risk, Crystal Ball)
- Expect NASA Cost Analysts to Know how to Use Spreadsheets and other Desktop Applications
- Keep the Data behind the NASA Firewall
- Modular, Open Source Architecture



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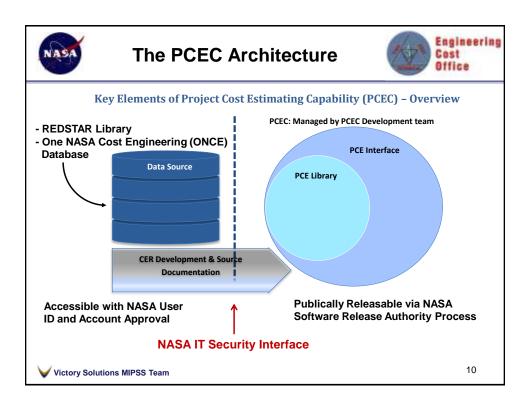


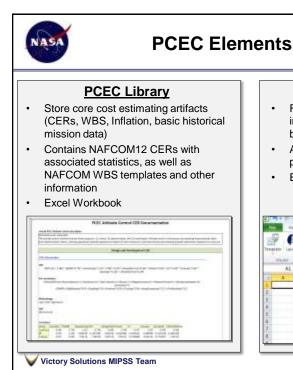
PCEC Requirements



- The PCEC team formed a PCEC Steering Committee to guide, define, and develop core requirements
 - Total of 25 Requirements Spread over 3 Levels
- Key Attributes:
 - Transparent and Customizable
 - Meet all NASA IT Security Requirements
 - Include Documentation and Statistics for all CERs
 - Traceable to the NASA Standard WBS
 - Separate CER Libraries and Software
 - Contain No Data or Links to Databases
 - Implement an Agreed-Upon List of NAFCOM Capabilities to Carry Forward

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PCEC Interface

- Facilitate the use of the PCEC Library information (e.g., inserting CERs, building WBSs) for creating estimates
- Automate redundant estimating processes
- Excel Add-In





CER Library Organization



- Introduction
- **General Information**
 - Variable List
 - Variable Influence Tables
 - Mission Information
 - **WBS** Dictionary
 - Inflation Table

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CER Documentation Help

- **WBS Templates**
 - NASA NPR 7120.5E
 - NASA CADRe
 - NC12 Earth Orbiting Spacecraft
 - NC12 Planetary Spacecraft
 - NC12 Uncrewed Spacecraft
 - NC12 Crewed Spacecraft
 - NC12 Launch Vehicle Stage
- **Recommended CERs**
 - System Level
 - Group Level
 - Subsystem Level
 - Component Level
- **Legacy CERs**
 - Group Level
 - Subsystem Level
 - Component Level

Contents of Each CER Tab

- **CER Documentation**
- **Cost Calculation**
- **Risk Calculations**



CER Interface Organization



- Microsoft Excel Add-in Workbook (XLAM)
- Provide features to facilitate the integration of project estimating artifacts contained in the PCEC Library into Excel-based cost models
 - Automate Some of the Redundant Processes in Developing a Cost Estimate
 - Custom Tab on Excel's Ribbon
 - VBA based Methods for Formatting and Manipulating Worksheets

The ribbon contains the following button groups:

Models/Estimate

- Load and save model templates
- Launch an Estimate to get stared quickly with a custom model
- Insert individual CERs as a few lines or entire preformatted worksheets

Inform/Document

- Learn more about CERs and Insert WBS templates, Library variables
- Document and validate CERs used in your workbook

Tools/Help

- worksheets and Inflation information into your workbook
- Use the in-tool Help file to learn more about what the PCEC can do for you

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PCEC Development



- PCEC has been under development since September, focusing on development and staggered roll-out of the Library and Interface
- PCEC Release Plan/Terminology
 - V0 Beta version (for review & comment)
 - V1 Release version (for reproducing core NAFCOM features)
 - Incremental releases (v1.x) will follow development sprints to fix bugs, introduce additional capabilities, and update data/CERs
- **Development Milestones to Date:**
 - Mid Dec 2013: PCEC Library v0 Late Feb 2014: PCEC Library v1
 - Late Mar 2014: PCEC Interface v0
 - Early May 2014: PCEC Interface v1 & Library v1.1

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PCEC Path Forward



PCEC Distribution

- Will be managed through the MSFC Software Release Authority
- Currently undergoing review by Export Control and working through the software release process
- Limited distribution only to NASA personnel at this time; will be publicly releasable upon completion of review (DoD, FFRDC, other Gov't Agencies, Industry, Academia)
- Requests for v1 by NASA users can currently be made by e-mailing the PCEC support desk: MSFC-PCEC@mail.nasa.gov

Future Development

- Sprints will be occurring this summer to incorporate new capabilities (e.g., phasing, First Pound/System Integration risk) and the use of other tools (NICM, SOCM, LRECM, etc.) in PCEC models
- V2 of Library and Interface (planned for fall release) will update modeling construct and CERs to align to NASA Standard WBS



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