



**PROJSTREAM**  
THINK FORWARD

# **TOP CHALLENGES OF COST ESTIMATING TEAMS – EMPOWERING SMEs WITH BEST PRACTICES AND DATA**

# ProjStream

## ProjStream – Who We Are

- 50+ years of combined industry experience
- Experts who love to help our users achieve greater growth and efficiency
- We can't wait to help yours do the same!

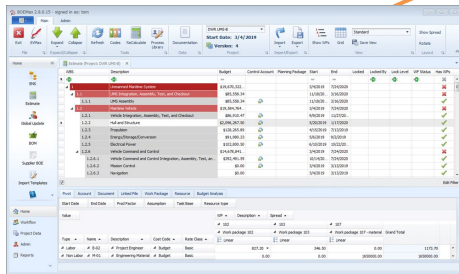


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# Project Life Cycle (PLC) Solution

## BOEMax



- Integrated Estimating and Pricing
- Historical Estimate, Actual Cost Data Library
- Process Library
- Hierarchical BOMs
- Rich Text Documentation
- Schedule Integration
- What-If Analysis, Model Changes, Audit Trail
- Top Down, Bottoms Up Traceability

Shared Database  
Built-in Workflow  
Robust Ad-Hoc Reporting

BOE Time Phased Data

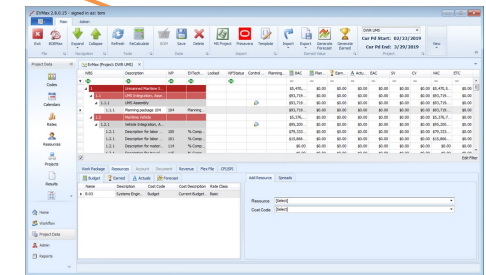
Merge Approved Changes

Historical Actual Costs

## Work Bench

- Web application
- Short learning curve for SME
- Budget and ETC data entry
- Workflow approvals

## MaxTeam



- Create and Maintain Budget Plan
- Track Key Performance Indicators
- Schedule Integration
- Measure Work Progress
- Import Actual Costs
- Maintain ETCs
- EVM

## MaxBoard



- Interactive Data Analysis Dashboard
- Single or CrossProject Data Views
- Proactively Manage Cash Flow, Revenue, Resource Capacity and Demand

# Agenda

## Welcome

- *45-minute talk and an interactive Q&A session to complete the hour*
- *Put any questions you have in chat and join in on the poll*
- *Stay for the Q&A session at the end*

## Your Speakers Today

- Chuck Kurtz—Director of Pricing, BAE Systems
- Tom Shanahan—President and CEO, ProjStream

# Top Challenges to Address

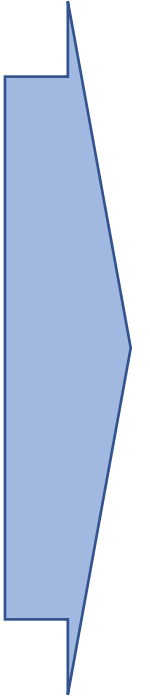
Scattered Historical Records – We Don't Have Access to our Data

Lack Of Standardization in Work Products

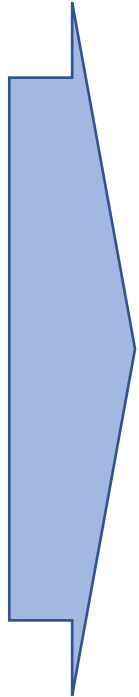
Variations in SME Risk Assumptions Cause Uncertainty

Tracking Change is Difficult and Takes Too Long

Mystifying Estimate Rationale



# Best Practices



Make Data Accessible and Reusable

Provide a Reusable, Repeatable Task Level BOE

Standardize on BOE Attributes, Establish Feedback Loops

Automate Change Tracking

Standardize and Train on Rationale Process

# 1. Scattered Historical Records – We Don't Have Access to our Data

- Our data storage is scattered, and important records are difficult to find, if not lost completely.
- Cost (Hours, Material Cost, Quantities)
- Technical – Requirements, Physical System Characteristics
- Programmatic – program parameters that can drive cost
- Schedule – Time-Phased Data (when is first material support gate, etc., when is first lot purchase and lead time, etc.)
- Primary vs. Secondary Data

# 1. BP – Make Data Accessible and Reusable

Adopt a method to store data that SMEs can query and access at their fingertips. Make it as easy as possible to translate historical data into data that can be used on the estimate along with complexity factors and rationale.

- Confidence in the cost-realism of your project estimates because you leverage accurate historical data.
- Primary Data is most defensible, provide this first and foremost.
- *Reference Blog - <https://www.projstream.com/blog/bridging-gap-between-project-cost-estimating-cost-management>*



Expand Collapse

Expand/Collapse

Data From Max Team

Data

Enter text to search...

Find

Project	WP	Resource	Qty	Budget	Documents
F35	Reaction				
F35 LM	1 - Aircraft System				Statement of V
F35 LM	1.1 - Air Vehicle				
F35 LM	1.1.4 - AV System Softw...				
F35 LM	1.1.4 - Reaction Design	105			
F35 LM	1.1.4 - Reaction Design	105		01.04.QCENG	0.00
F35 LM	1.1.4 - Reaction Design	105		01.03.DRAFTING	144.00
F35 LM	1.1.4 - Reaction Design	105		01.03.SWENG	0.00
F35 LM	1.1.4 - Reaction Design	105		01.03.PROJENG	72.00
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Navigation/Guida...				
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Reaction Design	106			
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Reaction Design	106		01.03.220	Mechanics 144.00
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Reaction Design	106		01.03.210	Mechanical E... 86.00
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Reaction Design	106		01.00.910	Pipefitters 690,000.00
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Reaction Design	106		01.00.910	NT7B10AAFU 15.00
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Reaction Design	106		01.00.910	NT8B27GSABE6 9.00
F35 LM	1.1.6 - Reaction Design	106		01.00.910	NT8B27GSABE6 9.00
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Fire Control				
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Reaction Design	107			
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Reaction Design	107		01.00.910	Pipefitters 460,000.00
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Reaction Design	107		01.00.910	NT7B10AAFU 10.00
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Reaction Design	107		01.00.910	NT8B27GSABE6 6.00
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Reaction Design	107		01.00.910	
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Reaction Design	107		01.03.210	Mech 0
F35 LM	1.1.8 - Reaction Design	107		01.03.220	Mech 0
F35 LM	1.9 - Industrial Facilities				
F35 LM	1.9 - Reaction Design	108			
F35 LM	1.9 - Reaction Design	108		01.03.220	Mech 0

Complexity Factor: 1.5

Calendar: 00 Basic Calendar Set

Period:

Copy Attributes

☒ User Fields

☒ Documents

☒ Workflow Roles

☒ Files

Copy

Cancel

1...

1.1.1

Copy Model from Historical into your Estimate

Ability to Query Columns – Search and Find Your Data

Leverage Historical Data!

Leverage Complexity Factors, use other attributes of the BOE as necessary

Copy

Cancel

2:46 PM 4/21/2023

## 2. Lack Of Standardization in Work Products

We do repeatable work but don't capture the methodologies or templates and so have to relearn and repeat attributes of an estimate and we have no idea of time to task.

## 2. BP – Provide a Reusable, Repeatable Task Level BOE

Establish a shareable Estimate Component Library and methodology to provide a consistent, repeatable process for fast and accurate estimate building.

- We call this the “process library”

Process  
Library Base  
Definition of  
One SRC Unit

Name	Description	Documentation
Dev Proj X	Dev Proj X	
ENGINE	ENGINE	
ENGINE UNIT	ENGINE UNIT	
LRC	Line Replaceable Components	
SRC	Shop Replaceable Component	

Resource Role	Value	Result	Documentation
NY/NJ Engineer 1	31.30	HOURS	
NE Engineer 1	25.04	HOURS	
NE Quality Engineer 1	6.26	HOURS	

## Process Library

Process Library

Process  Find

Select	Task	Description	Start Date	End Date	Spread	Productivity Factor	Quantity	WBS
Process: Business Management								
Process: Concrete								
Process: Dev Proj X								
Process: ENGINE								
<input type="checkbox"/>	ENGINE UNIT	ENGINE UNIT			Linear		1.00 [Select]	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LRC	Line Replaceable Compon...			Linear		1.00 [Select]	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SRC	Shop Replaceable Compon...	8/29/2009	8/28/2014	Linear		4.00	1.1.9

Task Detail

Select	Role Name	Role Description	MHrs Total	Driving Qty & UOM	Productivity Factor	Value	Result	Quantity	Resource
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NE Engineer 1	NE Engineer 1				25.04	HOURS	20.00	01.03.321
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NE Quality Enginee...	NE Quality Enginee...				6.26	HOURS	20.00	01.03.324
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NY/NJ Engineer 1	NY/NJ Engineer 1				31.30	HOURS	20.00	01.03.323

Process: Engineering

Process: ESG

Process: Hydrostatic Core Assy

Process: New Process

Process: Operating System

Process: Turbine Design

Factor Type: Quantity  
Calendar: 00 Basic Calendar Set  
Period: 25SEP2009

Specify Freq/Dur: ☒  
Frequency: Annually  
Duration: 5 Years

Save Cancel

Estimators  
Apply Process  
Library

### 3. Variations in SME Risk Assumptions Cause Uncertainty

We have no learning mechanism or insight into knowledge sharing so uncertainty leads to excessive padding. SMEs do not trust our estimating tools and assume too much risk or too much opportunity.

### 3. BP I – Standardize on BOE Attributes

Define all the appropriate attributes of a quality BOE, for example, what specific labor and non-labor resources go into the estimate, standardize the rationalization and make it part of the process library to create time to task and rationale information. If there are no data or cost drivers to an estimate, consider a 3-point estimate approach.

### 3. BP II – Establish Feedback Loop

Reference and leverage relatively current performance data against the tasks homogeneously to normalize that data and update the process library templates.

- Eliminate subjectivity by taking personalities out of the equation vis-à-vis risk-aversion
- Include peer review capability and a process to identify correlations
- Documentation and previous work look-up for insight and history to capture the learnings

## 4. Tracking Change is Difficult and Takes Too Long

We cannot create high-quality estimate scenarios or capture changes. No capacity to see alternatives due to the lack of an automated process to generate scenarios.



## 4. BP – Automate Change Tracking

- Implement a platform with the ability to perform what-if modeling.
- Create a procedure to capture and report changes to the estimate.

01.03.210 PROJECT ENGINEERING	01.03.220 DRAFTING	01.03.230 AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER	01.03.240 MECHANICAL ENGINEER	20,519.70	30,722.10			
				54,448.39	58,762.40			
				11,847.65	12,786.36			
				849,665.21	868,439.30			
					1,410,297.72			
				COST Total		944,480.94	2,381,084.93	
				102 Test T...	COST	01.03.107 PROJECT MANAGEMENT	2,639,919.71	2,661,307.83
						01.03.210 PROJECT ENGINEERING	2,175,881.94	4,607,954.53
						01.03.220 DRAFTING	473,459.22	492,638.60
						01.03.240 MECHANICAL ENGINEER	13,599.26	52,885.73
						01.03.250 SOFTWARE ENGINEER		454,267.81
						COST Total		5,302,860.13
				103 Turbin...	COST	01.00.910 DIRECT MATERIAL	57,023,662.07	62,726,028.28
171 Energy...	COST	01.00.910 DIRECT MATERIAL	9,610,496.54	10,571,546.19				
		01.03.107 PROJECT MANAGEMENT	2,592,496.00	2,851,745.60				
		01.03.210 PROJECT ENGINEERING	4,273,588.47	4,700,947.32				
		01.03.220 DRAFTING	929,907.93	1,022,898.72				
		01.03.240 MECHANICAL ENGINEER		1,645,331.56				
		01.03.250 SOFTWARE ENGINEER		235,047.37				
COST Total		17,406,488.93	21,027,516.75					

## 5. Mystifying Estimate Rationale

Our SMEs have no supporting rationale or charred methodology on which to base our cost estimates, leading to uncertainty, opacity, and cost margin padding to account for risk at the expense of competitive advantage.

## 5. BP – Standardize and Train on Rationale Process

- Identify, capture, and store the source of the estimated data and the underlying rationale for consistent and repeatable methods to express and format rationale shared by all.
- Establish single source of truth reliability. For example, update the estimate, ensure rationale gets updated accordingly.

# Standardize the BOE

Propulsion			
WBS Number	1.1.2	Status	In Progress - Functional Mgr
WBS Title	Propulsion	SOW Ref	3.1.1, 3.1.2
POP Start	12/3/2014	CLIN	DELIVERY I
POP End	8/30/2015	IPT	NEWGEN
Preparer	barterbury	Assumptions	1
Functional Manager	cparkhill	TPM	1
Proposal Manager	jspeer	Contact Phase	DESIGN

	26DEC2014	27MAR2015	26JUN2015	Total
AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER	200.00	480.00	200.00	880.00
MECHANICAL ENGINEER	265.45	737.71	208.18	1,211.35
TEST ENG			440.00	440.00
Total	465.45	1,217.71	848.18	2,531.35

## Assumptions

All thrust vector tests are automated

## SOW

3.1.1. Produce System Drawings of Turbine Design

3.1.2. Design a fluidic thrust vectoring system that diverts thrust via secondary fluidic injections. Minimum thrust deflection should be 13 degrees.

## TPM

Minimum thrust angle of 13 degrees

Work Package or Estimate Level Data			
WBS Ref	1.1.2	Start Date	12/3/2014
WP Number	101	End Date	3/31/2015
WP Description	Design Thrust Vectoring System	Estimating Methodology	Bottoms Up

		26DEC2014	27MAR2015	26JUN2015	Total
01.03.230	AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER	200.00	480.00	200.00	880.00
01.03.240	MECHANICAL ENGINEER	200.00	480.00	200.00	880.00
Total		400.00	960.00	400.00	1,760.00

## BOE ELEMENT DESCRIPTION

Design Thrust Vector

## METHODOLOGY

Subject matter expert judgement is being used here. We are estimating 2 FTE's over a period of 5 months for this design. This is based on level of effort needed against similar design efforts described as.....

Work Package or Estimate Level Data			
WBS Ref	1.1.2	Start Date	4/1/2015
WP Number	103	End Date	8/30/2015
WP Description	Turbine Procurement	Estimating Methodology	Material

## Resource: 01.00.910

Part Number	Description	Manufacturer	Type	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total
N0102077	COMBUSTION CHAMBER	PRATT & WHITNEY	Item	2.00	EACH	650,000.00	1,300,000.00
NT5B04AAADE5	EXHAUST	PRATT & WHITNEY	Item	2.00	EACH	555,555.00	1,111,110.00

# ProjStream Facilitates Best Practices

- ProjStream is an end-to-end software solution for all your project management needs, from bidding and cost estimating to project control and reporting.
- ProjStream handles searches within seconds with accountability
- The ProjStream Estimate Component Library facilitates a consistent, repeatable, and shareable methodology
- ProjStream builds estimates faster with higher profitability
- ProjStream stores a query-able set of data for rapid answers, performance, and profitability



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# Q&A Session



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## Next Steps

ICEAA Workshop May 16-18 in San Antonio, TX

Stop by the ProjStream booth and receive Top 10 challenges and best practices of cost estimation teams

How to engage in a meaningful way:

Process assessment or  
60 day QuickStart Program

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