

Title: P6 User Forum

#	Question	Answer
1	How can we interpret resource loadings (period-based table) from a schedule already in progress containing negative float? Loadings do not seem to make sense if negative float exists in a schedule.	When reviewing period based resource loading that does not seem to align correctly with the activities to which they are assigned, check the Planned Start and Planned Finish for the activities. Budgeted units in P6 will be displayed for an activity in accordance with their planned dates.
2	What is the best way to handle out-of-sequence progressing? Should the schedule logic not be changed to eliminate the out-of-sequence activities? What is best practice?	This is a topic upon which opinions may vary. Often contract specifications will prescribe how out-of-sequence progress should be handled. Updating logical relationships to most accurately reflect how the work is being performed is a sensible means of resolving out-of-sequence progress in a schedule.
3	Occasionally I import MS Project Files into P6. Upon doing so, if I change my Original Duration, I have to manually change the Remaining Duration to equal the Original Duration. When creating a file in P6, the Rem Dur duration changes automatically when adjusting Orig Dur. This occurs for Planned activities.	In the Project View, select the Calculations Tab in the project details and verify that the box for "Link Budget and At Completion for not started activities" is checked.
4	What are the implications of using Roles instead of resources from start to finish of a project and would any special configuration be needed to implement?	There are many similarities between the two. The setup of the Resource dictionary has a few more settings and options such as Codes, Shifts, and Calendars which are not available for use with Roles. If the desire is to track non-labor (equipment) or materials, resources would be required for tracking these items.

5	Is there an alternative way to cost load a schedule without using Roles or Resources for some or all of the activities?	<p><b>Users can utilize Expenses in Activity Details:</b></p> <p><b>Considerations for Expenses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No Curves (All at Start or Finish – or – Uniform over Activity)</li> <li>– Do not automatically update based on % Complete when updating activities manually (Update Progress is different)</li> <li>– Easy to work with...no Global Dictionary required for Expenses.</li> <li>• Project Specific in P6</li> </ul>
6	How do you eliminate space between text in headers and footers?	<p><b>Review the page options in the Print Preview for options in configuring Header and Footer information in printed reports.</b></p>
7	Do time periods for period reporting apply to specific projects or to all projects globally?	<p><b>Global Only, Not Project Specific</b></p>
8	Is there a way to increase the number of characters available for the names of Layouts?	<p><b>Unfortunately No there is not.</b></p>
9	Is there a way to permanently alter column widths in dialog boxes? The issue is this: column widths in many dialog boxes obscure content because they are too narrow, forcing us to adjust them to usable widths every time we use them. An example is the box from which you select an EPS node when importing a project. It would be great if P6 would “remember” those adjustments so we would not have to repeat them every time. This also applies to the Codes detail window. Column width adjustments are not remembered.	<p><b>There are no specific settings within P6 that specifically address this issue. Some dialog boxes appear to save edits made and others (such as selecting the EPS node when importing a file) do not. It is recommended to always use the "close" icon when finished using a dialog box as opposed to clicking on the "x" in the upper right to close the window.</b></p>

10	<p>When the cursor is in a code or WBS field, and there is a code or WBS assigned, is there a way to get P6 to recognize that assignment in the code or WBS structure? The issue: say I am in an activity's General detail window and in the WBS field, and want to adjust the WBS assignment one level up or down. For whatever reason, I am not allowed to just edit the field, so I must click the icon to "Select WBS". In the good ol' P3 days, the software would automatically go to the existing assignment in the WBS structure, making small adjustments easy. P6, however, goes to the top of the WBS structure, and forces you to scroll through, in many cases, hundreds of lines of the WBS structure to get to the proper location. Why can't the default be the existing assignment as in P3? This also applies to activity code fields.</p>	<p><b>In short, the answer is no. For projects with extensive WBS structure, use the search box at the top of the dialog box to more easily find the proper WBS element. Users may also "drag and drop" activities from one WBS to another.</b></p>
11	<p>There used to be a way to do a barchart where all the bars could be placed on one line. For example, I have a summary barchart of a project with four phases using the WBS levels. Currently the barchart has five lines to show project (subtotal as a subtotal), planning, design, construction, post construction (the four bars). With P3, it was possible to place the planning, design, construction, and post construction bars on one line instead of separate lines. Is this possible in P6?</p>	<p><b>Activity bars do have the ability to be displayed when collapsed at the project level. Check the bar setting for individual bars and for best results, custom bars with unique colors should be considered. Additionally, best results often can be had when the activity view is filtered for display of summary bars such as WBS Summary tasks. Another option would be to create a custom Gantt Chart View in Visualizer.</b></p>
12	<p>Global Change of Activity Resource Assignments will not let you set resource durations; is there another way to do this?</p>	<p><b>No option exists to perform a Global Change that will modify Original Duration (or Remaining Duration) on Resource Assignments. An option would be to add columns in Resource Assignments View and Fill Down.</b></p>

13	Sometimes an activity's start and finish time no longer comes out as 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (assuming the settings are for an 8 hour day and that the schedule should be in days) and subsequent activities that are supposed to have a one day duration are calculating as two days because the start time is 4:00pm and the finish time is 4:00pm the next day. How can this be fixed?	Need to check for (and modify as needed) the detailed hours in the assigned calendars for the activities. This will come into play if utilizing multiple calendars sets.
14	What does the P6 "roadmap" shows for future changes and development?	The current Roadmap for P6, per Oracle, shows there will be 1 version release per year starting 2017. Cloud version will be released in January for all Oracle Cloud customers. On-premise release will be available in June 2017. This format will go forward for FY18. Many of the upcoming enhancements will include moving away from JAVA to HTML5 in EPPM, Team Member and Unifier Integration.
15	Is Unifier going to be included with P6?	P6 and Unifier will remain separate software components but coming versions will have enhanced integration capabilities.
16	What is the difference between Unifier and Prime?	Unifier is a fully customizable Cost Management, Document Control and Asset Management Software. Prime will be available as a compliment solution to other Oracle Products. Prime current platforms include Prime Portfolio Management (Similar to OPPM), Prime Risk and Prime Analytics. Current platforms in development include Prime Lean and Prime Field Planning (More information to come in the future on these platforms when released from Oracle). Prime will also be available only on Oracle Cloud with no on-premise delivery. Unifier options include on-premise and cloud.
17	Any tips on P6/SAP integration?	Biggest and first question to ask, what data are you trying to integrate and for what purposes? I've seen organizations integrate just WBS for example, others integrate procurement activities and other elements of the schedule data back to SAP. The more details desired to integrate, the more time and testing required.
18	What is the best way to print Notebooks?	There is a prebuilt report (SR-05) that comes with P6 that will show the activity and notes attached. You can also use Report Editor or create a new report to show Notebooks attached to activities.

19	Is it possible to show Activity Level information at the Project Level in the same report or layout?	The information commonly shared at the project level are Project level info, data date, project start/finish. It is possible to attach bar labels on the summary bar show with activity level info. Columns could also be added to capture a number of attributes but these would be overall or project level info.
20	How can you load large amounts of resources(money) and values into a P6 file through Excel?	Formatting using Excel is the key. For proper formatting, I find it best to export from P6 the formatting, then add the info desired keeping the formatting exactly the same. Any change in order of columns etc. can corrupt the data and cause issues on the data coming in.
21	What are my options for creating monthly resource usage reports?	Using the Resource Usage Spreadsheet view, a number of columns/rows can be added. These can be filtered to capture just the project open or a larger portfolio. The Resources can be organized in the same format as in the Resource dictionary for grouping disciplines together for example. Once set up, this view can be saved and retrieved for future months. Also, the sheet can be copied/pasted out to Excel quickly for creating a living document capturing each month as the project progresses.