

TECH TIP

STATUSING MULTIPLE PROJECTS ORACLE PRIMAVERA P6

One of Primavera P6 many features allows P6 Users to open multiple projects at once. Having multiple projects open at once can allow P6 Users to view the Gantt Chart of both projects and all activities in their respective WBS. In addition, it can be useful when there are relationships between separate projects. However, can a P6 User Schedule with multiple projects open? This Tech Tip will explain the different options when it comes to Scheduling / Statusing multiple projects.

Scheduling with Multiple Projects Open in P6 (Different Data Dates)

In this example Project BLDG-Scheduling has a Data Date of 18-Jan-18. And Project BLDG – Optimizing the Project Plan has a Data Date of 8-Jan-18 as shown below. What will happen if both projects were to be opened and scheduled?

		BLDG - Sche	eduling			BLD	G-198
		BLDG - Exec	uting the Project	Plan		BLD	G-199
	D	BLDG - Assig	gning Constraints			BLD	G-200
	6	BLDG - Meth	ods for Applying	Progress		BLD	G-192
	1	BLDG - Clain	n Digger After Up	date		BLD	G-C2-11
	1	BLDG - Clain	n Digger Before l	Ipdate		BLD	G-C1-11
	1	BLDG - Impo	rting and Exporti	ng Data		BLD	G-190
	6	BLDG - Crea	ting Printed Outp	ut		BLD	G-A-11
	1	BLDG - Man	aging Document	s		BLD	G-B-11
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and and							Codes
eneral	Notebook	Budget Log	Spending Plan	Budget Summary	Dates F	unding	Codes
	Notebook Iule Dates		Spending Plan	Budget Summary	Dates F	unding	Codes
Schee			Spending Plan	Budget Summary	Dates F	unding	Codes
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Scheo Pri Da	lule Dates oject Planne 3-Jan-18 12:	d Start :00 AM	Spending Plan	Budget Summary	Dates F		Codes

			ing the opdate				C 10
		BLDG - Optin	nizing the Project	: Fian		BLU	G-19
		BLDG - Sche	duling			BLD	G-19
		BLDG - Exec	uting the Project	Plan		BLD	G-19
		BLDG - Assig	ning Constraints			BLD	G-20
		BLDG - Meth	ods for Applying	Progress		BLD	G-19
	1	BLDG - Claim	n Digger After Up	date		BLD	G-C2
	1	BLDG - Claim	n Digger Before L	Ipdate		BLD	G-C1
	- R	BLDG - Impo	rting and Exporti	ng Data		BLD	G-19
	6	BLDG - Crea	ting Printed Outp	ut		BLD	G-A-
	1	BLDG - Man	aging Document	s		BLD	G-B-
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eneral	Notebook	Budget Log	Spending Plan	Budget Summary	Dates	Funding	Coo
Sched	lule Dates						
Pre	oject Planne	d Start					
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pe pe	3-Jan-18 12:	UU AM					
Da	ta Date						
Da	3-Jan-18 12:	00 AM					

To open both projects hold down the CTRL key and highlight both projects. Right-click in the highlighted area and choose Open Project (or Ctrl+O) as shown in the figure below.



Once both Projects are open, the Activity table will display both projects and also display Activities on the Gantt Chart.

Activities								
Activities	Projects							
🗢 Layout: Ad	ding Activities	Filter: All Activities						
Activity ID	Activity Name	∇ Duration Type	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start	Finish	Notes	м
BLDG	- Optimizing the Project Pla	an	221.0d	221.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM		
∎ BLDG	- Scheduling		221.0d	221.0d	18Jan-18 08:00 AM	29-Nov-18 05:00 PM		
•							Þ	•
General Sta	tus Resources Codes Notebook Relat	ionshins Steps						
	Activity							_
↓			1					
Duration		Status						

Since these Projects both need to be statused with a new DD of 08-Feb-18, status has been entered and they are ready to be recalculated.

Acc	vides										_	
Ac	tivities Projects											
	Layout: Adding Activitie	36	Filter: All Activities									
Acti	vity ID	Activity Name	∇ Constitution Type Constitution Type Constitution Constread Constitution Constitution Constread Cons	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start		Finish	N: A	Dec 31 Jan 07 M T VV T F S S M T VV T F	SSM	Jan 14
	BLDG - Sched	duling		88.0d	88.0d	08Ja	n-18 07:00 AM A	09-May-18 05:00 PM				
	BA-ADMIN	Project Administration	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	0.0d	0.0d	08Ja	n-18 08:00 AM A	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM		Project Adr	ninistration	n
E	Design and E	Engineering		12.0d	12.0d	08Ja	n-18 08:00 AM A	23-Jan-18 05:00 PM				
	BA1030	Assemble Technical Data for Heat Pump	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	3.0d	3.0d	08Ja	n-18 08:00 AM A	10-Jan-18 05:00 PM				chnical Data for H
	BA1000	Building Addition Kickoff	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	0.0d	0.0d		n-18 08:00 AM A			🛉 Building Ad	dition Kick	koff
	BA1010	Design Building Addition	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	12.0d	12.0d		n-18 08:00 AM A	23-Jan-18 05:00 PM A			_	
	BA1020	Review and Approve Designs	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	9.0d	9.0d		n-18 08:00 AM	18-Jan-18 05:00 PM				Review
	BA1040	Review Technical Data on Heat Pumps	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	10.0d	10.0d		n-18 08:00 AM	19-Jan-18 05:00 PM				Rev
Ð	Foundation			18.0d	18.0d	08Ja	n-18 08:00 AM	31-Jan-18 05:00 PM			_	
	Structure			20.0d	20.0d	08~	chedule					×
•	Mechanical/E	Electrical Systems		88.0d	88.0d	08、	-				0	Cancel
	Exterior Finis			58.0d	58.0d	085	Project(s) to se	chedule		2	0	Cancel
						_	Earliest Data Da			08-Jan-18 12:00 AM		Schedule
Ge	neral Status Resour	ces Codes Notebook Relationships	Steps				Lariest Data Da	ale			2	View Log
	—	Activity										
C	Juration		Status				Earliest Project	Forecast Start Date			•	Help
	Original		Start	ed			🗖 Set Data Da	ate and Planned Start to P	roject Fi	precast Start during scheduling	Þ	Options
	Actual		Finis	hed								
							Log to file					
	Remaining	I	Exp Finis	sh			C:\Users\In	narston/Desktop/Training	Folder\S	ichedLog.txt		
	At Complete						Overw	rite existing C Append	to exist	ing		
	Constrain							ne enemig - C Append	10 0/10			
	Total Float		Primary			1	< None >		-	Secondary	<	None >



However, notice that when F9 is pressed to Schedule the Schedule Dialog box comes up and is shown as above. The ellipses to change the Data Date is "greyed" out and will not let the user change the Data Date. Instead, P6 recognizes that both projects have different Data Dates and bases it off on the Earliest Data Date of the two projects open.

Activ	vities Projects													
∠La	yout: Adding Activities		Filter: All Activities											
Activity	/ ID	Activity Name	Duration Type	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start		Finish	Ni 🔺	Dec 31	Jan 07 5 S M T W T F	s s	Jan 14 M T W T F	J S S M T
- E	3LDG - Schedu	ling		88.0d	88.0d	08Ja	n-18 07:00 AM A	09-May-18 05:00 PM						
	BA-ADMIN	Project Administration	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	0.0d	0.0d	08Ja	n-18 08:00 AM A	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM			Project Adm	ninistrat	ion	
-	Design and En	gineering		12.0d	12.0d	08-Ja	n-18 08:00 AM A	23-Jan-18 05:00 PM					-	
	BA1030	Assemble Technical Data for Heat Pump	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	3.0d	3.0d	08-Ja	n-18 08:00 AM A	10-Jan-18 05:00 PM		1			echnical Data f	for Heat Pu
	BA1000	Building Addition Kickoff	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	0.0d	0.0d	08Ja	n-18 08:00 AM A				🛉 Building Ad	dition K	ickoff	
	BA1010	Design Building Addition	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	12.0d	12.0d			23-Jan-18 05:00 PM A						
	BA1020	Review and Approve Designs	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	9.0d	9.0d		n-18 08:00 AM	18-Jan-18 05:00 PM						eview and
	BA1040	Review Technical Data on Heat Pumps	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	10.0d	10.0d		n-18 08:00 AM	19Jan-18 05:00 PM						Review T
÷	Foundation			18.0d	18.0d	1	n-18 08:00 AM	31-Jan-18 05:00 PM				-		
Đ	Structure			20.0d	20.0d	08、	ichedule						>	<
	Mechanical/Ele	ectrical Systems		88.0d	88.0d	08、						0	Cancel	
+	Exterior Finish			58.0d	58.0d	08、	Project(s) to so	chedule			2	0	Cancel	
								Primavera P6 Profess	ional 1	19			Schedule	a 📖
Gener	ral Status Resources	s Codes Notebook Relationships S	Steps				Earliest Data [
		Activity				_				projects have the continue, each pr	same Data Date. If oject will be		View Log	
	•						Earliest Projec				a Date. Otherwise,	- 1	Help	1
Dura	ation		Status					you car you wa			e Projects View. Do	'		1
0	riginal		Starte	ed			🔲 Set Data 🛙	, ou nu					Options	
A	ctual		V Finish	red			✓ Log to file		<u>í</u> es	N				
R	emaining		Exp Finis	h				narston@esktop\Training	Folder	SchedLog.txt				
At	t Complete						1							
		J	Constraint	s			Overwi	rite existing C Appen	to exi	sting				
To	otal Float		Primary			F	None >			 Secondary 			< None >	
Fr	ree Float		Date			Г				Date				

Click Schedule and another Dialog Box will appear like below.

Primavera P6 will warn users that the opened projects do not have the same Data Date and will be scheduled based on their Data Date. Click "Yes". Since these were statused through 08-Feb-18 the results of the status are not accurate for either project since the Data Dates remained on 08-Jan-18 and 18-Jan-18. P6 calculates the Remaining Duration based on the Data Date for in-progress activities in which can result in inaccurate dates as shown below.

	DA1020	THE WEY GHE?	Approve bleaigna	1.00	a baraa	on and onks/ r	me	0.0a			0000011000.00 AM A	100011003.001 MA
	BA1040	Review Tech Pumps	nical Data on Heat	Fixe	d Durati	ion and Units/T	ime	10.0d	1	0.0d	30Jan-18 08:00 AM A	19Jan-18 05:00 PM
+	Foundatio	on						50.0d	5	0.0d	19Jan-18 08:00 AM A	29-Mar-18 05:00 PM
_								0101		101	00 M 40 00 00 MM	
Activi	ities											
Activ	vities Projects											
214	yout: Adding Activities		Fitter: All Activities									
Activit		Activity Name	Duration Type	Original	BL Project	Start	Finish	No	te: Dec	31	Jan 07 Jan 14	Jan 21 Jan 28
				Duration	Duration				MITV	TFSS	MTWTFSSMTWTFS	SMTWTFSSMTWTFSSM
H	3LDG - Optimizi	ng the Project Plan		212.0d	212.0d	08Jan-18 08:00 AM A	02-Nov-18 05	00 PM				
	3LDG - Scheduli	ing		212.0d	212.0d	18Jan-18 08:00 AM A	14-Nov-18 05	00 PM				
•												



Scheduling with Multiple Projects Open in P6 (Same Data Dates)

Now let's see what Primavera P6 will do when multiple projects are open with the <u>same</u> Data Date.

BLDG · Executing the Project Plan	BEDR-199	DEDG Assigning constraints	0100 200
📄 📄 BLDG - Assigning Constraints	BLDG-200	BLDG - Methods for Applying Progress	BLDG-192
BLDG - Methods for Applying Progress	BLDG-192	🖀 👔 BLDG - Claim Digger After Update	BLDG-C2-11
BLDG - Claim Digger After Update	BLDG-C2-11	🖀 BLDG - Claim Digger Before Update	BLDG-C1-11
BLDG Claim Digger Before Update	BLDG-C1-11	😭 BLDG - Importing and Exporting Data	BLDG-190
BLDG - Impotting and Exporting Data	BLDG-190	📄 BLDG - Creating Printed Output	BLDG-A-11
📄 BLDG - Creating Printed Output	BLDG-A-11	😭 BLDG - Managing Documents	BLDG-B-11
😭 BLDG - Managing Documents	BLDG-B-11	🛛 🗖 🖶 📣 Maintenance East	MAINT-E-11
🗉 👞 Maintenance East	MAINT-E-11		
		General Notebook Budget Log Spending Plan Budget Summary	/ Dates Funding Codes Defaults Res
General Notebook Budget Log Spending Plan Budget Summary Date	es Funding Codes De	Schedule Dates	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Schedule Dates		Project Planned Start	
Project Planned Start		08-Jan-18 12:00 AM	
08-Jan-18 12:00 AM		Dis Dis	
		Data Date	•
Data Date		08-Jan-18 12:00 AM	
08-Jan-18 12:00 AM			
		Actual Start	
		Actual start	

Shown above are (2) separate projects with a Data Date of 08-Jan-18.

As shown below both projects are open and both are displayed on the Gantt Chart.

Activities Projects																			
V Layout: Adding Activities		Filter: All Activities						 				 		 	 				
Activity ID	Activity Name	Duration Type	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start	Finish	Notes		Jan 07 S M T W T I	FSSM	Jan 14 1 T W T F	in 21 WTFS	Jan 28 S M T W 1	Feb 04 M T W T I	Feb 11 T W T F		18 WTFS	Feb 25 S M T W 1	
BLDG - Assignir	ng Constraints		221.0d	221.0d	08Jan 18 08:00 AM	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM		 		alari ala a		-			 				_
BLDG - Methods	for Applying Progress		28.9d	28.9d	08Jan-18 08:00 AM	15-Feb-18 04:00 PM										5-Feb-18 04	00 PM, BLD	G - Methods f	ur Apply
•							Þ												
General Status Resources	Codes Notebook Relationships S	Steps																	

Since these Projects both need to be statused with a new DD of 08-Feb-18, status has been entered and they are ready to be recalculated.

Once F9 is pressed, the following Dialog Box will appear.



Layout: Adding Activities	Filter, All Activitie	3									
Activity ID Activity Nam	e	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start	Finish	Notes	Dec 31 M T VV T F S S	Jan 07 M T VV T F	S S N	Jan 14 vi T VV T F	Jar SSMT
BLDG - Assigning Const	raints	221.0d	221.0d	08Jan-18 08:00 AM A							-
BLDG - Methods for Appl	ying Progress	28.9d	28.9d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	15-Feb-18 04:00 PM				.		
				Schedule Project(s) to sc			2		0	Cancel	×
•				FIDECI(S) ID SI	nequie		1 4				7
General Status Resources Codes Not	ebook Relationships Steps			Earliest Data Da	ate		08-Jan-18 12:	00 AM		Schedule View Log	
Activi	ty			Earliest Project	Forecast Start Date				1	Help	
Duration		Status					,			Options	
Original		Started		📕 🗖 Set Data Da	ate and Planned Start to P	Project F	orecast Start during	scheduling	<u> </u>	Options	
Actual		Finished		🔽 Log to file							
Remaining		Exp Finish		C:\Users\n	harston\Desktop\Training	Folder	SchedLog.txt				
At Complete		Constraints		Overwi	rite existing C Append	to exis	ting				
Total Float		Primary		< None >			Secondary			< None >	

Notice that ellipses to change the Data Date are still greyed out and it does not let the P6 User change the data date. Hit "Schedule" and it will allow you to schedule both projects with the original Data Date of 08-Jan-18.

The Solution

Although Primavera P6 allows several features while in multiple projects, Scheduling multiple projects with a new Data Date is not one. However, the Actual Starts and Finishes that were statused will remain Actuals. Open (1) Single Project, BLDG-Assigning Constraints.

Activities Proj	ects							
✓ Layout: Adding A	Activities	Filter: All Activities						
Activity ID	Activity Name	∇ Duration Type	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start	Finish	Note:	Dec 31 Jan 1 T VV T F S S M T V
BLDG - As	ssigning Constraints		221.0d	221.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM		
BA-ADMIN	Project Administration	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	221.0d	221.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM		
🗉 🛛 Design a	and Engineering		22.0d	22.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	06-Feb-18 05:00 PM A		
🗉 Foundat	ion		59.0d	59.0d	19-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	11-Apr-18 05:00 PM		
Structur	e		64.0d	64.0d	12-Apr-18 08:00 AM	12-Jul-18 05:00 PM		
🗉 Mechani	ical/Electrical Systems		213.0d	213.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM	05-Nov-18 05:00 PM		
 Exterior 	Finishes		143.0d	143.0d	16-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	06-Aug-18 05:00 PM		
Interior I	Finishes		212.0d	212.0d	19-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM		
								(
General Status R	Resources Codes Notebook Relations	hips Steps						
▲ ▼	Activity							
Duration		Status						

Hit "F9" to Schedule. Change the Data Date to 08-Feb-18.



V Layout: Adding Activities	8	Filter: All Activities									
Activity ID	Activity Name	□ □	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start	Finish	Note:		Jan 07 M T VV T F	Jan 14 S S M T W T F S	Jan 21 S M T VV T
BLDG - Assign	ing Constraints		221.0d	221.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM					
BA-ADMIN	Project Administration	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	221.0d	221.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM					
⊕ Design and E	ngineering		22.0d	22.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	06-Feb-18 05:00 PM A					
Foundation			59.0d	59.0d	19-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	11-Apr-18 05:00 PM					
Structure			64.0d	64.0d	12-Apr-18 08:00 AM	12-Jul-18 05:00 PM					
 Mechanical/E 	lectrical Systems		213.0d	213.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM	05-Nov-18 05:00 PM					
Exterior Finis	hes		143.0d	143.0d	16-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	06-Aug-18 05:00 PM					
 Interior Finish 	nes		212.0d	212.0d	19-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM					
General Status Resource	es Codes Notebook Relationships Activity	Steps					roject Fo	08-Feb-1812		Schedule View Log Help Options	
Remaining At Complete		Exp Finish Constraints				narston/Desktop/Training rite existing C Append					
Total Float		Primary			< None >		Ŧ	Secondary		< None >	J
Free Float		Date						. Date			

This project has been successfully scheduled with a new Data Date of 08-Feb-18.

Activities								
Activities Projects								
V Layout: Adding Activities		Fiter: All Activities						
Activity ID	Activity Name	Duration Type	Original Duration	BL Project Duration	Start	Finish	Ni 🔺	▲ Dec 31 Jan 07 Jan 14 Jan 21 Jan 28 Feb 04 Feb 11 Feb 18 Feb 25 M T W T FS S M T W T M T FS S M T W T M T FS S M T W T F
BLDG - Assign	ing Constraints		221.0d	221.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM A	15-Nov-18 05:00 PM		
BA-ADMIN	Project Administration	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	221.0d	221.0d	08Jan-18 08:00 AM A			
 Design and E 	ngineering		22.0d	22.0d	08Jan-18 08:00 AM A	06-Feb-18 05:00 PM A		▼ 05Feb-18 05:00 PM A. Design and Engineering
BA1030	Assemble Technical Data for Heat Pump	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	3.0d	3.0d	19 Jan-18 08:00 AM A	23-Jan-18 05:00 PM A		Assemble Technical Data for Heat Pump
BA1000	Building Addition Kickoff	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	0.0d	0.0d	08-Jan-18 08:00 AM A			Building Addition Kickolf
BA1010	Design Building Addition	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	12.0d	12.0d	08 Jan-18 08:00 AM A	23-Jan-18 05:00 PM A		Design Building Addition
BA1020	Review and Approve Designs	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	9.0d	9.0d	08 Jan 18 08:00 AM A	18 Jan-18 05:00 PM A		Review and Approve Designs
BA1040	Review Technical Data on Heat Pumps	Fixed Duration and Units/Time	10.0d	10.0d	24 Jan 18 08:00 AM A	06-Feb-18 05:00 PM A		Peview Technical Data on Heat Pumps
Foundation			59.0d	59.0d	19 Jan-18 08:00 AM A	11-Apr-18 05:00 PM		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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	an Contro Internetic Resettanching	Stern						

Even though Primavera P6 does not allow Users to Schedule multiple projects at once, Users can status multiple projects at once and later go back and schedule individually with the desired Data Date.

