

PS Component Short Description



HELP.CACOMPPS

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PS Component Short Description

Project System

Project System

Definition

You can use the Project System to reproduce and manage projects. Projects are tasks with particular characteristics:

- They are, as a rule, complex, unique and involve a high degree of risk.
- They have precise objectives, agreed between the ordering party and the sold-to party.
- They are of limited duration, and cost and capacity intensive.
- They are subject to certain quality requirements.
- They are usually strategically important to the business carrying them out.

Projects are usually integrated with the normal commercial processes of a business. However, you need to set up a project-specific organizational structure so that you can control all the tasks which form part of the project. The structure has to be between the specialist areas affected. To be able to carry out your project in its entirety, you need to describe the project objectives in detail and structure the activities you want to carry out in the project. A clear, unique project structure is the basis for cost planning, monitoring and control.

You can structure your project in two ways:

- with a work breakdown structure (WBS)
- with a network

You can use these structures separately or together.

The high degree of integration between the Project System and the other components in the SAP System means that you can plan, control and settle your project across applications.

Operative Structures

Definition

“Operative structures” are the basis for planning, executing and controlling your projects.

Selection Criteria

You must select this component to carry out a project.

Project Definition

Definition

The framework for all objects in a project. A project definition contains:

- organizational data
- start and finish dates
- calendar
- responsible people
- default values for further processing

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want to use a work breakdown structure to carry out a project with budgeting, revenue planning or financial budgeting.

Work Breakdown Structure

Definition

A “work breakdown structure” (WBS) is an operative structure in a project that represents the project activities to be fulfilled in the form of a hierarchy.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want to use a work breakdown structure to carry out a project with budgeting, revenue planning or financial budgeting.

Network**Network****Definition**

A “network” contains instructions on how to carry out activities in a specific way, in a specific order and in a specific time period. The basic elements of a network are activities and relationships.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component for projects in which dates and resources are the focus. For example, you can only plan capacities using network activities.

Network Maintenance

Definition

“Network maintenance” includes creating or changing control parameters, standard values and activity data in networks.

Printing Networks

Printing Networks

Definition

Printing networks in graphical form from a printer or plotter.

Subnetwork

Definition

A network which replaces a network activity and supplies detailed information for this activity.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you have large projects and you want to divide your networks into different levels.

Milestone**Milestone****Definition**

An event of special significance or a trigger of predefined functions within a project.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want to trigger milestone functions in activities or WBS elements. In addition, you must choose this component if you want to use the milestone technique in earned value analysis.

Project Planning Board

Definition

Tool based on the SAP Gantt chart. With the project planning board, you can get an overview of projects and project elements, such as networks, activities and milestones for maintenance.

Selection Criteria

You should choose this component if you want to simplify the planning and control of projects. You can also use the following additional functions in the project planning board:

- create and change activities, WBS elements, milestones, relationships
- plan and schedule resources
- plan and adjust capacity workloads
- calculate costs

Orders for Projects

Orders for Projects

Definition

You can assign various types of orders from the SAP system to a WBS element. The orders are then managed with the project. Examples of such orders include maintenance orders, production orders and sales orders.

Selection criteria

You need to select orders for projects if you want to manage them with your project. The planned costs for the orders are recorded in the project in summarized form.

Templates

Standard Project Definition

Standard Project Definition

Definition

The binding framework for all objects in a standard project. You can copy the standard project definition for a project definition since they both contain the same organizational data, calendar and responsible people.

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can copy standard project definitions to create new project definitions.

You must select this component if you use the Sales and Distribution System (SD) and you want to create a customer project from a customer inquiry, quotation or sales order within assembly processing.

Standard Work Breakdown Structure

Definition

A template that can be used several times to create work breakdown structures. Standard work breakdown structures are not specific to a project.

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can copy standard work breakdown structures to create new work breakdown structures. In addition, you must select this component if you use the Sales and Distribution System (SD) and you want to create a customer project from a customer inquiry, quotation or sales order within assembly processing.

Standard Network

Standard Network

Definition

A template that can be used more than once to create networks. Standard networks are not project-specific. You use standard networks in a project to represent repeating processes or to plan processes in other areas.

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can copy standard networks to create networks. In addition, you must select this component if you use the Sales and Distribution System (SD) and you want to create a network from a customer inquiry, quotation or sales order within assembly processing.

Standard Milestone

Definition

A template that can be used several times to create milestones in work breakdown structures and networks. Standard milestones are not project-specific.

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can copy standard milestones to create new milestones.

Documents

Documents

Definition

Information resource containing data relevant for the user or other systems. Documents can be:

- CAD drawings
- word processing files
- pixel graphics

Selection Criteria

You must select this component together with **document management in cross-application components**. If you choose this component, you can manage documents using the document management system.

Document Processing

Definition

The acceptance of external documents into document management to make them available throughout the company.

Selection Criteria

Selection of this component is necessary if you want to edit or display documents from external sources.

PS Text Management

Definition

Word processing program for project-specific texts and documents, such as functional specifications, logs or notes required for a project.

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can create and manage documents with SAP's own word processing program SAPScript. In addition, with this component you can upload and download texts created with external word processing programs.

Production Resources/Tools

Definition

A facility used to design or shape, such as a device or tool, or used to check accuracy, condition or efficiency, such as measurement or inspection equipment. A “production resource or tool” can also be a document, such as a technical drawing.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you require production resources/tools for carrying out internally or externally processed activities.

Costs

Costs

Definition

The term “project planning” covers all the planning activities involved in executing a project, such as cost, revenue, time, finance and capacity planning.

Planned Costs

Definition

Concerned with the planning of the costs which you expect to be incurred as a project is executed.

Cost Planning in the WBS

Definition

Cost planning in the WBS determines what costs you expect to be incurred as your project is executed.

You can use the following planning forms:

- Structure planning
You estimate the costs for the WBS elements in a work breakdown structure.
- Cost element planning
You add detail to the structure planning by planning costs per cost center.
- Unit costing
This is cost planning for a WBS element based on a detailed cost estimate for activities, materials and other costs.

You can use the various planning forms alternatively or together.

Cost Planning Using Activities

Definition

The system calculates planned costs which you expect to be incurred as the project is executed, based on network activities.

Depending on the network type, the costs are recorded in activities or in the network header.

Budget**Budget****Definition**

The “costs budget” is the prescribed cost framework for a project over a particular timeframe.

Budgeting differs from cost planning in that it is binding. While you must estimate costs as accurately as possible in the planning phase, it is in the approval phase that funds are prescribed, in the form of a budget.

Actual Costs

Definition

“Actual costs” are the costs incurred as the project is executed. You enter actual costs when you enter commercial activities, such as goods receipts or confirmations, in WBS elements.

Periodic Project Closing

Periodic Project Closing

Definition

The term “period project closing” is used to describe period-related commercial activities carried out at the end of a fiscal period - that is, on conclusion of the primary postings for the relevant period.

Periodic Transfer

Definition

The “periodic transfer” is a posting tool which you can use to allocate the primary costs collected in a clearing cost center to WBS element, using a key you have defined and retaining the original cost element (the cost element in the sender cost center).

Overhead Surcharges

Overhead Surcharges

Definition

Flat-rate, percentage, or fixed amount added to direct costs, which enables overhead costs to be allocated accurately to the individual cost objects where they were originally incurred.

Selection criteria

You need to select overhead surcharges if you want to include them in cost planning.

Interest Calculation

Definition

The interest calculation is based on the payment, down payment and internal activity documents. In projects, only the balance interest calculation on a daily basis is available.

Selection criteria

If you select this component, you must also select the Cash Budget Management component in Treasury.

Project Settlement

Project Settlement

Definition

The actual costs arising in a WBS element, network order or network activity are settled, in whole or in part, to one or more receivers.

Selection criteria

You need to select project settlement if you want to transfer the costs determined in results analysis periodically to Profitability Analysis, Financial Accounting and Profit Center Accounting.

Planned Revenues

Definition

Planning of revenues posted to the project and arising from the sale of goods and services.

You can use the following planning forms:

- Structure planning
You estimate the revenues for the WBS elements in a work breakdown structure.
- Revenue element planning
You add detail to the structure planning by planning revenues per cost center.

You can use the different planning forms alternatively or together.

Selection criteria

Selection is required if you are using SD and want to record the billing data from a sales order in the revenue plan for the relevant WBS element.

Planning

Planning

Revenues

Definition

Revenues arise when you sell commercial goods and services which have been valued.

Selection criteria

You must select revenues if you want to enter actual revenues in the project via postings in Financial Accounting or billing in Sales and Distribution.

Project Profitability Analysis

Definition

“Project profitability analysis” conducts a periodic valuation of longer term projects. It takes accounting of the costs and revenues from the WBS elements and all orders for the project.

Selection criteria

You need to select this if you want to determine all or any of the following values periodically during product production:

- cost of sales
- revenues
- work in process
- reserves for unrealized costs
- reserves for provisions and costs of complaints
- reserves for imminent losses

Subprojects

Definition

Internal organizational unit in the Project System, used to divide a work breakdown structure (WBS) into different responsibility areas. A subproject consists of WBS elements connected in the hierarchy and forms a partial tree within the overall WBS.

Selection criteria

You need to select subprojects if you want to work with fixed prices in the project.

Finances**Finances****Definition**

Cash Budget Management is concerned with revenues and expenditures arising from business transactions posted in the feeder systems and assigned to the project. Financial budgeting covers planning of medium- and long-term usage of the available funds, per WBS element.

Selection criteria

Selection is necessary if you are using SD and want to record financial data from customer inquiries, customer quotations and sales orders in your project automatically.

Finances

Definition

Daily or periodic entering of all the business transactions posted to a project to check the liquid funds.

Selection criteria

You need to select this in conjunction with the interest calculation component if you want to use the daily balance interest calculation in projects.

Dates

Dates

Definition

A “date” is a general term used for the date as well as the time when network activities or WBS elements are to start or finish.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want to maintain dates manually or you want the system to plan them.

WBS Time Scheduling

Definition

Determines the scheduled start and finish dates of activities for WBS elements, the necessary capacity requirements, as well as the floats.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want the R/3 System to determine dates for WBS elements in work breakdown structures.

Scheduling

Scheduling

Definition

In “scheduling”, the start and finish dates of networks or activities in a network are determined. Scheduling determines:

- the earliest and latest start dates for carrying out activities
- the necessary capacity requirements
- floats

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want exact time scheduling in your project.

Capacities

Definition

“Capacity evaluation” is responsible for the following tasks:

- determining of available capacity
- determining capacity requirements
- comparing the available capacity with capacity requirements

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can get an overview of capacity load utilization and distribution.

Resource Planning

Resource Planning

Definition

Assignment of qualifications from people for network activities or activity elements.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want to plan qualifications, suitability or shifts for employees.

Capacity Leveling

Definition

“Capacity leveling” is used to distribute the capacity underloads and overloads to work centers. Some other important tasks include:

- optimal employment of machines and production lines
- selection of appropriate resources

Material**Material****Definition**

Substance or commodity that is bought or sold on a commercial basis or is used, consumed or created in production. A material can also be a service.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want to have the following evaluations in the information system:

- reservations
- purchase requisitions
- purchase orders

Materials Planning

Definition

“Materials planning” is a part of material requirements planning. In materials planning, requirements are compared with the availability of material components. If the material components are not available, procurement is triggered.

Selection Criteria

You must select this component if you use the Production Planning and Control System (PP) and you want to

- check the availability of material components
- transfer account assignment information from sales orders to projects

Confirmation

Confirmation

Definition

“Confirmations” document the processing status of activities and activity elements in a network and can represent a prognosis for further processing.

Selection Criteria

You should choose this component if you want to

- confirm network activities
- copy time data from confirmations to wage accounting or Time Management

Confirmation of Network Activities

Definition

“Confirmations” document the processing status of activities and activity elements in a network and can represent a forecast for further processing.

Selection Criteria

You should choose this component if you want to

- track realistic and exact actual dates and durations
- update actual costs
- utilize capacities
- confirm network activity data, such as remaining duration and work
- copy time data from confirmations to wage accounting or Time Management

Decentralized Confirmation (PDC)

Decentralized Confirmation (PDC)

Definition

A connection to an external system (plant data collection system) for entering confirmations. These confirmations are transferred to the SAP System in intervals that you define.

Earned Value Calculation

Definition

The “earned value calculation” supplies the data on the basis of which the progress of the project is measured and valued, using an allocation base, such as planned costs and the project percentage of completion (POC).

You can estimate the POC yourself, or have the system determine it based on a measuring method.

Selection criteria

Selection is necessary if you want to use the calculated earned values:

- in Profitability Analysis, to determine balances and provisions
- in billing
- in earned value analysis

Earned Value Analysis

Earned Value Analysis

Definition

Project System functionality for the analysis and presentation of a project's earned value using standard methods. In earned value analysis, you do not get an isolated view of costs, resources and dates but rather you see them together with the actual activity produced.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component for:

- internal control of your project's earned value
- activity confirmation for a sold-to party

Key Figures

Definition

Quantifiable values of every type for measuring technical, commercial or personal performance in a project. Key figures enable you to assess and compare projects quickly.

Selection criteria

You need to select key figures if you want to assess project progress, costs and revenues for different projects in relation to another measured value.

Workflow in PS

Definition

A workflow consists of a sequence of steps which are processed by the user or the system.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want the system to carry out cross-application processes automatically using workflow, such as the following standard tasks:

- changing purchase orders
- entering actual data
- confirmation variances
- changing networks

You must choose this component together with the component **BCBEWWFM Workflow Management**.

Information System

Definition

You use the information system to analyze your projects. It is a tool which enables you to flexible online evaluations of the comprehensive databases and which supplies information on the progress and status of your project. The information system can supply, in varying degrees of detail and summarization and at any time, data on the following important aspects of a project:

- budget
- costs and revenues
- finances
- dates and structure
- resources
- earned value analysis

You can use the techniques available in the information system to:

- compare project versions
- compare plan versions
- access a wide range of presentation graphics (graphic evaluation)
- analyze projects in summarized form

Project Reports

Project Reports

Definition

General reports for projects, such as:

- version comparison
- where-used list
- project evaluations

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can compare project versions and evaluate all projects.

Accounting

Definition

The cost and revenue information system contains hierarchical structures which enable you to carry out multi-dimensional evaluations of budgets, plan values and actual values, along with cost element reports and line-item reports.

Selection criteria

You must select this component if you want to:

- use reports on budgets and cost/revenue plan and actual values
- define your own reports
- summarize and analyze several projects of the same type under one header

Logistics

Logistics

Definition

The “structure/date information system” is mostly concerned with the technical aspects of Controlling. With it, you can:

- monitor dates
- evaluate delays
- control work
- have an overview of object assignments in a project

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can create your own overviews.

Graphics

Definition

The following are the different options available for graphical evaluations of projects and their components:

- presentation graphic
- hierarchy graphic
- network structure graphic
- Gantt chart
- portfolio graphic

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you can define your own display formats for graphical evaluations.

Material**Material****Definition**

Substance or commodity that is bought or sold on a commercial basis or is used, consumed or created in production. A material can also be a service.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you want to make a preliminary order for a material component or service or you want to carry out configuration.

Capacities

Definition

“Capacity planning” is an instrument used to determine available capacity and capacity requirements and to carry out capacity leveling.

Selection Criteria

You must choose this component if you use work centers and you want to

- determine capacity requirements
- carry out capacity leveling

Interfaces with External Systems

Definition

The Project System offers the following interfaces to other PC products for additional data processing or entry:

- Microsoft Access
- Microsoft Excel (spreadsheet program XXL Listviewer)
- Microsoft Project (MPX)
- Granada (for displaying networks)

Selection Criteria

If you choose this component, you receive information about how you can connect to this external software.