Monitoring and Controlling Process Group Artifacts

6.7 Control Schedule

6.7.2 Resource Optimization Techniques (Tools and Techniques)

PMGT 690, ERAU, Prof. Sherman

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6.7.2 Resource Optimization Techniques (Tools and Techniques): This artifact was taken from PMGT 501. This homework was how this project group could possible go about saving time on the project. The example that was provided was to possibly outsource certain activities. This is a technique used by project teams to Control Schedule process.

Optimizing resources to control the schedule, deals with basically relocating various costs in order to focus on the schedule or a duration of a work package.

Recommendation at Reducing Project Time

Chapter 9 explains and shows how to reduce project duration. One of the key factors to this process is to identify our critical path in the network and to identify activities that have slack. Next is to see if we can crash some activities without putting project at risk or making areas too sensitive. The more we crash activities, the more sensitive they become and the more at risk the project is at becoming late. After identifying our activities that have slack, we chose which ones will be the least expensive to crash. By reducing the time spent on certain activities, we are reducing indirect costs that would be spent planning and coordinating. We can keep reducing the time and indirect cost's until it starts getting too expensive in regards to direct costs.

After reviewing the Larson/Gray Wedding, I saw one area of the project that could save some time and money. This would be item #34 on the schedule, the venue. The activities associated with the venue planning show that:

1. Rental and set up   = $500

2. Plan and decorate = $1000

3. Plan and lighting = $500

4. Tent rental   = $350

5. Clean-up   = $250

Total   **=$2550**

By outsourcing and going with the company 'Party-to-Go' (www.parties-to-go.com); they would

charge us $2000 for all of the planning, set up, decorating (which they provide) as well as clean

up. By subcontracting this part of the project, it would save an estimated $550. However, what

is paramount is the savings in time and indirect costs. It would take one day to coordinate a tele-

conference with stakeholders, coordinator and project manager. Everything could be selected

from choice of decorations and time they would come in to set up.   They have all of the tents,

seats as well as the chosen decorations. It would only take two days to set up everything.   That

portion of the project was originally allotted a month for planning and coordinating. This

subcontractor can do everything in three days. This time saved could be focused more towards

critical items of the project.