# Introduction to Project Management

## What is a Project?

- Project Defined
  - A complex, nonroutine, one-time effort limited by time, budget, resources, and performance specifications designed to meet customer needs.
- Major Characteristics of a Project
  - -Has an established objective.
  - -Has a defined life span with a beginning and an end.
  - Requires across-the-organizational participation.
  - -Involves doing something never been done before.
  - -Has specific time, cost, and performance requirements.

#### **Programs versus Projects**

- Program Defined
  - -A series of coordinated, related, multiple projects that continue over an extended time and are intended to achieve a goal.
  - A higher level group of projects targeted at a common goal.
  - -Example:
    - Project: completion of a required course in project management.
    - Program: completion of all courses required for a business major.

#### Comparison of Routine Work with Projects

#### **Routine, Repetitive Work**

Taking class notes

Daily entering sales receipts into the accounting ledger

Responding to a supply-chain request

Practicing scales on the piano

Routine manufacture of an Apple iPod

Attaching tags on a manufactured product

#### Projects

Writing a term paper

Setting up a sales kiosk for a professional accounting meeting

Developing a supply-chain information system

Writing a new piano piece

Designing an iPod that is approximately 2 X 4 inches, interfaces with PC, and stores 10,000 songs

Wire-tag projects for GE and Wal-Mart

### Stakeholders of a Project

- Project Sponsor
  - Provides executive support
- Project Manager
  - Leads and manages the project
- Project Team Members

   Provide technical and support expertise
- Organization Employees
  - Those that are directly or indirectly affected by the proposed project
- Community
  - Competitors and business partners impacted by the project outcome

#### **Project Manager**

A person with a diverse set of skills – *management, leadership, technical, conflict management*, and *customer relationship* – who is responsible for <u>initiating</u>, <u>planning</u>, <u>executing</u>, <u>controlling</u>, <u>monitoring</u>, and <u>closing</u> down a project.

# Top Five Causes of Project Failure

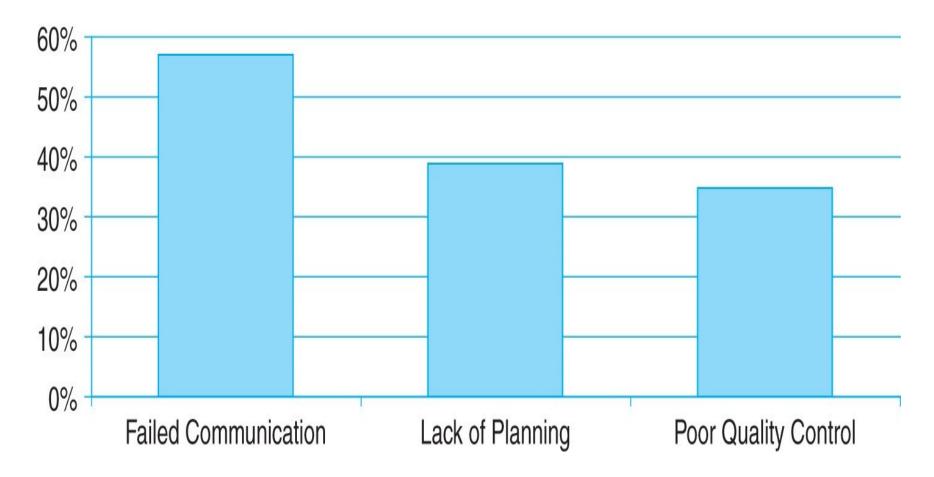
- Lack of attention to human and organizational factors
- Poor project management
- Poor articulation of user requirements
- Inadequate attention to business needs and goals
- Failure to involve users appropriately

### 2004 Study by Wallace & Keil

- Lack of executive support
- Lack of user involvement
- Inexperienced project manager
- Inexperienced team members
- Unclear business objectives
- Unreliable estimates
- Lack of effective project management methodology
- New software infrastructure
- Unstable organizational environment
- Unreliable outside suppliers

#### Project Failure (French Study)

#### Causes of Project Failure as Reported by Top 100 Managers



#### **Project Life Cycle**

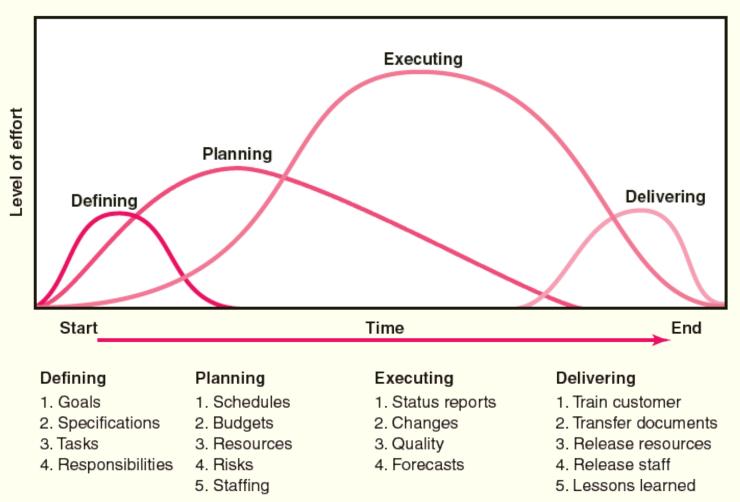
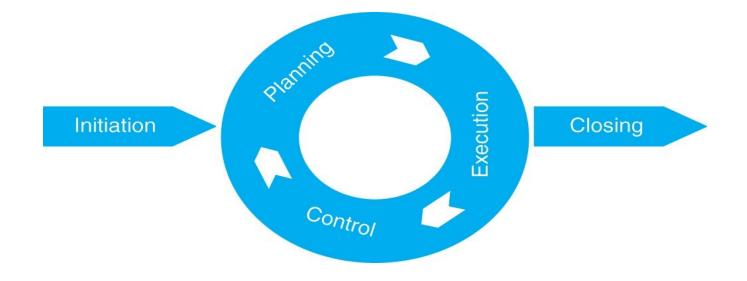


FIGURE 1.<sup>4</sup>

#### What is Project Management?

- The application of *knowledge*, *skills*, *tools*, and *techniques* to project activities in order to meet project requirements.
- Involves five process groups:

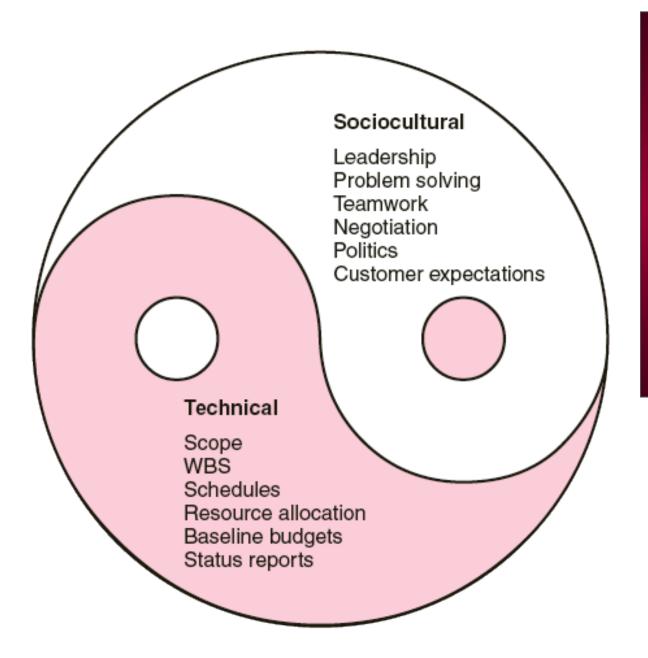


### **Project Management Life Cycle**

- Initiate potential projects are identified and evaluated in terms of importance to the organization
- Plan scope, time, cost and risk management planning takes place
- Execute project plan is followed
- Control project performance is measured against the project plan
- Close final paper work completed and sign off by all stakeholders

# The Approach to Learning Project Management

- Process Focus
- Team Focus
- Technology Focus
- PM Software
- Group Support Technologies
- Knowledge Management and Organizational Memory Systems
- Global Focus
- PM Professional Focus



The Technical and Sociocultural Dimensions of the Project Management Process

FIGURE 1.3

#### The Challenge of Project Management

- The Project Manager
  - –Manages temporary, non-repetitive activities and frequently acts independently of the formal organization.
    - Marshals resources for the project.
    - Is linked directly to the customer interface.
    - Provides direction, coordination, and integration to the project team.
    - Is responsible for performance and success of the project.
  - -Must induce the right people at the right time to address the right issues and make the right decisions.

## The Importance of Project Management

- Factors leading to the increased use of project management:
  - -Compression of the product life cycle
  - -Global competition
  - -Knowledge explosion
  - -Corporate downsizing
  - -Increased customer focus
  - Rapid development of Third World and closed economies
  - -Small projects that represent big problems



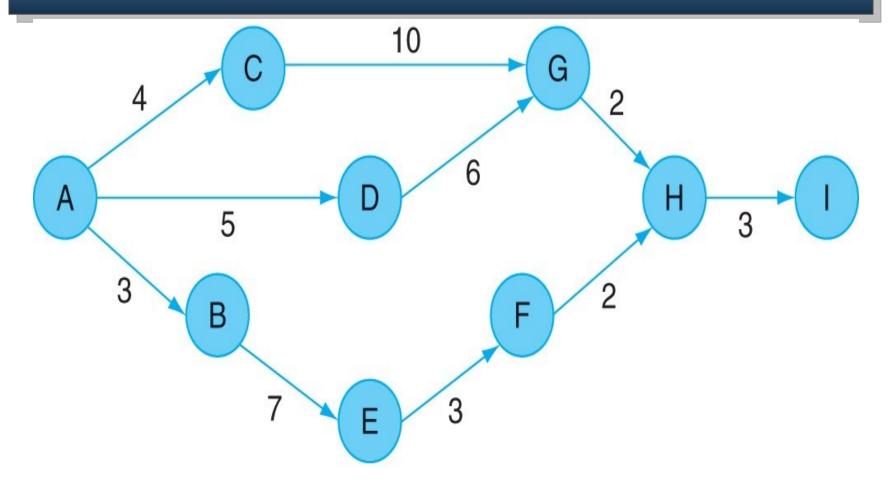
#### Integrated Project Management Systems

- Problems resulting from the use of piecemeal project management systems:
  - -Do not tie together the overall strategies of the firm.
  - -Fail to prioritize selection of projects by their importance of their contribution to the firm.
  - -Are not integrated throughout the project life cycle.
  - –Do not match project planning and controls with organizational culture to make appropriate adjustments in support of project endeavors.

## Various Project Management Tools/Techniques

- Gantt Chart
  - Tool that can be used to plan and track project activities
- Critical Path Method (CPM)
  - A method used for determining the sequence of task activities that directly affect the completion of a project
- Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT)
  - A technique that uses optimistic, pessimistic, and realistic time to calculate the expected time for a particular task
- Microsoft Project
  - Most widely used project management software
  - http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/project/default.aspx
- Application Service Provider (ASP) software
  - Web hosted project management software
- Industry-Specific software
  - Software which addresses a specific industry or environment





Critical Path = ACGHI (19 days)

# Industry Specific Software

Industry	Software Package	
General Purpose	Microsoft Project	
Detailers and Fabricators	AbacusPM	
Audio/Visual/Multimedia Production	AlterMedia	
Construction	Hard Hat Manager	
Small Business	4aBetterBusiness	
Software Development	DOVICO Track-IT	
Manufacturing and Mining	Crest Soft	

## Project Management Institute (PMI)

- An association designed to bring together project management professionals and systematically capture project management knowledge
- Publishes the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK)
  - The PMBOK is a collection of processes and knowledge areas generally accepted as best practice within the project management discipline

## Project Management Institute (PMI)

- Professional organization for project managers
- Over 214,000 members from 159 countries (2006)
- Provides professional literature on project management
- Develops and maintains the PMBOK
- Sponsors the PMP Certification
- www.pmi.org

### **PMBOK**

- Project Management Body of Knowledge
- A repository of the key project management knowledge areas

# PMBOK Knowledge Areas

Project	Project	Project
Integration Management	Scope Management	Time Management
Project plan development	Initiation	Activity definition
Project plan execution	Scope planning	Activity sequencing
Integrated change control	Scope definition	Activity duration estimating
	Scope Verification	Schedule development
	Scope Change Control	Schedule control
Project	Project	Project
Cost Management	Quality Management	Human Resource Management
Resource planning	Quality planning	Organizational planning
Cost estimating	Quality assurance	Staff acquisition
Cost budgeting	Quality control	Team development
Cost control		
Project	Project	Project
Communications Management	Risk Management	Procurement Management
Communications planning	Risk management planning	Procurement planning
Information distribution	Risk identification	Solicitation planning
Performance reporting	Qualitative risk analysis	Solicitation
Administrative closure	Quantitative risk analysis	Source selection
	Risk response planning	Contract administration
	Risk monitoring and control	Contract closeout
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