

Winning the Estimation Game

Workshop Description

The Challenge

Every organization sooner or later is faced with the necessity of selecting and prioritizing projects. Estimation of cost and schedule is an important aspect of this process. While the techniques of estimation are fairly straightforward, project estimation nonetheless is something that Project Managers almost uniformly dread. Why? The primary cause of concern is that these early estimates that are generally based on very scant and suspect data often, contrary to all reason, become the budgets for future Missions Impossible.

We've all been there. We've seen one organization after another pursue a policy of setting baselines first and planning projects second. It makes no sense, it causes enormous difficulty for all involved and yet the practice persists. Why? What can be done about it?

The Solution

This workshop takes you on a guided tour through the sometimes wacky world of Preliminary Project Estimates and the Budgeting Process. It explains in detail steps that you and your management team can take to embrace the uncertainty that exists in preliminary estimates and use it in the planning process. Project Managers learn how to deliver estimates that make sense. Managers learn how to interpret estimation data in a way that allows rational budgeting. Attend this workshop and learn how to make preliminary estimation and early budgeting a Win - Win for everyone involved.

Who should attend

The workshop will benefit anyone who is involved with project time or cost estimates: project manager; project sponsor; PMO staff; project portfolio managers; and functional managers and executives with project responsibility.

Learning Objectives – Understand the following:

- The three factors that determine estimate reliability
- Uncertainty is built into every estimate
- It is essential to understand and include the uncertainty in estimates in the budgeting process
- Management has a key role to play in making early estimates as reliable as possible
- A simple technique for introducing confidence in estimates
- All budget changes should be accompanied by review of project plans
- Implications for the project selection process
- The Myth of Pressure Cooker Excellence is exposed
- How to make early estimation and budgeting Win – Win

Workshop Information

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- **Duration:** ½ day
- **Typical class size:** 6 or more attendees
- **Participants receive:**
 - PMP®-certified instruction
 - Student Guide
 - Certificate of Participation
 - 3 PDUs / Contact Hours in project management education
- **Course I.D. Number:** 7016

Learning Approach

- A highly experienced instructor will use an interactive lecture format, group discussions and other techniques to drive home the essential points of this material
- We will build on your prior experience in this topic, while providing you with a structure and vocabulary to use in future projects.
- You will receive a Student Guide which will help you follow the material, take notes and retain what you learned so that you can apply it on your job.

Why should I take this workshop?

- *Winning the Estimation Game* presents unique insights into the estimation process. Attendees should be able to make immediate use of the practical steps presented in this workshop.
- Learn steps you can take to prevent your estimates from being used inappropriately.
- Discover how you can make best use of the estimates you are given.
- Learn what you can do to make preliminary project budgeting a rational and useful process..

Cost and Availability

We can arrange onsite training to suit your requirements. See our website for the latest pricing information:

<http://www.cvr-it.com>

Licensing

This workshop is available under license to qualified Training Providers. We deliver a full set of courseware materials including instructor slides, instructor manual and student guide. Train the Trainer instruction is available to ensure that all providers adhere to the same high level of course delivery. For more information, contact us at info@cvr-it.com