

Working with Constraints in the WBS

Definitions

Constraints: Factors within a WBS project schedule that limit task scheduling options. Constraints are usually imposed by key events, and they can be determined by deadlines imposed by customers, regulations, internal policies, and dependent projects. Adding constraint dates to your schedule will automatically update the Schedule Start and Schedule Finish columns in the WBS. Every type of constraint is available at the lowest defined level of a project's WBS. At a parent level, however, only a blank cell (null), SNET, and FNLT are available.

The table below summarizes the constraint types available in the Planview WBS.

Acronym/Selection	Definition	Description
(blank)	As soon as possible	No constraint date; default value in Planview
ALAP	As late as possible	Delays the task as long as possible, without holding up the finish of the project and without creating a conflict for any successor task that is constrained.
SNET	Start no earlier than	Task cannot start until the constraint date.
SNLT	Start no later than	Task must start on or before the constraint date.
FNET	Finish no earlier than	Task must not finish before the constraint date.
FNLT	Finish no later than	Task must finish on or before the constraint date.
MSON	Must start on	Task must start exactly on the constraint date.
MFON	Must finish on	Task must finish exactly on the constraint date.

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Icons in this job aid



Information

Steps

Open Work Item

1. Log into Planview: <https://vumc.pvcloud.com/planview/> using your SSO.
2. Click **Work** to open the Work menu.



3. In the Work Menu, click **Work**, select your project, and click **Work and Resource Management**.



Add Constraints

1. The Work and Resource Management tool opens in a new window. The Column Set you used last will be your default. Click the **Column Set** list to choose **01. Project – Build Schedule**.

Line #	Name	Work Status	Schedule S
1	Work/Project: PM Curriculum Develop...	Open/Approved	11/2
2	Phase: Assessment	Open/Approved	11/2
3	>: Determine intended audience	Completed	
4	>: Inventory existing PM training	Completed	

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2. Constraint Type and Constraint Date columns become available in this column set.

Double-click in the Constraint Type column of a task row to add a constraint.

Line #	Name	Work Status	Schedule Start	Duration	Schedule Finish	Milestone Flag	Milestone Type	Predecessors	Successors	Constraint Type	Constraint Date
1	Work/Project: PM Curriculum Develop...	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	154.0d	6/30/2017	No					
2	Phase: Assessment	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	10.0d	12/6/2016	No					
3	> Determine intended audience	Completed				No					
4	> Inventory existing PM training	Completed				No					
5	> Peer institution review	Assumed Completed				No					
6	> Audience survey open	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	10.0d	12/6/2016	No					10/4/2016
7	> Focus groups and interviews	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	5.0d	11/29/2016	No					10/10/2016
8	> Develop project charter	Assumed Completed				No					7/22/2016
9	> Project Charter Approved	Completed				Yes	Deliverable				8/31/2016
10	Phase: Design	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	23.0d	12/27/2016	No					

3. Select the Constraint Type needed from the dropdown list. Refer to the table on page 1 of this job aid for more information.

4. Double-click in the Constraint Date column to add the constraint date for the task.

Line #	Name	Work Status	Schedule Start	Duration	Schedule Finish	Milestone Flag	Milestone Type	Predecessors	Successors	Constraint Type	Constraint Date	To Do List	Notes
1	Work/Project: PM Curriculum Develop...	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	154.0d	6/30/2017	No							
2	Phase: Assessment	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	10.0d	12/6/2016	No							
3	> Determine intended audience	Completed				No							
4	> Inventory existing PM training	Completed				No							
5	> Peer institution review	Assumed Completed				No							
6	> Audience survey open	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	10.0d	12/6/2016	No				SNET			
7	> Focus groups and interviews	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	5.0d	11/29/2016	No				SNET			
8	> Develop project charter	Assumed Completed				No				MFON			
9	> Project Charter Approved	Completed				Yes	Deliverable			FNET			
10	Phase: Design	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	23.0d	12/27/2016	No							
11	> Design training curriculum	Open/Approved				No							
12	> Determine performance objectives	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	23.0d	12/27/2016	No				SNET			
13	> Design performance support pro...	Open/Approved	11/21/2016	1.0d	11/21/2016	No				SNET			

5. Repeat as often as needed where constraints apply.



Note: If you have sub-tasks, only SNET and FNET are available for the parent tasks. For the lowest level of structure, all constraint types are available.