www.necplanningsolutions.co.uk
info@necplanningsolutions.co.uk

SCHEDULE RISK ANALYSIS · NEC4 ECC

Schedule Risk Analysis Checklist

A P80 date is the date by which 80 per cent of the runs in a schedule risk analysis finish. It measures confidence. It is not a contract date. Run this check before one leaves the business.

1 Is the programme fit to model?

- [ ] **A health check first.** Run the five signs of a programme that has lost its integrity.
- [ ] **Complete logic.** Every activity apart from the start and finish milestones linked both ways.
- [ ] **As few constraints as possible**, each with a reason. A hard constraint holds an activity in place and hides its risk.
- [ ] **All of the work**, procurement and commissioning included, with durations the team can explain.
- [ ] **The right programme.** A summary that drops the points where paths merge also drops the merge bias.

State it: *the programme the analysis runs on, and why it is fit to model.*

2 Ranges and risks

- [ ] **A three-point range for each activity:** optimistic, most likely and pessimistic, agreed with the people who will do the work.
- [ ] **Ranges from the record:** what similar work achieved and the risk register, not the duration on the programme.
- [ ] **Ranges challenged before they are entered**, with anonymous interviews where a workshop would press people to agree with the room.
- [ ] **The main risks as events**, each with a chance of happening and an effect on the work it would hit.
- [ ] **Activities that move together linked:** the same crew, supplier, assumption or weather. Modelled apart, they narrow the spread and pull the P80 too early.

State it: *where each range came from, and which activities are linked.*

3 Split the risks by owner under the NEC4 ECC

- [ ] **The Contractor's risks**, such as outputs, productivity and its own supply chain, belong in the time risk allowances.
- [ ] **Weather that does not meet the 60.1(13) test** stays with the Contractor, including anything up to the once-in-ten-years level.
- [ ] **Compensation events stay out of the allowances**, such as 60.1(3) the Client late with something it is to provide, 60.1(6) a late reply, 60.1(12) physical conditions and the 60.1(13) weather measurement.
- [ ] **The whole contract read:** clause 60.1 is the main list, some Options add events, and the Contract Data can state more.
- [ ] **Two runs:** one on the Contractor's risks to size the allowances, and one on every risk to show what the date really carries.

State it: *which risks sit in the allowances, and which the contract gives back as compensation events.*

A P80 date measures confidence. The Completion Date is the promise.

4 Read the result

- [ ] **The P50 and P80 dates**, read as statements about the model and the risks put into it, not as forecasts.
- [ ] **Where planned Completion sits on the curve.** The programme's own date tends to sit low, and merge bias is one reason.
- [ ] **The chance of meeting the Completion Date** and each Key Date on the Contractor's risks.
- [ ] **The drivers:** the risks and activities that move the P80 most, often shown as a tornado chart. Each is worth an early warning and a named owner.
- [ ] **The allowances the record supports**, placed on the activities that carry the risk, not a generic percentage.

State it: *the confidence each date carries, and the risks that drive it.*

5 Before the date leaves the business

- [ ] **The promise.** Completion no later than the Completion Date (30.1), and the Condition for each Key Date met by that date (30.3). A P80 date is not part of it unless the business offers it as one of those dates.
- [ ] **At tender, the date decided with a number.** Where you state the Completion Date in Contract Data part two, check the confidence it carries. Where the client fixes it in part one, check how much risk of delay damages you are accepting.
- [ ] **The time-related cost in the price** matches the confidence level chosen. A later date is safer but costs more.
- [ ] **The Scope read.** Where it requires the analysis with each programme, it is part of what the Project Manager checks under 31.3. A request outside the contract is a service you can price.
- [ ] **Producing a P80 is not achieving one.** A Scope can make the analysis a deliverable without making its date a contract date.

State it: *which date the business is committing to, and which it is only reporting.*

Before a P80 date goes to the client

Ready when all four hold.

- [ ] The programme behind it passes a basic health check.
- [ ] Every range and risk has a source someone can explain.
- [ ] The allowances come from the run on the Contractor's risks, with compensation events left out.
- [ ] The director has chosen the confidence level, and the commitment is the Completion Date and any Key Dates, not the P80, unless offered as one of them.

Asked for a P80 date and not sure what it commits you to? Book a 30-minute call about a schedule risk analysis.

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Roman Bazelchuk · Director, NEC Planning Solutions Ltd · info@necplanningsolutions.co.uk · 0330 223 7709