# ENGINUITY TUTORIAL



**Project Manager Performance** 



Project managers are concerned with the **overall planning and co-ordination** of a project from inception to completion aimed at meeting the client's requirements and ensuring completion on time, within cost and to the required quality standards.

But how do we know the affect a project manager has had on the performance of the company's jobs ?



The Project Manager History provides a detailed analysis of the performance of all project managers, and highlights :-

- The **basic performance**; based on the project manager's profile
- The **overall performance**, taking into account a number of performance factors

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Bruce Simpson	UK	5	On Job	62	UK	Building & Commercial	Yes	very good	none	4%	Still at History Level	reasonable	none	none	excellent	
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reasonable

very good

No

On Job 145 US Transport

4 % Above History Level

4 % Above History Level

small

small

reasonable

reasonable

none

none

very good

excellent



**Bruce Simpson** managed jobs 62, 102 and 166 from period 5 onwards, all Building & Commercial contracts, and has had a **very good** basic, and **excellent** overall performance level each period.

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			7	On Job	_		Building & Commercial	Yes	very good	small	4%	-	small	none	none	excellent	
			8	On Job	_		Building & Commercial	Yes	very good	reasonable		Above History Level	small	none	none	excellent	
	_		9	On Job	_	UK	Building & Commercial	Yes	very good	reasonable		Above History Level	small	none	none	excellent	D .
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#### **PROFILE**

Bruce's basic performance is **very good** because of an outstanding track record in the Building & Commercial sector.

The profile also includes some **personal details**. Although they can affect basic performance, they are also pointers as to the future outlook for the project manager e.g., tendency towards depression could indicate that the project manager may be off ill in the future, and not available.

A good project manager, one with the relevant experience for a particular job, will produce more output from the resources available, while a poor project manager will impair contract efficiency.

#### BRUCE SIMPSON

After graduating from Liverpool John Moores University, Bruce spent 12 years as a junior engineer for the overseas development agency, working mainly on building restoration projects where there had been major earthquakes, which took him to diverse parts of the world. Bruce returned to the UK to take-up a structural engineer's post on a large steel plant development in the North of England, and the project's success saw him progress into site management, which he has been doing now for many years on a variety of industrial and building and commercial schemes.



A really good team leader, well-respected by others, Bruce has a fabulous track-record, and produces first-class results every time. He will never be short of job offers, and is constantly being headhunted. Bruce has never married, but has many close friends, and enjoys walking. He is gradually completing the South West Coast Path, something he started doing over ten years ago.



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We will take a look at the factors that have contributed to Bruce's overall performance level.



#### TIME WITH THE COMPANY

The longer a project manager works for the company, the better the performance, as they gain experience and knowledge and how the company operates.

We can see that Bruce has worked continuously for the company for 6 periods, and during that time there has been an **noticeable improvement** in performance due to experience gained.

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#### **BONUS**

The performance of the project manager can be improved for the current period only by paying a **bonus**, which is a % of the salary for the period.

Project manager **expectations** can change as the operating performance of the company changes, and may be higher or lower than the History level. This will affect the affect bonus levels have on performance.

A 4% bonus has been paid to Bruce each period. This improved performance by a **reasonable** amount during period 5. However, from period 6 onwards project manager expectations rose as the company's operating performance improved, and the 4% bonus only resulted in a **small** improvement in Bruce's performance.

#### **KEY POINTS**

If project manager expectation remains constant, paying the same level of bonus will not necessarily result in the same improvement in performance level each time as there is a 'human' element built into the calculations which can marginally distort the results.

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#### OTHER REASONS FOR PAYING A BONUS

- •Good project managers whose average bonus over the time they are working on a particular job is below a certain level may resign because they do not feel they are being **adequately rewarded**. In such a case the project manager may bear a grudge, and may not be available again for some time in the future. Project managers never resign in their first period on a job.
- The top performing project managers can be **poached** by rival companies regardless of the level of bonus they are paid, although paying a good bonus will help to lesson the chance of this happening. Once poached, a project manager will not be available again.

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### **JOB LOCATION**

If the project manager's home base **is not in the same country** as the job location it can have a negative impact on their performance, which increases as the project manager suitability for the job declines.

Bruce is based in the UK, and all the jobs he has worked on have been in the UK, and there has been no problem with the location.

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#### TAKING OVER FROM ANOTHER PROJECT MANAGER

Taking over from another project manager can impair performance. The previous project manager will have worked differently, and there will be a period of adjustment. Better project managers are not affected so much.

Since Bruce has managed all the jobs he has been on since they began, there has been **no deterioration** in performance due to taking over from another manager.

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To summarise, the **main factor** that affects a project manager's performance is the past experience in the job sector.

There are additional factors that can improve performance :-

- Time spent with the Company
- Bonus payments

and others that can deteriorate performance :-

- Job location
- Taking over from another project manager

Although these can be graded from "None" to "Dramatic" for affect, none of them has anything like the impact as the past experience.

The experience/performance of the project manager can be gauged from :-

- Their profile
- Their career history with the company