Primavera P6, Oracle Projects, and Agile for Integrated Project Manufacturing

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A large manufacturing firm uses an integrated model of Primavera P6 EPPM, Agile and Oracle Projects to facilitate engineer-to-order project manufacturing. P6 is used for project management, financial forecasting and progress reporting; Agile is used to report progress on engineering activities and Oracle's native Project Manufacturing functionality is used to create demand to drive the supply chain. How these systems were integrated, lessons learned and phase 2 goals will be discussed.

Overview of O2Works LLC

O2Works is one of the leading E-Business Suite services providers offering among the most experienced functional and technical consultants in the industry. We are a privately held Oracle E-Business Suite consulting firm that was founded in 2001 and has its principal offices in Dallas, Texas along with offices in Chicago, Denver and Virginia. Our hands-on resources average 15+ years of experience focused exclusively on implementing, upgrading, integrating, and extending Oracle's E-Business Suite to meet the challenging requirements of today's mid-size to Fortune 50 companies around the world. We are a Certified Gold level Oracle Partner firm and are very active in the Oracle Application User Group, where we are a Level 3 partner and frequent presenters at National, Regional, and Local conferences.

Overview of Powell Industries, Inc.

Powell Industries, Inc., headquartered in Houston, engineers packaged solutions and systems for the control, distribution and management of electrical energy and other dynamic processes. Powell markets include large industrial customers such as utilities, oil and gas producers, refineries, petrochemical plants, pulp and paper producers, mining operations and commuter railways.

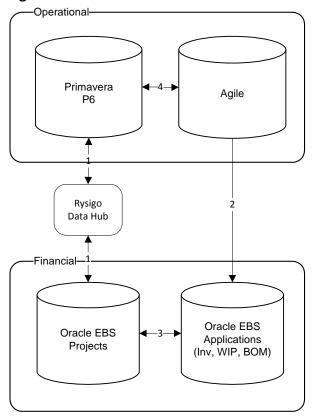
Overview of Project Synergy

Powell has been live on Oracle EBS version 11.5.10 since 2006, using the Financials, Manufacturing and Project Management application suites. Considering the growth of the company since that time, along with changes in business requirements, they decided to re-implement EBS version 12.1.3, rather than upgrade their existing footprint. Project Synergy was launched with this goal in mind, however all business processes were also re-designed in the process. Additional applications were identified to meet business requirements and specifically Agile and Primavera P6 are addressed in this paper.

Objectives

- 1. Discuss how Agile, Primavera P6 and Oracle EBS are tied together in this manufacturing environment.
- 2. Detailed discussion on the Primavera P6 configuration and the integration with Oracle EBS.
- 3. Detailed discussion on the Oracle EBS configuration and the integration with Primavera P6.

High-Level System Integration



Operational Systems

- Primavera P6 Used for project management and scheduling capabilities.
 - o Project Schedule
 - Project Resources
 - Project Progress
- Agile PPM Used for product management capabilities.
 - o Item creation
 - o Bills of Materials
 - o Engineering task management
 - Progress tracked by completion of deliverables

Financial Systems

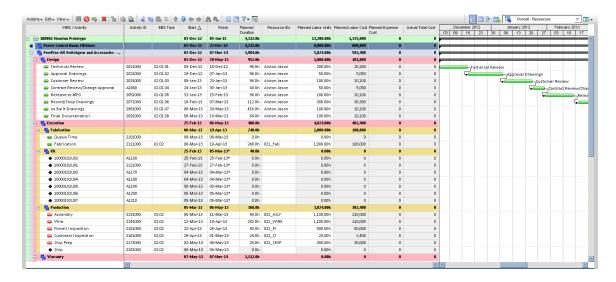
- Oracle EBS Projects Used as the financial system-of-record.
 - o Financial Plans Budgets, forecasts.
 - o Revenue
 - o Cost

Oracle EBS Applications (Inv, WIP, BOM) – System of record for manufacturing activities.

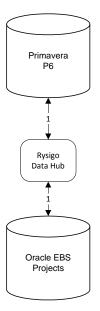
Project Structure

Powell uses a project structure where a top-level WBS in P6 (top task in EBS Projects) equates to a product offering. Projects are built in P6 using product templates and joined together by the project manager. Each product includes a further breakdown of Design (for engineering) and Execution (for shop-floor production) of the product:

- Product 1
 - o Design
 - Design Activity A
 - Design Activity B
 - Execution
 - Execution Activity

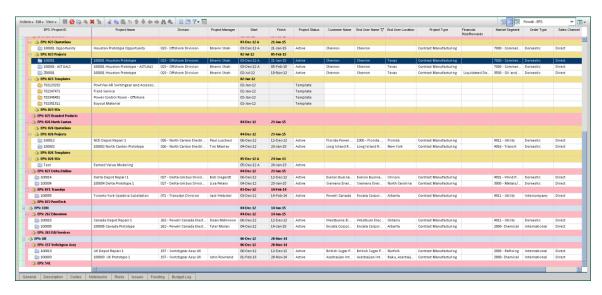


Integration 1 - P6/Oracle EBS Projects



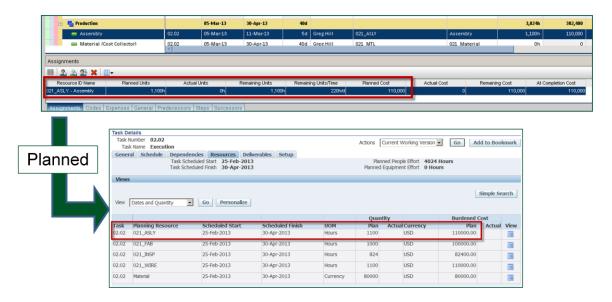
Powell purchased Rysigo's Data Hub product to facilitate the integration between P6 and EBS Projects. Out-of-the-box, the Data Hub integrated the P6 project plan with the EBS project workplan. This integration includes projects, tasks and resource assignments from P6 to EBS and actual hours and cost from EBS to P6.

The Data Hub facilitates all project creation in EBS, adding tasks to these projects and performing resource assignments. Project information that is required for successful project creation in EBS (based on the EBS template) is held in native P6 fields (project owner), defined project codes (project type) or defined project User Defined Fields (customer number).



Information required for successful task creation in EBS is held in native P6 fields (responsible manager = task owning organization), defined activity codes (task type, service type), or defined activity User Defined Fields (task manager).

Project resources are defined on the EBS Planning Resource List and synchronized via Data Hub to create resources in P6. Quantities attributed to assigned resources in P6 are represented on the EBS workplan. Costing is performed in EBS using the rate schedules defined there and the planned cost brought back to P6.

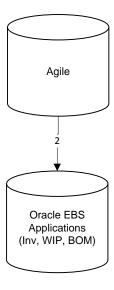


Powell worked with Rysigo to expand their product to allow for a shared structure setup in EBS Projects and to identify particular activities in P6 as financial tasks for EBS. Powell did not require every activity in P6 to be a chargeable financial task in EBS so use of a shared structure with task-based mapping was a better fit for Powell.

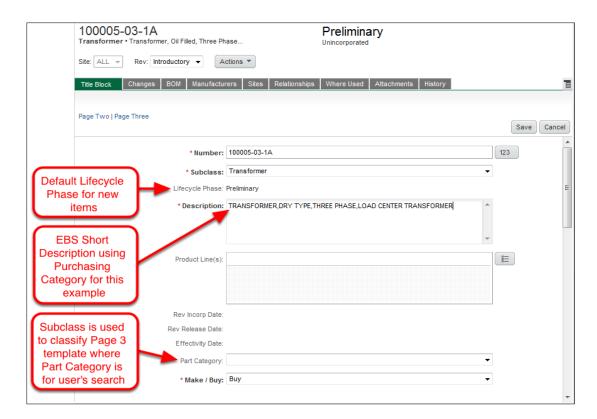
Actual hours and cost incurred on the financial tasks in EBS Projects are interfaced back to the P6 project by the Data Hub. This allows for an accurate Estimate to Complete in both the EBS financial forecast and the P6 project plan.

The P6/EBS Projects integration depends on a manual process of synchronization that is performed in Data Hub. Project Managers have the access to Synchronize Project Financials, which integrates the current summarized P6 project plan with the working version of the EBS workplan. This synchronization sends planned quantities to EBS and returns the planned cost back to P6. Project Master Schedulers have the access to Synchronize Project Schedule, which performs the action of Synchronize Financials with the added function of publishing the EBS workplan. This distinction is important because publication of the EBS workplan triggers Integration 3 as explained later.

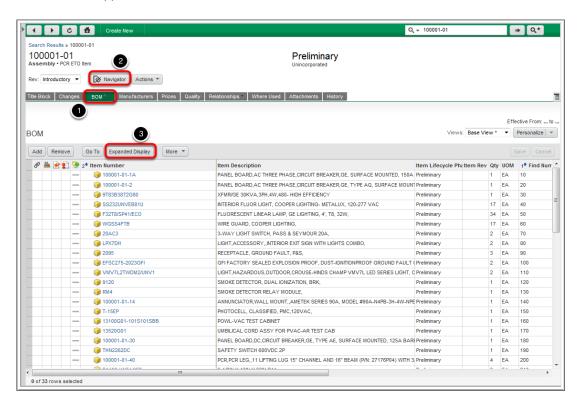
Integration 2 - Agile / Oracle EBS Applications



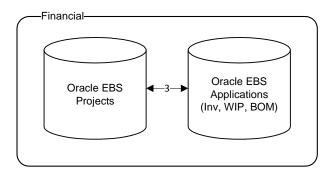
Agile is the master for inventory items and Bills of Material at Powell. Items are created in Agile and interfaced to Oracle Inventory, including top-level engineered-to-order (ETO) items. Buy items are also created in Agile.



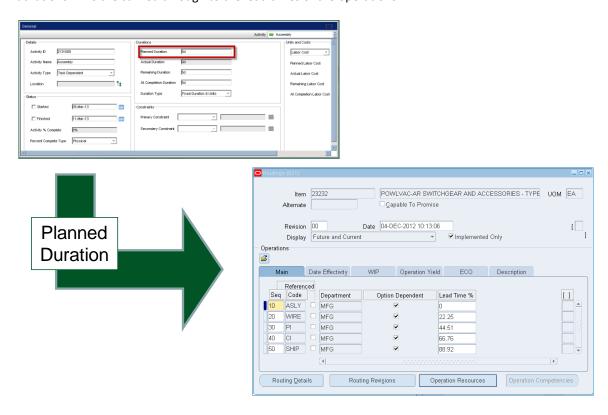
Bills of Materials are also created in Agile using these items. BOMs are then interfaced to the Oracle EBS Bill of Material application for downstream use.



Integration 3 – Oracle EBS Projects / Oracle EBS Applications

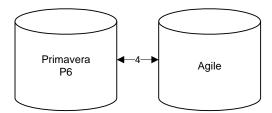


In addition to the standard Oracle EBS integrations between Projects and other applications, Powell built a custom update to the ETO item routings so that the durations of manufacturing operations could be scheduled in P6, integrated with the EBS project, and driven downstream to the discrete job. Planned durations in P6 are carried through to the lead times of the operations:

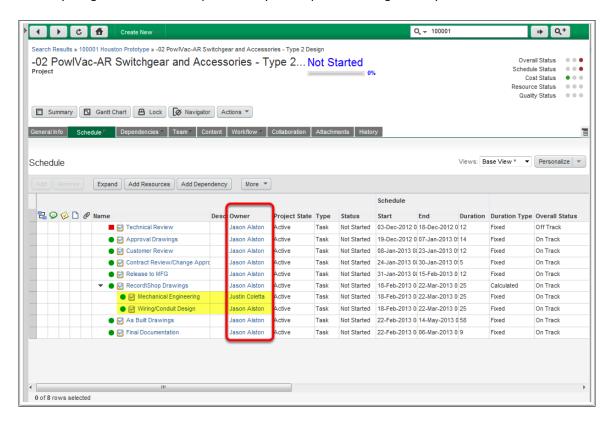


This custom integration was added to the PA: Workplan workflow to run on workplan publication. The project workplan is published by the Data Hub during synchronization. This ensures that any change in schedule is sent from P6 to EBS, and that any un-released discrete jobs are also updated with the proper durations for the manufacturing operations.

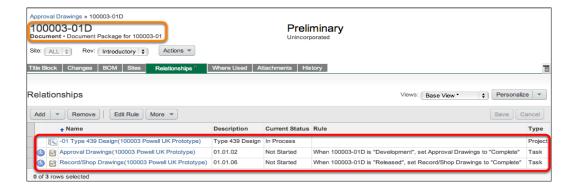
Integration 4 – Primavera P6 / Agile



Powell again worked with Rysigo to build a custom interface between Agile Product Management and Primavera P6. Design activities in P6 are assigned to specific engineers as activity resources. This assignment, along with its schedule dates, is interfaced into Agile as a top-level task. Lower-level tasks held only in Agile build out the steps necessary to complete the design activity.



Engineers working in Agile create document packages related to their deliverables on the project – engineering drawings.



As these deliverables and tasks are completed, progress is tracked inside of Agile. The Rysigo-developed interface sends the latest progress to the P6 activity, keeping the Project Manager up-to-date.



Lessons Learned

Downstream impacts to upstream scheduling activities is important to consider in this type of integration. Synchronizing a project schedule from P6 to EBS has a direct impact on shop floor activities, since updated schedule dates are fed into item routings (Integration 3). Security is important here so Rysigo separated the synchronization functions for Powell:

- Synchronize Project Financials Given to project managers. Integrates the P6 project plan with
 the working version of the EBS workplan only. This provides for latest forecasted cost to be fed
 back to P6 without triggering an update to the item routings as that is done via workplan
 publication in EBS.
- Synchronize Project Schedule Given to project master schedulers. Performs the above integration with the added publishing of the workplan. This gives the master schedulers final approval of project schedules and update to shop floor activities.

Phase 2 Considerations

Powell would like to automate the Synchronize Project Financials function so that a project manager does not have to login to Data Hub in order to process updates to their P6 project plan in EBS and have updated planned cost in P6. This manual step is cumbersome for project managers and automation here would greatly streamline the process.