

Simplifying Earned Value: *Measuring True Program Performance*

Three simple ways to measure program performance even managers can understand

Complex projects and programs are notorious for being difficult to predict final completion dates and total costs — let alone achievement of results. Leaders and managers need accurate and easily interpreted performance reports to quickly diagnose problems and take corrective action.

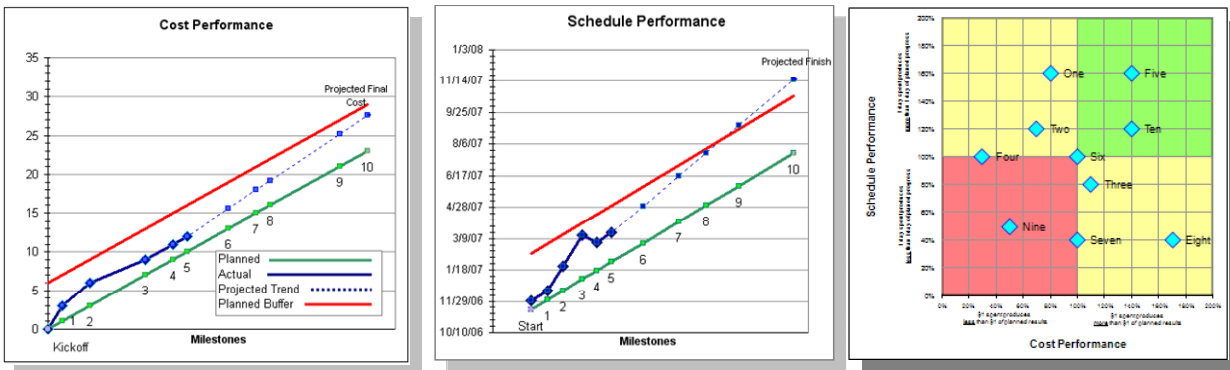
Earned Value has evolved to become a powerful tool to measure actual progress, and achievement of outcomes for projects and programs. Too many tools measure only “activities” without providing information to show progress towards the results set forth to justify the investment. Earned Value is an objective way to measure progress towards results and not just money spent or time elapsed.

The presenter will provide an overview of Earned Value and its application. He will also show three simple ways to take advantage of the methodology that fits our “bandwidth” and busy schedules.

Performance Visibility Charts — *The major milestones of a project or program are used to create a chain of specific and measurable performance targets. Where each milestone has: a clear definition of the work product to be delivered and a planned cost and date for each deliverable*

Management Tools — *As the milestones are delivered, their actual delivery dates and total costs are plotted on clear and simple “performance visibility charts” that provide: Clear visibility into any gaps between the plans and actual results Easy and accurate predictions of total costs and end dates*

Analysis Tools — *The performance analysis quadrant diagram looks at “percentage better than or worse than” planned. It compares: Different programs, even though they may have vastly different budgets and schedules One manager’s results over time Performance differences between different managers*



Ed Warnock is a founding partner of Cumulus Resources, LLC. The company builds tools and systems to help organizations set and reach strategic goals.

Their strategy tools include strategy maps, balanced scorecards, performance visibility charts, social networks, wikis and blogs

Ed Warnock is a frequent presenter locally and around the world on the topic of strategic planning and execution. He is multi-time of the recipient of the Oregon Executive MBA’s “excellence in teaching award for his graduate classes on “Implementing Corporate Strategy” and “Managing in the Future.”

He has a BS in Aerospace Engineering and a master’s degree in Whole-systems Design. Other highlights of Ed’s background:

- Strategy execution work with the government of Botswana
- COO of an oil-field services company in Texas
- Director of an international development agency serving in sixty countries
- Thermodynamics research engineer, Michelson-Morley Laboratory
- Director of an international development project in Sudan
- Russian linguist for the US Air Force
- Bush pilot in Africa and the Philippines



Ed also enjoys flying gliders over the mountains, valleys and deserts of the northwest.