



TURNAROUND TIP SHEET #5

Equipment-Based Planning with T/ASC®

Why do we advocate Equipment based planning instead of project based planning?

First things first: the primary purpose of planning your work is to keep things for everyone as simple as possible – don't complicate things!

The Problem

Many planning systems say to treat the Turnaround as one big project so that all the maintenance activities link together and are dependent on each other. That way, all activities lead to one activity at the end called "Project complete". This ignores the "real world" of planner or data entry mistakes or the reality of "found work" once the maintenance work starts, and the operating equipment is opened up for inspection.

If you're linking 100 activities together, it's relatively easy to scan the list and find the offending activity logic and or estimate(s). Once fixed, you can have the system recalculate the steps and you're good to go. BUT, what if you're working with many activities, estimates and/or typically encounter a lot of "found work"? Now you're spending a lot of unnecessary time finding problems that may have been caused by another planner, or other circumstances beyond your control.

The T/ASC Solution

Here's an outline of how T/ASC handles this and the way we train new users.

Every plant or industrial facility has many operating equipments. Many of them do the same things (pumps, exchangers, filters and tanks being obvious examples). We classify these major types of equipment and call them "Equipment Class".

Within each equipment class, we pick one operating piece of equipment, called an "Equipment". We then have the planner plan out ALL the steps for that equipment including the prep work, the steps to shutdown the equipment, the actual maintenance work, the steps to startup the equipment, and the clean-up work.

Then, we get all of the planners involved to agree to the logic and estimates. Once this is done, the scope for that equipment can be easily copied over and over, with minor changes made as each equipment is added. We work through each Equipment Class using this methodology.

Using our reports, we can then easily narrow down problems to the equipment when activities go long. And using T/ASC's copy functionality, the planner can then easily copy the equipment and its activities for when the inevitable emergency shutdown happens or when the turnaround is repeated in a few months or a few years time.

Many of our T/ASC clients have benefited greatly from this philosophy and maintain active equipment libraries, saving time, money, energy and stress in the planning process.

For more information, **please contact us at 337.764.9497 or go to www.tascplanning.com.**