TURNAROUND TIP SHEET #7

What T/ASC® codes are important?

Using T/ASC, numerous codes are available per File, such as Equipment, Activity and Estimate. These codes can be used to organize and dissect the file for planning, scheduling and execution purposes.

The problem is that many planners don't know how to code activities to get their best use out of the system.

T/ASC is no exception to other systems in that many codes are available – however it's best to structure your work by File, Equipment (with appropriate Equipment Class) and Activity with appropriate Estimates. Add in your Start/End logic. Now you're ready to examine the key codes in T/ASC.

The Equipment Class field is used for classifying the equipment – typical examples are Pumps, Vessels, Piping, Filters, Exchangers, and Heaters. Depending on your industry, and therefore your equipment, you will have differing high level classes of Equipment.

We have found over the years that a common attribute in every distinct equipment class is that the equipment classes have common work items: Very generic examples are Shutting down, Isolating, Separating into Components, Inspection, Repairs, Reassembly, Testing, Startup and Cleanup.

Every class will have its own unique attributes. In T/ASC, we call these attributes **Summary Codes**. Create a list of summary codes for each class. It will be invaluable during the Planning, Scheduling and Execution phase of your Turnaround, as you will be able to run planning reports and schedule by these summary codes once you've entered them on your activities. During the execution phase, you will be able to run a status report sorted by each class and chronological order of the summary codes.

Another field we've come to rely upon over the years is the "Repair Code" field. We use this code to determine if the work is in a Library and/or the Month/Year the work was last performed. That way the appropriate scope can be reused when copying data for a future Turnaround.

A field we've recently added is the "Requestor". That way we know who or which department is originating the request for work so the planner can go back to that group and get any necessary clarifications.

Though not used at the planning stage, the "Supervisor" and "Foreman" fields are invaluable during execution phase. That way it's very apparent to the field as to who the owners of the activity are. In some places there are two owners due to safety and environmental reasons.

T/ASC has two major areas: Geographical Area and Resource Area. The geographical area is as implied – where is the activity happening? The resource area is used by the scheduling program to determine which resource pool is being used for that activity. That way, the planner can best optimize the use of resources, contractors and specialized equipment.

Many clients use T/ASC to give a high level cost of the Turnaround, so we've included Cost Types, Work Order Types and Work Orders to facilitate that detailed breakdown.

Depending on the nature of the work you may also want to add in Permits or Group similar work together and then Sequence them based on where you want your key maintenance crews to start their work.

All of our clients have differing uses for the codes and some are very specialized to their industry or even their plant or unit. So we have an additional 20 codes that are client specific – we change the labels for those fields and they are then available to the system for reports, sorting, scheduling and Gantt charts. In practice, we ask each Turnaround manager to decide what they want to see in terms of reports and schedules and then we label and validate the codes so they make sense to all involved.

The solution is to decide what you want to see and then code appropriately for each of the fields. An Excel spreadsheet is the most efficient way to convey this to new planners or contractors that you're bringing in.

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