

Oracle Primavera P6 “Project Must Finish by Date”

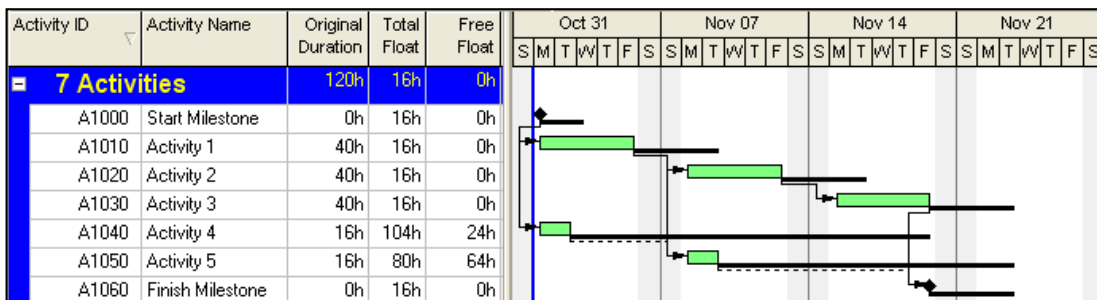
An extract from Planning and Control Using Oracle Primavera P6 Versions 8 to 18 PPM Professional

by Paul E Harris

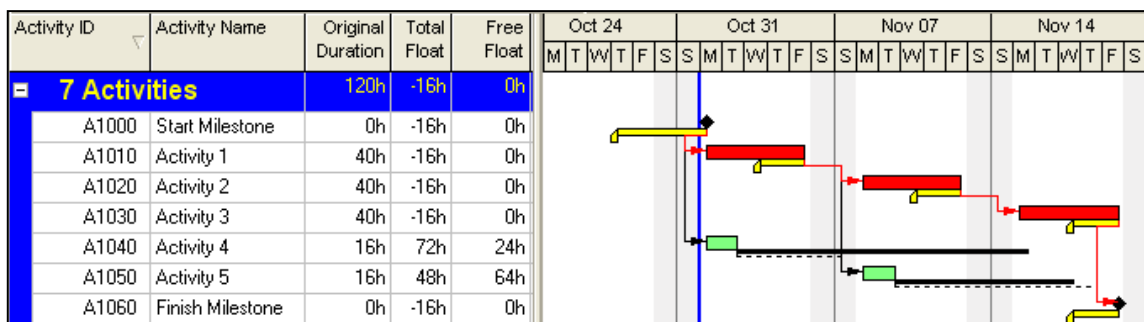
An absolute finish date may be imposed on the project using the **Project Window, Dates** tab:

Dates	
Schedule Dates	
Project Planned Start 02-Dec-13 08	Must Finish By 24-Jan-14 17
Data Date 02-Dec-13 08	Finish 21-Feb-14 17
Anticipated Dates	
Anticipated Start 02-Dec-13 08	Anticipated Finish 27-Jan-14 16

Imposing a **Must Finish By** date makes Primavera calculate the late dates from the **Must Finish By** date rather than the calculated early finish date. This will introduce positive float to activities when the calculated **Early finish** date is prior to the **Must Finish By** date:



This will also create negative float when the activity's calculated early finish date is after the **Must Finish By** date, but it is not obvious where the negative float is being driven from as there are no constraints assigned to activities:



When opening multiple projects some further issues need to be considered when a **Project Must Finish By** date is set and these are covered in the **Multiple Project Scheduling** chapter.

To remove a **Project Must Finish By** date, highlight the date, press the **Delete** key and then the **Enter** key or tab out of the cell to ensure the date is removed.



It is not obvious where the float is being generated after a **Must Finish By** date is imposed on a project. This is often confusing to people new to scheduling and it is recommended that you do not use a **Must Finish By** date. Instead, tie all activities to a **Finish Milestone** which has a **Late finish** constraint.

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