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BSA 400
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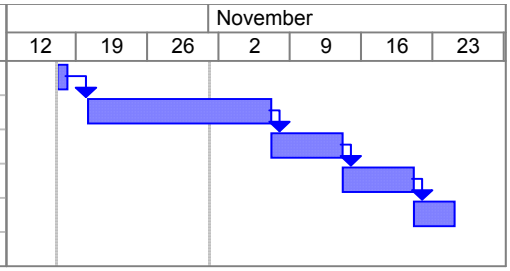
Implementation of an Enterprise-Level Business System

There are several methods one can use to implement an enterprise-level business system. The two methods for implementation are parallel and cut-over. In the parallel method the new system is brought up next to the old system and the two systems are running on the same data at the same time. The parallel method is good if an analyst thinks there might be a problem with the new system and how the system-data will be handled by the new system. The parallel method also allows for data integrity checking between the two systems. The second method is what is called cut-over. In the cut-over method the new system is brought on-line and the old system is dropped off line. In this method there is no way to check to see if the new system and old system handle the data the same way or is given the chance for integrity checking of the data. The number one reason for using a cut-over method is there is not current system in place.

There are several tools one can use to implement an enterprise-level business system. Two of the tools are a GUE programming environment to modify the source code in order to modify the end uses windows to comply with the corporation regulations on the windows like the American Disability Act (ADA). The other tool is specific to the program used and comes with the enterprise-level business system software. with the enterprise-level business system software tool programmers can uses it to modify the enterprise-level business system software so the business process match the corporation requirements and add a level of customization to the enterprise-level business system software.

A well-defined implementation process is a process where everything is running on time and under budget. One way to map out the process it to use a scheduling program like Microsoft project, a simple example of a small project is bellow.

ID	Task Name	Duration	Start
1	buy entrprise software	1 day	Fri 10/17/03
2	customise software	14 days	Mon 10/20/03
3	install software	5 days	Fri 11/7/03
4	fix bugs	5 days	Fri 11/14/03
5	system cut over	2 days	Fri 11/21/03



In this example of implementing an enterprise-level business system software the tool is used to help map out the needed tasked in order to install enterprise-level business system software. This tool will also help determine the planed date for a finished install because one can look at the time line and determine the finish date. If one follows the above implementation time-line then only 14 days is allows for customization of the software also one can learn the method used will be cut over and the date for the cut over is the 21st of November with two days for the cut over. This is just one of many tools an implementation manager will and can use to get a better understanding of the process needed to implement the project at the corporation.

The benefits of a well-defined process for an implementation are huge. To start with an implementation manager will be able to tell people when the project will be done and at what point the enterprise-level business system software is currently at. The implementation manager will be able to plan the implantation down each pint in the implementation process and with this information the manager will be able to stop and foresee any problems in timing different process needed for the implementation process. Another benefit is the implementation manager can take a simple print out of the project time line and give this print out to upper management in the corporation so to give the board of directors a idea of

where the project is currently at and how much time is spent on each part of the project along with what still needs to be done.

A time metrics can be used to determine if the project is on time and on budget. For an implementation manager this is important because he will be able to determine if there will be timing problems in the implementation process and he will be able to reschedule the process to fit the needed timing for the project.

A change control process can be part of a system implementation by using this type of tool an implementation manager can make needed changes to the time line of the project in order to show the correct time line when a project will be done and he can compare this information to the projected time line in order to say he is meeting the required time line of the project.