# GOLDRATT <br> RESEARCH LABS 

## Multi-tasking Simulation Game

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## The Rules of the Game

1. YOU are responsible for completing 3 Projects
2. Each Project is for a DIFFERENT customer
3. Each Customer wants you to give THEIR project TOP Priority and wants a RELIABLE Promised Completion Time
4. Each Project has 20 tasks
5. Each Task takes $1 / 2 \sec$ (e.g. equivalent to $1 / 2$ day)

Total Work Content = 20 tasks x $1 / 2$ sec/task x 3 projects $=30$ sec
6. "Murphy exists" - so you give yourself double the time (100\% safety)
Promised Lead Time = 20 tasks $\times 1$ sec/task x 3 projects $=60$ sec

## The Challenge

What is the "best" rule for completing these 3 projects?
Option \#1: Multi-tasking - giving each project the same priority... OR
Option \#2: No Multi-tasking - doing one project at a time...

## Round \#1: Complete the 3 Projects by Multitasking

| Task \# | Project X | Project Y | Project Z |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Task 1 | - | -------> $A$ | $\xrightarrow{\square}$ |
| Task 2 |  | - ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $\rightarrow 0$ |
| Task 3 | ---------- | $\cdots$ | $\xrightarrow{ } \rightarrow$ |
| Task 4 | 4 <nemenez |  | $\xrightarrow{\square}$ |
| Task 5 | 5 Syyyex | 为 | $\ldots$ |
| Task 6 | 6 - | $\ldots$ | $\rightarrow \square$ |
| Task 7 | 7 - | 回 | $\Delta$ |
| Task 8 | 8 | 4 | 0 |
| Task 9 | 9 | I | $\square$ |
| Task 10 | 10 | J | $\Delta$ |
| Task 11 | 11 | K | 0 |
| Task 12 | 12 | $L$ | $\square$ |
| Task 13 | 13 | M | $\Delta$ |
| Task 14 | 14 | $N$ | 0 |
| Task 15 | 15 | 0 | $\square$ |
| Task 16 | 16 | $p$ | $\Delta$ |
| Task 17 | 17 | Q | 0 |
| Task 18 | 18 | R |  |
| Task 19 | 19 | 5 | $\Delta$ |
| Task 20 | 20 -----m-a- | - | - 0 |
| PLAN | 58 sec | 59 sec | 60 sec |
| ACTUAL | 88-178 sec | 89-179 sec | 90-180 sec |
| GAP | 50-200\% Longer | 50-200\% longer | 50-200\% longer |


| Task \# | Project X | Project Y | Project Z |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Task 1 | 1 | A | $\Delta$ |
| Task 2 | 2 | B | 0 |
| Task 3 | 3 | C | $\square$ |
| Task 4 | 4 | D | - $\Delta$ |
| Task 5 | 5 | $E$ | 0 |
| Task 6 | 6 | F | $\square$ |
| Task 7 | 7 | G | $\square \quad \Delta$ |
| Task 8 | 8 | H | 0 |
| Task 9 | 9 | I | $\square \square$ |
| Task 10 | 10 | J | $\Delta$ |
| Task 11 |  | K | 0 |
| Task 12 | $12 \quad \square$ | L |  |
| Task 13 | 13 | M | $\Delta$ |
| Task 14 | 14 | $N$ | 0 |
| Task 15 | 15 | 0 | $\square$ |
| Task 16 | 16 | $p$ | $\Delta$ |
| Task 17 | 17 | Q | 0 |
| Task 18 | 18 | R | $\square$ |
| Task 19 | 19 | 5 | $\Delta$ |
| Task 20 | 20 | T | 0 |
| PLAN | 20 sec | 40 sec | 60 sec |
| ACTUAL | 10-205ec | 20-40sec | 30-60 sec |
| GAP | Early / On time | Early / On time | Early / On time |

## The Results - What happened and Why?

SCENARIO \#1: No Capacity Constraints


SCENARIO \#2: Multi-tasking without Setup/Reporting Losses
Project X
Project Y Start
Earlier
Project Z

## SCENARIO \#3: Multi-tasking with Setup/Reporting Delays

Project X

SCENARIO \#4: No Multitasking


## Industry Success Stories...from just NOT Multi-tasking...

| INDUSTRY | COMPANY | $\begin{gathered} \text { BEFORE } \\ \text { TOC/CCPM } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { AFTER } \\ \text { TOC/CCPM } \end{gathered}$ | REFERENCE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Aerospace \& Defense |  |  |  |  |
| $Q$ bieine | Boeing <br> Space Systems | Losses $\$ 250 \mathrm{~m}$ per quarter | Profitable. Productivity up 64\% | Realization.com |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  |  |
|  | TATA Steel | Boiler Conversion projects $=300-500$ days. | Boiler Conversion projects <br> = 120-160days <br> Saving $=\$ 13.4 \mathrm{~m}$ | Goldratt.com |
| High Tech |  |  |  |  |
| (hp) | HP Digital Camera Group | New cameras launched: 2004 = 6 per year On-Time $=1$ out of 6 | New cameras launched: $2005=15$ per year On-Time = 15 out of 15 | Realization.com |
| Public Sector |  |  |  |  |
|  | US Marine Corps Logistics Bases | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Repair time MK48=168d } \\ & \text { Repair time MK14 }=152 \mathrm{~d} \end{aligned}$ | Repair time MK48 $=82 \mathrm{~d}$ <br> Repair time MK14 $=59 \mathrm{~d}$ | tocico.com |
| $\underset{\sim}{2}$ | Japan Ministry <br> of Land, Infrastructure and Transport | Spiraling costs, Unhappy public, Many Late Projects (that costs lives) | All 6 Pilots OnTime/Early CCPM now Mandated to be used by all Sub-Contr | tocico.com |

