

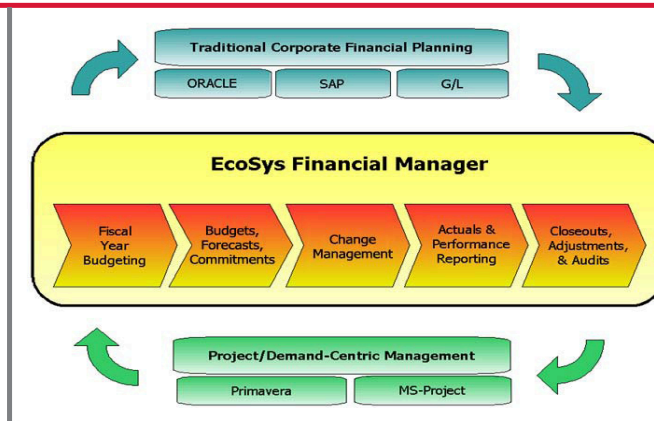
PRODUCT REVIEW: ECOSYS FINANCIAL MANAGER

Neely Hemassi, Practice Director at EcoSys

Organizations looking for an integrated and up-to-date view of project costs, cash flow and project schedules have traditionally faced common challenges. The disciplines of cost engineering and project planning have different priorities and perspectives, which have led to the adoption of separate tools and processes. Over time, this has created a division between the cost and schedule management disciplines.

EcoSys Financial Manager bridges this gap with a project financial management system that supports both cost and schedule management practices without requiring compromises to be made by either one.

Originally developed through the input and participation of many of the world's leading project-driven organizations, Financial Manager is now considered an industry leader for project financial management. This comes as no surprise to the software's architects—as part of EagleRay Software Systems—they built a cutting-edge enterprise project management system which Primavera acquired in 1999. Following a transition of technology to Primavera, many of the original members of EagleRay left to



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form EcoSys which rapidly built a reputation for being the top implementers and integration partners of Primavera.

The EcoSys team quickly noticed a pattern among many of their clients: demand for robust project cost management features that were beyond the intended scope of Primavera's best-in-class system. They observed many cases where Primavera users had manipulated the project scheduling system to support finance reporting requirements, and as a result, had compromised their ability to per-

form critical path scheduling, progress updates, earned value management, or resource management.

As best practice purists, the EcoSys team discouraged their customers from adopting these workarounds and instead worked with them to design EcoSys Financial Manager.

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Bringing Together Costs and Schedules

Cost Engineers, who commonly manage budget performance, commitments, payment schedules and cash flow, prefer tools like Excel to manage this information. Planners and Schedulers demand tools that support critical path scheduling and resource management.

Financial Manager provides easy-to-use Excel-like screens for managing costs, along with a robust integration with scheduling systems. Cost Engineers benefit from optimal usability, while at the same time ensuring that all data is centrally stored and managed. For schedule-driven costs, such as labor and equipment,

EcoSys can get the latest planned value information from Primavera P6 or Microsoft Project and apply cost rates, revenue rates and payment schedules, where applicable. EcoSys can also utilize contract payment information from leading contract management systems. Similarly, EcoSys integrates actuals from an extensive list of GL/ERP systems using its open interface.

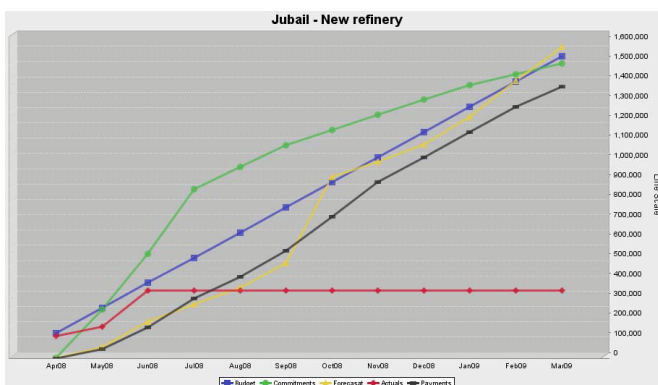
The result is an integrated, controlled, and audited system for project cost management that provides graphical and tabular management of:

- Budgets
- Actual & Forecast Commitments
- GL / ERP Actuals
- Contract Payments
- Revenue & Cash Flow
- Funding

For construction & engineering and real estate development industries, accurate cash management is of prime importance. EcoSys provides both detailed management and rollup views of payment curves which are driven by various payment rules.

For organizations with numerous capital projects to manage, EcoSys provides robust capital planning features that support multi-year capital planning by attributes like asset, program and strategic priority, and alignment with the latest project cost plans—providing finance with the ability to perform real-time budget performance analysis based on real project figures.

With EcoSys Financial Manager, organizations no longer spend all their time integrating costs and maintaining endless versions of spreadsheets to report project financials. They can instead focus on looking ahead and making strategic decisions using the most accurate and timely project financial information.



The above chart shows a project's cost curves: Planned Value, Commitments, Payments, Budget, and Actuals