ACEIT eNews
Automated Cost Estimating Integrated Tools

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2010 ISPA/SCEA Conference

Stop by and visit the ACEIT booth at this year's ISPA/SCEA Conference June 8-11, 2010 in San Diego. We will also be presenting the afternoon of the 8th at the Exhibitor's Tools Track. Also, look for "Build Your Own Distribution Finder" as it introduces a new feature coming in CO$TAT! We hope to see you there.

Save the date! The 5th Annual ACEIT User Workshop has been scheduled for January 24-26, 2011 in Santa Barbara, CA. To celebrate ACEIT's 25th Anniversary, our theme is "25 Years of Cost Estimating Innovation". Joe Dean Chief, Hanscom AFCAA OL will be the keynote speaker. Your ideas for papers and workshop content are most welcome.

Tip of the Month

Have you ever wanted to prorate a yearly value to only apply to a portion of the first and/or last fiscal year? You can copy a User Defined Function (UDF) from our example files that will do just that. The example file entitled "05 – Using Dates in ACE" contains the following UDFs:

WBS/CES Description	Unique ID	Equation / Throughput
* Prorating Steady State Costs - UDF	*ProrateCosts	
UDF to prorate year falling between two dates	Prorate(Year, SDate, EDate)	IF(Year = DATEYR(SDate), ProrateFirstYear(SDate), IF(Year = DATEYR(EDate), ProrateLastYear(EDate), IsBetween(Year, DateYr(SDate), DateYr(EDate))))
UDF to prorate the rest of the year starting at date	ProrateFirstYear(SDate)	(DATEOF(DATEYR(SDate)+1,1,1) - SDate) / (DATEOF(DATEYR(SDate)+1,1,1) - DATEOF(DATEYR(SDate),1,1))
UDF to prorate the year up to the end date	ProrateLastYear(EDate)	(EDate - DATEOF(DATEYR(EDate),1,1) + 1) / (DATEOF(DATEYR(EDate)+1,1,1) - DATEOF(DATEYR(EDate),1,1))

Go to "Documentation/Introduction" for the session to get detailed information about the UDFs. The UDF entitled "Prorate" accepts three parameters: a fiscal year, the start date and the end date. For example, if you enter the fiscal year 2010, start date 01 Apr 2010 and finish date 30Sep2012, Prorate returns 0.5 for 2010 and 1 for each of 2011 and 2012 because 01 Apr is halfway through fiscal year 2010.

The following example shows how to use the UDF in a session:

WBS/CES Description	Phasing Method	Equation / Throughput	Start Date	Finish Date
Initial Operational Test & Eval (Army)	F	10 * Prorate(FYYR, aStartDate, aFinishDate)	01Dec2007	01Apr2011

Note that aStartDate and aFinishDate are the values in the Start Date and Finish Date columns, respectively. Since the equation is time phased with an F method, the FYYR parameter is used and corresponds to the current fiscal year, which changes as each fiscal year is calculated. The value returned from the Prorate function is multiplied by 10, which is the yearly cost of IOT&E. For fiscal year 2008, Prorate returned 0.833 since the Start Date, 01Dec2007, is 2 months into fiscal year 2008. Both 2009 and 2010 return 1 since they are full years. 2011 returns 0.501 since 01 Apr 2011 is about halfway through fiscal year 2011.

WBS/CES Description	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Initial Operational Test & Eval (Army)		$ 8.333	$ 10.000	$ 10.000	$ 5.014

To use the Prorate UDF, you must copy all three rows from the example file into your session since the Prorate UDF calls both ProRateFirstYear and ProRateLastYear.

ACEIT Training – What's My Next Step?

We offer four standard training courses. Our Core Training courses include ACEIT 101 (4 days), ACEIT 101a Refresher (2 days), RI$K 102 (2 Days), and ACEIT 201 (4 days). Our RI$K 102 class teaches the fundamentals of cost risk analysis as promulgated in the AFCAA Cost Risk and Uncertainty Handbook (July 2007). We offer hands-on training for all the tools in the ACEIT suite including ACE, CO$TAT, Plug-ins and POST. In addition, we can provide custom, tailored courses delivered at your site. For custom courses, you choose the combination of modules from our core training courses to fit your training requirement and the number of days of training you need. Finally, we have Mechanics Training to provide you personal, over the shoulder help with your specific problem. With Mechanics training, we show you one or more ways (the mechanics) to meet your cost estimating challenge in ACEIT.

Course Offering

Entry Course
ACEIT 101: Introduction to ACE, CO$TAT, and POST

Refresher Course
ACEIT 101a: Refresher - Reviewing and Updating ACE Models

Intro Course
RI$K 102: Introduction to Cost Risk Analysis and ACEIT RI$K

Next Step
ACEIT 201: Next Steps in ACE, CO$TAT, and POST

Custom Course – onsite only
Build a custom course from material in our standard course offerings above

For additional assistance in determining what ACEIT training is right for you, please contact the ACEIT Training Administrator at 281-333-0240 ext.227 or aceit_sales@tecolote.com.

ACEIT Training Schedule

	Apr	May	Jun
ACEIT 101: Introduction to ACE, CO$TAT and POST	20-23 WDC		15-18 WDC
			29-2 Burlington, MA
ACEIT 101a: Refresher - Reviewing and Updating ACE Models		4-5 WDC	
RI$K 102: Introduction to Cost Risk Analysis and ACEIT RI$K		11-12 Houston, TX	

On-Site and Mechanics Training are available, contact ACEIT Training for more information.

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