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ECIPC1

Oversee the application of information technology (IT) to Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering



Overview

This standard is concerned with the competence to oversee the application of IT in the execution of the Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering functions.

The application of IT to:

1. the collection and processing of commercial and technical data
2. reporting current project status
3. predicting future project status

is an essential feature of Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering activities. It is essential that senior practitioners develop the necessary skills to oversee and apply IT to their role.

It is not intended that the competences should encompass installing and maintaining hardware or the development of software. It is, however, expected that competence will include the application of proprietary, specialist or bespoke software and IT systems to meet the specific Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering requirements, the ability to control that application and to support other Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering users.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 Contribute to recommendations about the choice and use of software tools and IT systems in relation to the Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering requirements
 - P2 Extract, enter, edit, and process information from a range of sources
 - P3 Structure information and create reports to meet the needs of customers
 - P4 Share your own skills and understanding to help others
 - P5 Analyse the effectiveness of the application of IT to the Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering functions and take steps to improve any weaknesses
 - P6 Recommend and implement security measures to protect the confidentiality and integrity of Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering data held in IT systems
 - P7 Ensure that calculations performed have been validated and verified
 - P8 Interface the IT and data configuration systems between own and other organisations using agreed coding structures

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 The attributes and limitations of available software tools, including web-based applications
- K2 Means by which selected Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering IT tools can be customised to suit the project or business needs
- K3 Factors to be considered in making recommendations as to software choices
- K4 The operational requirements of the Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering IT systems
- K5 Sources and flow paths of data used for Project Control, Estimating, Planning & Cost Engineering purposes, for example Interactions between different systems and Information sources
- K6 Methods that can be used to assess the effectiveness of IT applications
- K7 Security systems and measures that can be used
- K8 Ways of extracting data and formatting reports
- K9 Methods for Validation and Verification

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Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

1. **Software tools**
 - 1.1. Spreadsheets
 - 1.2. Databases
 - 1.3. Word processing
 - 1.4. Presentation
 - 1.5. Proprietary
 - 1.6. Bespoke
2. **Range of sources**
 - 2.1. Other IT systems
 - 2.2. Manually created
 - 2.3. Within own organisation
 - 2.4. Outside own organisation
 - 2.5. Geographically remote
3. **Customers**
 - 3.1. Colleagues
 - 3.2. Company, project or functional management
 - 3.3. Clients
 - 3.4. Project stakeholders
 - 3.5. Partners
4. **Project control functions**
 - 4.1. Estimating
 - 4.2. Cost control
 - 4.3. Planning and scheduling
 - 4.4. Commercial support
 - 4.5. Cost Engineering
5. **Security measures**
 - 5.1. Access rights to input
 - 5.2. Passwords
 - 5.3. Access rights to outputs
 - 5.4. Data consistency and back-up
 - 5.5. Recovery plans
6. **IT systems**

ECIPC1

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- 6.1. Proprietary
- 6.2. Specialist
- 6.3. Bespoke

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