

# Risk Workshops

[ acumen value ]

Acumen has over 20 years of combined experience in assessing and analyzing project risk. Our experience and expertise is unique and sets us apart from others in the industry. Dr. Dan Patterson, CEO of Acumen, is not only a globally recognized thought leader in the field of project risk analytics, he is also a recognized expert in risk analysis. Dr. Patterson has a unique insight into advanced risk modeling techniques and methodologies, which he has used while working across various industries on multiple projects.

## **Beyond risk identification.**

Acumen offers proactive risk reduction through our renowned S1>S5™ schedule maturity model.

## **Accuracy of results.**

Acumen guides the team to distinguish between uncertainties and risk events and links these uncertainties and risk events to the schedule and cost. This provides a range of risk exposure and allows for informed decisions.

## **Minimal project downtime.**

A typical interactive session with the Acumen team lasts one day for schedule risk analysis and one day for cost risk analysis. Additional days are required if the project schedule and costs are very complex. The entire team is not needed for this one- or two-day session. Each discipline need only attend their session to review their specific uncertainties and risks. This means minimal disruption to the team.

## **Model based on project schedule.**

Overcome the flawed approach of using approximated methodologies such as summary schedule and the post-it note approach. The Acumen approach uses the project's existing schedule, cost estimate and risk register meaning no prior additional deliverables are required from the team.

## **Unique combination of expertise.**

Acumen possesses a unique combination of advanced analytics and workshop facilitation experience.

## **Timely and meaningful deliverables.**

Acumen provides a quick turnaround of risk results, typically within 3-5 days. Final results are provided within one week. These results are delivered in a format that provides executive level briefing and details to support the analysis and are available in PowerPoint format and/or as a written report.



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## Steps to a Successful Workshop

- 1 Tune the team into why you are having a risk workshop
- 2 Conduct pre-workshop discovery sessions
- 3 Employ a 3rd party workshop facilitator for truly independent assessment
- 4 Perform a well structured workshop- know the project schedule prior
- 5 Adopt risk factoring during the workshop- avoid statistics at all costs
- 6 Don't overlook risk registers and risk events--they carry a large impact
- 7 Brainstorm mitigation plans during the workshop
- 8 Keep the workshop group to a manageable size
- 9 Leave team hierarchies outside of the workshop-- everyone has their say
- 10 Understand model limitations such as merge bias and central limit
- 11 Report intelligently--be wary of confidence level reporting in isolation

## Acumen's S1>S5™ Maturity Model



By pursuing a well structured, third party facilitated risk workshop, you ensure accurate inputs and model development.



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