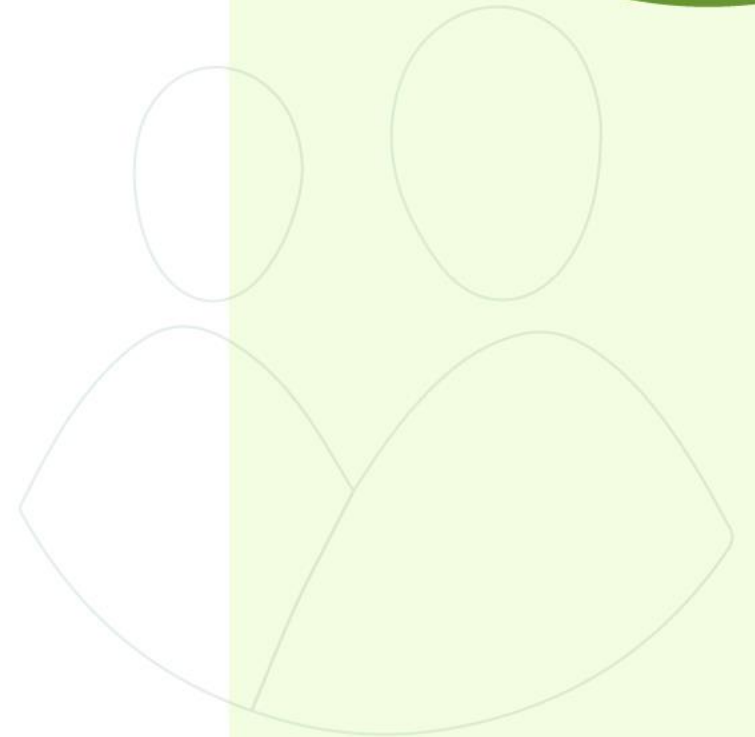


Think Outside the box

Be a better scheduler and Project Controls Specialist



Mostafa AbdelRazik BIO

- Project Controls Specialist
- 10+ years of experience in Project Controls
- Director of PMIS INC
- Bachelors in Civil Engineering (Carleton U, Ottawa)
- Masters in Construction Management (Concordia U, Montreal)
- PSP, EVP, PMP, Meng
- Active public speaker
- Things you don't know about me..

Outline



Outline

- Think Outside the Box to
 - Accelerate the process of schedule development
 - Accelerate schedule updates
 - Accelerate schedule analysis and presentation
- Learn about different tools to
 - Perform Schedule Assessment (Using DCMA 14-point assessment)
 - Present your schedule in Excel for easier access to PM's

Schedule Development



These tools will help you accelerate your schedule development:

- XER Parser (Tutorial)
 - A free Excel Tool developed by Oracle employees that helps you create certain schedule items in Excel, save as XER and import to Primavera P6
 - I always utilize this tool to create my WBS and activity codes
- Excel Export & Import (Tutorial)
 - I always rely on this to quickly add activities to my schedule

- DO NOT jump into creating the schedule right-away
- Look at the future
 - Which WBS format will help you and your team?
 - Is there a certain WBS format that you have to follow?
 - Then what about activity codes? How do you utilize this in your favor?

Tutorial

Real life project example

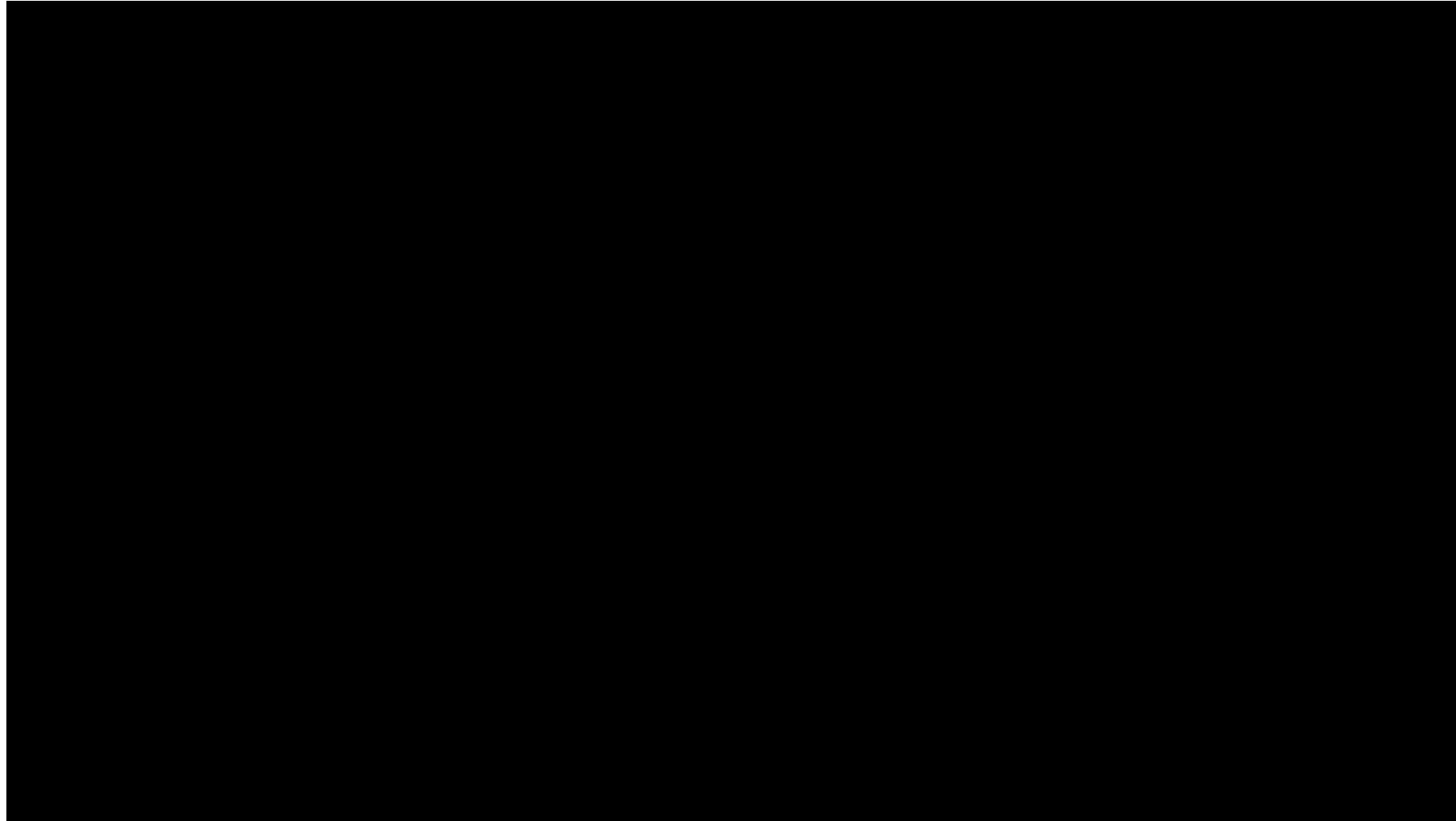
- Transmission line project (40 Structures) – Each 20 structures are one Work Front, so in total 2 work fronts A & B
- Activities: ROW Clearing and Access, Excavation, Foundation, Assembly, and Setting in that order
- WBS requirement to be by work front and by activity (5 Elements)
- How can XER Parser help us create the WBS?

Poll #1

Have you used XER Parser before?

- Yes
- No

Tutorial – XER Parser (WBS)



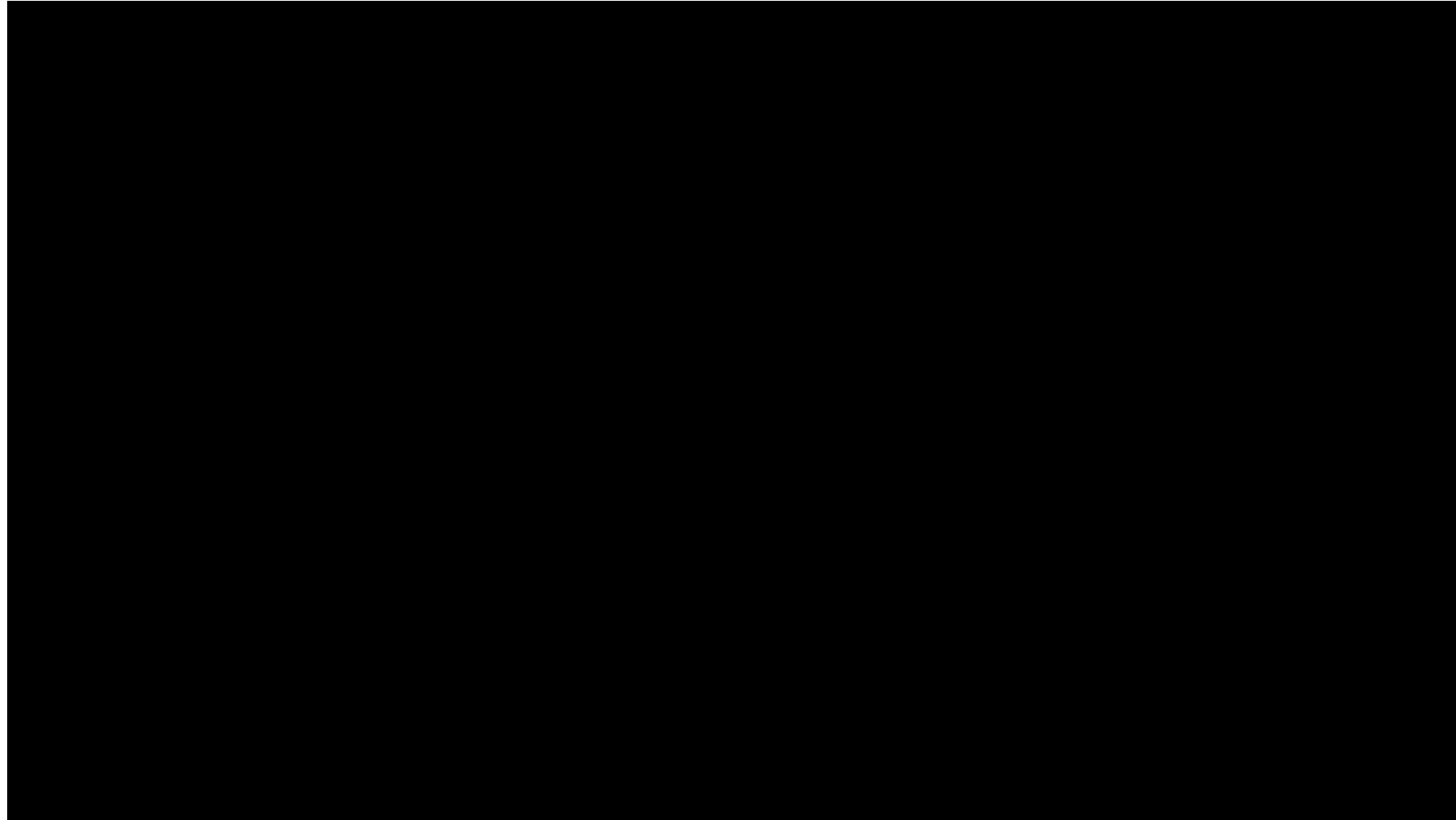
Interaction

Can you think of an activity code that we need on this project?

Interaction

- DO NOT jump into creating the schedule right-away
- What Activity Codes would I need here?
Probably Structure Number?
- Can XER Parser help me with this?

Tutorial – XER Parser (Activity Codes)



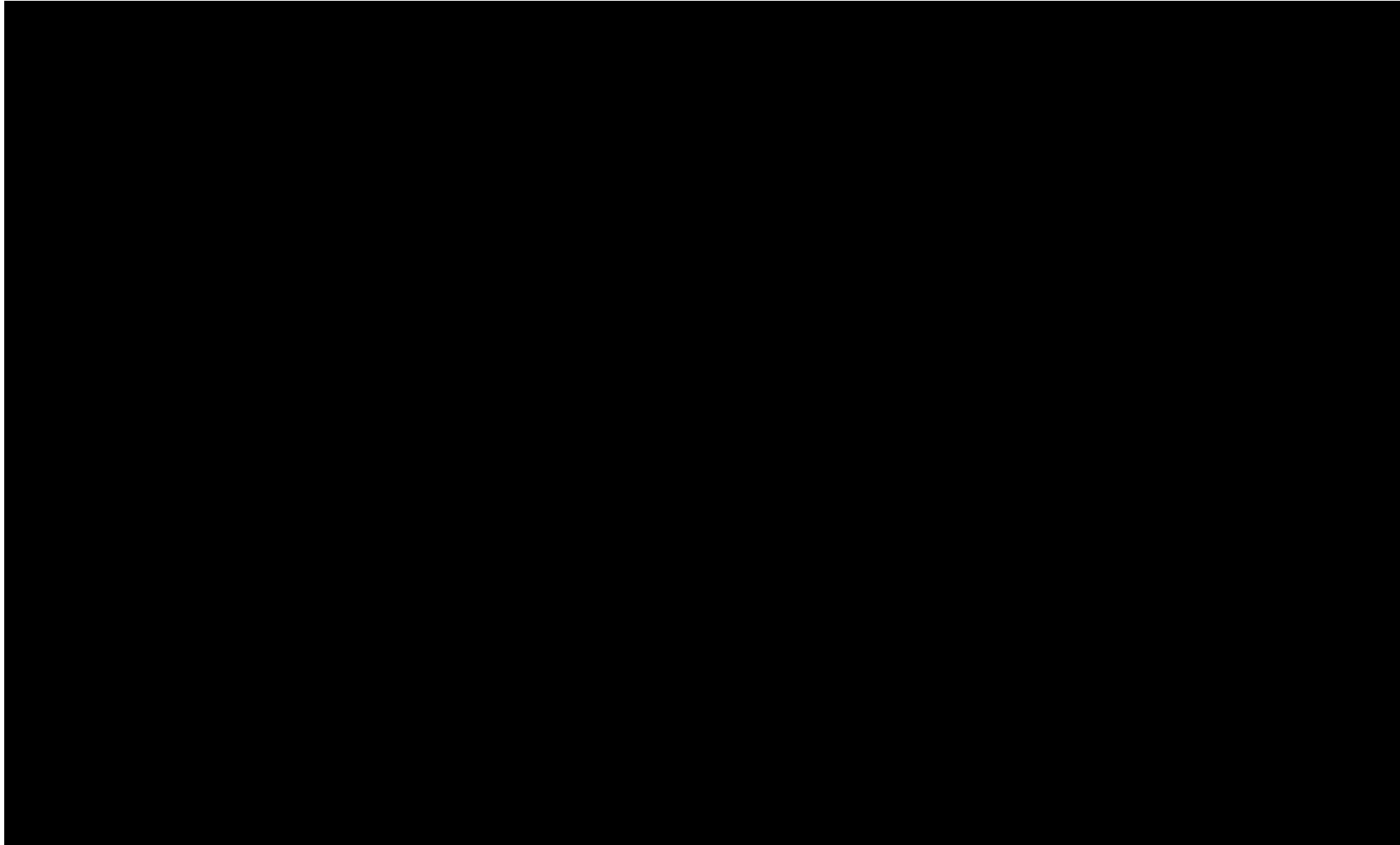
- Now I need to create my activities.
What is the fastest way to do that?
- I know I need 5 activities per structure
- I have 40 structures (40 Access, 40 excavation, etc)
- How can XER Parser help me here?

Poll #2

How long would creating 200 activities and properly naming them take you?

- Under 10 mins
- Over 10 mins

Tutorial – XER Parser (Activities)



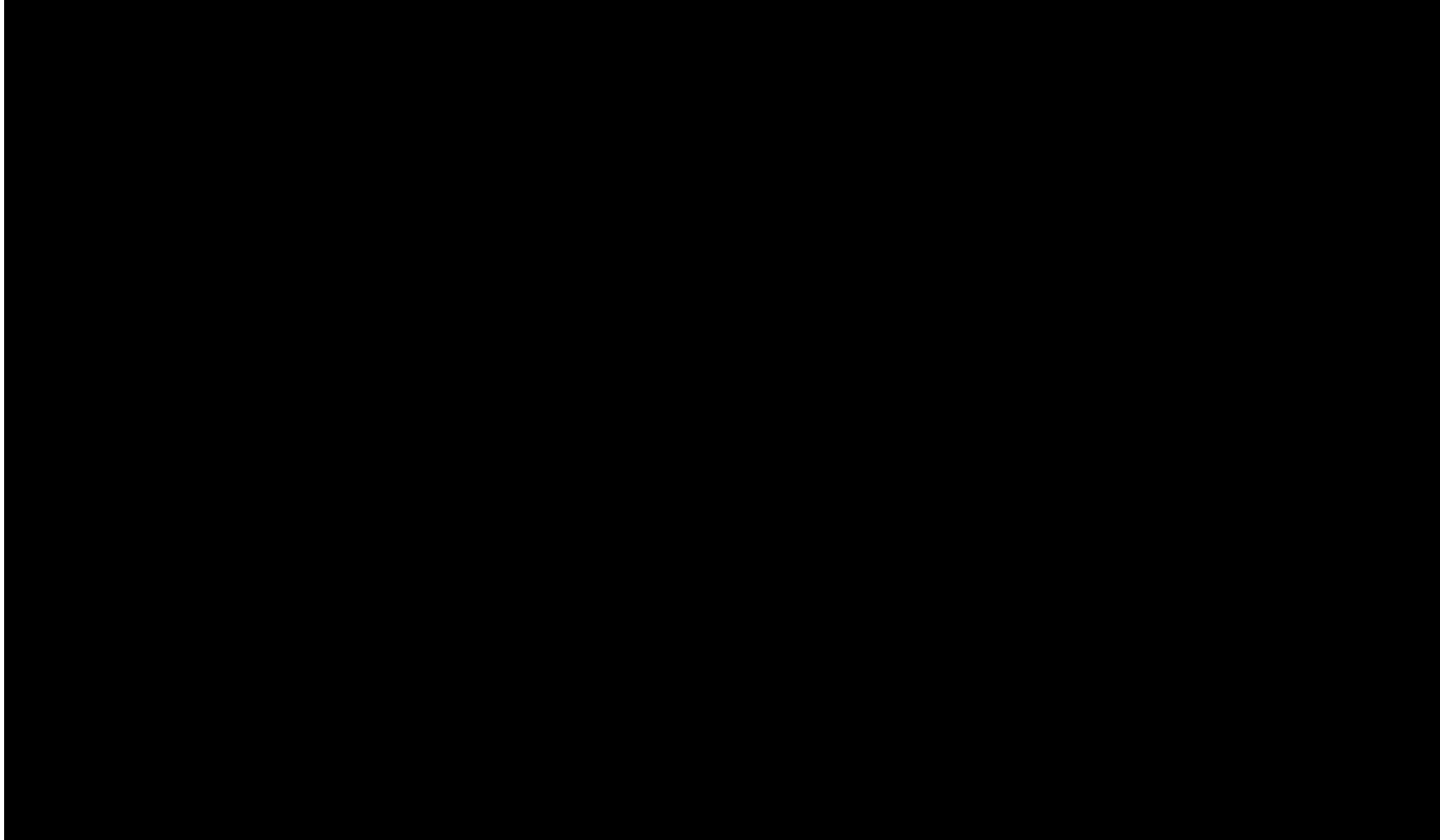
- Now I need the relationships between activities within each structure
- I will utilize Excel Export and Import to assist me with that

Poll #3

Have you used Excel Imports to load relationships into P6 before?

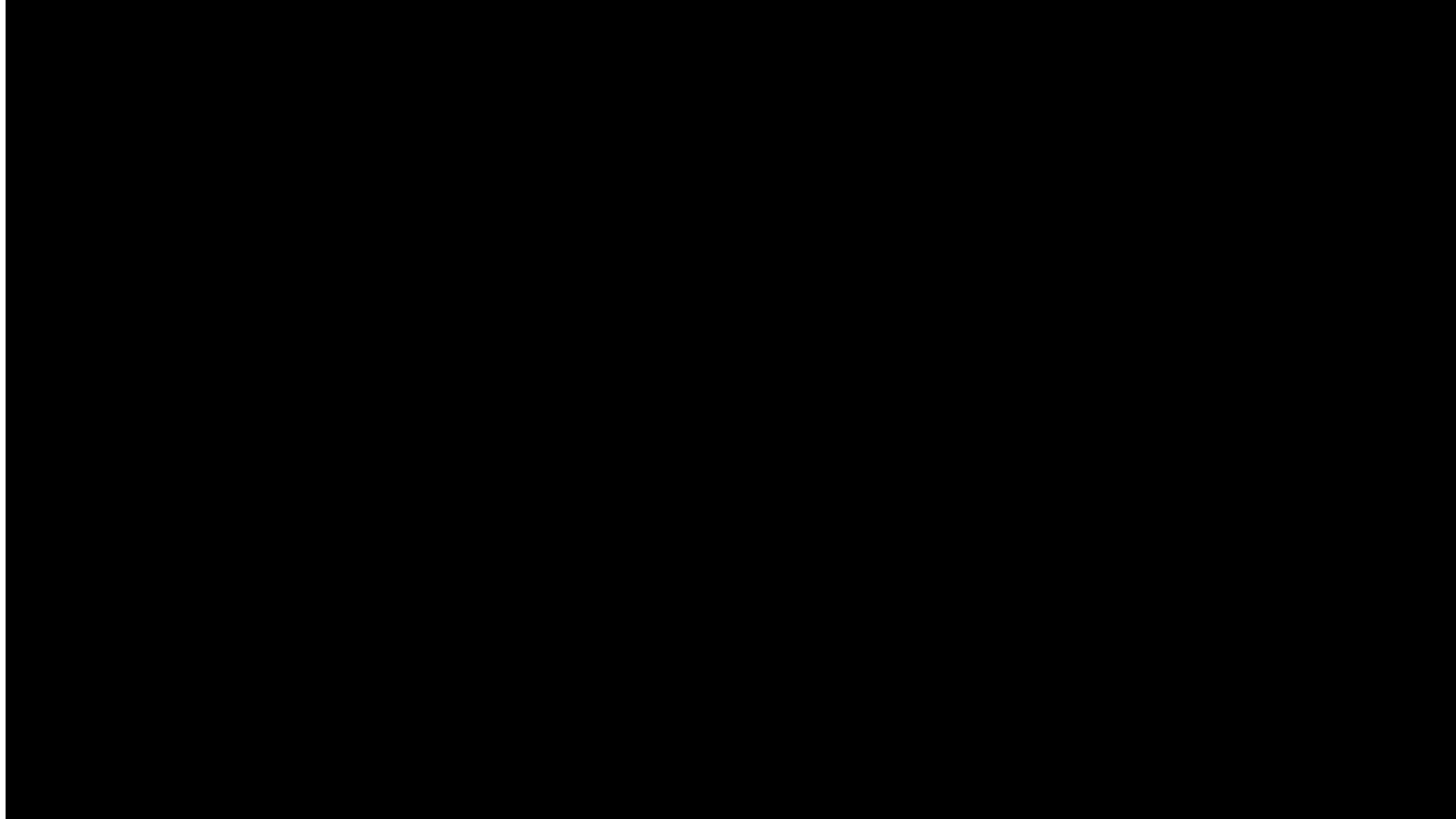
- Yes
- No

Tutorial – Relationships



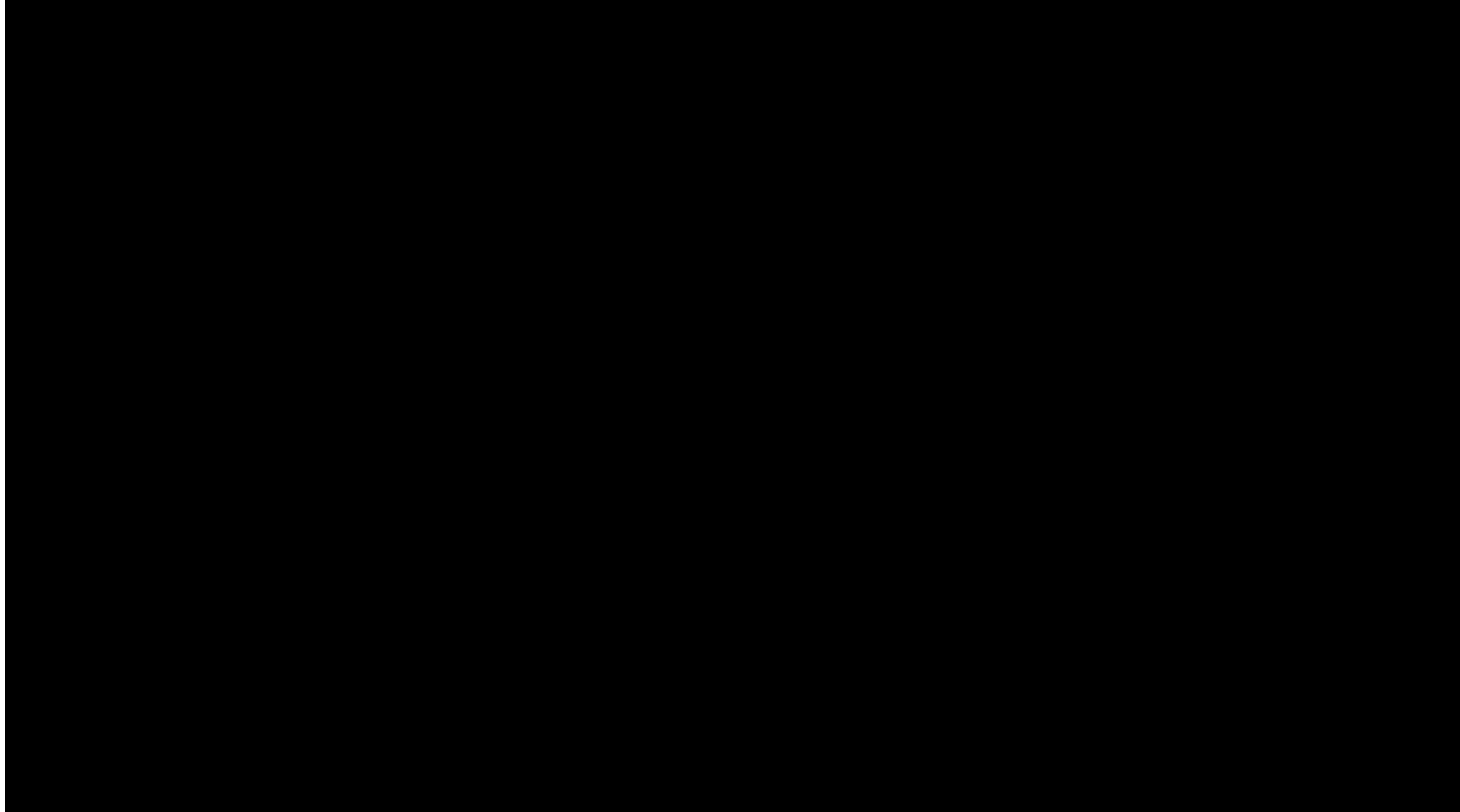
- Now I need the relationships between the similar activities (Excavate Str 1 then 2 then 3 and so on)
- I can do this pretty quickly in Primavera
- After that is done, we can assign the activities to their proper WBS (The activity code we created will help with that!)

Tutorial – Relationships Cont'd



- Next comes the project team to provide us with duration to the activities
- It is always best to send them an Excel export from the schedule that they can fill and then we can import to the schedule

Tutorial – Durations



Schedule Analysis



Poll #4

Have you ever heard of DCMA 14 point assessment?

- Yes
- No

- Are your calendars done properly?
- What is your longest path to the project? Does it make sense?
- What is your schedule quality like? Have you applied DCMA 14-point assessment?
- A free tool that helps you assess your schedule's quality (Tutorial)

Why is it so important to analyze your schedule?

- A well designed schedule is necessary for project's success
- A well designed schedule is vital for your credibility as a scheduler
- Other schedulers and receiving parties will try to find any error with your schedule
- It's FUN! – Let's see how it's done!

Poll #5

Have you ever performed DCMA checks on your schedule?

- Yes
- No

Credit

- Tool Credit goes to Mohammed Azharuddin
- <https://www.linkedin.com/in/azranj/>

Tutorial – DCMA Tool Tutorial



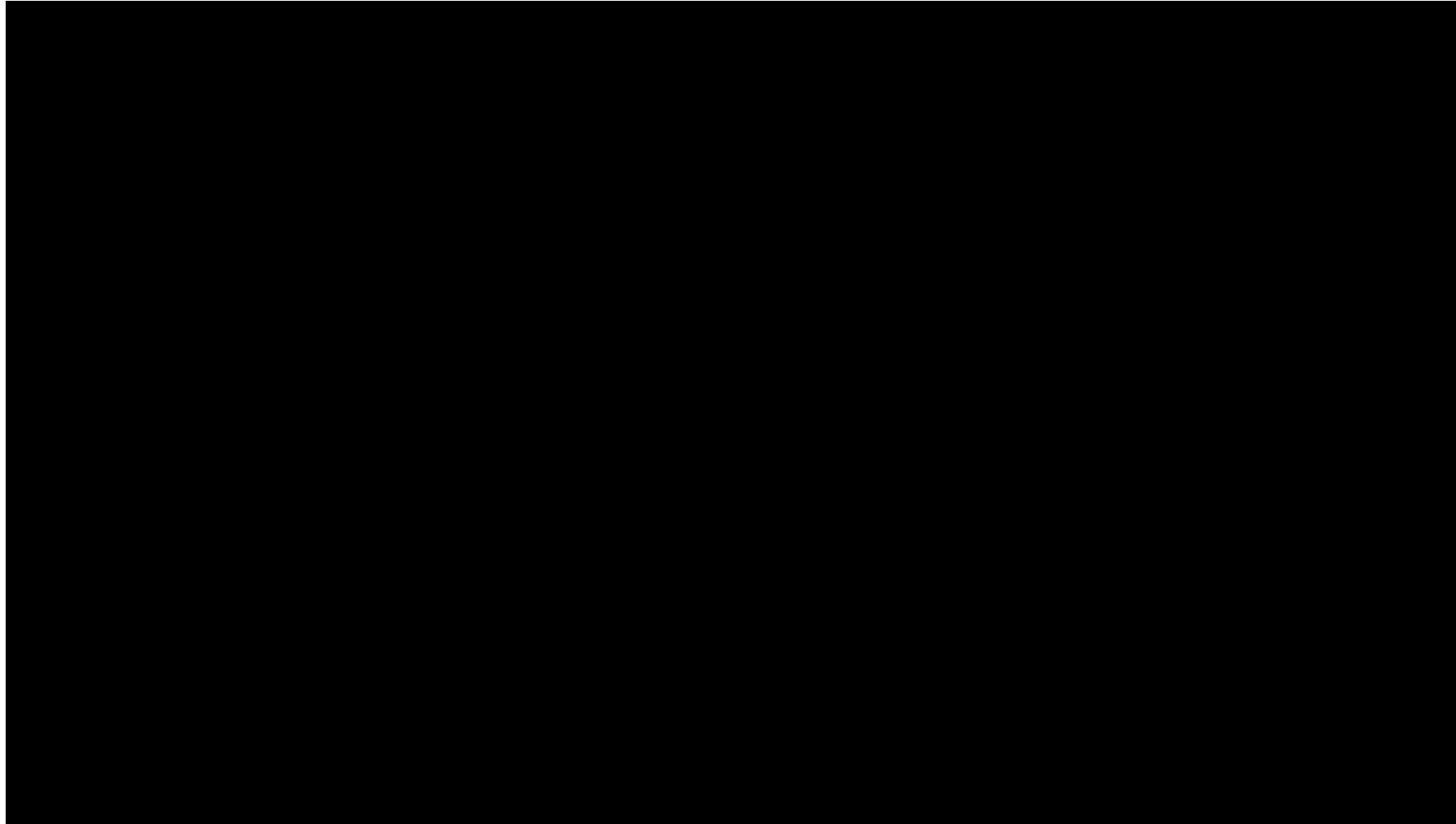
Schedule Updates



How to think outside the box for seamless and more efficient schedule updates:

- Consider the taste and capabilities of different PM's, Project Coordinators, etc
- Prepare different layouts based on that
- Do not manually enter the updates
- Use Excel Imports for faster schedule updates (Tutorial)

Tutorial – Excel Import to update the schedule



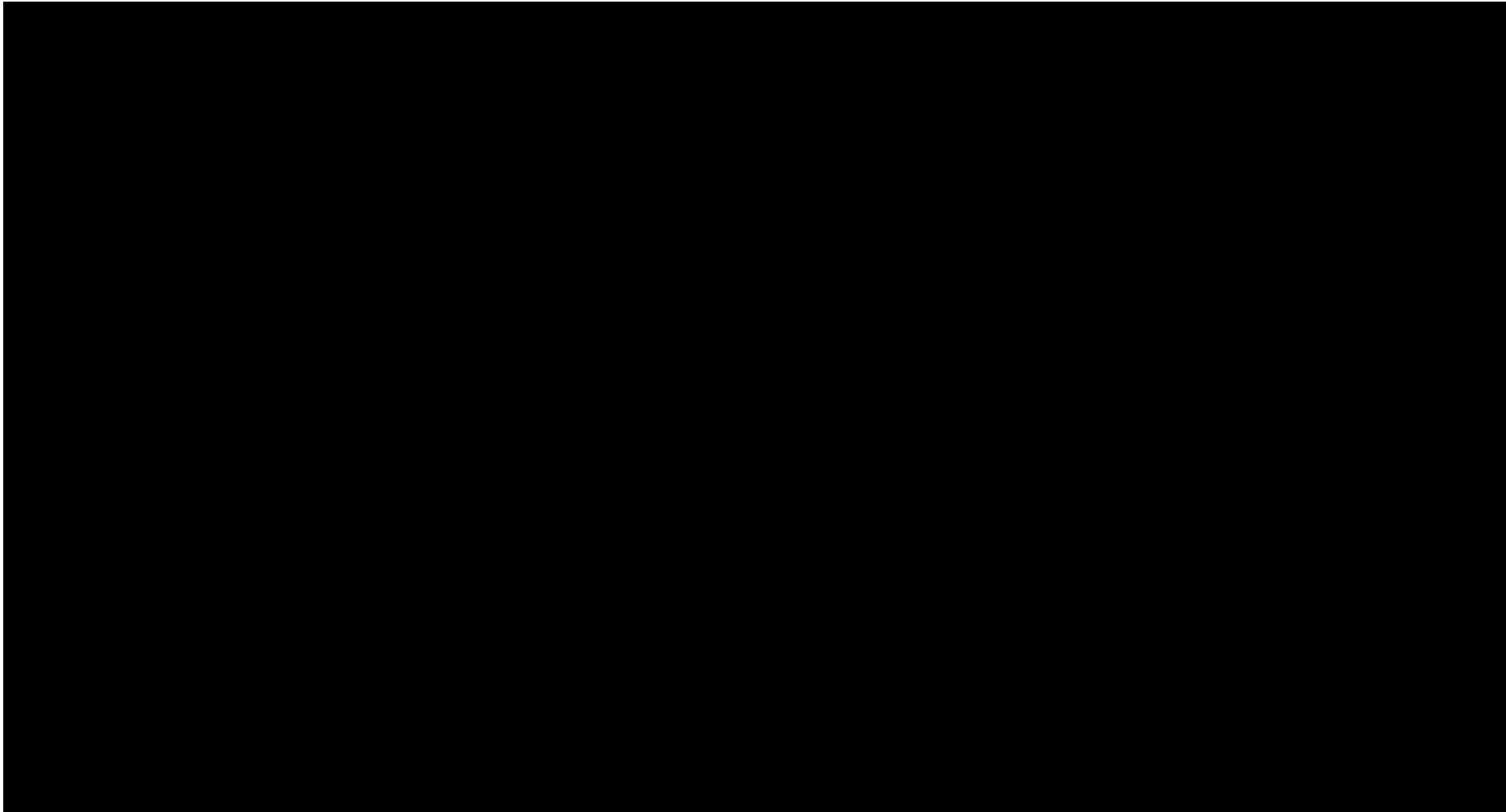
Schedule Presentation



Your schedule is not worth a penny if you can't present it well:

- PDF's, Layouts, Filters
- Excel formats that allow PM's to interact with the schedule (Tutorial)
- Plannex Tool Developed by: Mohamed Hisham Aboadma
- <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mohamedaboadma/>

Tutorial – Plannex Tool



- PowerBI! Enough said...
- If you haven't looked into it, DO!
- <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiOTI2ZTE4NzEtNjl2YS00NjZmLTlkNzltYjI4NmFINDU1ZTY0liwidCI6ImFmN2YwODg2LWMyNjctNDI0ZS04MmJkLTRmN2FmMjU1ZjQ1OSJ>

9

Conclusion



Before Conclusion

- Write down something new that you learned today
- Crumple your paper and leave on the desk
- Let's find out what you've learned

There are many schedulers in the market and to stand-out:

- Do not stop learning
- Always find short-cuts that help you save time on time-consuming tasks
- Free your time and your mind for the things that matter
- There are various tools that can help you become better at almost everything
- Always think outside the box!

Action Plan



- Get access to these free tools
- Try them out for yourself
- After you master them, apply them to your projects
- Excel and Advance!



THANK YOU