

# 3 Practical Solutions to Improve Earned Value Management Adoption







## Introductions





tboatwright@k2consulting.com (240) 517-0416

## **Tim Boatwright**

- Director of EVMS @ K2 Consulting
- 20+ Years working in Project Controls & Earned Value Management
- AACEi Earned Value Professional (EVP)
- College of Performance Management VP of Marketing











## Critical Path Controls

- K2 designs, implements and executes project controls for complex, multi-phase, multi-year capital acquisition projects
- K2's Earned Value Management (EVM) services help organizations by:
  - Implementing and training compliant EIA-748 Earned Value Management Systems
  - Subject matter experts to establish Performance Measurement Baseline (PMB), deliver comprehensive EVM analysis, and support contractual EVM deliverables (IPMR, IPMDAR, VAR, PARS, etc.)
  - Conducting contractual reviews including 3rd party assessment, Integrated Baseline Reviews, DOE External Independent Reviews (EIR)/Independent Project Reviews (IPR), DCMA compliance review, and Corrective Action Report (CAR) resolution





# Agenda

**SOLUTION #1 - TRAIN FOR RETENTION** 

SOLUTION #2 - EQUIP THE CAM FOR SUCCESS

**SOLUTION #3 - EMBRACE THE JOURNEY** 







## Train for retention

Deliver training when it will be used, not when its convenient







# Traditional Earned Value Management Training





Traditional EVM training is deep dive, lecture driven, multi-day affairs



## Dives into all aspects of EV

Introduction

Setup

Cost/Schedule

Reporting & Analysis

Variance Reporting

Integrated Baseline Review/Project Reviews

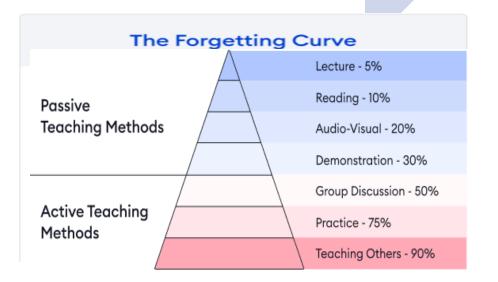




## This approach lowers retention

- Avoid the big bang approach
  - Stacking training at the start of the process will inevitably meet lower retention when your team starts "doing" EVM
  - Tends to rely more heavily on lecture style, which studies show returns the lowest retention
  - Lower retention = retraining down the line
- Beyond the time delay between learning and doing, this approach has two other weaknesses
  - Getting everyone in the same training means only sections of the material will be directly relevant to them
  - Because this model relies heavily on lecture & reading, passive teaching models, it is hamstrung by lower retention from the start









# Know your audience





Different stake holders need different training Role specific training increases attention, increases retention and allows for applying different teaching models to different audiences



#### **Executive Stakeholders**

Executive stake holders need to understand what the benefit of EVM, how to use it to manage and what resources their team will need to implement



#### **Project Managers**

PM's need to understand where the EVM data is coming from and how to manage a project using EVM



#### **Control Account Managers**

CAM's need to know what's expected of them, how to answer the mail and how they can use EVM to help in their responsibilities



### **Supporting Staff**

Supporting staff (Schedulers & accounting) need to understand how their disciplines interact with EVM and what they need to do to support





# Deliver audience relevant training at right time

## Design

#### **Executive Overview**

• 1 Hour – Why, Return, What's needed from them

#### **Project Controls Owners**

 How it works and what they need to be thinking about

## **Implement**

### **Project Managers**

- What they should expect
- How to use EVM to manage project

#### **PC Owners**

- Baselining
- Change Mgt

#### **CAMs**

- EV Monthly Process Supporting Functions
- How their data is used

## Do

#### CAMs

- Statusing
- Forecasting
- Variance Reports
- Constant Improvement (Ongoing)





# Equip the CAMs for success

Reducing the overhead for the cam will pay benefits for the organization







# CAMs, by any name, are the lynchpin of EVMS





#### Reporting

Variance reports, monthly status reports, internal reporting, etc.

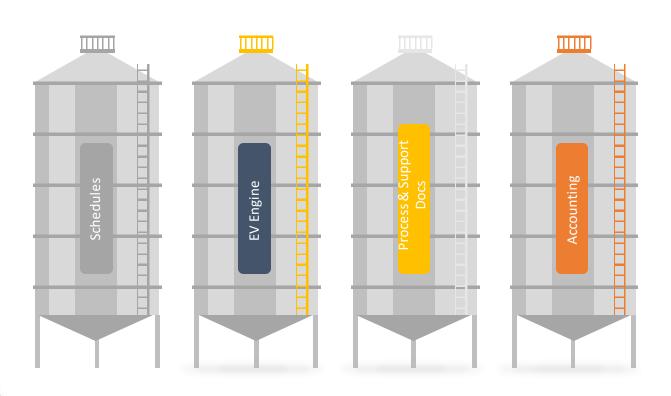






## Breakdown the silos of information for CAMs





- Supporting data tends to be siloed in different systems and stored in dispersed environments
  - Schedules are in the scheduling tool
  - Processes are stored on file server
  - Supporting docs are stored on a different server
  - Accounting data is in excel somewhere
  - Earned value data is in another system
- The siloed approach requires the CAM to validate the integration across multiple tools and locations, adding work to an already full plate
- Makes your processes a reference tool versus guiding the data interaction

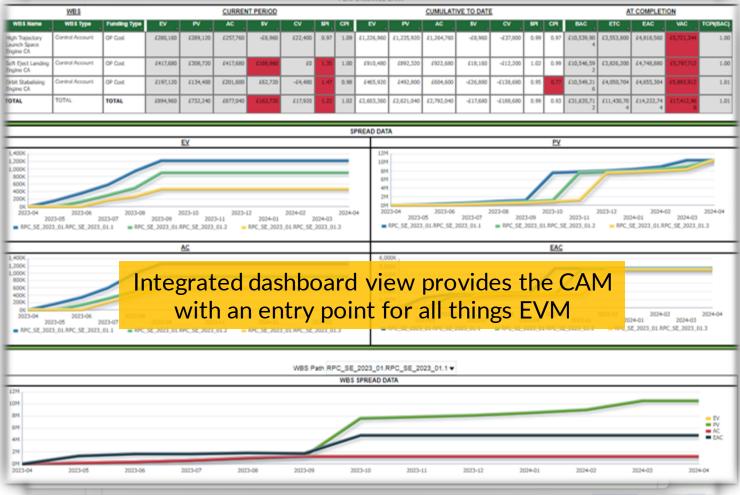




# Provide single point, process aware, integrated access to data



SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY



Powered by = CDCuk

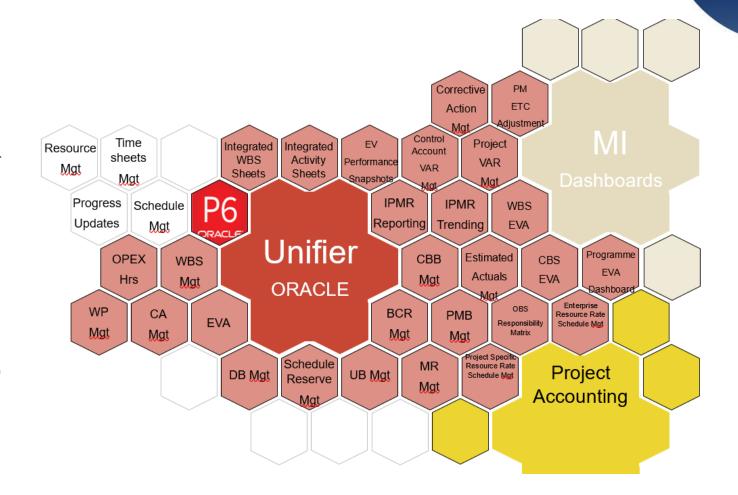
cost + schedule + performance

ACCESS TO ALL DATA AND PROCESSES



## INTEGRATE EVM WITH YOUR BUSINESS

- EVM is not meant to be stand alone project controls process
- EVM, by definition, is the integration of cost, schedule & scope
- EVM processes either receive data or touches processes across your enterprise
- Implement with the end in mind. EVM integrated with how you do business
- Leverage technology to breakdown the silos and equip your CAMs for success









# Embrace the journey

EVM Implementations are a journey, not a sprint

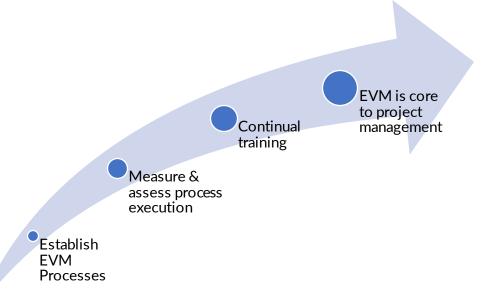






# Embrace the constant improvement mindset

- Building the corporate EVM capability takes practice. Allow yourself to learn through doing and improving.
  - You'll have variances. Don't over incentive no variances, instead allow variances and understand the root causes.
  - You will have false variances, understand what caused them and use to improve planning going forward.
  - Initial variance reports will be lacking, use as a learning tool for improvement in future deliveries.
  - EVT's will be more subjective initially, refine to be more discrete as you learn as an organization.
  - Updating documentation will be harder at the start, measure the effort and use to identify opportunities for improvement.
  - Forecasting is hard, don't assume early forecasts are correct.
    Validate projects against independent forecasts and TCPI metrics.

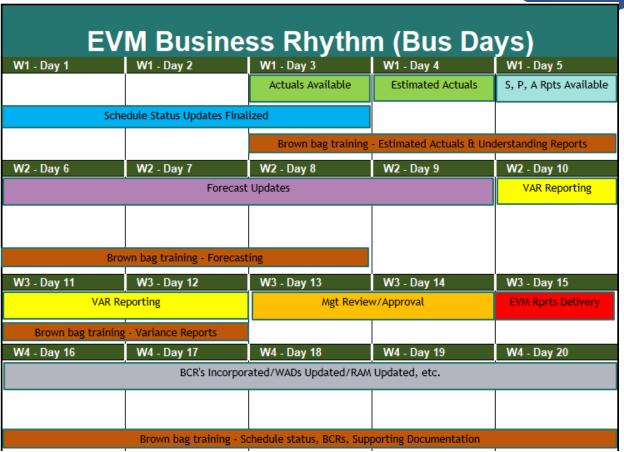






# Provide ongoing training based on business rhythm

- Hold CAM workshops aligned with your business calendar
  - Keeps topics relevant
  - Work real issues in your reporting
  - Encourage CAMs to share learnings
- Achieves three key goals
  - Improved EVM practices
  - Improves deliverables
  - Reinforces retention







# Ways to enable unrestricted ascent in EVM maturity





- Management embrace the concept
  - The #1 reason EVM implementations fail is lack of management support
- Bring your customer along the training and improvement journey
  - Not all who require EVM understand EVM. Effective EVM doesn't mean all green stop light reports, that shouldn't be their goal
- Engage EVM Subject Matter Experts (SME) when you're designing your system
  - They'll bring years of lessons learned and help avoid common implementation mistakes
- Measure your process execution and the outputs
  - Track the effort it takes to execute your processes
  - Look back at prior forecasts and assess how accurate they were and why
- Invest in EVM coaching to support your team's growth
  - Whether its an internal or external SME, plan for time to constructively review deliverables and use for continued training







Tim Boatwright www.k2consulting.com tboatwright@k2consulting.com (240) 517-0416

