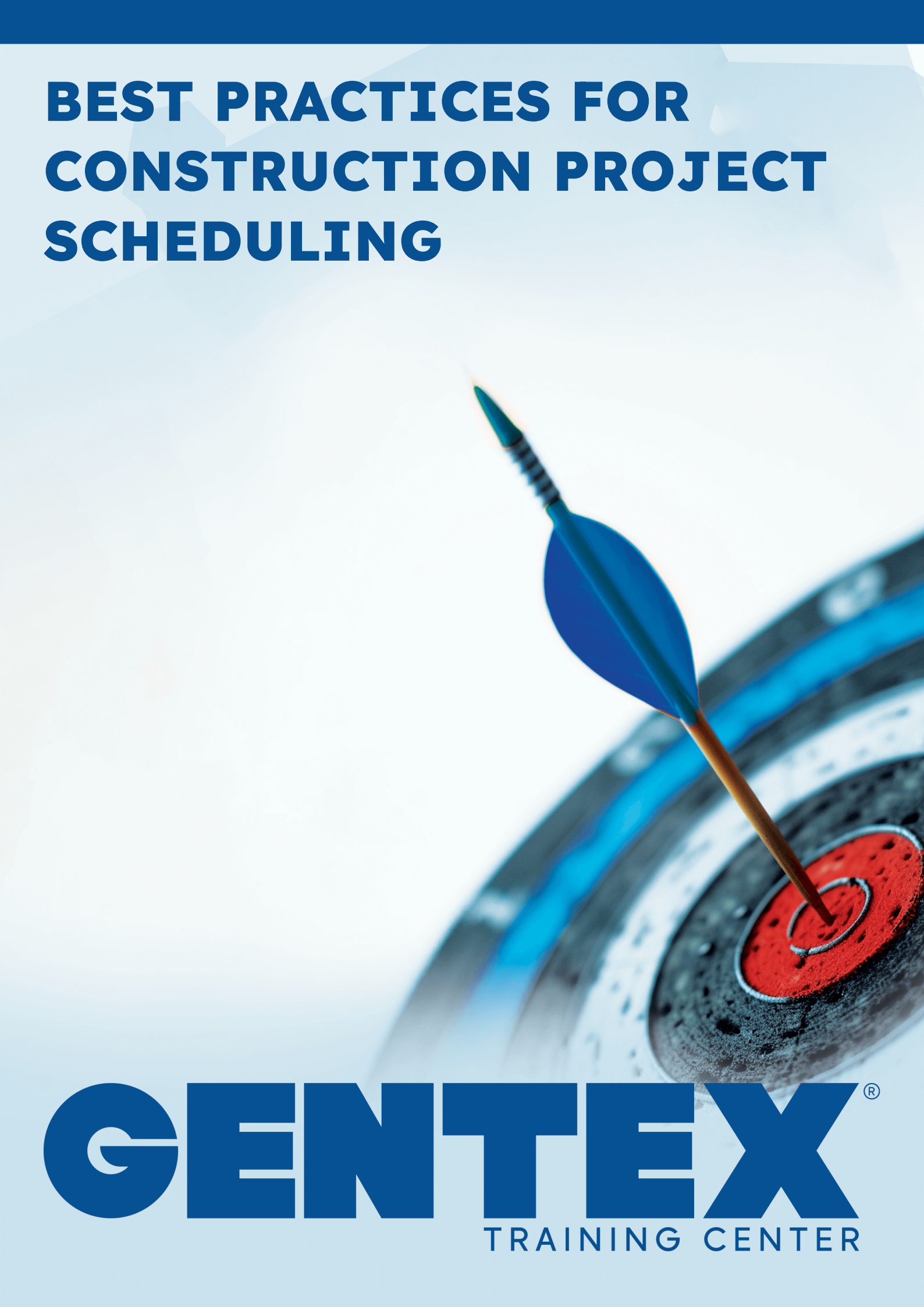
BEST PRACTICES FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SCHEDULING



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Introduction

Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling examines how planners build construction schedules that survive site reality, contract scrutiny, and delay claims. This Training Course covers schedule development, logic discipline, resource loading, and progress updating. Participants study the PMBOK Guide schedule management processes, AACE International Recommended Practices for schedule development and delay analysis, the critical path method with total and free float, the DCMA 14-point schedule assessment, the Society of Construction Law Delay and Disruption Protocol, CPM scheduling specification checks, work breakdown structure and activity coding, calendars and weather allowances, resource levelling and crew continuity, look-ahead scheduling and short-interval planning, earned value and progress measurement in construction, constraint identification and management, and baseline change control. Furthermore, the programme connects scheduling practice to site delivery through schedule building labs, health check workshops, and progress update simulations. As a result, delegates leave able to produce construction schedules that withstand challenge.

Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling Course Objectives

- Define construction scheduling and its contractual role.
- Apply the PMBOK Guide schedule management processes.
- Apply AACE International Recommended Practices to schedule development.
- Build network logic with correct dependencies and constraints.
- Calculate total float, free float, and the critical path correctly.
- Apply the DCMA 14-point assessment to schedule quality.
- Design activity coding, calendars, and work breakdown structures.
- Apply resource levelling and crew continuity practice.
- Measure construction progress with defensible methods.

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- Analyse delay with the Society of Construction Law Delay and Disruption Protocol.

Course Methodology

- Interactive workshops using real construction schedules.
- Schedule building and logic development labs.
- DCMA health check and scoring exercises.
- Resource levelling and look-ahead planning workshops.
- Delay analysis and claims simulation exercises.
- Action planning that converts each session into a workplace commitment.

Who Should Take This Course

- Planning engineers and scheduling engineers.
- Project planners in construction contractors.
- Project controls engineers and managers.
- Site engineers responsible for progress recording.
- Claims and contract administrators.
- PMO analysts supporting construction projects.
- Consultants reviewing construction programmes.

Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling Course Outlines

Day 1: Scheduling Foundations and Contract Context

- Construction scheduling and its contractual standing.
- PMBOK Guide schedule management processes.

- AACE International Recommended Practices for schedule development.
- Scheduling specifications and contract programme requirements.
- Work breakdown structure and activity coding design.
- Common failures: unlinked logic, open-ended activities, missing baselines.
- Building the scheduling framework pack.

Day 2: Logic, Sequencing, and Duration

- Network logic construction and dependency types.
- Construction sequencing: structures, MEP, and finishing.
- Constraint types and their scheduling effect.
- Duration estimating with productivity factors and congestion allowances.
- Calendars, holidays, and weather allowances.
- Procurement and long-lead item integration.
- Building the logic and duration pack.

Day 3: Schedule Quality and Critical Path Analysis

- Total float, free float, and negative float interpretation.
- The DCMA 14-point schedule assessment criteria.
- Critical path verification and multiple-path analysis.
- Open-ended activity and constraint identification.
- Milestone plausibility and logic density checks.
- Baseline validation and version control.
- Building the schedule health pack.

Day 4: Resources, Look-Ahead, and Progress

- Resource loading, levelling, and crew continuity.
- Trade stacking and space constraint analysis.
- Look-ahead scheduling and short-interval planning.
- Progress measurement: weighted milestones and physical percent complete.
- Earned value management with SPI and CPI in construction.
- Monthly schedule update discipline and narrative.
- Building the resource and progress pack.

Day 5: Delay Analysis, Change, and Contract Compliance

- The Society of Construction Law Delay and Disruption Protocol.
- As-planned versus as-built analysis and time impact analysis.
- Window analysis and contemporaneous record practice.
- Float ownership and concurrent delay considerations.
- Baseline change control and revised programmes.
- Reporting schedule performance to clients and boards.
- Personal action plan and continuous improvement.

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Conclusion

By successfully completing Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling, participants will have acquired a practical command of network logic development, duration estimating, schedule quality assessment, critical path analysis, resource levelling, progress measurement, and delay analysis. They will know how to build a programme that passes a DCMA health check, verify the critical path rather than assume it, and defend progress records with contemporaneous evidence. In addition, the course prepares delegates to analyse delay using a recognised protocol rather than ad hoc reasoning. As a result, they return to work ready to produce construction schedules that withstand challenge. Gentex Training Center delivers this Training Course with a practical, standards-based approach.

FAQs for the Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling course

Q1 What is the "Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling" course about?

It is a five-day programme on building construction schedules that survive site reality, contract scrutiny, and delay claims. It covers the PMBOK Guide schedule processes, AACE Recommended Practices, critical path and float analysis, the DCMA 14-point assessment, resource levelling, look-ahead planning, progress measurement, and the Society of Construction Law Delay and Disruption Protocol.

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Q2 What are the key benefits of the "Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling" course?

Participants gain the ability to build a programme that passes a DCMA health check, verify the critical path rather than assume it, and defend progress records with contemporaneous evidence. They also learn to analyse delay using a recognised protocol rather than ad hoc reasoning.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling" course?

Scheduling foundations with PMBOK schedule process application, AACE Recommended Practice use, scheduling specification interpretation, and work breakdown structure and activity coding design, logic and duration work with network logic construction, dependency type selection, construction sequencing, constraint type assessment, duration estimating with productivity factors and congestion allowances, calendar and weather allowance design, and long-lead item integration, schedule quality with total float, free float and negative float interpretation, DCMA 14-point assessment, critical path verification, multiple-path analysis, open-ended activity identification, milestone plausibility checking, and baseline validation, and resources, progress and delay with resource loading, levelling and crew continuity design, trade stacking analysis, look-ahead and short-interval planning, progress measurement across weighted milestones and physical percent complete, earned value interpretation with SPI and CPI, monthly update discipline, Society of Construction Law protocol application, as-planned versus as-built analysis, time impact analysis, window analysis, float ownership assessment, and baseline change control.

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Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling" course?

The course covers construction scheduling and its contractual standing, PMBOK Guide schedule management processes, AACE International Recommended Practices for schedule development, scheduling specifications and contract programme requirements, work breakdown structure and activity coding design, common failures across unlinked logic, open-ended activities and missing baselines, network logic construction and dependency types, construction sequencing across structures, MEP and finishing, constraint types and their scheduling effect, duration estimating with productivity factors and congestion allowances, calendars, holidays and weather allowances, procurement and long-lead item integration, total float, free float and negative float interpretation, the DCMA 14-point schedule assessment criteria, critical path verification and multiple-path analysis, open-ended activity and constraint identification, milestone plausibility and logic density checks, baseline validation and version control, resource loading, levelling and crew continuity, trade stacking and space constraint analysis, look-ahead scheduling and short-interval planning, progress measurement across weighted milestones and physical percent complete, earned value management with SPI and CPI in construction, monthly schedule update discipline and narrative, the Society of Construction Law Delay and Disruption Protocol, as-planned versus as-built analysis and time impact analysis, window analysis and contemporaneous record practice, float ownership and concurrent delay considerations, baseline change control and revised programmes, and reporting schedule performance to clients and boards.

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Q5 How is the "Best Practices for Construction Project Scheduling" course applied in real-world practice?

Delegates apply it through scheduling frameworks, scheduling specifications, contract programme submissions, work breakdown structures, activity coding structures, network diagrams, dependency logs, sequencing plans, constraint registers, duration estimate sheets, productivity factor records, congestion allowance notes, calendar definitions, weather allowance records, long-lead item procurement schedules, critical path analyses, float reports, negative float analyses, DCMA 14-point assessment reports, open-ended activity logs, milestone plausibility checks, logic density reports, baseline records, version control logs, resource loading sheets, resource histograms, levelling reports, crew continuity plans, trade stacking analyses, space constraint studies, look-ahead schedules, short-interval plans, progress measurement plans, weighted milestone registers, physical percent complete records, earned value reports, SPI and CPI calculations, monthly update reports, schedule narratives, as-planned programmes, as-built records, time impact analyses, window analyses, contemporaneous records, float ownership assessments, concurrent delay analyses, delay claim submissions, baseline change requests, revised programmes, recovery schedules, client progress reports, and board schedule reports. They also use them to defend programmes in progress meetings and claims discussions.