



The Top 10 New Features in Oracle Primavera P6 R17

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Introduction



Introducing Oracle Primavera P6 R17

Primavera P6 R17 delivers significant improvements on R16.2. Enhancements in functionality will help organisations create schedules more seamlessly and deliver projects on time and within scope.

The P6 experts at Prescience Technology road-tested the new release to assess the new features and enhanced functionality. In this eBook, we have ranked and reviewed the most significant new features to help you understand what each enhancement will mean for your organisation.



About Prescience Technology

Prescience Technology is an award-winning Oracle Platinum Partner with an unrelenting commitment to continuous improvement. We bring broad enterprise knowledge and implementation experience to the Oracle Primavera product suite.

We leverage our deep project management and business expertise, and extensive knowledge of Oracle applications to extract greater value. It's this unique combination of expertise which enables us to help clients implement or upgrade and embed Primavera in a high value, sustainable manner.

[DOWNLOAD OUR CAPABILITY STATEMENT](#)

Connect with us for further updates



1

Administration Tab Replaces Administer Menu

Our Rating



Application

P6 Web



Feature Description

Application Settings, Enterprise Data, Scheduled Services, User Administration, and User Interface Views are now accessible from the Administration Tab. Access to this Tab is controlled via User Interface Views and security privileges. The Administer menu has not been completely removed, but has been modified with a streamlined User Menu, providing access to My Preferences, Service Status, User Sessions, and Logout.



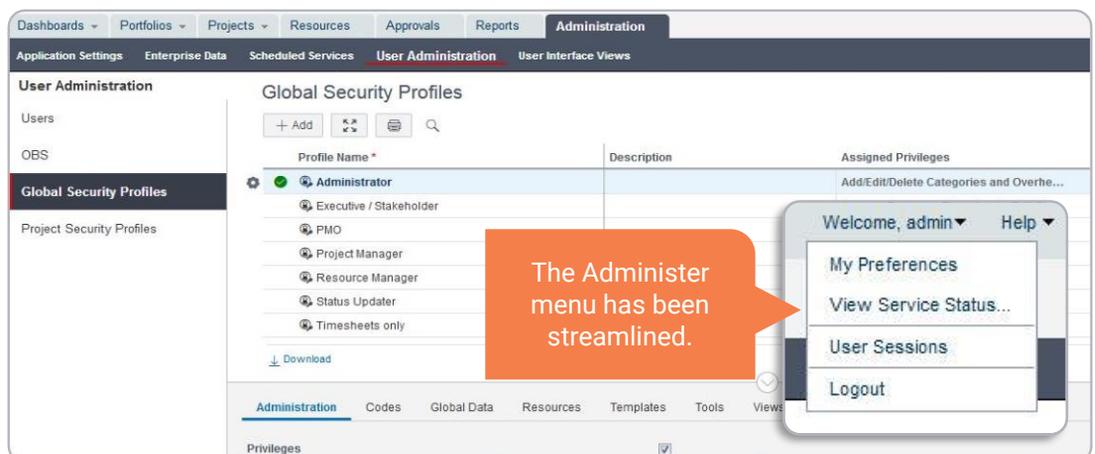
Why is it an improvement?

This change is primarily an improvement to the user experience. The Administration tab provides these important functions with a more visible presence, simplifies the navigation and improves general workflow.



Feature in Action

See snapshots of the updated Administration tab and Administer menu below.



The screenshot shows the Oracle Primavera P6 Administration tab. The main content area displays 'Global Security Profiles' with a table listing profiles like Administrator, Executive / Stakeholder, PMO, Project Manager, Resource Manager, Status Updater, and Timesheets only. A callout box points to the 'Administrator' profile. A user menu is open, showing options: Welcome, admin, Help, My Preferences, View Service Status..., User Sessions, and Logout. An orange callout box states: 'The Administer menu has been streamlined.'

2

Applet Removal

Our Rating



Application

P6 Web



Feature Description

In the latest release of Primavera P6, Oracle has continued to remove Java-based applets from the application in exchange for pages written in HTML5.

The HTML5-based EPS and Activities pages are referred to as **Standard View**. The HTML5-based Resource Assignments page is referred to as **Basic View**. The existing Applet-based pages are called **Classic View**.

The Standard View (HTML5-based) pages generally offer the same functionality as the Classic View (Java-based) pages, although some pages have been redesigned.

The following pages have been upgraded to HTML5 in P6 R17:

- Capacity Planning (note that scenarios are not available in the new Standard View)
- Manage Portfolios
- Activity Network
- Resource Overallocation
- Scheduled Services
- My Preferences
- Calendar View (see snapshot overleaf)

P6 R17 also includes the following HTML5 page enhancements:

- Import/Export views from the Activities page. Classic and Standard views can be exported, and then imported as Standard user views to share with other users or imported into the same database.
- Add WBS nodes from Template, including their activities, on the Activities page (see snapshot overleaf).
- Add columns for Project, WBS, and Activity UDFs on the Resource Assignments page.



Why is it an improvement?

Oracle has committed to removing all Java dependency from the P6 Web application; the HTML5-based pages load faster and do not require additional plug-ins. However, we did notice that some time is still needed for users to adapt to the HTML5-based views.

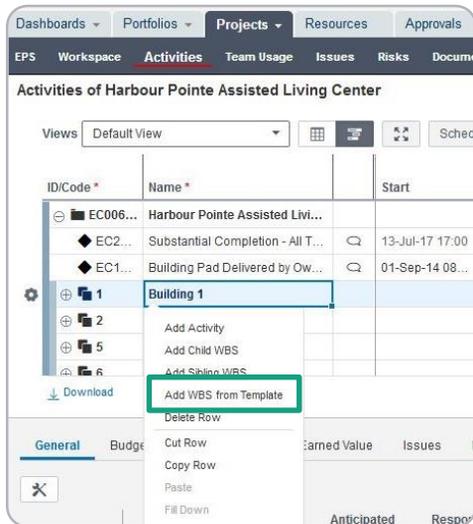
2

Applet Removal



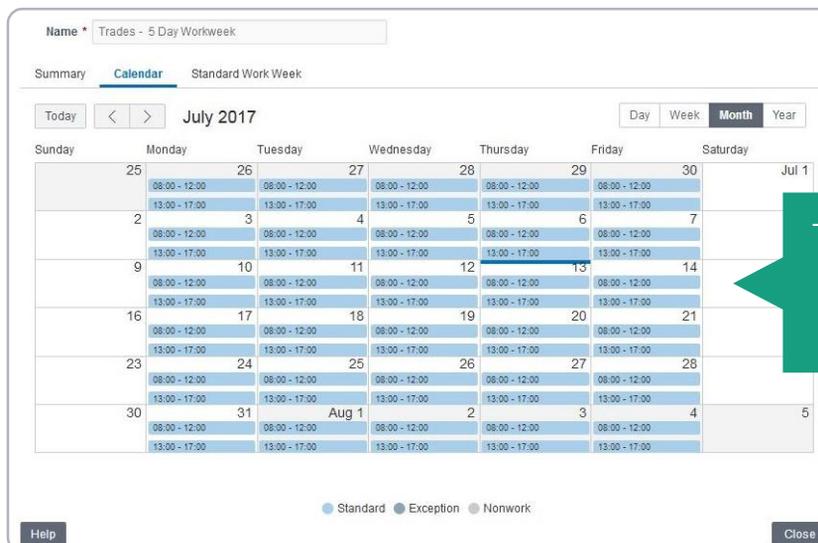
Feature in Action

See snapshots of the updated Activities page functionality and new HTML5 Calendar View below.



The screenshot shows the 'Activities of Harbour Pointe Assisted Living Center' page. A context menu is open for 'Building 1', and the 'Add WBS from Template' option is highlighted. Other menu items include 'Add Activity', 'Add Child WBS', 'Add Sibling WBS', 'Delete Row', 'Cut Row', 'Copy Row', 'Paste', and 'Fill Down'.

WBS nodes can be added from a Template on the updated Activities page.



The screenshot shows the 'Calendar' view for 'Trades - 5 Day Workweek' in July 2017. The calendar displays activities as blue bars with time ranges (e.g., 08:00 - 12:00, 13:00 - 17:00) for each day. A legend at the bottom indicates 'Standard' (blue dot), 'Exception' (grey dot), and 'Nonwork' (white dot) activity types.

The Calendar view has been upgraded to the new HTML5-based Standard View.

3

Capability to Disable Java-based Applets

Our Rating



Application

P6 Web



Feature Description

A great new feature in P6 R17 allows users to disable applets, thereby choosing to only access the faster loading HTML5-based pages. If their profile allows it, users can nominate to disable applets altogether in Application Settings. Applets for specific user profiles or views can also be disabled in User Interface Views, and administrators can switch off applets globally for all P6 EPPM users.

When applets are disabled, the following functionality will no longer be available:

- Portfolios
- Risk Management (Projects Tab and Dashboard Portlet)
- Resource Planning (Resources Tab)
- Workspaces (Projects Tab)



Why is it an improvement?

Support forums are full of users encountering Java-related issues in P6, ranging from outdated Java versions to crashes and the wrong combination of Java version and browser. Disabling Java-based applets is useful for preventing Java-related issues. The feature is also scalable - an applet setting in Application Settings affects all users, while a setting for User Interface Views allows you to assign different access to different users.



Feature in Action

See snapshots of the different options for disabling Java-based Applets overleaf.

3

Capability to Disable Java-based Applets



Feature in Action

See snapshots of the different options for disabling Java-based Applets below.



Applets can be disabled altogether in Application Settings.

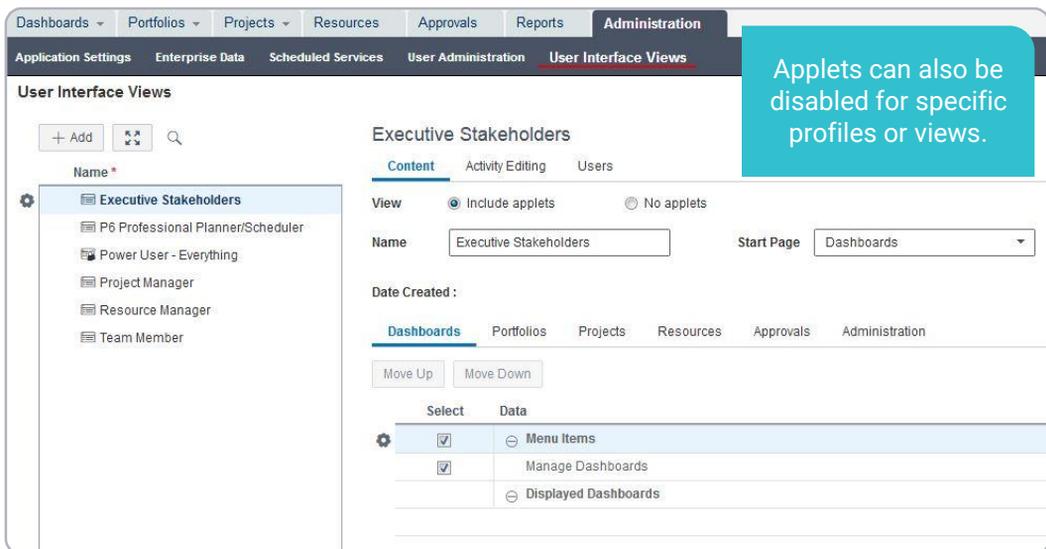
Application Settings

Applets

Specify whether to enable or disable applets. If applets are disabled, users will not be able to access pages which include applet-based features.

Enable applets

Disable applets



Applets can also be disabled for specific profiles or views.

User Interface Views

Executive Stakeholders

Content Activity Editing Users

View Include applets No applets

Name Executive Stakeholders **Start Page** Dashboards

Date Created :

Dashboards Portfolios Projects Resources Approvals Administration

Move Up Move Down

Select	Data
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Menu Items
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Manage Dashboards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Displayed Dashboards

The Top 10 New Features in Oracle Primavera P6 R17

4

Check out P6 Professional Project to Local SQLite Database

Our Rating



Application

P6 Professional



Feature Description

P6 R17 adds the functionality to check out a P6 Professional project to your local SQLite database. This will allow you to check out a project and work on it from your local standalone database. The standalone SQLite database is embedded with P6 Professional and does not require any additional installation or setup.



Why is it an improvement?

This will lead to improved performance for data-intensive projects and also means you will be able to work on the project when not connected to the EPPM/Cloud. When your work is complete, check the project back in and your changes will be written to the EPPM/Cloud.



Feature in Action

See snapshots and instructions for the Check In / Check Out process overleaf.

4

Check out P6 Professional Project to Local SQLite Database



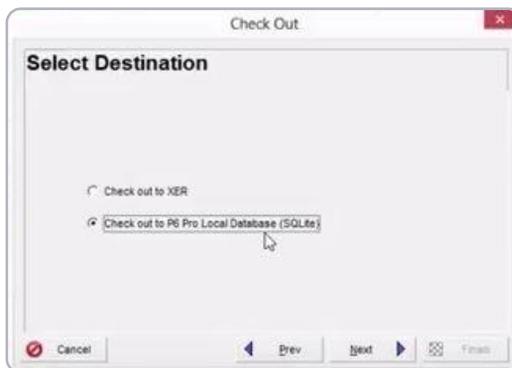
To access this feature:

Select **File > Check Out** and choose projects to export > select “Check out to P6 Pro Local Database” > open the newly created SQLite database and update projects. To check the project back in, open P6 EPPM Database and select **File > Check In** > select “Check in from P6 Pro local database”.



Feature in Action

See snapshots of the Check In/ Check Out process below.



5

New Approvals Tab

<p>Our Rating</p> <p>★★★★☆</p>	<p>Application</p> <p>P6 Web</p>
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Feature Description

P6 R17 sees the addition of a new Approvals tab containing the Timesheets approvals and Status Updates approvals from Team Member. As well as combining the functionality for Status Updates approvals and for Timesheets approvals, the Status Updates page has been upgraded to the new HTML5 format. You can easily configure views to include or hide the Approvals, Status Updates and Timesheets pages in My Preferences and via User Interface Views and security privileges.



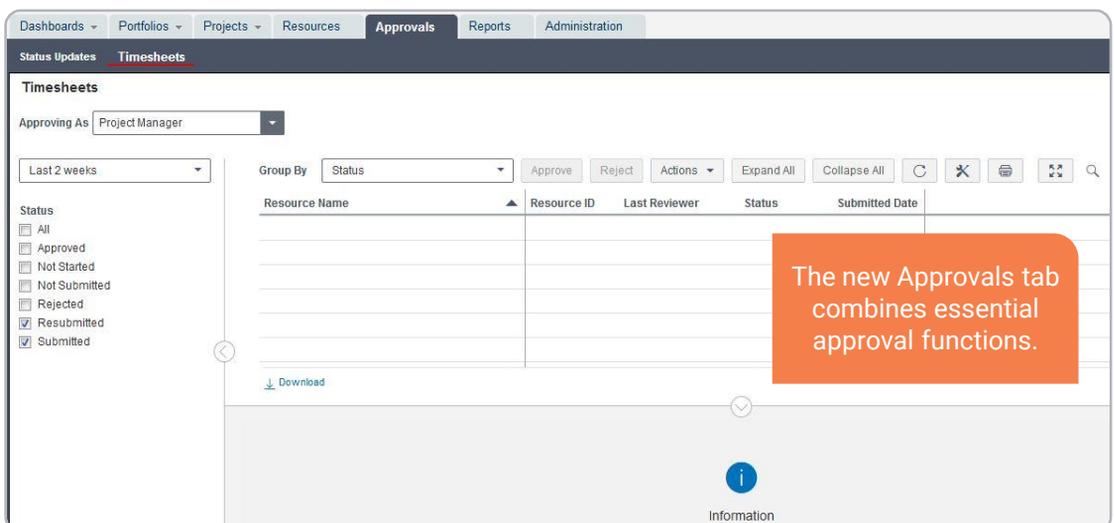
Why is it an improvement?

The improvement here is twofold: firstly, it is now easier for Project and Resource Managers to grant or deny approvals; and secondly, everything is now consolidated into one location to improve efficiency.



Feature in Action

See snapshots of the new Approvals tab below.



6

Scheduled Services Display Local Time Zones

Our Rating



Application

P6 Web



Feature Description

Within the Scheduled Services and View Service Status pages, date and time are now displayed using your local time zone for the Submitted, Completed, Last Run, and Next Run fields. Additionally, in the Schedule Settings tab of the Scheduled Services page, the Start Time you specify for a service is also in your time zone. This also applies for the Service Status log files, where the date and time values are shown as your local time zone.



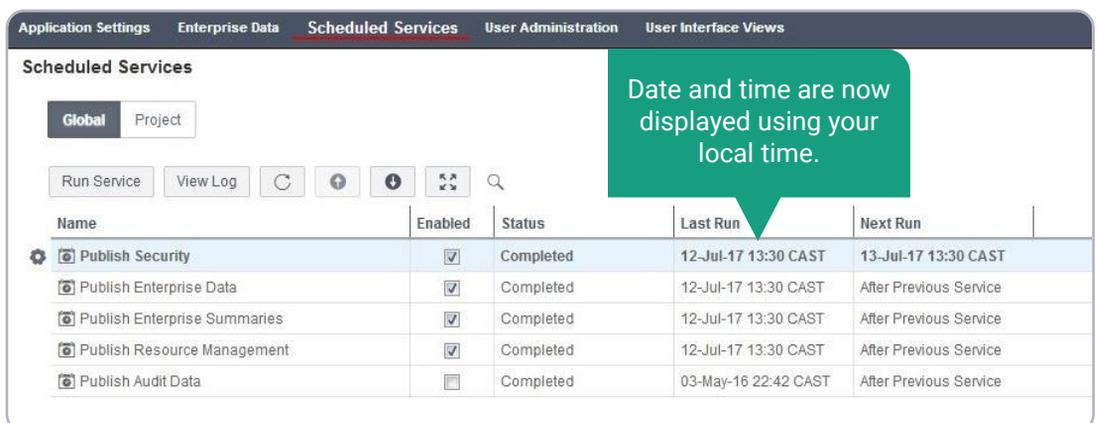
Why is it an improvement?

This feature allows you to more accurately schedule, troubleshoot, and view the status of your services and it is particularly helpful in a cloud environment, where the P6 server is on a different time zone to your local workstation.



Feature in Action

See snapshots of the Scheduled Services page below.



Scheduled Services

Global Project

Run Service View Log Refresh Add Remove Search

Name	Enabled	Status	Last Run	Next Run
Publish Security	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Completed	12-Jul-17 13:30 CAST	13-Jul-17 13:30 CAST
Publish Enterprise Data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Completed	12-Jul-17 13:30 CAST	After Previous Service
Publish Enterprise Summaries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Completed	12-Jul-17 13:30 CAST	After Previous Service
Publish Resource Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Completed	12-Jul-17 13:30 CAST	After Previous Service
Publish Audit Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed	03-May-16 22:42 CAST	After Previous Service

Date and time are now displayed using your local time.

7

Capability to Delete Published Data for a Project

Our Rating



Application

P6 Web



Feature Description

In P6 R17, the EPS page contains an option to Delete Published Data for a project. If there are old projects which you no longer need to report against but need to retain, you can use the Delete Published Data item on the Actions menu to delete published project data.



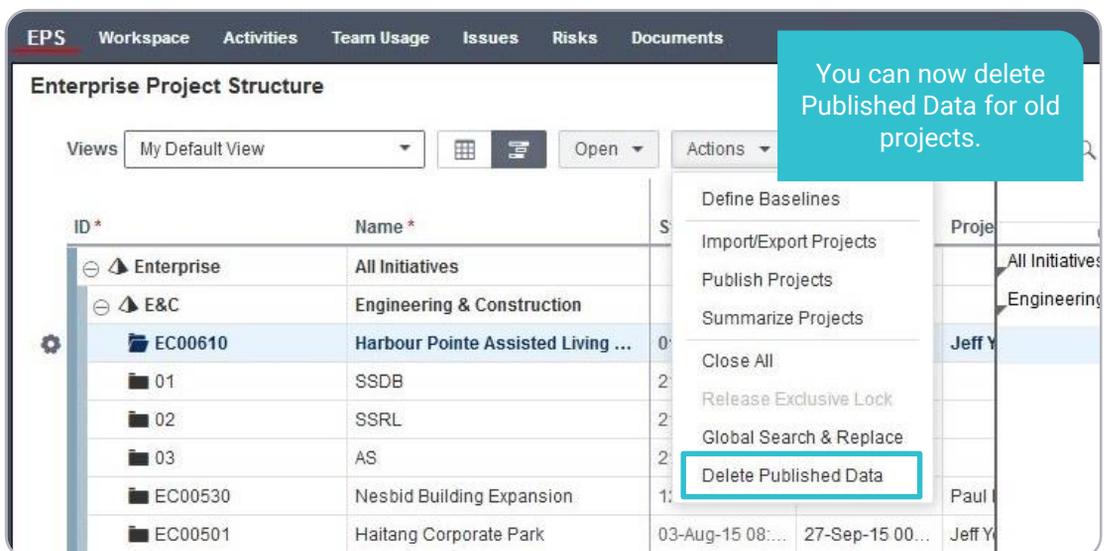
Why is it an improvement?

This feature is useful for projects that you wish to retain, but no longer require published reporting data, which helps simplify both archiving and reporting.



Feature in Action

See a snapshot of this new function below.



The screenshot shows the Oracle Primavera P6 Enterprise Project Structure (EPS) interface. The 'Actions' menu is open, and the 'Delete Published Data' option is highlighted with a red box. A callout box in the top right corner of the screenshot states: "You can now delete Published Data for old projects." The main table displays project details:

ID *	Name *	S
Enterprise	All Initiatives	
E&C	Engineering & Construction	
EC00610	Harbour Pointe Assisted Living ...	0
01	SSDB	2
02	SSRL	2
03	AS	2
EC00530	Nesbid Building Expansion	1
EC00501	Haitang Corporate Park	03-Aug-15 08:...

8

Tasks Renamed as Activities in Team Member

Our Rating



Application

**Team Member /
P6 Mobile**



Feature Description

'Tasks' have finally been renamed 'Activities' in all Team Member Applications. Team Member Web, P6 for Android, P6 for iOS and the Email Statusing Service now use the term 'Activities', bringing all applications into line with consistent terminology.



Why is it an improvement?

This small yet long-awaited update removes the ambiguity of the naming structure for activities / tasks within Team Member and P6 Mobile and brings all applications into line with the naming structure used in P6 EPPM and P6 Professional. In short, all users can now communicate using the same terminology and be sure they are talking about the same thing!



9

Easy Access for Global and Project Scheduled Services

Our Rating



Application

P6 Web



Feature Description

Global and Project Scheduled Services have been streamlined into a single page, available from the new Administration Tab. Both views are HTML5 only. You can navigate to the Scheduled Services Page from the Administer menu.



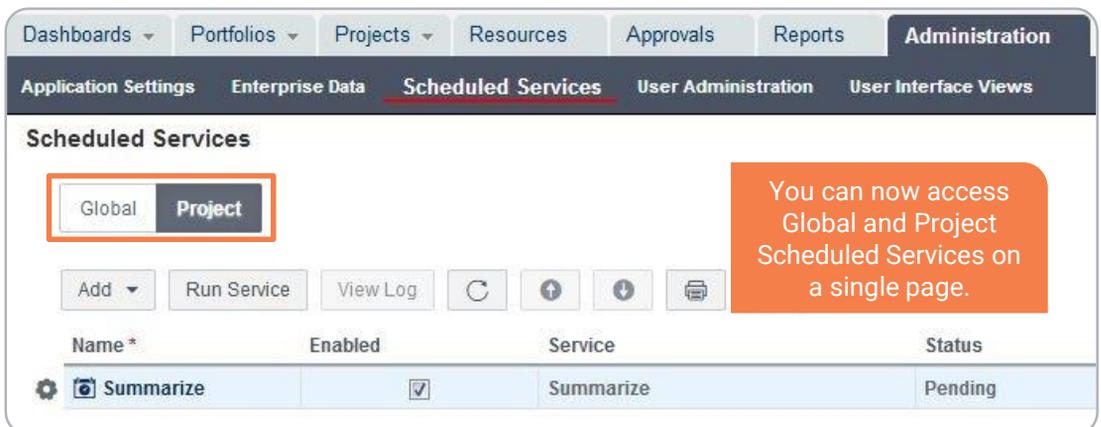
Why is it an improvement?

In P6, you must populate the appropriate Primavera P6 Administrator settings for all scheduled services jobs that you want to run. This is now quicker because both Global and Project Scheduled Services are easier to access, on a single page.



Feature in Action

See snapshots of the streamlined Scheduled Services page below.



Scheduled Services

Global Project

Add Run Service View Log

Name *	Enabled	Service	Status
Summarize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Summarize	Pending

You can now access Global and Project Scheduled Services on a single page.

P6 Performance Enhancements

Our Rating



Application

P6 Web



Feature Description

Several performance enhancements have been made to improve the efficiency and speed of Primavera P6:

- The performance of the EPS and Activities pages are improved for duration fields rollups;
- The performance of the EPS, Activities and Resource Assignment pages are improved when the Show Field rollups option is enabled;
- The Activities page performance is improved for first time loading and saving;
- Hierarchical grouping is faster and more efficient on EPS, Activities, and Resource Assignment views;
- Load times are reduced for EPS, Activities, and Resource Assignment views and the EPS page no longer automatically refreshes after copying or pasting a project or an EPS.



Why is it an improvement?

Previous versions of P6 have often been considered to be very sluggish. We have seen significant performance improvements in the recent releases of P6 and these latest changes make even greater improvement to the response time for P6 Web.



Performance improvements have also been made to P6 Professional. See Performance Analysis and other improvements for P6 Professional on the next two pages.

What Else is New?



P6 R17 EPPM Enhancements

- EPS, Activity and Resource Assignment View Enhancements:
 - Addition of Duration, Project UDF rollups
 - Show Project and Assignment UDF's in Resource Assignment View
 - Show Project Codes in Activity View
 - Resource Assignment view now also available in Projects Tab
 - Resource Overallocation View
- Printing Enhancements:
 - Ability to print to PDF within P6 Web
 - Print capabilities were re-written to improve: Interactive Preview, Column Selection, Complete control over printed area, and Watermark Functionality.



P6 R17 Professional Improvements

- Copy Project Layouts when copying a project (Also now available in R16.2.5 & R15.2.14).
- Simplified process for downloading XML file on export (from the Job Services status dialog, select a download link to access the file and enter a location to store the file).
- The overall performance of P6 Professional has improved – see full analysis overleaf.
- Continued performance improvements for P6 Cloud Connect, i.e. adding activities and relationships, importing from Excel, and scheduling are all faster and more efficient in P6 Professional using Cloud Connect.



P6 R17 Mobile Enhancements for Android

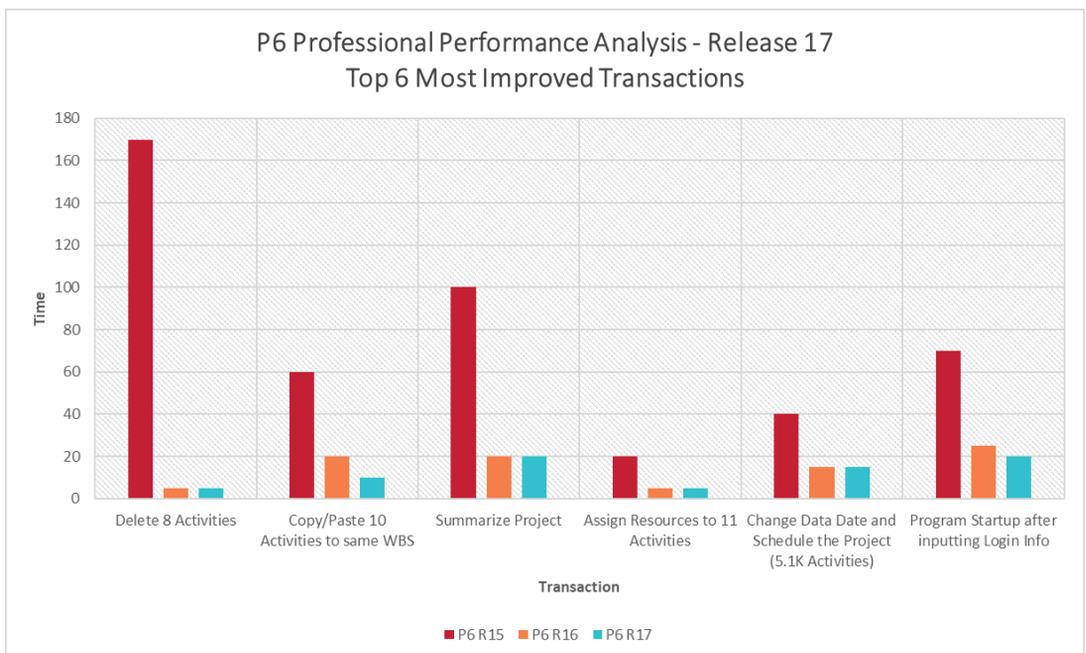
- The ability to work offline. If you lose internet connectivity when using P6 for Android, your changes will be stored on your device and synchronized with the P6 Server when your internet connectivity is restored. If you know you will be working offline for a period of time, you can synchronize task data before you go offline to ensure you have an up to date copy of the data in P6.
- Reminders for timesheets and task start and end dates.
- Audio and video attachments for tasks. You can record short video or audio clips and attach them to tasks in P6 for Android. Audio and video clips can provide further context and supporting information, helping to keep your project manager and other team members involved and clearly briefed.

What Else is New?



P6 Professional Performance Analysis

The overall performance of P6 Professional has improved, with most transactions having a quicker response time than previous versions – see graphical analysis of the top 6 most improved transactions below.



Looking to Upgrade?

Are you trying to quantify the benefits of an upgrade, trying to understand the *real* magnitude of the exercise, or simply frustrated with how your system is currently configured or performing?

Regular upgrades should be part of a wider plan to continually increase efficiency and maintain compliance and agility.

Our goal is to ensure that you leverage the latest Primavera technology to its fullest to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of your operations and to maximise the benefit from your significant investment.

Get in touch with us today to find out how we can help!



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