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Title: Lessons Learned in EVM Control Account Analysis and Design

Abstract Text: Earned Value Management (EVM) is a powerful method of program management and control that integrates cost with the technical and schedule objectives of a project. EVM is used in the aerospace/defense industry throughout the world, including Raytheon Company.

Management uses EVM data to proactively respond to program status indicators, especially variances of schedule and cost. This proactive response is the ultimate EVM contribution to a program’s success by enabling a program team to act decisively and preserve the program’s overall performance baseline.

A Control Account (CA) is a management control point in an EVM system at which budgets (resource plans) and actual costs are accumulated and compared to earned value for management control purposes. A control account is a natural management point for planning and control since it represents the work assigned to one responsible organizational element or IPT on one program work breakdown structure (WBS) element.

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss and examine Lessons Learned regarding the analysis and design of control accounts in an EVM system. The presentation will list several practical control account strategies employed at Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems that any organization can use to improve the quality and utility of their program’s EVM system.