

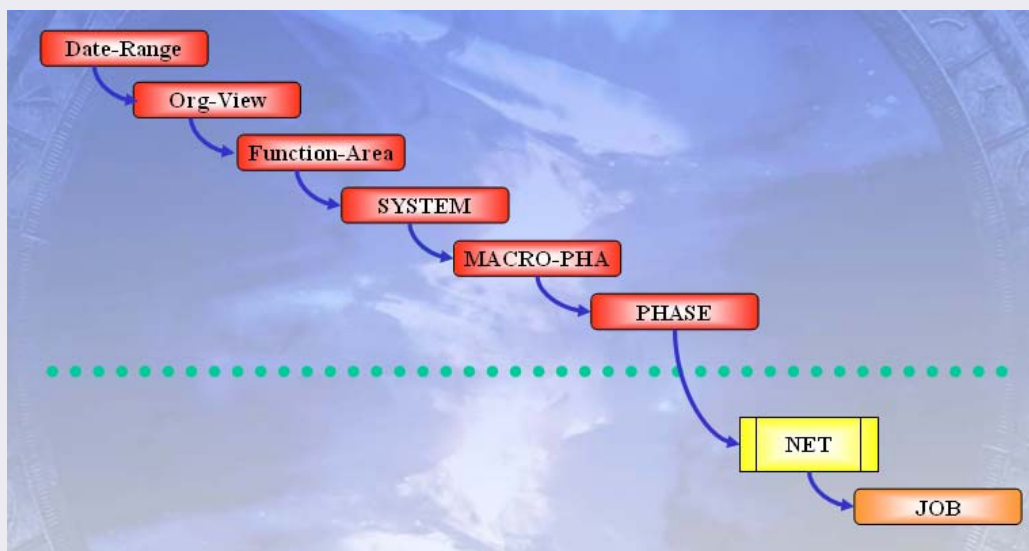


APS | ENTERprise

WS | planning for CA-7

Monitoring the status of batch processing activities is an extremely important process for any data center and constitutes the basis for optimizing production. This process raises the need to revise priorities (planning) and optimize services, including the reallocation of non-essential processes whose current layouts interfere with or delay critical flows. Additionally, there is a need to verify in advance (simulation) the impact of changes and/or new processes added in the current production context. The continual growth in processing volumes and complexity makes it necessary for production control personnel to equip themselves with increasingly sophisticated planning and monitoring tools and methods.

WSplanning consists of a powerful GUI that runs under Windows, enabling users to monitor batch processing, carry out the planning and simulation of activities, and aggregate processing units into high-level objects such as phases, macro-phases or services.



WSplanning Data Model

The WSplanning client, which is in constant contact with the scheduling system and z/OS, updates the display of activities in progress at a user-defined refresh rate. This display shows those activities which have already been executed, those which are being processed and those which still need to be executed, providing instant information on any deviation from the system's planning and a unique insight into the production batch flow. Deviations are calculated using the data obtained by a powerful function that analyzes the average processing times of every object and through a relational database that is constantly updated.

Monitoring and Forecasting

WSplanning allows you to carry out continuous and synchronous monitoring of the active processes and provides the information needed to optimize these processes in real time.

Each object can be shown in Static mode in order to analyze its configuration, or in Dynamic mode, which shows its current processing status.

The progress status display is implemented using a connection to the CA-7 batch scheduling system.

The analysis of those activities that are undergoing processing and those that have already been completed, which is repeated over time, allows users to revise priorities, eliminate or move processes that are not indispensable for the completion of critical services, or immediately evaluate the impact that a current delay will have on the entire processing cycle.

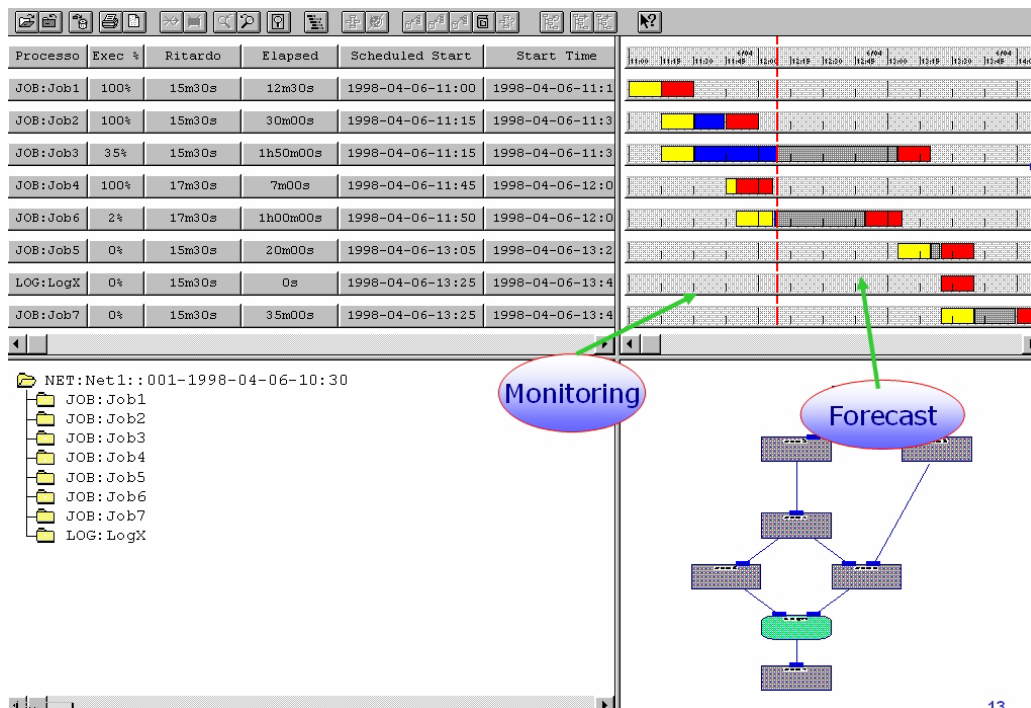
Monitoring and forecasting in this way promotes a proactive approach, rather than a reactive one, resulting in reduced delays and outages.

Schedule Net Managed as Objects

WSplanning can aggregate scheduling nets into high-level objects based upon user customizable data models. This allows you to plan and monitor a small number of macro-objects instead of all the individual processing units contained within them (which can, however, be displayed in detail).

This option is particularly useful for monitoring activities that need to be performed by different datacenter personnel (from operators to managers) and have different levels of interest in the analysis of the production processes.

Additionally, during the design of these macro-objects you can also insert units that are not strictly dependent on the scheduling in the processing flows. These units are referred to as "activities". These activities can be the arrival of flows from other systems, the sending of data to other organizations, responsible personnel decision making process, etc. These activities often have a significant impact in generating delays in the processing flows that they interrupt.



Object Time Attributes

WSplanning manages a number of different time attributes for each object represented:

Scheduled-Start and Scheduled-End. The former is acquired from the scheduling plan, while the latter is calculated considering the average processing time. These attributes are generated when the planning is being created.

Expected-Start and Expected-End. WSplanning generates these attributes automatically using an analysis of the end, or state of progress of the direct and indirect job dependencies.

Real-Start and Real-End. These timestamps, on the other hand, correspond to the actual beginning and end of the processing. They are acquired directly from the CA-7 scheduling system.

In addition, a Status attribute is associated with every object in accordance with the batch scheduler and an Error Code, which is implemented in the event of an error during processing.

Critical Path Finder

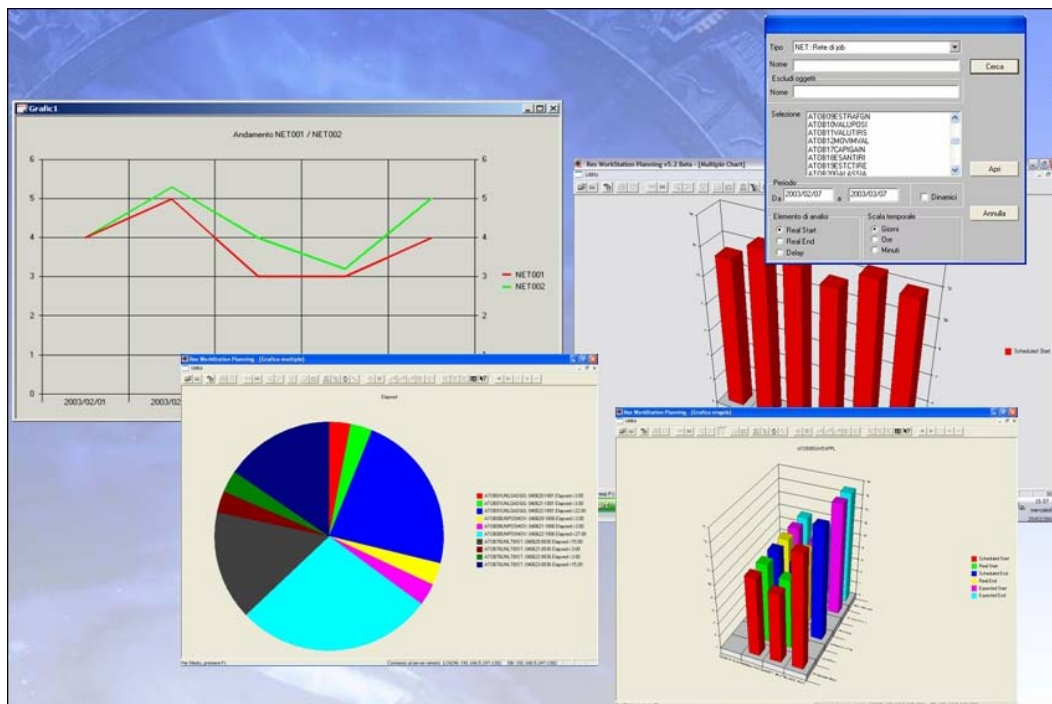
As an optional component to WSplanning, a powerful extension known as CPF (Critical Path Finder) operates directly on the host system to identify the critical paths through the entire scheduling plan.

CPF analyzes production planning over a specified period of time in order to identify the related critical paths (i.e. the chains of jobs sequentially linked together). This analysis forms the essential cognitive basis of the revision processes for achieving optimized scheduling.

Graphical Statistics

Robust statistical graphs can be created based on the analysis of the planned and historical data, providing different representations of what is managed by WSplanning.

Statistical graphs are created using standard Windows form controls and require no coding or proprietary language skills. This makes statistical reporting available to all levels of scheduling personnel.



WSplanning Statistics

Benefits:

- ☑ Maximum visibility of active processes for objects at any hierarchical level
- ☑ Immediate detection, identification and resolution of processing issues
- ☑ Provides a platform for a proactive, rather than reactive, approach to managing the schedule
- ☑ Accurate forecasting of elapsed processing time
- ☑ Complete graphical analysis of statistics and batch flow
- ☑ Historical display of processes already completed
- ☑ Graphical planning and simulation of processes
- ☑ Identification of the critical paths through the entire batch schedule

Return on Investment:

- ☑ Cost savings through increased percentage of meeting SLAs
- ☑ Improved customer service results in higher customer satisfaction
- ☑ Reduced workload required to monitor and respond to issues
- ☑ Increased productivity gains in problem detection and resolution
- ☑ Reduced production delays and outages

APS|ENTERprise offers a free, no obligation, trial of WSpPlanning for CA-7. During your trial period you will receive full support for the implementation and trial of WSpPlanning for CA-7.

Please contact us for further information or to schedule an on or off site demonstration.

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