

**REALIZATION.**

# CRITICAL CHAIN PROJECT MANAGEMENT RESULTS AND LESSONS LEARNED

*Presented by Sanjeev Gupta  
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# REALIZATION'S EXPERIENCE

**400+**  
Customers

**\$6.5+B**  
Bottom Line  
Impact

**10%-30%**  
Productivity Gain

**20%-50%**  
Faster  
Completion

## Awards



- Shingo Gold
- Franz Edelman (a.k.a. Super Bowl of Operations Research)
- Air Force Chief of Staff Excellence

- MRO (Aircraft, Ship, Land Vehicles MRO)
- STO (Steel Mills and Refineries)
- Engineer-to-Order Manufacturing
- Engineering and Product Development
- Biopharma R&D
- Infrastructure and Construction
- Software and IT
- Miscellaneous

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# AGENDA

AGGREGATION OF SAFETIES

ROADRUNNER

MAIN SOURCE OF BENEFITS

WIP CONTROL

THE CCPM BREAKTHROUGH

BUFFER MANAGEMENT

PITFALLS TO AVOID

NO BAD MULTITASKING

ROLE OF SOFTWARE

OBJECTIVE DRIVEN PLANS

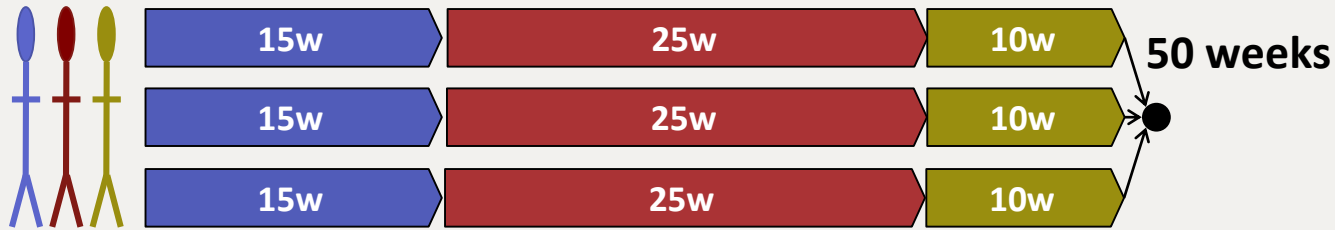
FULL KITTING

FLOW BASED PLANS

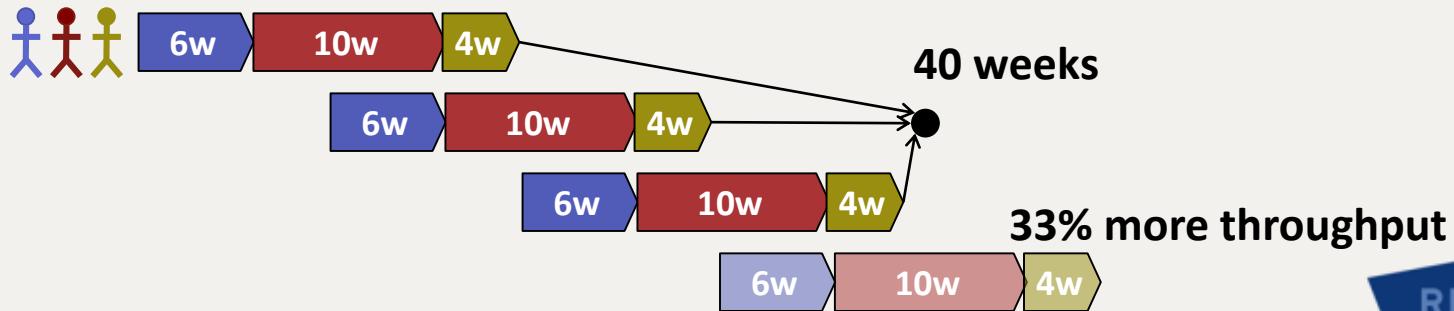
# SOURCE OF BENEFITS: A SIMPLE ILLUSTRATION



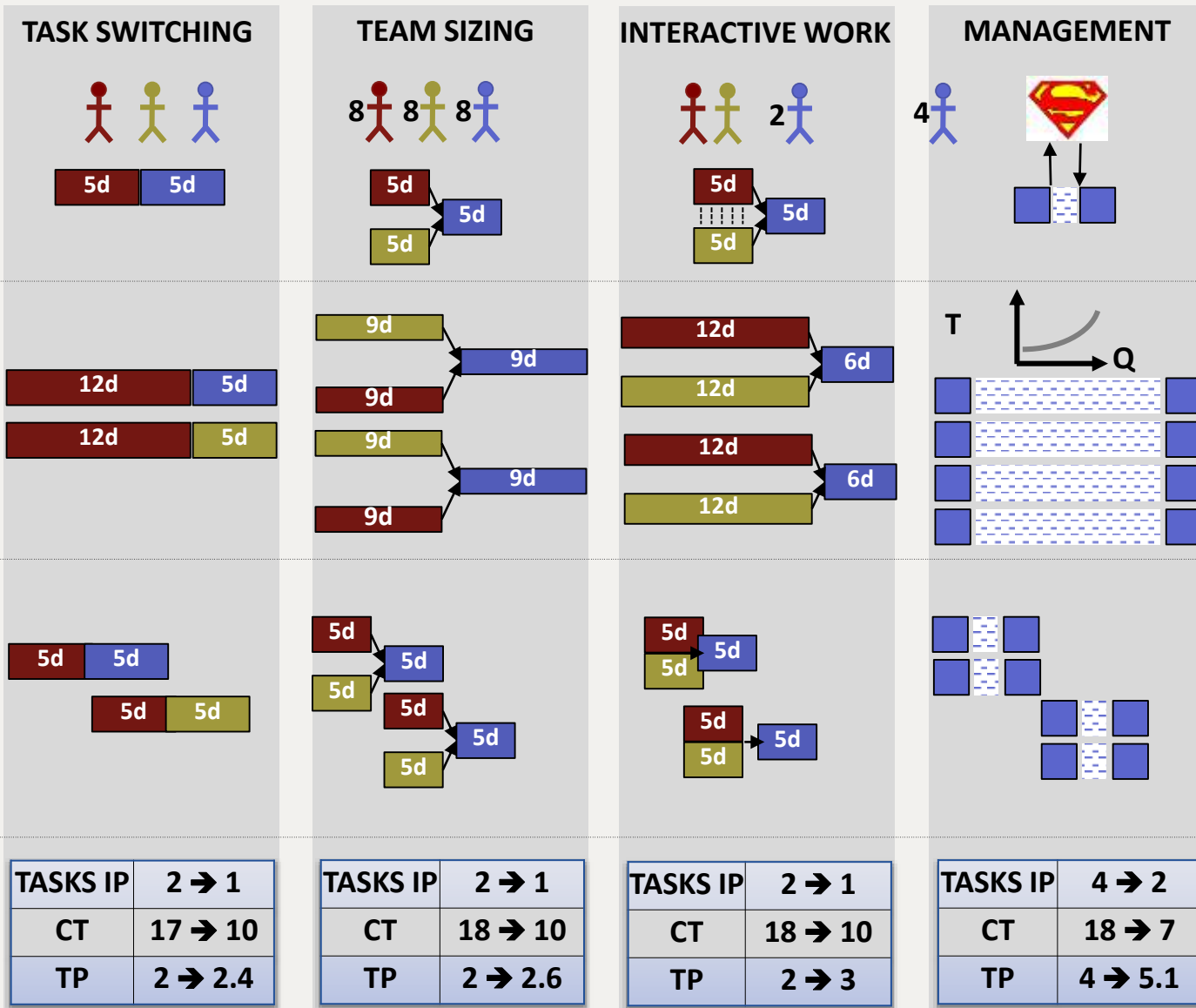
## LOCAL OPTIMIZATION: KEEP BUSY, SHOW PROGRESS EVERYWHERE (SPREAD THIN)



## GLOBAL OPTIMIZATION: FOCUS AND FINISH



# EXAMPLES OF 'SPREAD THIN' VS. 'FOCUS & FINISH'

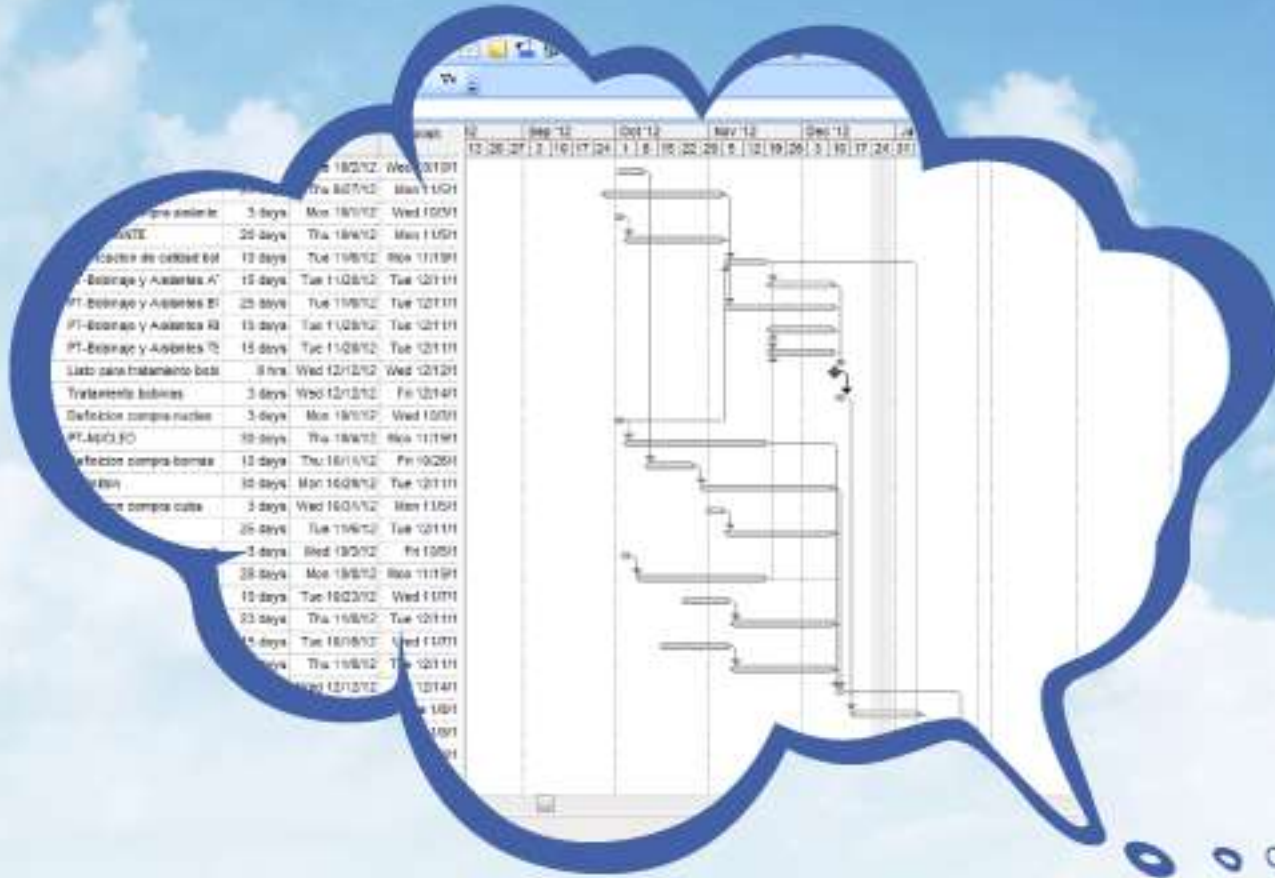


# “FOCUS AND FINISH” BEST PRACTICES

BEST PRACTICE	WHY NEEDED
<b>PIPELINING (WIP CONTROL)</b>	Minimize opportunities for spreading thin Improve availability of managers and experts
<b>FULL KITTING</b>	Prevent task switching due to lack of inputs Facilitate “focus and finish” in managing inputs
<b>CHUNKING OF RELATED WORK</b>	Keep interrelated activities together in execution Facilitate “focus and finish” in managing

# LIMITATION REMOVED BY CCPM

# EVEN THE BEST PLANS...





# ... CANNOT BE USED IN EXECUTION

Task sequence had to change

Work took longer than estimated

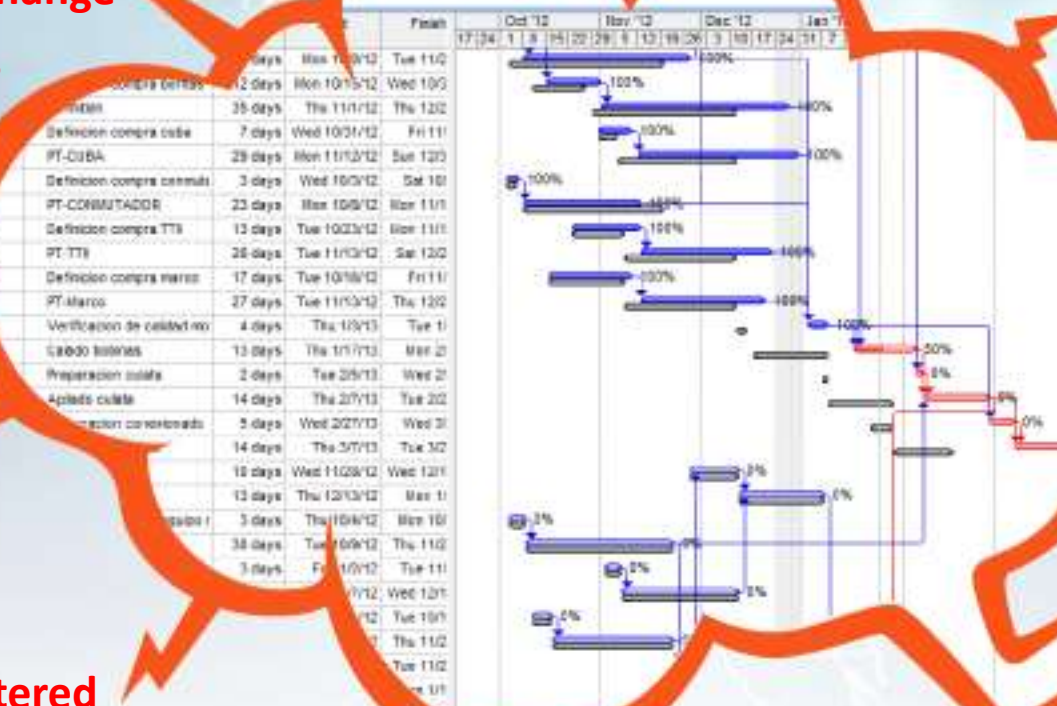
Suppliers were late

Planned resources not available

Approvals didn't happen on time

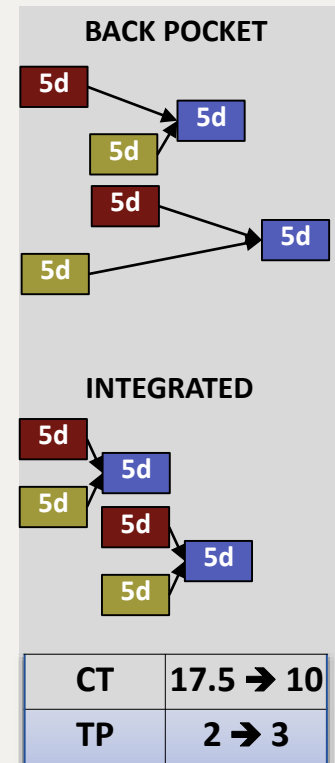
Scope and specs were changed

Encountered technical problems

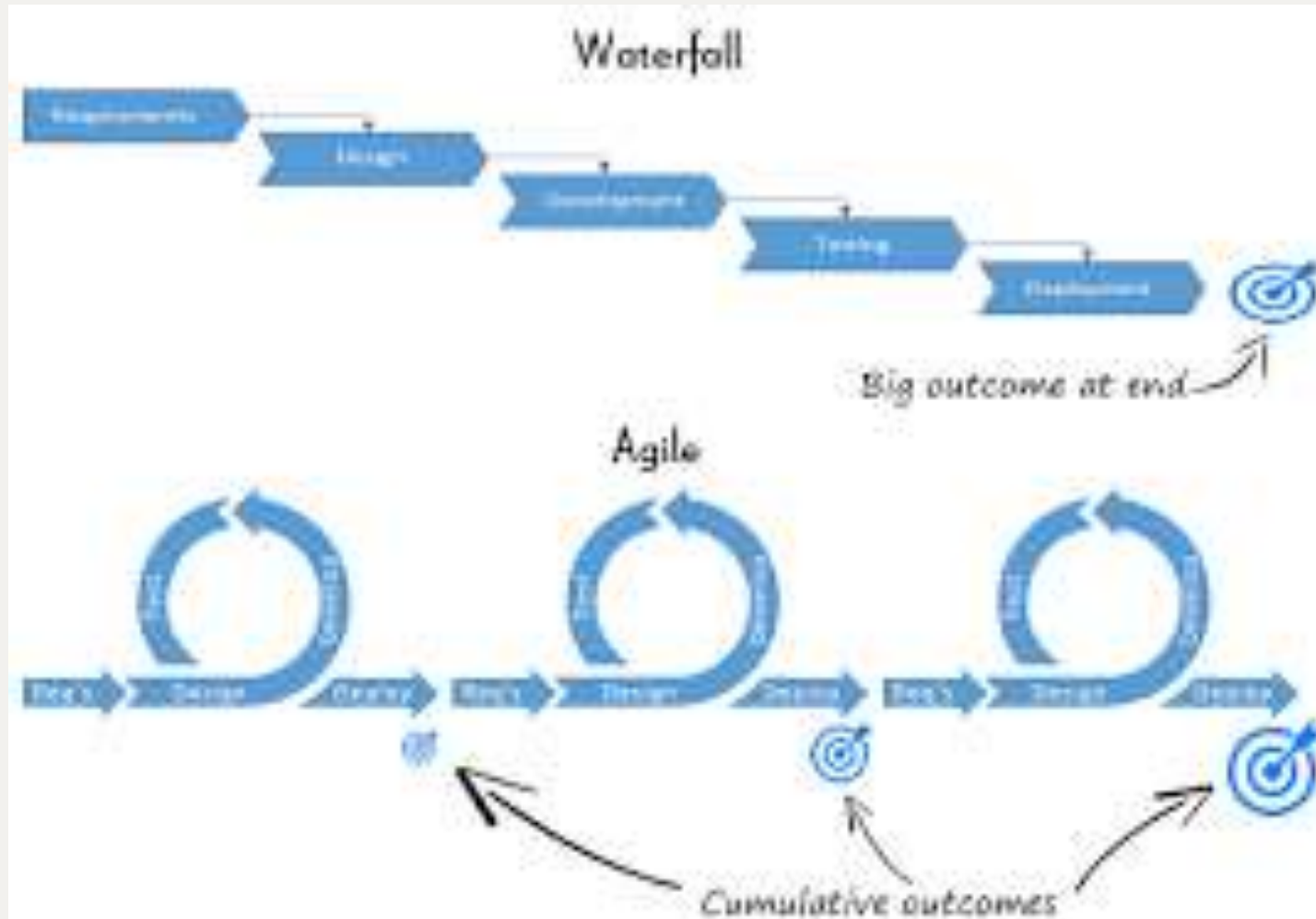


# IMPLICATIONS FOR LARGE PROJECTS, MULTI-PROJECTS

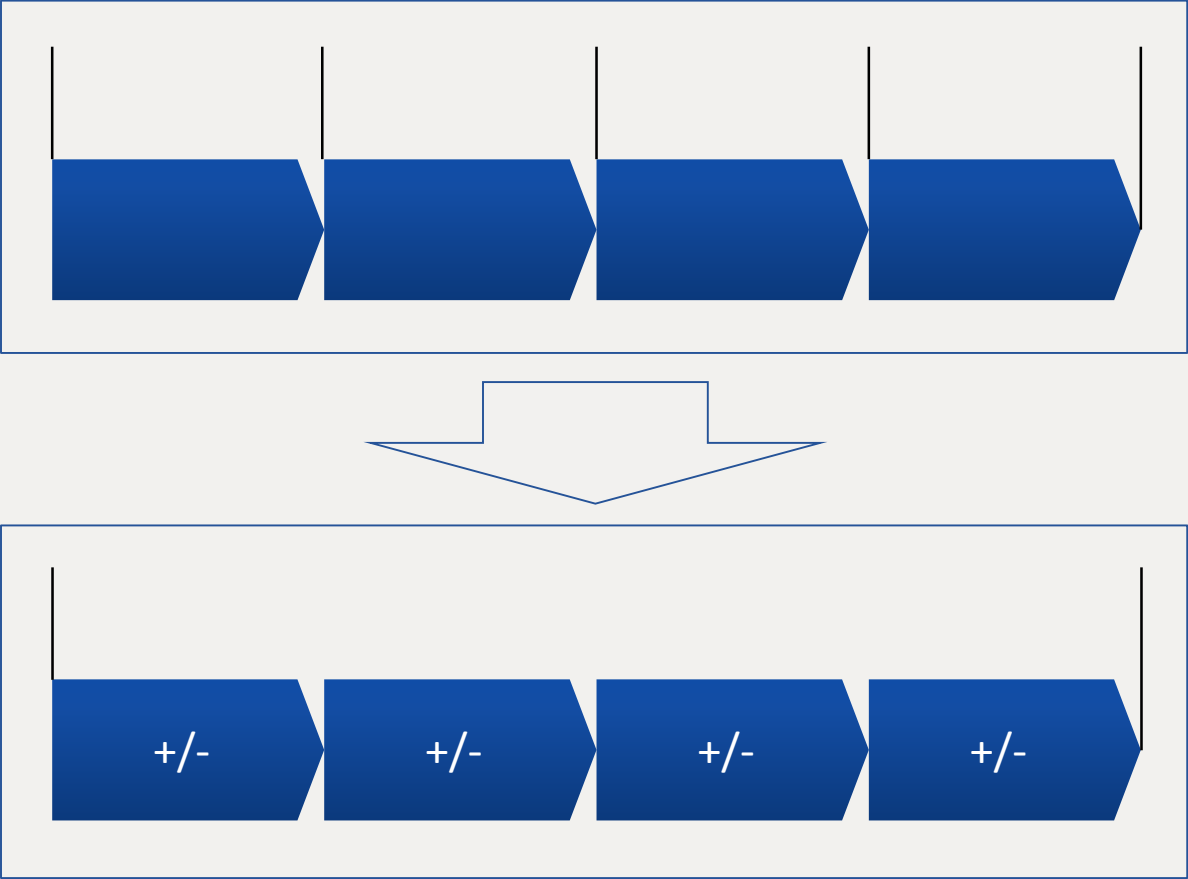
- Back-pocket schedules replace an integrated plan
- Spreading thin becomes the main mode of execution
- Task updates are just a bunch of random numbers
- Converting updates into project status becomes an art
- Status reports cannot be forward-looking



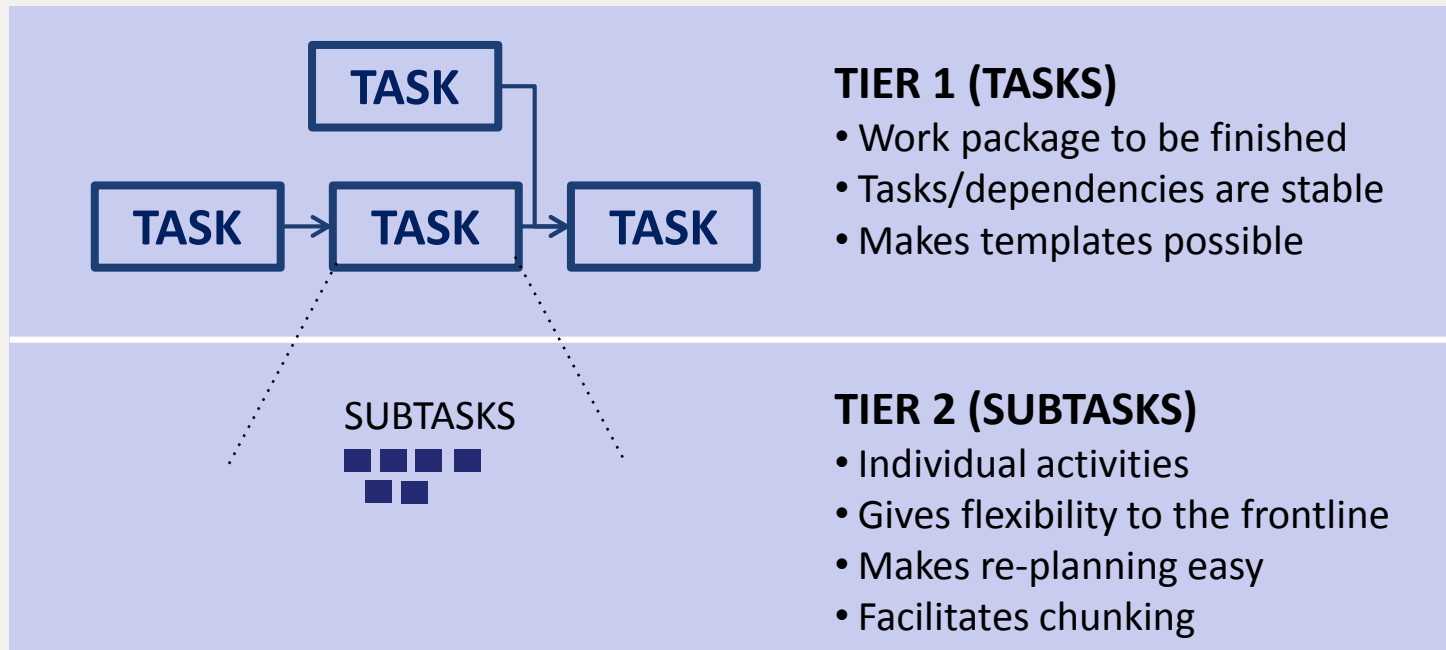
# AGILE BREAKTHROUGH: RISK REDUCTION



# CCPM BREAKTHROUGH: FLEXIBLE TASK SCHEDULES



# MISSING IDEA: TWO-TIERED TASKS



- ***Traditional PERT is always at the lowest level of tasks***
  - *Critical Path/ Critical Chain/ Buffer Management runs at the lowest level*
  - *Causes frequent re-planning*
  - *Causes frequent changes in priorities and spreading thin*
- ***2-Tier PERT is one level above the lowest level of tasks (Tier 1)***
  - *It is not the same as defining summary tasks*
  - *Critical Path/ Critical Chain/ Buffer Management runs at Tier 1*
  - *Keeps plans and priorities stable*
  - *Maintains focus, while enabling more detailed tasks*

## PITFALLS TO AVOID

- ✘ **Time-boxing of Agile sprints**
- ✘ **Fixation on buffers (size, colors...)**
- ✘ **Parallelization under time pressure**

# SHIPYARD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

- Located 40 km away from city, 7 km from the main port
- Total investment of \$450 million
- **Objective: Build necessary infrastructure for**
  - Defense shipbuilding (including submarines)
  - Defense and commercial ship repair
- **Overall infrastructure includes**
  - A 200 m long ship-lift with a capacity of 12,000 tons, 3 repair berths
  - 19 production and repair shops, 2 open assembly areas (180 m)
  - 3.35 km of breakwater
  - 22 million cubic meters of dredging (10-18 m depth) and raising land (5 m)
  - Over 4 km of roads, fresh water, sewerage, fire-fighting and electrical lines
  - Main receiving station and 6 sub-stations
  - 1 sewage treatment plant, fresh water and fire-fighting reservoirs

# SHIPLIFT SUB-PROJECT

*Benchmark for 200m shiplift: 27 months*

*Target: 26 months*

*Achieved: 26.5 months*

*Production Phase I: 1 month early*

*Production Phase II: on time*

*Production of first order:  
1 month early start*

## ■ Complexity of shiplift

- This was the first Shiplift by an Indian company
- Syncrolift has 90% market share
- L&T had no prior experience
- Every component had to be designed and manufactured in-house
- Simultaneous on-shore infrastructure development in 640 acres
- Land alienation, R&R of Kattupalli village before start of work
- Delay of 8 months in supplies of plates and bought-outs

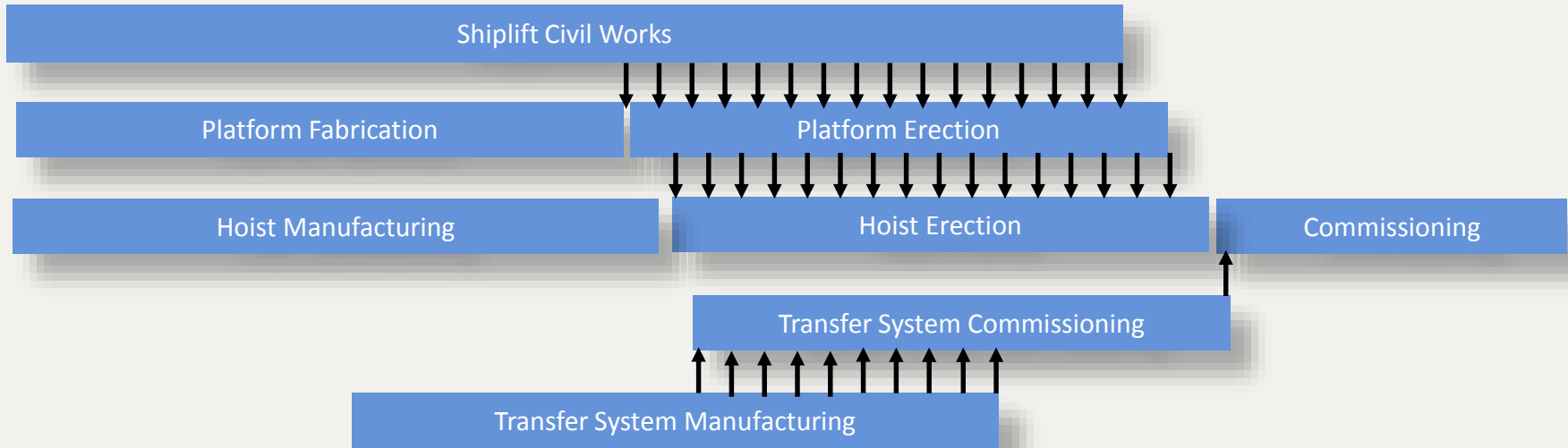
## ■ Results

- Beat the industry benchmark despite risks and delays
- Phase I of production infrastructure ahead of schedule by 1 month
- All production shops and utilities completed on schedule

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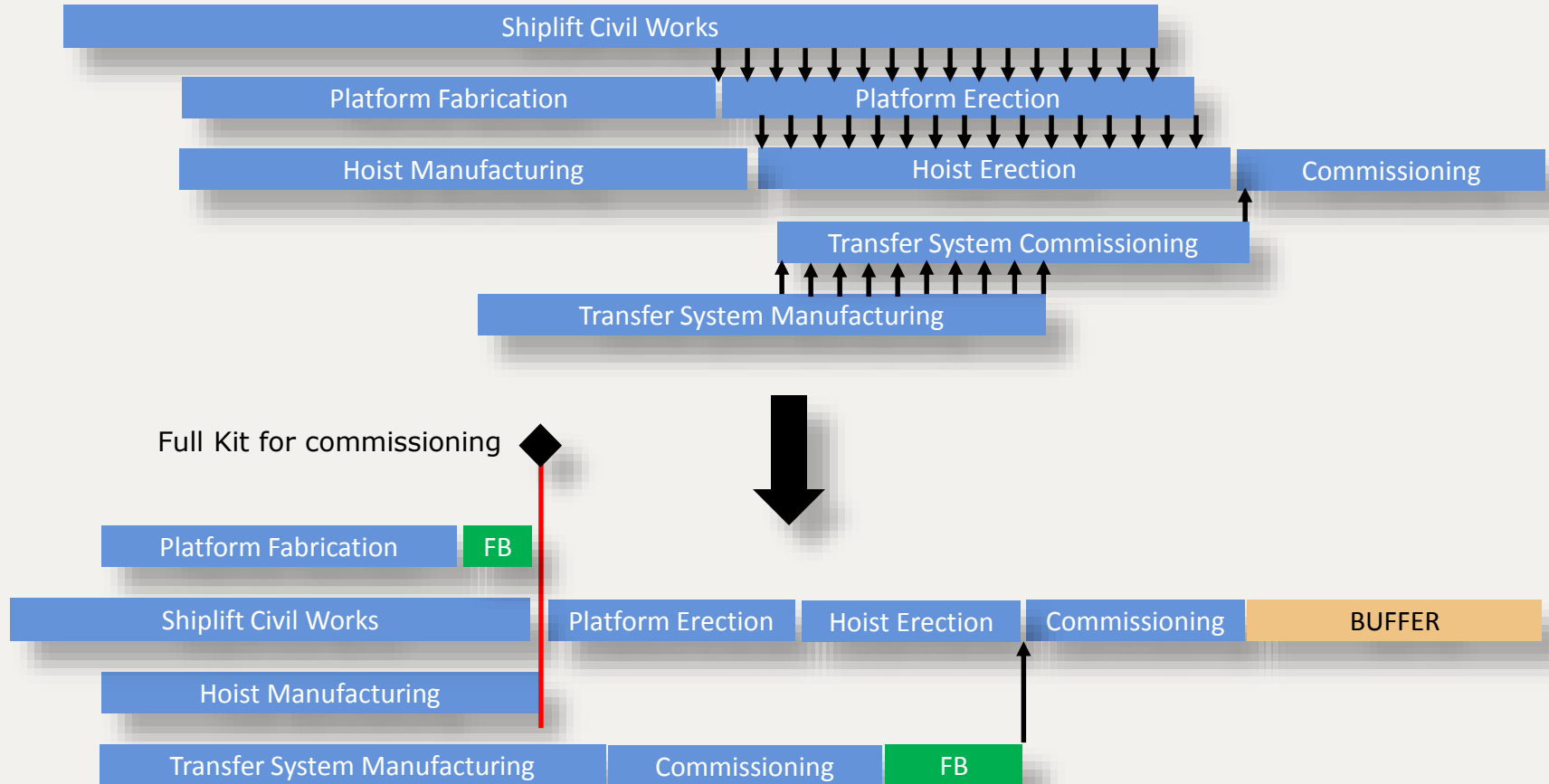


# SHIPLIFT: INITIAL PLAN



- Target of 26 months set by management – no real buy-in from execution team
- Durations not investigated – complete dependence on estimates of technical consultant
- Every component was critical – risks not addressed
- Too many integrations – any delay anywhere was going to be critical
- Management would be multi-tasking throughout the project life cycle

# SHIPLIFT: MODIFIED PLAN



**Low WIP plan with buffers for risk mitigation**

# ADJUSTMENTS DURING EXECUTION

- **Re-planning of Platform Fabrication to recover major delay**
  - Platform Dimension: 200m x 46m x 5m (16 modules)
  - Transporter declared bankruptcy mid-sea
  - Legal process to extract consignment – Delay in Supply : 5 months
  - Critical Path moved to Platform Fabrication
  - Fabrication Target was reduced from 480 days to 240 days
- **Continuous De-bottlenecking of unplanned bottlenecks**
  - Marine piling
  - Module fabrication and assembly
  - Load testing
  - Civil works (delays caused by slow mobilization of labor)

# ROLE OF SOFTWARE

## Automate

- Scheduling Algorithms
- Best Practices
- Management Reports

## Institutionalize

- Work Process Standardization
- Integration w/ Transaction Systems

## Analyze

- Process Improvement
- Improvement of Plans