EUROPEAN PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE DEVELOPMENT FOR ITER

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The European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy or 'Fusion for Energy' (F4E) is a European Joint Undertaking created under the Euratom Treaty by a decision of the Council of the European Union with the main objective, representing the European Domestic Agency, of providing Europe's contribution to the ITER international fusion energy project.

F4E is a novel organization established in 2007 and one of its challenges is the development of detailed WBS schedules (DWS) related to the procurement of ITER components and systems assigned to Europe.

The large amount of sharing of the in-kind contribution assigned to Europe implied a significant effort also in terms of planning and scheduling.

The European DWS have been developed in accordance to the success oriented methodology agreed with ITER Organization (IO) and the other Domestic Agencies. The resulting F4E schedules are fully logics driven and characterized to be aggressive and realistic at the same time, as based on industrial feedback.

F4E further investigated various procurement strategies and alternative fabrication routes at level of schedule options. These studies, aimed primarily at reducing global risk and keeping acceptable overall cost. This exercise included also identification and activation of schedule constraints due to the budget availability in Europe during the forthcoming years.

The paper describes the planning & scheduling procedures used to develop and validate EU procurement schedules reflecting the peculiarities of ITER, a once-off and multi-partner project financed through both in-kind and in-cash procurement.

Furthermore main schedule procedures and tools for internal project control and external official agreements are presented, as, e.g., the organization of the EU enterprise project structure, the management of interfaces among projects, the standardization of the use of the detailed WBS schedules (DWS) for obtaining the summary schedule annexed to Procurement Arrangements and structured schedule for information for F4E executive documents.