

BaronNet - Focus Workshops

Decision Support Process

Oil Companies, in general, have similar decision processes for the development and approval of projects involving development steps with decision points – hurdles or gateways - at which the project is reviewed to seek approval to move on to the next step. These steps can be characterized as:

IDENTIFY >> APPRAISE >> SELECT >> SANCTION >> ENGINEER >> BUILD

Focus Workshops

Workshops can be used to bring together all aspects of a development project, and provide an environ where the complete subject can be grasped and understood. In the earliest stages, much use is made of experience and professional judgement to identify decisions that can be made and weaknesses or risks to be mitigated by further actions.

The workshop also acts as a safe zone to provide a protected environment removing barriers to communication. It is also a reference point, which acts to collect, collate and integrate all the accumulated knowledge to date on the project. There are two main uses, at the start and end of each new stage as

- a “direction” to ensure the planned stage activities embrace the full requirements
- to review the stage and present a consensus view for management decision.

Workshops for each stage

Identify / Appraise

Creative / Brainstorm - generate and analyze the development scenarios

Screening – review studies undertaken and possible development routes

Select

Conceptual – expand development routes into schemes and options

Select – review conceptual studies and select the main scheme and options

Sanction

Development – expand schemes into sub-options (equipment choices etc.)

Design Review– Detailed PEER review of key design, P&IDs, Plot Plan etc.

Engineering

Value Engineering – optimize cost and risk

Constructability / operability – optimize design for practicality

Safety review – hazard analysis, hazop etc.

Build

Construction – optimize local conditions, training, motivation etc.