Background

For contracts that have 100 or more working days and cost more than $1 million, the contractor must furnish and use computer scheduling software to comply with the contract schedule requirements.

The contractor is required to submit to the resident engineer for review a description of proposed schedule software and schedule-comparing software to be used. The resident engineer returns both the schedule software and the schedule-comparing software to the contractor before the final estimate.

The contract schedule includes the entire scope of work and shows how the contractor plans to complete all contemplated work. To complete the contract, it is important for the contractor to track contract time to schedule the work efficiently. Contract time tracking and analysis are critical to avoid and mitigate delay, work disruption, and claims.

On November 9, 2010, the Federal Highway Administration approved a Public Interest Finding allowing the use of P6 scheduling software, since SureTrak scheduling software will no longer be available for purchase after December 31, 2010.

Effective January 13, 2011, the special provisions require Primavera P6 Critical Path Method Scheduling Software—instead of SureTrak and SureChange—to prepare and review the schedule for contracts costing more than $1 million and 100 or more working days. The P6 scheduling software also includes schedule-comparing abilities equal to SureChange.
Existing Procedure

Section 8-1.04, “Progress Schedule,” of the Standard Specifications, and Section 3-803, “Progress Schedule,” of the Construction Manual indicate that, when required by the special provisions, the contractor must submit a progress schedule. The contractor must also update or revise the progress schedule regularly or whenever significant project changes occur.

New Procedure

When the special provisions require the use of scheduling software, contractors must use P6 or its equivalent to prepare the schedule. When a contractor proposes software other than P6, refer the proposal to the Division of Construction Scheduling and Analysis Engineer who issues the determinations.

The Division of Construction has assigned 20 copies of P6 software to the Legal Division and districts for training and analysis purposes. The Division of Construction Scheduling and Analysis Engineer manages these software licenses. The Legal Division and districts pay for the annual licensing and support fees for each assigned license.

If you have questions or comments about this construction policy bulletin contact Bob Molera, Division of Construction, Scheduling and Analysis Engineer, at bob_molera@dot.ca.gov or (916) 654-3088.