Chapter Nine
Computer Scheduling
Schedules for most complex construction projects and many simple ones are created using a computer.

The schedules from past projects can be saved and used in the future to develop a schedule for a similar job.
Effective and productive use of CPM techniques for project scheduling requires knowledge of various terms related to the schedule methods, like:

1- Activity code
A value assigned to each activity to help organize the activities into a manageable groups.
2- Base calendar
A calendar applies to all of the activities in a project.

3- Constraint
A restriction imposed on the start or finish of activity.

4- Data date
The date used as the starting point in the schedule calculation.
Computer schedule terms (cont.)

5- Filtering
Searching through the project activities and showing only the activities that match specific criteria.

6- Sorting
Organize the project activities according to a specific format.

7- Summary task
A task representing a general activity of construction.
Scheduling software

1- Primavera

2- Sure trak project manager

3- Microsoft project

4- Web-based programs
Updating a schedule

As the project progresses, tasks may not start and finish exactly as calculated in the planned schedule, periodic updating of the schedule can be performed as soon as as-build information. This information might include actual activity start dates or the percent completion.
Presenting a schedule

Presentation of the schedule is an important task. Effective communication of activity to subcontractor and workers. Presenting the schedule in a clear and concise format is facilitated by the tremendous graphic capabilities of current computer scheduling software.
Several useful software features:

1. sorting and filtering
2. global editing
3. cash-flow analysis
4. resource leveling