

# Lehnert Computer Services

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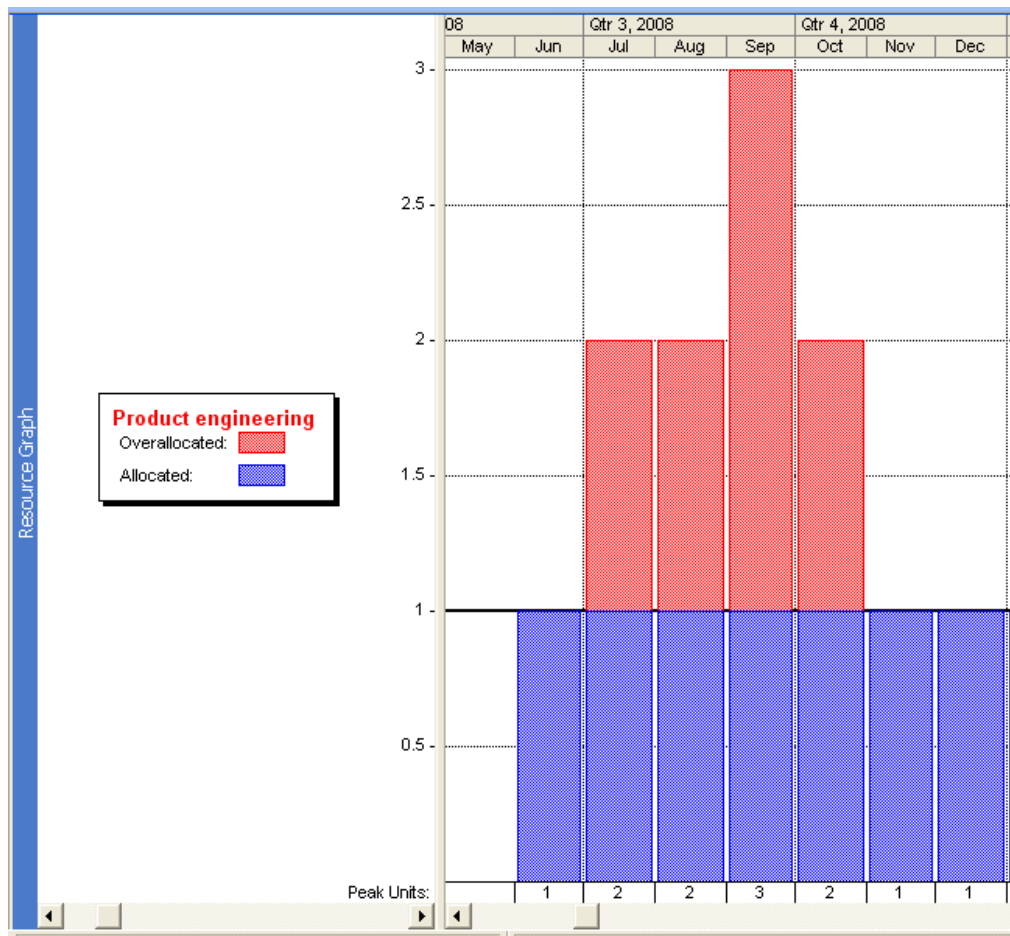
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Article for MPA ezine – May 15, 2008  
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## Subject: Cumulative Resource Totals in Histogram format

**Angelo A asks:** “Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to find within MS Project a cumulative resource graph over time, representing the total head count (in total hours) of manpower (FTE or EQP) across a given project. To add to your troubles, there are resources that aren’t resources, namely the subcontract, travel, equipment #s that are thrown in and will need to be filtered back out of the totals. A labor histogram is what would work best for us.”

**Answer:** I will accept this mission and do my best to answer this question. The histogram that you are looking for can be found in the Resource Usage view. This view is by resource name and you will be looking at each resource individually. Below is a view showing the head count you are looking for. On the graph it is called Peak Units. This value may be looked as either in the decimal or percentage – the picture below is showing the decimal view and time density of per month.

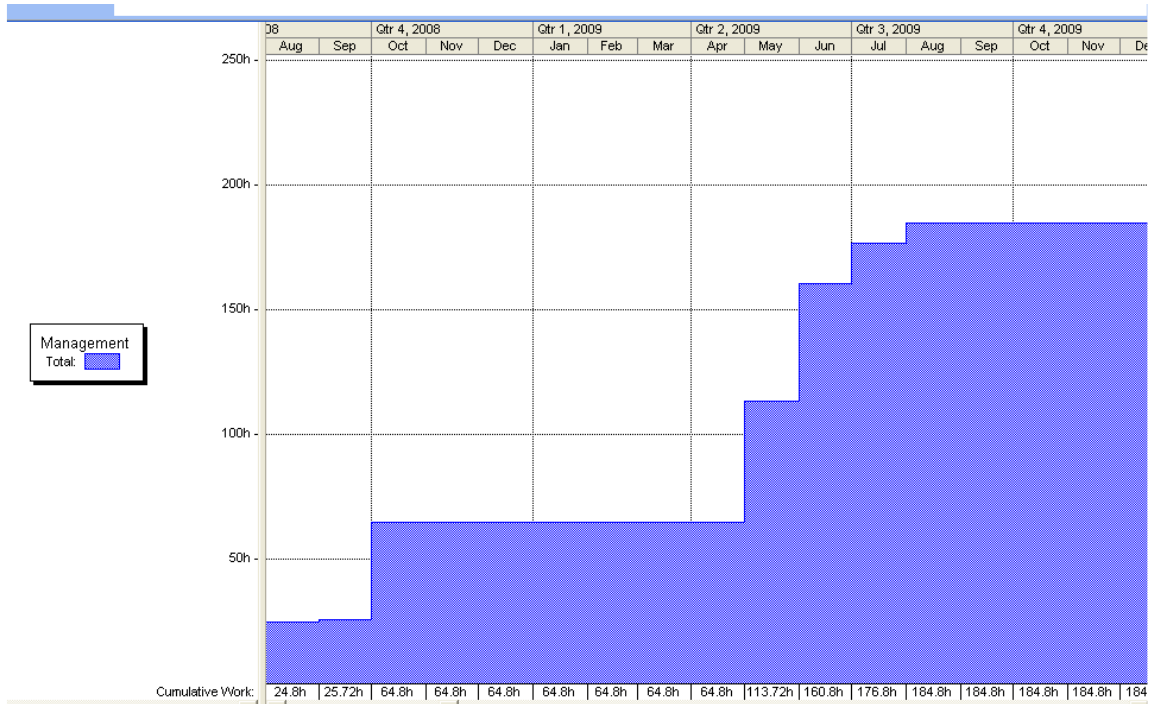


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Right clicking on the boxes to the right of Peak Units will give you options to change the data available in this view. The choices may also be reached through format → details when in this view. Below is the same view using the cumulated work option. It is a way of seeing the work budget over time for a resource. Cumulated cost is also available.



To handle the “other resources” that Angelo is looking for can be handled as a totals report using the resource sheet. To obtain the breakdown by category; create a custom column with the different subtotal levels that are needed. Then create a cost table with the columns that will be needed for the report. To get accumulated subtotals, create a grouping based on the custom category column. Below is this report shown in level 1 format. (Formatting toolbar: show → level 1). The category column does not have to be on the table to get the grouping for the report.

Resource Name	Categories	Cost	Baseline Cost	Variance	Actual Cost	Remaining
Category: Admin		\$343,600.00	\$0.00	\$343,600.00	\$0.00	\$343,600.00
Category: Client		\$16,000.00	\$0.00	\$16,000.00	\$0.00	\$16,000.00
Category: Engineering		\$788,955.84	\$0.00	\$788,955.84	\$0.00	\$788,955.84
Category: Hardware		\$18,215.06	\$0.00	\$18,215.06	\$0.00	\$18,215.06
Category: Management		\$396,007.27	\$0.00	\$396,007.27	\$0.00	\$396,007.27
Category: Subcontractor		\$18,215.06	\$0.00	\$18,215.06	\$0.00	\$18,215.06
Category: Travel		\$12,043.64	\$0.00	\$12,043.64	\$0.00	\$12,043.64

Mission accomplished!