

Improve your Close Cycle Using Financial Close Manager



Presenters



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AGENDA



- About MindStream Analytics
- Objectives of the Webinar
- Challenges within the Close Cycle
- What is Financial Close Manager
- Key Features of FCM
- FCM Components / Setup
- Other Features
- Demonstration (throughout)
- Q&A





MindStream Analytics



MindStream Analytics helps companies identify, implement and manage technology that allows them to effectively analyze and predict key metrics. MindStream Analytics is a consulting and managed services provider that specializes in the implementation and management of financial and analytic applications. For more information, please visit http://www.mindstreamanalytics.com.

Objectives of the Webinar



- Discuss Challenges of the Close Cycle
- Define Purpose for Financial Close Manager
- Understand Key Features of Financial Close Manager
- Process Setup / Overview Scenarios
- Setup, Filtering and Navigating Dashboards, Calendar, Gantt, Task List Views
- Setup Security Tasks, Templates, Schedules
- Setup, Review Task Automation options (Integrations)
- Setup, Review Alerts (Types)
- Setup of Report Binders
- Smartview integration with Outlook

Challenges within the Close Cycle



- Most close cycle tasks are managed via off-line spreadsheets
- E-mails (or phone) typically pass back and forth changes in schedules
 creates latency, no centralized version and prone to errors
- Subsidiaries can run off of different schedules for submission that aren't always communicated to Corporate
- More follow-up required by Corporate Consolidation team to track progress, required changes (i.e. – journals) from subsidiaries – limited ability to track if process is deviating from schedule
- Little or no centralization of close management across all levels of the organization
- Limited visibility of Senior Management to track status of the close cycle during critical Quarter / Year End SEC reporting
- Limited ability to identify specific bottlenecks that could be removed to reduce the close cycle schedule
- No Direct Link to other required external applications

What is Financial Close Manager



Financial Close Manager is one of two modules that make up the Oracle / Hyperion Financial Close Management Suite

- Financial Close Manager (FCM) is a web-based tool that centralizes activities that make up an organization's financial close cycle
- FCM streamlines the process of managing all of these close tasks
- FCM alerts the user to ones which require priority attention (including e-mail)
- Allows direct access to the application(s) required to complete the tasks (via an interactive list or calendar)
- Provides workflow processing to validate that the tasks have been completed properly
- The interface is comprised of easy to use and filter schedules, dashboards, and calendars

These activities include, but are not limited to: Transactional (General or Sub-Ledger), Consolidation (i.e. - HFM), and Reporting

Key Features of Financial Close Manager



- Task Scheduling and Management Feature for prioritizing and monitoring close tasks
- Pre-built dashboards (via Web Interface) with customized views for managing and tracking the financial close
- Interactive Calendars and task lists that can be used to launch applications (such as HFM, FDM) for task management
- Security based on user task (via Calendar, Task List, Gantt Chart)
- Task Automation to schedule various tasks without user interaction (via Integrations)
- Calendars roll-forward to keep continuity with prior year reporting
- Integration with Microsoft Outlook

Process Setup Components



- Setup Security, Periods, Years, Custom Attributes, Alert Types
- Setup Integrations for Links to External Applications
- Define Tasks for a Close Process setup Task Types
- Define Dashboard views
- Create / Update Templates (and Validate) with repeatable close tasks
- Setup / Update Schedule by pulling from a template and assigning Calendar dates – the Administrator changes schedule status from "Pending" to "Open"
- Process begins shown on following slides
- Once a task is complete and submission is completed notification sent to approver for review. Once approved, status is set to "Closed" automatically and next Task begins
- If various alerts are required, the User will activate the alert and proper assignee for resolution is notified
- Report Binder is generated for descriptions of completed tasks and audit information

User Process Scenario – via E-mail



- The user receives an email notification of an outstanding task
- From the email, the user selects the link for the page where the required process is documented
- The user reviews the instructions for the task and selects the Go to Task link in the Task Actions page to launch Financial Data Management
- The user extracts data through Financial Data Management and loads it to Financial Management
- When the task is completed, the user returns to the Task Actions page in Financial Close Management
- The user enters a comment about the task, answers any required questions before submitting and submits it for approval

User Process Scenario – via FCM



- The user logs on to Financial Close Management and reviews the tasks displayed in the Dashboard in the My Worklist portlet
- The user clicks the link for an assigned task
- The Task Actions page is launched with instructions for the task, and a reference document (any attached document)
- The user reviews the instructions and the reference document, processes the updates, enters a comment about the task, and submits it for approval
- The system automatically updates the task status and sends a notification to the assigned approver

NOTE: The User does not have to start in the Dashboard – could access the Calendar views or Gantt Chart to review and take action on the tasks

Approver Process Overview



- The assigned Approver receives an e-mail notification of an outstanding task
- From the e-mail, the reviewer selects the link for Review MD&A Input for Services Submission
- The Task Actions page is launched outlining the process.
- The reviewer reviews the document that the user submitted when completing the task to ensure completeness
- The reviewer enters additional comments, reviews answers to questions, and approves the submission
- If there is another level of approval required, the task is forwarded to the next approver. If this was the last required approval, the task completes, and the system runs the next task if it is ready
- The reviewer also has the option to reject a task instead of approving it, in which case the task is reassigned to the assignee

Components of FCM



- Views (Dashboard, Calendars, Gantt, Task List)
- Security
- Years / Periods
- Integration Types
- Custom Attributes
- Alerts (and Types)
- Tasks (and Types)
- Templates
- Schedules
- Report Binders
- Smartview use for Outlook

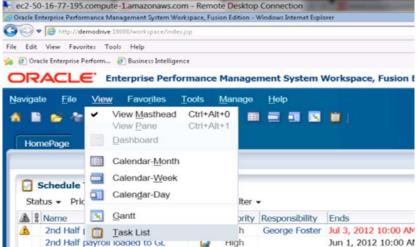


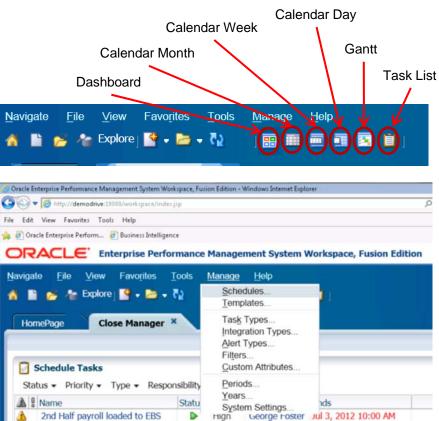
FCM Navigation

Navigation of Close Manager





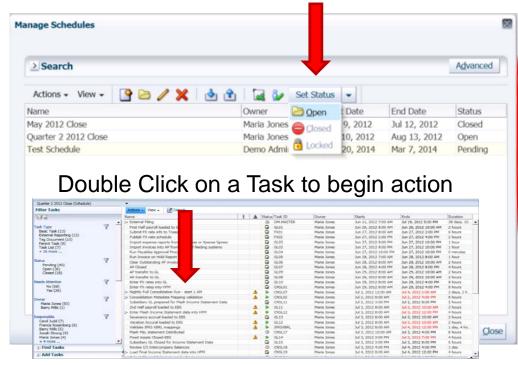




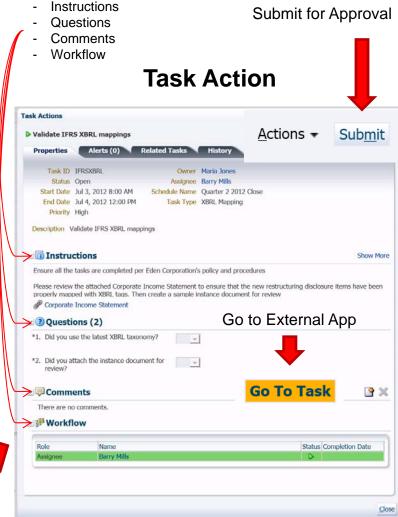
Starting Close Process



Opening a Schedule to begin Task process

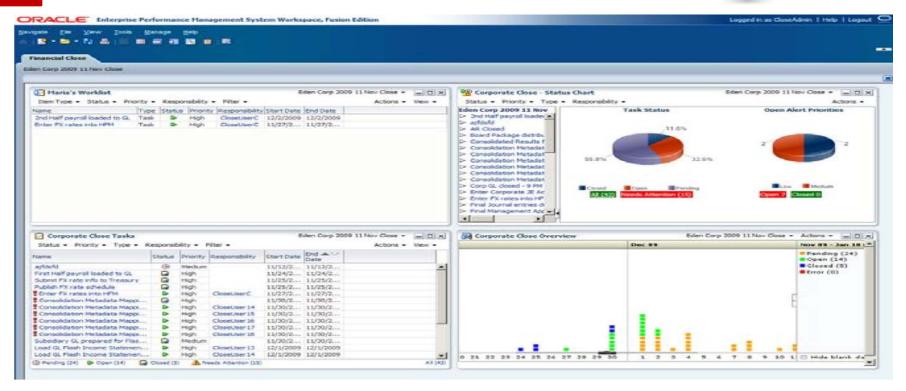


View Task Actions (including instructions) (either via e-mail link or in FCM)



FCM Dashboard





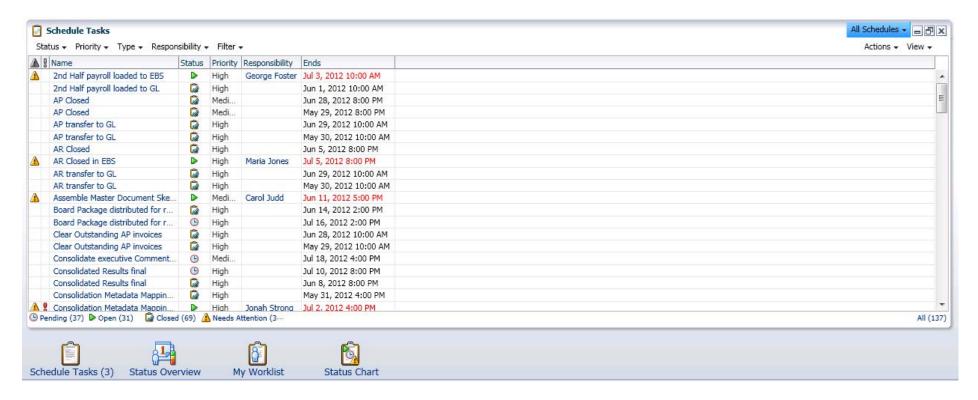
The Dashboard view presents a portal-style interface with views into schedules and task lists, and high-level summaries into which you can drill down for greater detail

- My Worklist Displays Tasks for a specific schedule or all schedules
- Status Chart / Schedule Tasks shows detail list of status and graphical form
- Status Overview Shows open, close, pending, or error status





FCM Dashboard – Schedule Tasks

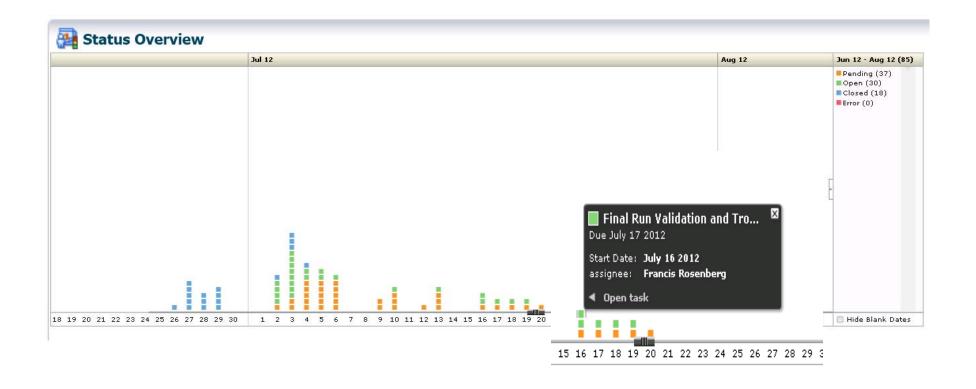


Each section (portlet) of the Dashboard can be maximized for interactive use – scheduled tasks can be completed and submitted for approval or close





FCM Dashboard - Status Overview

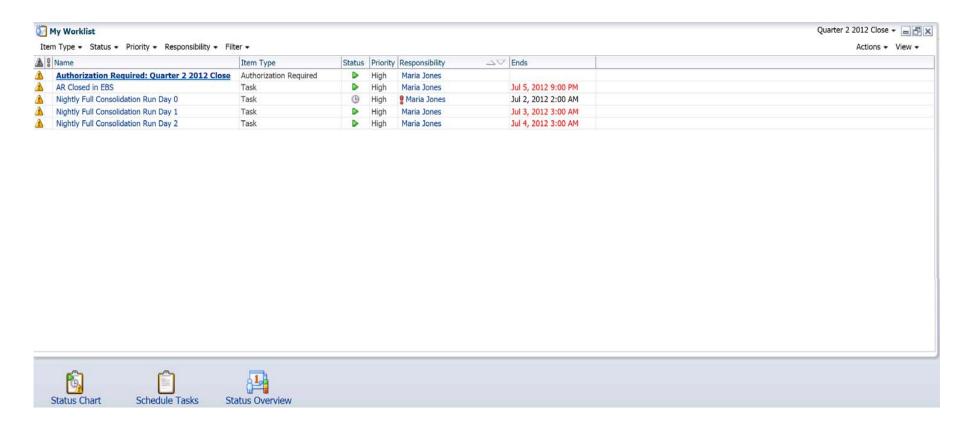


Can view status of Task and Open the Task directly for completion and submission









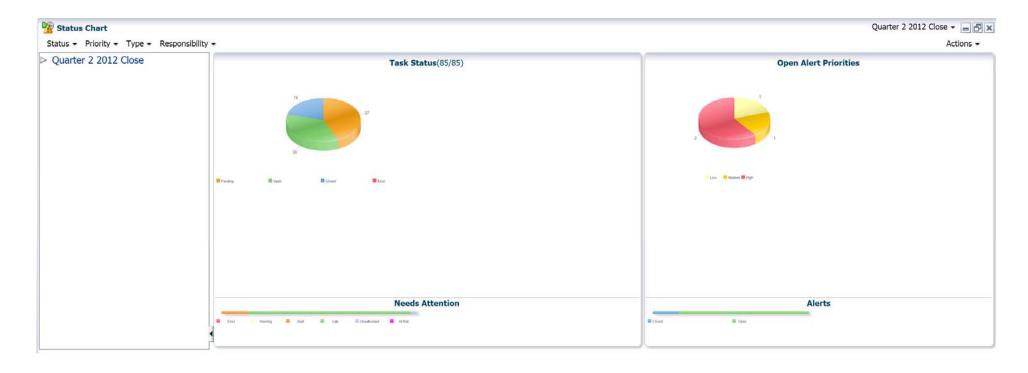
My Worklist is specific to the logged-in user

Can Authorized tasks to run (i.e. – Nightly HFM consolidation)



FCM Dashboard – Status Chart



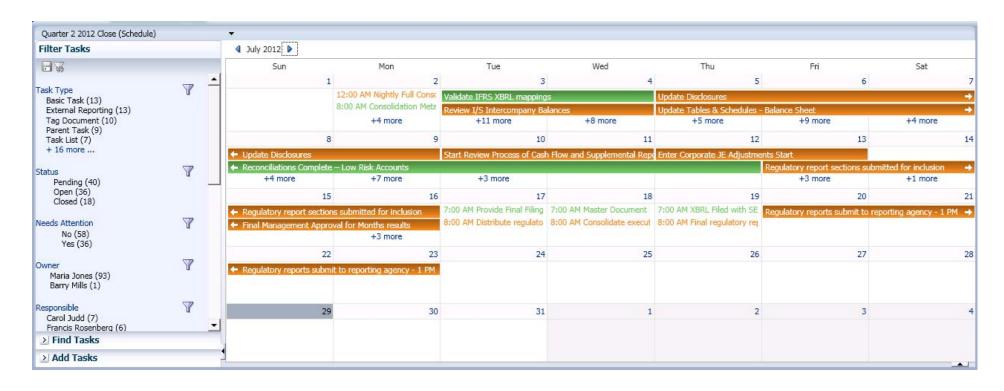


User can Drill-through by clicking on the pie chart into Task calendar or Alerts



Calendars – Monthly View





Green indicates Open Status Blue indicates Closed Status Orange indicates Pending Status

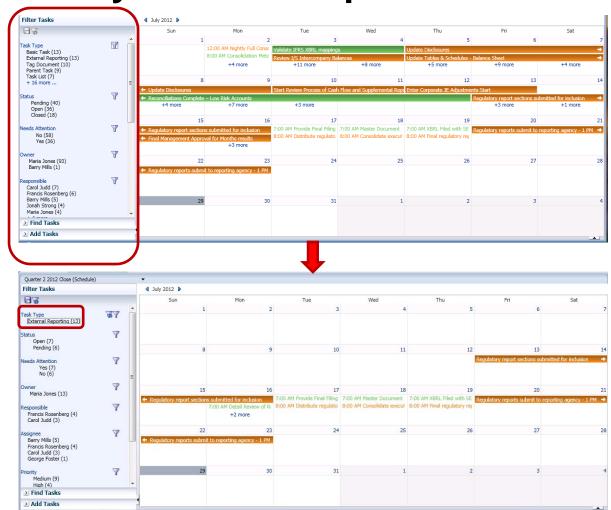


Calendars – Monthly Filter Example

Select a Filter

- Ex: External Reporting

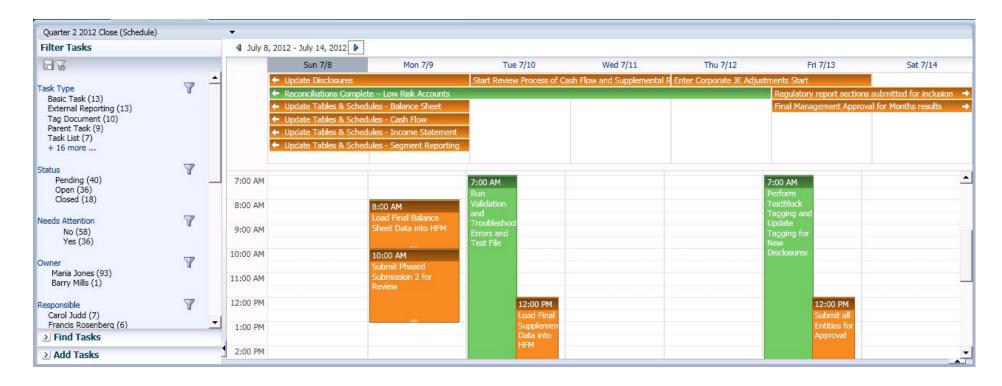






Calendars – Weekly View



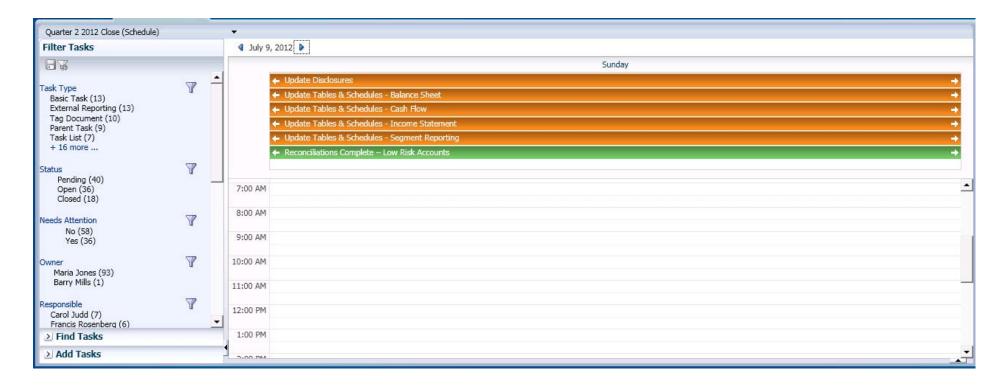


Calendars can be viewed either in FCM directly or via Microsoft Outlook



Calendars – Daily View



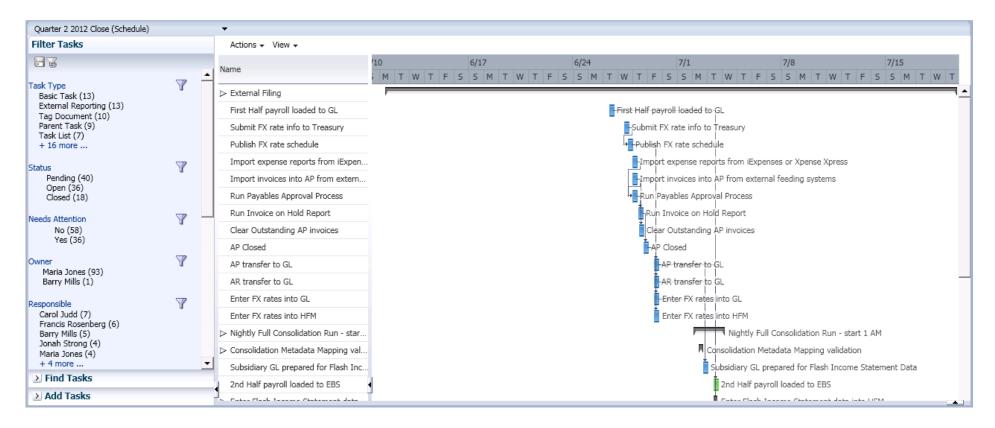


Easy to navigate Day-to-Day



Gantt View





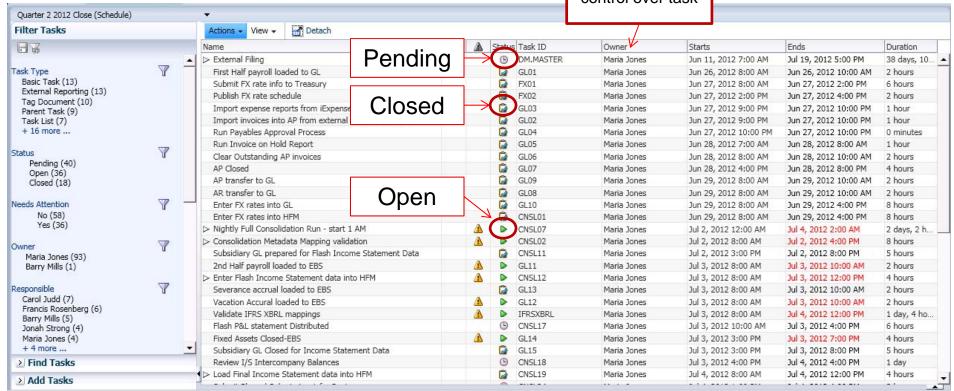
Gantt charts allow the user to drag and drop tasks and reorder predecessors / successors (similar to Microsoft Project)



Task List



Owner has total control over task



Double-click a task to get task info



FCM Setup

Security



Security Role	Description
Close User	 Schedule Viewer Task Owner Access to Dashboard, limited by access level Modify status, create and modify alerts, comments, and questions, limited by access level Create and manage filters
Close Power User	 All Close User privileges Create and import tasks Create and manage templates and schedules Create task types and view tasks types created by others
Close Administrator	 All Power User privileges Full access to all tasks, templates and schedules Define years and periods Create and manage Task Types, Integration Types, Custom Attributes, and Alert Types

You assign security roles in Oracle Hyperion Shared Services Console, which displays a list of users and groups from the external authentication provider. You can assign security roles to groups or individuals.

Administrators assign user access as Owner, Assignee, Approver or Viewer

Security



Administrators assign user access as Owner, Assignee, Approver or Viewer

- Owner:
 - Have write access to tasks when applied to a schedule
 - Edit Task properties or instructions for Pending Tasks
 - Add or remove approvers
 - Receive notification when task changes
- Assignee:
 - Responsible to work on the task READ access to task properties
 - Add comments, answer questions
 - Create Alerts
 - Submit for approval
 - Assignee is an individual, not a group default is Owner
- Approver:
 - Approves completed tasks READ access to task properties
 - Add comments, Create Alerts
 - Can assign up to 10 levels of approval
 - Approver is an individual, not a group
- Viewers: READ access to corresponding tasks

Objects inherit access from Parent (i.e. – Tasks from a Template)



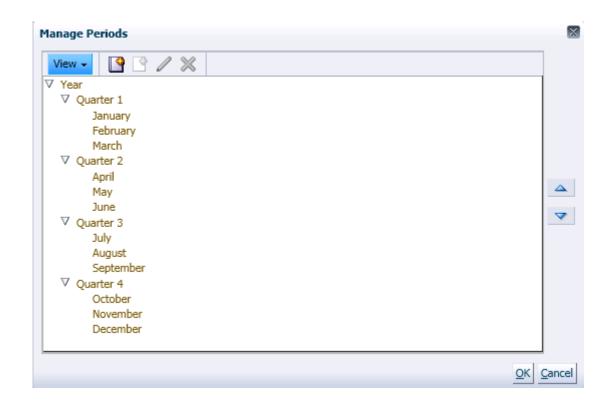
Process Activities - Years



- Can assign year as numeric or alphanumeric (i.e. FY09, FY10)
- Only administrators can setup



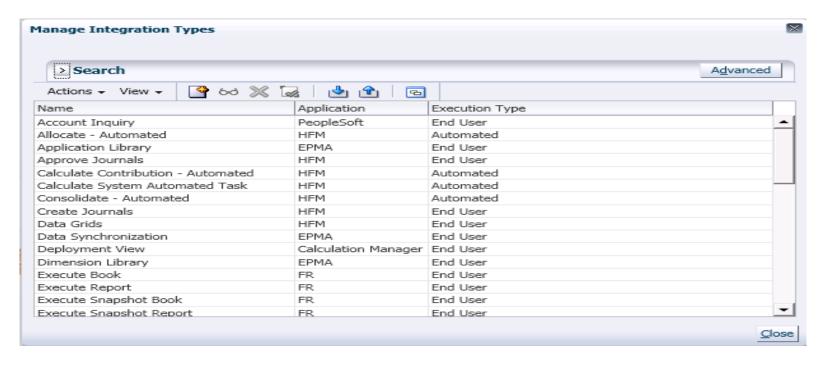
Process Activities - Periods



- Can assign period as numeric or alphanumeric
- Can also assign custom periods such as 13th period adjustment
- Only administrators can setup



Integration Types



Integration Type is a definition of a service (end point) provided by an external application

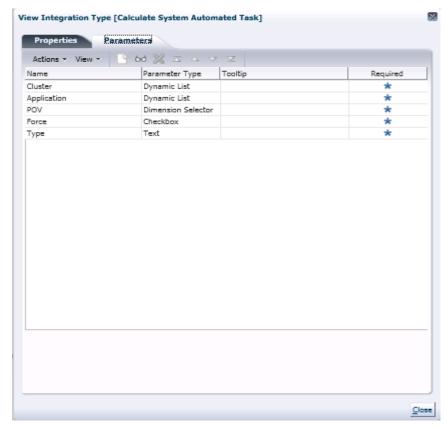
- EXAMPLE: Consolidate Integration Type for HFM contains parameters such as the Point of View dimensions to run the consolidation
- A standard set of Integration Types that are integrated with other Oracle applications is included with the installation or downloaded from Oracle Support Site



Integration Types



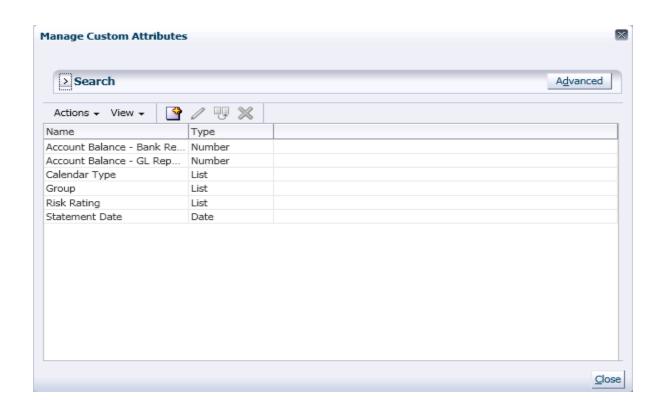
Properties Paramete	ers .	
Name	Calculate System Automated Task	
Integration Type Code	CALCULATE	
Description		
Application	HEM v	
Execution Type	G End Hear	
	System Automated	
	C Event Monitoring	
	\$PROTOCOL\$://\$SERVER\$:\$PORT\$/\$WEBCONTEXT\$/ActionsSer	
	http://fm.webservices.epm.oracle	
Service Name	ActionsService	
Service Port Type	IActionsService	
Service Operation	Calculate	
Root Element		
Request Namespace		
	L'Actions Service Response	
	CalculateResponse	
Response Root Element		
Response Namespace		
Response XSL Transformation		



End-User Tasks: Users must perform and validation (URL / Go To Task)
System-Automation Tasks: Executed automatically as scheduled (web service)
Event monitoring Tasks: based on events in external apps (i.e. journal approve)







- Custom categorization that is optional for easier searching or filtering
- Assign each for input as a Number, Date, Time, List, Text, or True/False
- Only administrators can setup



Custom Attribute Types



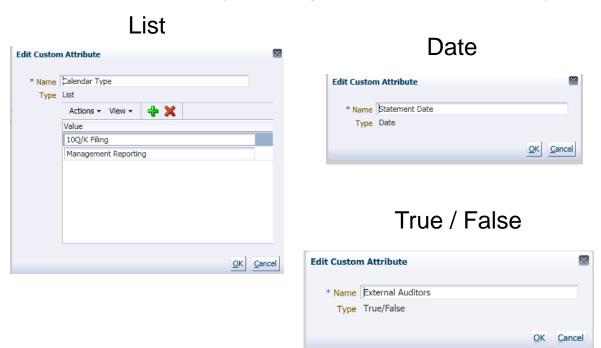
Number Attribute: User will enter numeric values for a task (i.e. – Acct Recon info)

List Attribute: User will pick from a list to assign to a task

Date Attribute: User can pick a calendar date required for a task (i.e. – Acct Recon info)

True / False: User can assign a task as True or False (i.e. – required for External Audit)

* Name Account Balance - Bank Reported * Name Account Balance - Bank Reported Type Number Decimal Places Thousands Separator Currency Symbol US Dollar (US\$) Negative Number (123) Scale 1000

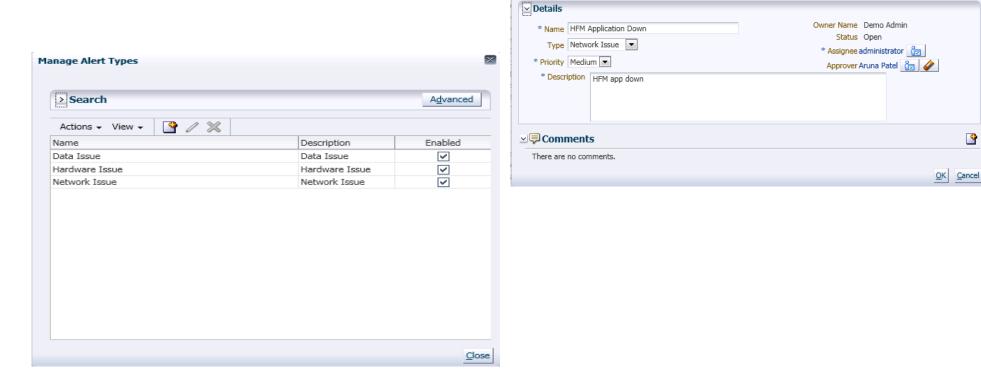




Alerts (and Types)



0



New Alert

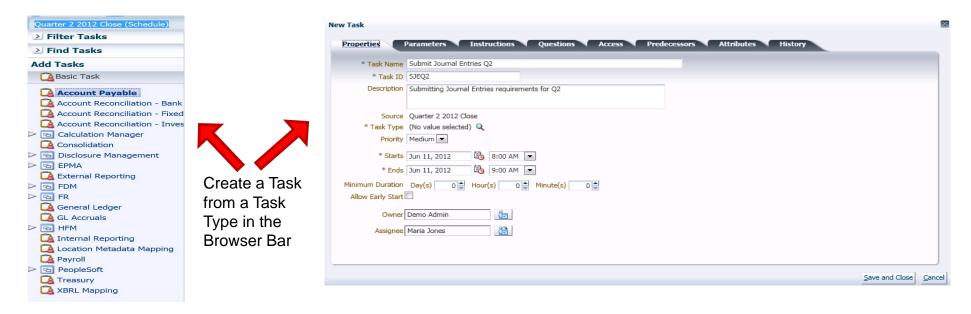
Alerts are notifications from Close Manager users on issues that they encounter during the close process, such as hardware or software issues

Users create alerts identifying a problem, and assign them to be resolved



Creating Tasks



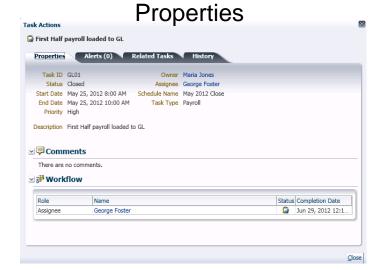


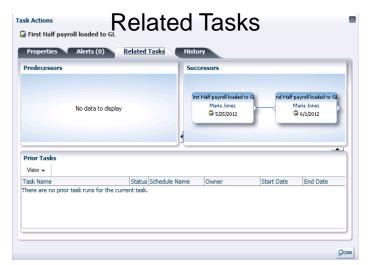
A task is a unit of action within Close Manager (data entry or data consolidation)

- Power users define the tasks that comprise a close process
- Users can read task instructions, answer questions, submit, reassign, approve, or reject tasks, and can access tasks from email notifications or by logging on to Financial Close Management
- Tasks are defined with task predecessors / successors (Related Tasks), assignees, and approvers



Tasks





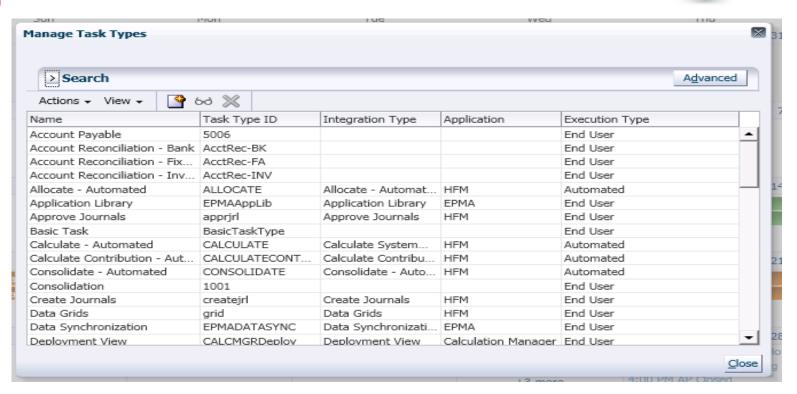
Alerts





Task Types





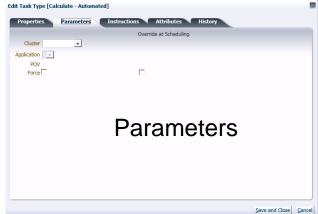
Task Types identify and categorize tasks commonly performed during a close period, for example, Data Entry, or G/L Extract. The Task Type enables you to set default information, such as settings that need to be input by the user, and questions or instructions that are shared by all tasks of that type. Task Types are often based on Integration Types



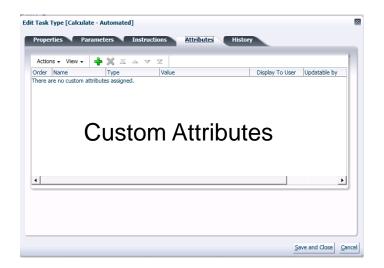
Task Types

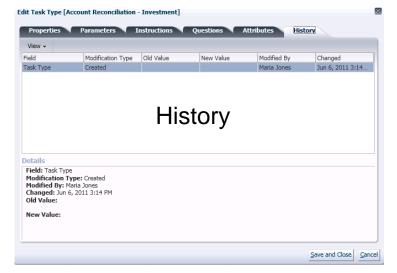








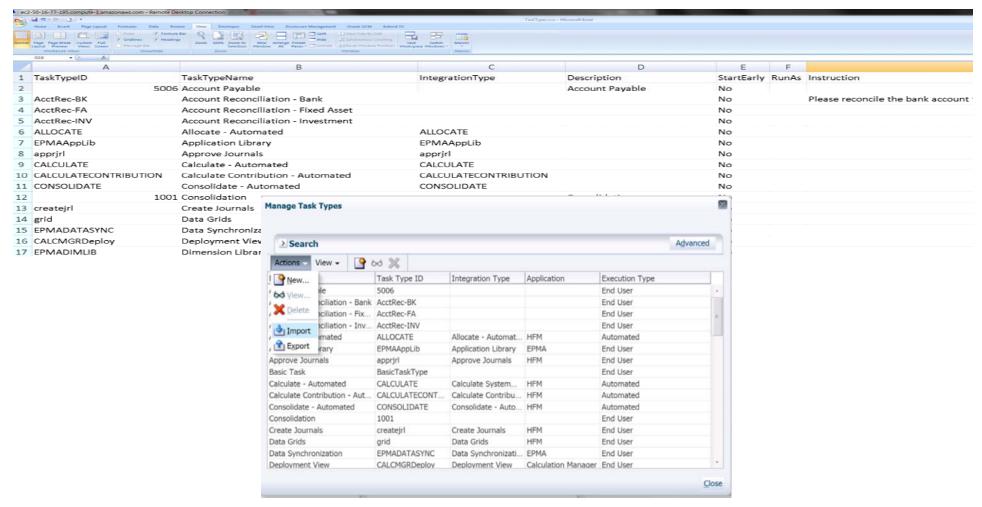






Task Types

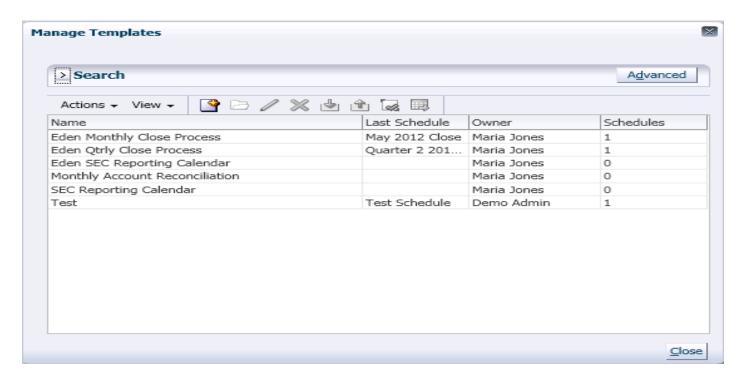




You can import and export Task Types into a .CSV / Text file for easier maintenance



Templates



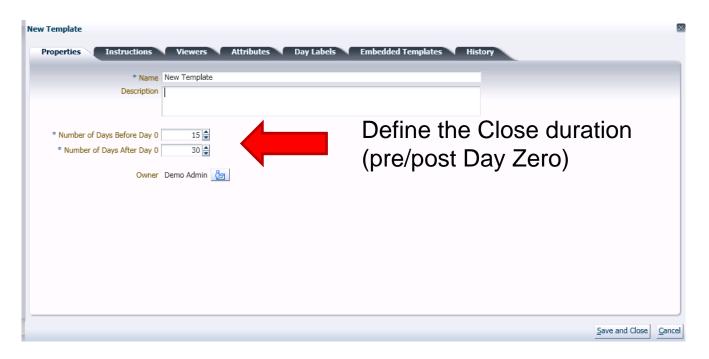
A template is a set of tasks that are repeatable over close periods. Administrators can create templates for different types of close periods, such as monthly or quarterly

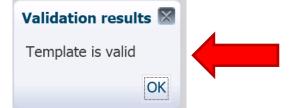
Schedules can be built more efficiently using templates



Creating Templates

- File/New/Template



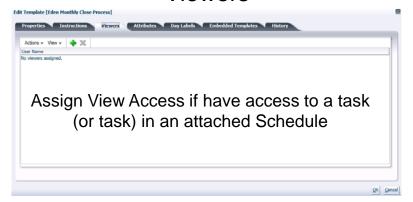


Validation is performed to check dependencies, data-precedence mismatches, circular predecessors





Viewers



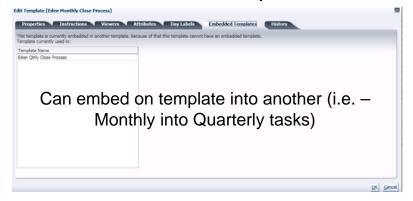
Day Labels



Attributes



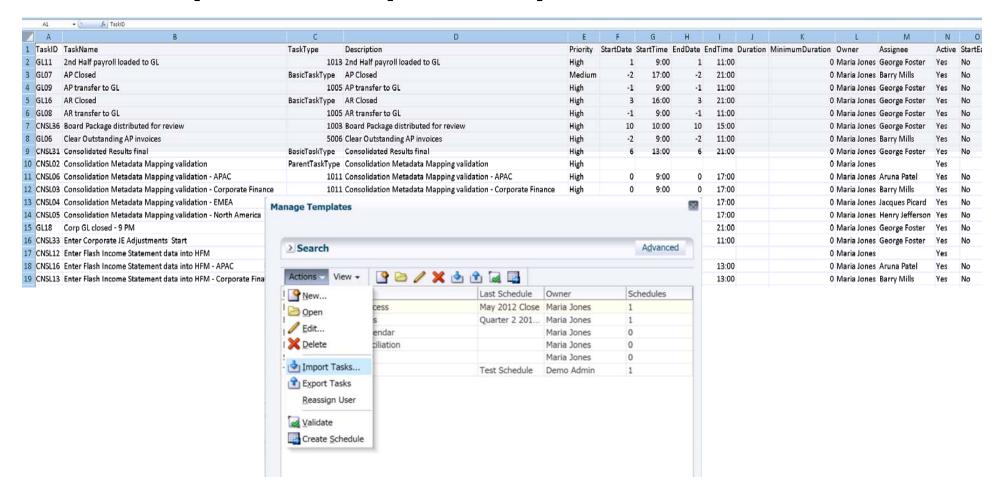
Embedded Templates









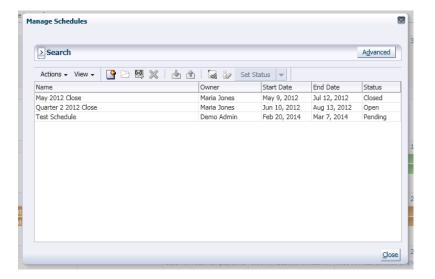


You can import and export Tasks for each template in .CSV / Text format





Schedules / Create Schedules





A schedule defines the chronologically ordered set of tasks that must be executed for a specific close period, and is the alignment of a template's generic close days to calendar dates

Schedules have a status of Pending, Open, Closed, or Locked. You can change the status of a schedule from Pending to Open, or from Open to Closed or Locked (Note: Once Status is Locked – user cannot change it)



Schedules - Details

Instructions



Attributes



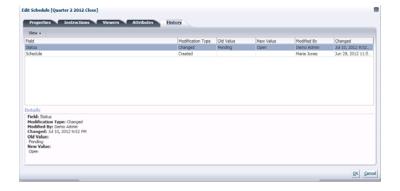
Schedules are either created from pre-defined Templates or manually



Viewers



History









Report Binders are summaries of close process activity

- They contain a description of all task details that were executed as part of the close schedule
- Report Binders enable administrators and others to review and adjust activities for future periods and are useful for audit purposes
- Tools/Generate Report Binder...

* Report Binder Name Description	
Schedule Name May 2012 Close Optional Components Alerts Comments Attachments Gene	oto Class





- Viewing Report Binders
 - Once a report binder is generated, its output is a .zip file with a specified name and location
 - Extract the .zip file and open the .html file to see the report binder

Report Binder | Test1

Created By Demo Admin
Description Test desc
Created On Feb 27, 2014 1:08 PM

Schedule Information

 Schedule
 Quarter 2 2012 Close
 Owner
 Maria Jones

 Start Date Period
 Jun 10, 2012 11:00 PM
 End Date Vear
 Aug 13, 2012 10:59 PM

 Year
 Year
 2012

Status Open
Description

Schedule Details

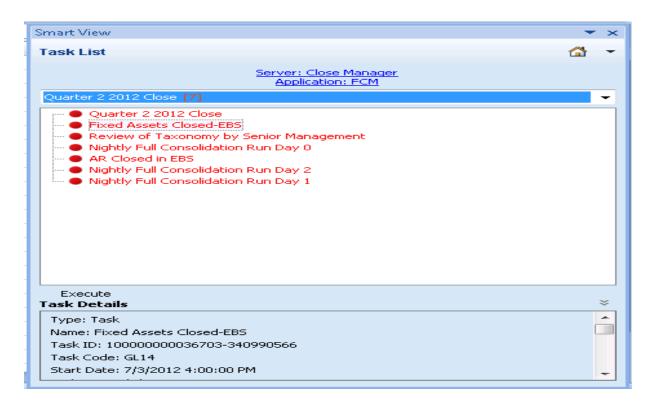
	Total	Pending	Open	Closed
Tasks	94	40	36	18

Report Binder | Test1 > Tasks

Task	Status	Assignee	Start	End	Duration
Tag Prior Period Numbers and Placeholders	Pending		Jun 15, 2012 5:00 PM	Jun 22, 2012 5:00 PM	7 days
Update Tags - Balance Sheet	Pending	Francis Rosenberg	Jun 15, 2012 5:00 PM	Jun 22, 2012 5:00 PM	7 days
Update Tags - Cash Flow	Pending	Francis Rosenberg	Jun 15, 2012 5:00 PM	Jun 22, 2012 5:00 PM	7 days
Update Tags - Disclosures	Pending	Francis Rosenberg	Jun 15, 2012 5:00 PM	Jun 22, 2012 5:00 PM	7 days
Update Tags - Income Statement	Pending	Barry Mills	Jun 15, 2012 5:00 PM	Jun 22, 2012 5:00 PM	7 days
Update Tags - Segment Reporting	Pending	Francis Rosenberg	Jun 15, 2012 5:00 PM	Jun 22, 2012 5:00 PM	7 days
First Half payroll loaded to GL	Closed	George Foster	Jun 26, 2012 8:00 AM	Jun 26, 2012 10:00 AM	2 hours
Submit FX rate info to Treasury	Closed	George Foster	Jun 27, 2012 8:00 AM	Jun 27, 2012 2:00 PM	6 hours
Publish FX rate schedule	Closed	George Foster	Jun 27, 2012 2:00 PM	Jun 27, 2012 4:00 PM	2 hours
Import expense reports from iExpenses or Xpense Xpress	Closed	Barry Mills	Jun 27, 2012 9:00 PM	Jun 27, 2012 10:00 PM	1 hours
Import invoices into AP from external feeding systems	Closed	Barry Mills	Jun 27, 2012 9:00 PM	Jun 27, 2012 10:00 PM	1 hours
Run Payables Approval Process	Closed	Barry Mills	Jun 27, 2012 10:00 PM	Jun 27, 2012 10:00 PM	0 minutes
Run Invoice on Hold Report	Closed	Barry Mills	Jun 28, 2012 7:00 AM	Jun 28, 2012 8:00 AM	1 hours



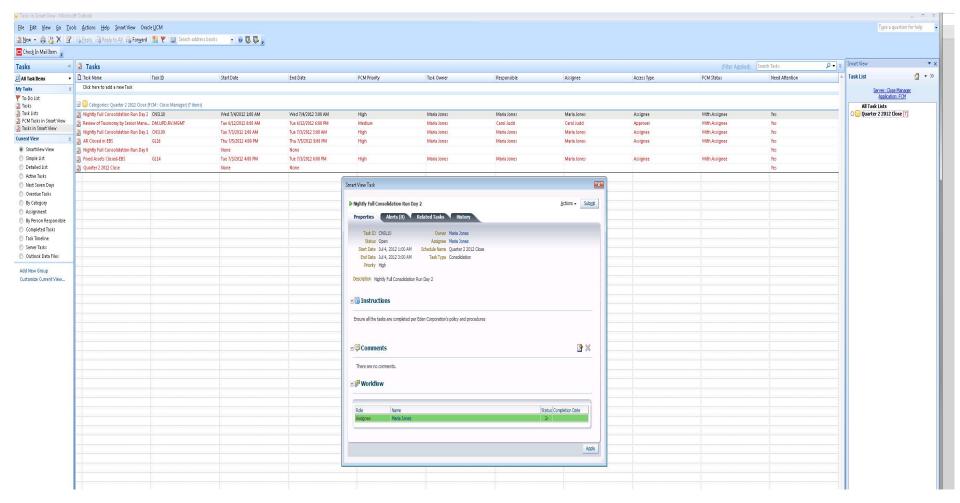
SmartView – Initiating Outlook



Task Lists can be selected via the Smartview in Microsoft Outlook to integrate with the Tasks in Outlook to run Close Manager functionality

SmartView / Outlook – Open / Run Task List





Task List displaying tasks in Microsoft Outlook – can be submitted

Other Features / Timeframe



- Supported with Lifecycle Management to migrate between environments
- Can have up to 2000 tasks per schedule
- Can reopen tasks if not in "Locked" Status
- Can export Integration Type files in XML format
- Can attach documents up to 100 MB
- "At Risk" status available for tasks that haven't started on time and are projected to exceed time duration
- Stored on a RDBMS (Oracle or SQL)
- Requires installation (but not necessarily configuration) of ARM (Account Reconciliation Manager as well)

Financial Close Manager can streamline and centralize your organization's Financial Close Cycle Process in less than a quarter (usually 6-8 weeks)

It's worth the effort!





Thank You!

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