

Modern Thoughts on WBS



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- ▶ Traditional WBS
- ▶ WBS as an Organizational Catalog
- ▶ Nouns AND Verbs
- ▶ Vision for the Future

Traditional WBS

▶ Traditional WBS

- » “The work breakdown structure (WBS) is a deliverable-oriented hierarchical decomposition of the work to be executed by the project team to accomplish the project objectives and create the required deliverables, with each descending level of the WBS representing an increasingly detailed definition of the project work.”
 - *PMBOK® Guide-Fourth Edition, page 116*

▶ Projects and Programs



WBS as an Organizational Catalog

- ▶ Apply WBS concepts to create a standard catalog of products and deliverables.
 - » Nouns AND Verbs
 - » Natural Language Processing
 - » Repeatable
 - » Better starting points for new projects
 - » Better search and data analysis capabilities



WBS as an Organizational Catalog

- ▶ Defining the Organizational Catalog
 - » Living document
 - » Product-oriented
 - » Hierarchical
 - » 100% Rule
 - » WBS Dictionary

WBS Hierarchy

- ▶ Level 1 – Organization
- ▶ Level 2 – Products and/or Deliverables
- ▶ Level 3 – Product Components, Deliverables
- ▶ Level 4 and Beyond – More detailed components

- ▶ Traditional Information
 - » Scope details
 - » Relationship to parent
 - » Acceptance Criteria

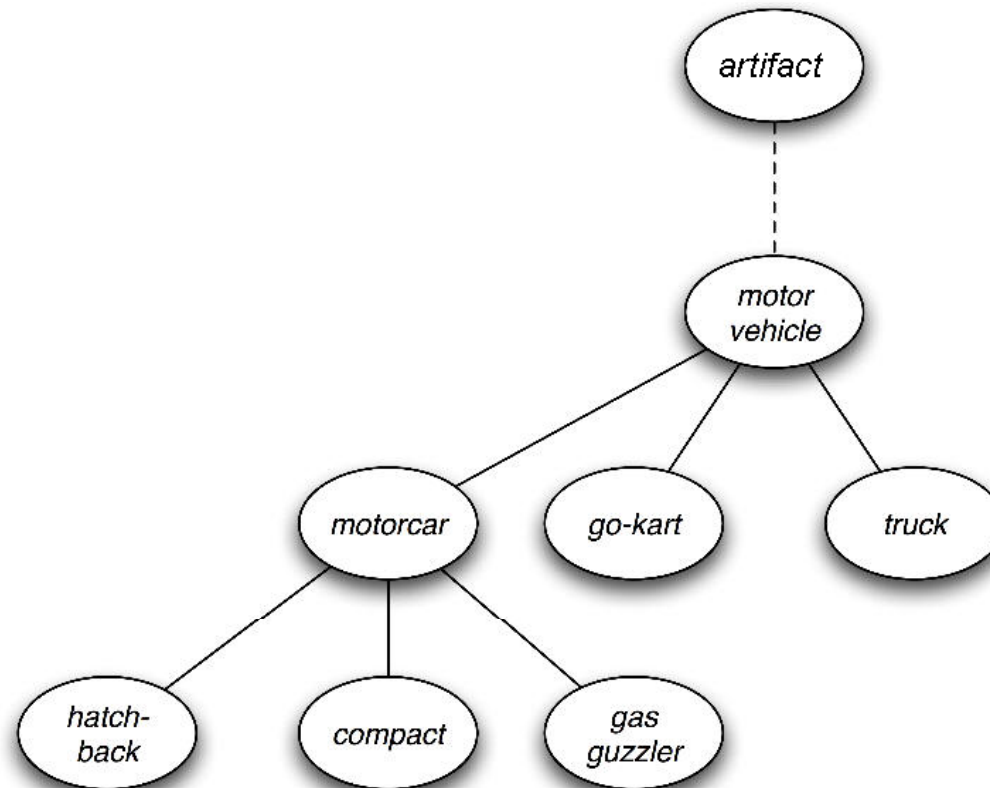
- ▶ New Information
 - » Processes and Procedures
 - » Risks
 - » Resource skills
 - » Budget
 - » Estimates
 - » Actuals

Nouns AND Verbs

- ▶ WBS Language to Classify Contents
 - » Creates System To Pull Data
- ▶ Nouns
 - » Products produced by your corporation
- ▶ Verbs
 - » Actions that precede the creation of Nouns
- ▶ Relationship
 - » Many to one relationship of Verbs to Nouns
 - » WBS structure focused around listing of Nouns with Verbs creating connections across Organizational Catalog

Nouns AND Verbs

► System To Cross Reference Catalog





Vision for the Future

- ▶ **WBS as a Corporate Wide Asset**
 - » Efficiencies developed across Enterprise
 - » Improved BOEs
 - » Focused Strategic Initiatives
- ▶ **Searchable Content**
 - » Usage of natural language processing
- ▶ **WBS as a Continuous Lifecycle**
 - » Existing initiatives as a source for future endeavors
 - » Lessons Learned assisting the creation of future proposals



Questions?

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