

- Benner Pike Shops
- State College, PA
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Executive Summary

This assignment focuses on more on critical thinking rather than technical work. It is the foundation of the final thesis proposal that I will be presenting later in next semester. The assignment was created so the students could identify their projects for research, alternative methods, value engineering, and schedule reductions.

Critical industry issues were introduced based on 2005 PACE Roundtable, and research plan was produced to identify challenges that could be faced in the construction industry. The issues articulated in this assignment include; how to form teams for projects, and how to motivate one another for better efficiency of projects. The research will be performed in the order of literature review, surveys and interviews, and summarization of the results with possible recommendations.

Several problems were identified for the Benner Pike Shops regarding value engineering and schedule reduction. Among the problems identified, three of them were selected to be part of technical analysis methods. The three analyses are use of precast CMU instead of cast in place CMU, new staffing plan with better communication involvement among the participants of the Benner Pike Shops, and switching the HVAC units system on the roof top. Those three analyses are put into weight matrix to show the percentage of work distributed among research, value engineering, constructability review, and schedule reduction. Based on the percentages, I am going to perform detailed work to create my final thesis proposal for the next semester.