Empower

Actionable insight for complex projects

Empower Users' Group Workshop
August 22-26, 2022
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort – Miramar Beach, Florida
www.EUGworkshop.com

Employer Justification Packet

Encore Analytics, LLC is pleased to announce the 2022 Empower Users' Group (EUG) Workshop and Training. The agenda is still evolving, but we have already lined up a number of great speakers from government organizations and industry who use Empower for program analytics, data-driven audit support, VAR collection, and Corrective Action Tracking. There will also be a number of technical sessions hosted by the Encore Analytics staff to cover advanced topics. The final day will start with what we consider to be the most important session, an open feedback session with our customers to prioritize future software enhancements. Attendees will have the opportunity to influence the future direction of the software during this session. Attendees will also have the opportunity to schedule One-on-One technical support sessions to discuss any software-related topics. It's a great opportunity to meet the technical staff and exchange lessons learned. The workshop is also a great opportunity to socialize with other Empower users and, in keeping with tradition, we have a number of fun evening networking events planned. We hope to see you there!

Registration Information:
Registration fees vary depending on government and non-government status. **Early-bird pricing will be valid until June 17, 2022.**

There are four different events available for registration during the EUG week:
1. Two-day Empower User and Administrator training (August 22-23)
2. One-day Empower Advanced Configuration Training (August 23)
3. Three-day Project Controls/Analyst Certification Preparation Course and PC/A Certification Test by Humphreys & Associates (August 22-23 & 26)
4. Two-day Empower Users' Group Workshop (August 24-25)

*Note: you can only attend one training event, either the two-day user/administrator training, the one-day advanced configuration training, or the H&A PC/A Course.

Event 1: two-day Empower User and Administrator Training
- o Standard rate: $1,150 ($1,250 after June 17)
- o Government rate: $1,000 ($1,100 after June 17)

Event 2: one-day Empower Advanced Configuration Training
- o Standard rate: $575 ($625 after June 17)
- o Government rate: $500 ($550 after June 17)

Event 3: three-day Project Controls/Analyst Certification Preparation Course and PC/A Certification Test by Humphreys & Associates
- o Standard rate: $1,350 ($1,450 after June 17)
- o Government rate: $1,200 ($1,300 after June 17)

Event 4: two-day Empower Users' Group Workshop
- o Standard rate: $850 ($950 after June 17)
- o Government rate: $750 ($850 after June 17)
- o Speaker rate - must be pre-approved: $650 ($750 after June 17)

Cancellations: Cancellation and substitution requests must be made to Brooke Boswell at Brooke.Boswell@encore-analytics.com. Cancellations for the workshop registration received on or before July 21, 2022, will receive a refund. No refunds will be given for this event after July 21, 2022.

Additional Costs:
- **Hotel accommodation -** discounted rates within a block are available through July 21, 2022, at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, but are subject to availability. **We cannot guarantee rooms once the block is full so please book your hotel room early!**
  - o Standard group rates:
    - Studio at $165 per night + 12% tax + 12% resort fee
    - Use group code **24K1IO** at http://www.Sandestin.com/24K1IO
  - o Government rate:
    - Studio at $142 per night (This is equal to the 2022 Walton County Government Per Diem Rate per night) + 12% tax (no resort fee)
    - Meets GSA per diem schedule
    - Use group code **24K1E8** at http://www.Sandestin.com/24K1E8
- **Travel**– please use your company's preferred method of travel. For air travel, we suggest one of the following airports:
  - o Northwest Florida Regional Airport (VPS) ~ 30 Minute Drive
  - o NW FL Beaches International Airport (ECP) ~ 40 Minute Drive
  - o Pensacola Regional Airport (PNS) ~ 90 Minute Drive
- **Other Transportation Considerations** –
  - o **To/From Airport**: you will either need to rent a car, Uber/Lyft, taxi, or schedule shuttle service via a third party vendor.
  - o **While at the workshop**: if you stay on property, you will not need any transportation as the hotel rooms and meeting space are within walking distance. For transportation throughout the resort, there is a free shuttle service provided. No evening networking events will require transportation for those staying on-site. Should you choose to stay off-site (not recommended), you will need to plan for transportation to/from the workshop and networking events. On-site complimentary parking will be available for attendees.

Benefits of Attending the EUG:
- **One-on-one access to Encore Analytics staff:** The EUG is a great chance to connect directly with Encore staff to ask questions, provide feedback on the tool, and learn about what's coming up next for Empower.
- **Training:** Whether you plan to attend the Pre-EUG training events or just the EUG workshop, there will be a lot of great opportunities to learn how to better use the tool to streamline your business processes from both Encore staff as well as from other Empower users.

- **Networking:** The EUG is an excellent opportunity for networking as you will be attending with a great mix of industry and government professionals. Between the daytime sessions and evening events, the workshop provides countless networking opportunities to build both your personal and organization's network, hear from others about industry trends and best practices, and exchange ideas with each other.
- **Lessons learned from others:** One of the greatest benefits of the EUG is that our users make up the majority of our speakers, which provides a great opportunity for other users to learn from each other. We have users attending from diverse experience backgrounds, different industries, and at varying levels of expertise in Empower. Where you may have a good knowledge base for one subset, someone else may offer new insight that could benefit your current work in Empower.
- **Opportunity to influence the future of the product**: If your organization is passionate about new features, this is a forum to make those heard and get them prioritized.

Pre-EUG Basic and Advanced User/Administrator Training Syllabus:

This two-day course covers both basic and advanced features of Empower. Whether you are a current user or want to enhance your knowledge of Empower, we urge you to register for this in-depth class. You will learn:

- Importing data into Empower from various sources such as JSON, DoD IPMR/IPMDAR, DoE Standardized EV Cost and Schedule Data files, wInsight XML, X12, Microsoft Project, Oracle P6, and Microsoft Excel
- Recalculation options and applying management thresholds
- Preparing for EVAS type data-driven audits using Empower
- Integrated Cost and IMS analytics
- Grouping and analyzing portfolios of projects
- Creating custom Dashboards
- Configuring Empower to support VAR narrative collection, tracking, and approval with Empower's workflow and email notification system
- Configuring Empower to support corrective action tracking and approval with Empower's workflow and email notification system
- Integrating Corrective Action tracking with VAR reporting in Empower

Pre-EUG Advanced Configuration Training Syllabus:

This one-day course covers advanced configuration features of Empower. The following topics will be covered:

- Customize the User Interface (UI)
- Modify the Columns Table
- Add/Delete a Custom DQI
- Prepare for Data-Driven Audits
- Workflow Features
- Email Notification Features
- Deployment/Scalability Options with Load Balancers
- Docker Deployments
- Queuing Options/Configure WatchDir
- Integration with Identity Providers
- Create Custom Charts and Report

- Custom Scripts
- User Customizations to Recalculation

Pre-EUG Project Controls/Analyst Certification Preparation Course and PC/A Certification Test by Humphreys & Associates

This course is designed for the experienced earned value specialist who wishes to distinguish himself/herself from their peers as a professional, certified Project Controls/Analyst and become a more valued asset in efficiently analyzing problems and determining appropriate resolution actions.

The Certification Preparation Course is a two-day intensive, advanced course in Earned Value Management (EVM) including scheduling concepts that is intended to further develop skills for proficient and insightful analysis. The course is offered prior to the EUG Workshop on Monday and Tuesday to the first 25 enrollees. The course uses extensive case studies and exercises in the following areas:

- Establishing the initial cost and schedule structure for a program,
- Schedule and risk management analysis,
- Performance, variance, Estimate At Completion (EAC) and Forecast/Estimated Completion Date (ECD) analysis,
- Assessing data quality,
- Incorporation of baseline changes,
- Customer reporting,
- Assessing project compliance with EVM requirements.

The PC/A Certification Test will be offered Friday following the EUG Workshop. The test is administered in two four hours sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The first 4 hour session is multiple choice, and the second 4 hour session is written where you will be presented with 3 of 17 potential packets of information like a Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) dictionary or a Variance Analysis Report (VAR) of questionable quality. The more flaws that are identified the higher the score for that portion. Testers must participate in both sessions.

All pre-EUG workshop training and certification sessions require a laptop computer with Wi-Fi capability.

Visit http://www.eugworkshop.com/ for updates leading up to the workshop as well as during the event. For additional information or assistance in registering for your trip, please contact Brooke Boswell at Brooke.Boswell@encore-analytics.com or by telephone at (866) 890-4331 Ext. 111.