

Oracle Cloud EPM Planning

How to combine Monthly and Weekly Planning Cycles and improve liquidity management

February, 2024 ,[\[1.0\]](#)
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Oracle Cloud EPM Planning: how to combine monthly and weekly Planning Cycles and improve Liquidity Management

Oracle Fusion Cloud **EPM** ([Enterprise Performance Management](#)) includes configuration options to enable a more granular use of the period dimension down to weeks within the standard pre-built module of **EPM Planning Financials**.

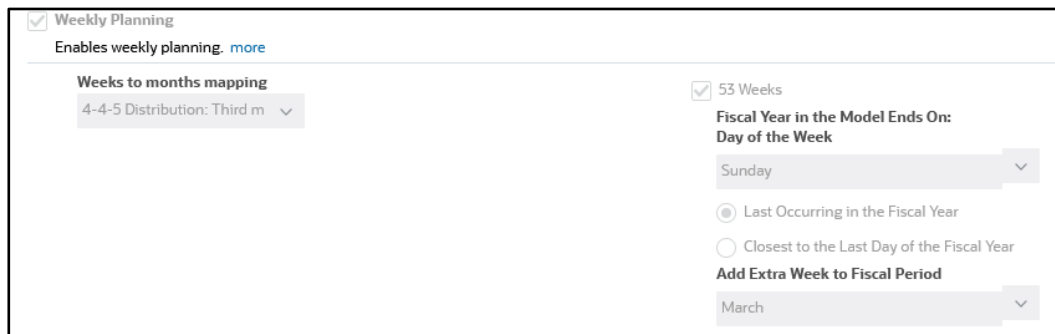
The aim of this article is to describe the configuration which holds a mixture of both monthly and weekly level planning across the Profit and Loss accounts with the Balance sheet accounts being exclusively monthly.

How to configure weeks, alongside months in an EPM Planning application?

Oracle Cloud EPM offers pre-built and out-of-the-box functionality to include weekly planning completely integrated with the rest of the Cloud EPM suite. This functionality could be easily enabled within the EPM Planning Financial module without any extra installation or product testing activities. The Oracle online administration guide for EPM Planning modules is a good starting point to explain how the functionality can be easily enabled (link [here](#)).

a. General configuration.

Within the initial configuration selections for the weekly planning, options available are:



The screenshot displays the 'Weekly Planning' configuration section. It includes a checkbox for 'Weekly Planning' which is checked, with a link to 'more' information. Below this, the 'Weeks to months mapping' is set to '4-4-5 Distribution: Third m'. To the right, the '53 Weeks' checkbox is also checked. The 'Fiscal Year in the Model Ends On: Day of the Week' is set to 'Sunday'. There are two radio button options: 'Last Occurring in the Fiscal Year' (selected) and 'Closest to the Last Day of the Fiscal Year'. At the bottom, the 'Add Extra Week to Fiscal Period' is set to 'March'.

First decision point to address is how to map weeks to each month. Possible patterns are 4-4-5 or 4- 5-4 or 5-4-4. You will need to select the pattern that fits your fiscal monthly period. Second decision point: “do you need an adjustment week”? If yes, set it to 53 weeks as the default is 52. The answer to this decision is influenced by payroll details and should align with a ledger adjustment period. The ability to update to week 53 gives you more flexibility as to exactly define where you hold adjustments. The additional options of days of the week and when the 53rd week applies are relevant to your EPM workforce planning salary calculations although this topic is not covered by this article.

Once you enable weeks, the configuration options for the application change slightly, as illustrated in the below picture:

Select the current fiscal year and period to control the beginning and end duration of your scenarios

Current Fiscal Year

FY24

Period

Jul

Current Week

Week 14

Plan

Apr FY24-Mar FY24

Forecast

Aug FY24-Mar FY24

Rolling Forecast

Week 15 FY24:Week 14 FY25

All

1 Year

Weekly

Monthly

Quarterly

Yearly

FY24

0

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☐

☐

In this situation, we set the default plan level at monthly level, but note that our range of weeks to select as the “current week” falls within the period of the selected month (July) only. This is automatically filtered based on your weekly pattern (e.g. 4-4-5), meaning you cannot have a week selected as the “Current Week” that does not map within the current month. Forecast options also include the definition of weekly level members and can be set independently for each year of the forecast, enabling you to hold data for the current year at weeks with the following year at month, quarters or at the year level. In our case, we only carry a single year forecast.

Plan

Apr FY24-Mar FY24

Forecast

Aug FY24-Mar FY24

Rolling Forecast

Week 15 FY24:Week 14 FY25

All

1 Year

Weekly

Monthly

Quarterly

Yearly

FY24

0

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Should you use rolling forecasts, the setup is slightly different, as you can select the “Number of Periods” and if we choose weeks the options change in relation to the frequency. We can define how many weeks within that window will hold the Actual data set.

Plan
Apr FY24-Mar FY24

Forecast
Aug FY24-Mar FY24

Rolling Forecast
Week 15 FY24:Week 14 FY25

Planning Frequency

☒ Weekly

☐ Monthly

☐ Quarterly

Number of Periods

52 Weeks

Rolling Forecast Range

13 Weeks

26 Weeks

52 Weeks

Number of Actual Periods

8

Weekly planning can be defined using the Entity dimension member of EPK Planning as a filter to which members will use weekly periods. Associated ranges of Accounts by these Entity selections mean you can have a different range of planning Accounts driven by entity. For example, only the sales operation Account members will use weeks, with the central cost departments only entering data by the month.

Entity	Weekly Planning	Accounts
DEP_Total Entity	☒	588 Entities Selected 47 Accounts Selected
▶ All Cost_Centre	☒	382 Entities Selected 47 Accounts Selected
▶ Alt Cost Centre Groups	☒	23 Entities Selected 47 Accounts Selected
▶ Total Project Costs By Code	☒	182 Entities Selected 47 Accounts Selected
No Cost_Centre	☐	0 Entities Selected 0 Accounts Selected

You can use the hierarchy selection option to choose which Accounts are active at the weekly level for the highlighted Entity. The ranges selected are at the defined parent level which assumes associated children will be at the weekly level.

In this screen shot, we have selected the expense and gross profit sections for weekly planning, but not the balance sheet members for any child of the Total Entity parent.

OEP_Total Entity Accounts		
Accounts	Weekly Planning	
▶ OFS_Total Expenses	☒	...
▶ OFS_Gross Profit	☒	...
▶ OFS_Balance Sheet	☐	...

b. Period dimension changes.

With weeks configured, additional members and hierarchies are added to the Period dimension of EPM Planning. An additional hierarchy is added under the “OEP_Weekly Plan” which is used to hold the weekly members.

Member Name	Parent Member	Default Alias Table
Period		
BegBalance	Period	Assumptions
OEP_Weekly Plan	Period	Weekly Plan
OEP_W1-26	OEP_Weekly Plan	Week1-26
OEP_W1	OEP_W1-26	Week1
OEP_W2	OEP_W1-26	Week2
OEP_W3	OEP_W1-26	Week3

There are two aggregated members “OEP_W1-26” and “OEP_W27-53” without any 4-4-5 aggregations.

This hierarchy is defined alongside the standard period defined members, and so there is no requirement to change your existing out-of-the-box forms.

Additional scripts are used to enable you to transfer data from the week member to the month using the selected phasing option (i.e. 4-4-5, 4-5-4 or 5-4-4) with a reciprocal script for populating weeks from the monthly data.

Once configured, you will see weeks or months on the form dependent upon the selection of the combination of Entity member, Account member and the Scenario member.

Conclusions.

Several companies are now leveraging this combined and integrated weekly and monthly planning cycles within the Financials module of Cloud EPM Planning. Moreover, this configuration of business processes could be extended to other EPM modules and processes like Workforce Planning, Project and Capital Planning and Sales Planning.

Our track record of EPM Planning implementations has shown how this configuration is straightforward, delivered 100% out-of-the-box by Oracle and easy-to-maintain. It can really extend your planning, budgeting and forecasting processes to another level of detail without cumbersome customization.

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