EXAMPLE P-CHART

The P-chart

The chart below is an example of a P-chart. It is graphing the percent of problem reports which were caused by Design Problem. This data is valid for a p-chart as repeated go - no go trials are being conducted; each report was either caused by Design Problem, or was caused by a different cause.

There are two baseline time periods on the graph: December 1993 through April 1995 and May 1995 through September 1996. Note that the current baseline average ends with September 1996. That was when the average was established. New data points have been added each month to this graph, and compared to the 8% baseline. The average has not been (and should not be) recalculated to include each new datum point. The average will only be recalculated once a statistically significant change is detected.

The control limits vary based upon the total number of problem reports each month. The more reports, the less variation expected, and the control limit comes in closer to the baseline average. In this case, the lower control limit was less than zero, so is not shown.