PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN GOVERNMENT Update

The Performance Institute

IN THIS ISSUE: SEPTEMBER



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Career Advancement Updates

Office of Management and Budget Policy Letter on Earned Value Management Improving IT Project Planning and Execution

Earned Value Management is a methodology used to measure and communicate the real physical progress of a project taking into account the work complete, the time taken and the costs incurred to complete that work. Earned Value helps evaluate and control project risk by measuring project progress in monetary terms.
http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy2005/m05-23.pdf

Revised CAPM Credential Expands PMI's Offerings To Increase The Effectiveness of Project Teams

Project management is on the rise, covering virtually all business sectors and becoming one of the most sought-after professional competencies by employers worldwide. Organizations need people who have clear direction, are efficient, can easily adapt to change, are effective communicators and are committed to quality deliverables. Finding individuals with this broad range of expertise is challenging, which is why project management skills are highly desired and valued in today's workforce.
http://www.projectmagazine.com/v6i1/pmi1.html

Launch of the updated PMP credential examination on 30 September 2005.

The Project Management Institute has changed the test for PMP credentials. The new rules are set to take place on September 30 th . All potential PMP exam takers and recertification's should read this important information regarding their certifications.
http://www.pmi.org/info/pdc_pmpexam05.asp

UPCOMING EVENTS



Earn PDUs and CPE Credits

2005 Government Project Management Week
October 3 –7, 2005 | Las Vegas, NV

Managing Project Risk in Government
October 20–21, 2005 | Arlington, VA

2005 Government Administrative Management Certification Week
October 31 –November 4 , 2005
Arlington, VA

Employee Performance Evaluations & Management in Government
November 1– 2, 2005 | Arlington, VA

Project Management for Government for Administrative Assistants
November 3-4, 2005 | Arlington, VA

Developing and Managing Project Teams in Government
November 14-15, 2005 | Arlington, VA

Strategic Recruitment for Government Agencies
November 17 – 18, 2005 | Arlington, VA

Project Management for Government Procurement
November 29-30, 2005 | Arlington, VA

Mastering IT Project Management in Government
December 5-6, 2005 |Arlington, VA



Enhance the Skills of Your Entire Project Team through On-Site Training

PMI Annual Report: "Bridging the gap to business results"

The PMI Annual Report 2004 provides interesting information on the many activities, accomplishments and events that occurred during the year.
http://www.pmi.org/info/AP_AnnualReport.pdf

Project Management Leaders

The Faces of Leadership

Are good leaders made or are they born? Increasingly, that's the dilemma in government, where 75 percent of top civil service executives are older than 50 and nearly half are over 55. Soon they'll retire and will have to be replaced.
http://www.govexec.com/features/0405-15/0405-15s4.htm

In the Hole

When Bradley Belt took over as executive director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation more than a year ago, it looked like he was going to have a tough time of it.
http://www.govexec.com/features/0805-01/0805-01na4.htm

The Performance Institute is helping government manage for RESULTS! ***See how well your organization measures up. Take our free Performance Measurement Assessment:*** ***www.PerformanceWeb.org/Survey/***

Best Practices

Competing for Resources: How to Engage the Heart

People are so over committed these days that it can be difficult to get the time and energy you need to succeed. How do you get others who are already over burdened to actually *want* to be on your project, or to extend themselves over and above what one would normally expect?
http://www.projectconnections.com/knowhow/columns/070705-decarlo.html

Quality is Conformance *OF* Requirements

What is your definition of "quality"? Many people say that a system is of high quality when it meets the needs of its users. But the needs of the users are rather difficult to monitor, and even more difficult to measure. So we in the software industry prefer to measure quality in terms of conformance to requirements.
http://www.projectconnections.com/knowhow/columns/081505-koch.html

Techniques for Creative Thinking: Yes, They Work

Creativity techniques are deliberate thinking processes designed to help find ideas and solve problems. They are not mental tricks dreamed up by ivory-tower professors but rather strategies used by many—if not all—productive, creative people. Although the techniques are not complicated, most people are uncomfortable using someone else's thinking or problem-solving methods.
http://www.winstonbrill.com/bril001/html/article_index/articles1_50.html

Is Your Project on the Road to Success?

Unless properly choreographed and supported, the most graceful dancers and the most skilled athletes will demonstrate dismal results, or worse, sustain career-threatening injuries. Like the choreographer or the quarterback, the manager of an IT project is ultimately responsible for success of the project.
http://www.haddongroup.com/Article_Road_to_success.htm

Research

WHY ARE CANCELED PROJECTS CONSIDERED FAILURES?

Canceled projects are almost always considered failures. The oft-quoted Chaos Report, published by the Standish Group, groups projects into three categories: "succeeded", "challenged", and "failed". "Failed" is defined as "canceled before completed or never implemented". In the 2000 survey, "failed" projects accounted for 23% of the 280,000 evaluated.
http://www.pmforum.org/editorials/2005/2005_0708.htm

What's the future of your IT project?

Earned-value management will no longer be just another requirement for agencies to check off halfheartedly when planning major IT projects. It will be the process by which IT projects will either advance or be revamped for a better chance of success.
http://www.gcn.com/24_24/project-management/36698-1.html

White House calls for unified R&D spending

Agencies should look at ways to combine their individual R&D efforts, including projects involving networking and computer science, according to a White House memorandum issued earlier this month.
http://www.gcn.com/24_19/project-management/36400-1.html

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The Project Management Update is a free, monthly e-newsletter for all Project Managers at the federal, state and local level. With updates and recent news, the e-newsletter will keep you up-to-date on the challenges and opportunities in your field. The Performance Institute is a private think tank that serves as the nation's leading authority and repository on performance-based management practices for government organizations. Its mission is to identify study and disseminate the leading management innovations pioneered by “best-in-class” government program s at federal, state and local levels. Through its national conferences on pressing issues, interactive executive training programs, and best practice research projects, the Institute provides cutting-edge expertise in the design, implementation and evaluation of strategies to solve operational challenges and enhance government performance.

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