



Economic turbulence demands effective project management

Hi and welcome to our new and evolving approach to bringing you the latest industry news and ideas.

The topic on everybody's mind is "What is our approach to our day to day business, given the continual deluge of bad economic news from around the world?" In the midst of the global turbulence, the sub-prime fall-out and the various inflationary pressures, the picture for Australia appears to be somewhat rosier, but we must be prepared for whatever the "flow on" global effects will be.

We have noticed a significant trend with our clients who are acting to ensure project delivery is swift and accurate, because challenged projects lead to significant and costly business problems.

There has never been a more important time to ensure that you are equipped to deliver projects professionally and efficiently - as adept project delivery is becoming one of the most significant requirements of our business era. Given the heightened need to precisely and effectively deliver projects, I would encourage you to continue your professional and organisational development of project management.

The contribution to this quarter's newsletter, as always, comes from some very talented members of the PM-Partners team. This quarter you will find:

- An overview of the latest AIPM Standards where PM-Partners have contributed as members of the standards committee
- A Business Analysis certification update from the IIBA
- PDU ideas for those of you who have PMP certification
- Information about our Certify & Save packages
- Ways to get more from your PRINCE2 Certification
- A tale from the battlefield about successful system implementation
- And finally some great events coming your way

I trust that you will find this newsletter informative and valuable as you formulate your plans to address the current environment. We are always looking to improve our value to you so please let us know how we can provide better information in your newsletter:

Best Regards

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Quarter 3 Newsletter 2008:

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On 1 September 2008 the AIPM officially launched its new project management competency standards, which underpin the RegPM (Registered Project Manager) recognition program.

PM-Partners group led the industry in developing these standards, fulfilling key roles in the:

- Industry Reference Group, advising the AIPM on the direction and intent of the standards.
- Standards Review Committee, writing the new standards.
- Assessor Panel, writing the methodology with which to assess against the new standards.

The new standards bring with them several changes:

- Qualified Project Practitioner (QPP) recognition is now known as Certified Practicing Project Practitioner (CPPP).
- Registered Project Manager (RPM) recognition is now known as Certified Practicing Project Manager (CPPM).
- Master Project Director (MPD) recognition is now known as Certified Practicing Project Director (CPPD).

Those with existing QPP/RPM/MPD recognition must do two things to maintain their credential:

- Maintain their ongoing professional development via the [Continuing Professional Development](#) scheme.
- Undertake a “gap assessment” at time of renewal, which will bridge their assessment between the old and new standards. Further details on the gap requirements will be announced by the AIPM over the coming months.

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More Recognition of BA Certification and New CBT Exam Option

By John Katsiris, Principal Consultant & President of IIBA™ Australia

There is a growing recognition that the CBAP™ (Certified Business Analysis Professional) accreditation from the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA™) can help individuals and organisations to better communicate and deliver professional Business Analysis services.



During September, 12 new candidates from a single company sat the CBAP™ Exam in Melbourne, demonstrating that companies are increasingly using this certification to differentiate themselves as leaders in Business Analysis.

In another development, the IIBA™ (a not-for-profit industry organisation) globally introduced a computer based testing exam option in September in order to better cater for individuals and speed up the process of assessment and examination. The CBT exam option is available through Castle International (on behalf of the IIBA™). Preparation courses continue to be run by Endorsed Education Providers. The CBT Exam option will provide more flexibility as to when candidates can sit their exam component of the CBAP™ certification. With this new CBT option the growth of CBAP™ exam in Australia is expected to be strong.

Please explore the global and local web sites for the IIBA for more information on Certification and

Events related to Business Analysis.

www.theiiba.org and <http://australia.theiiba.org> and follow this link to find [Endorsed Education Providers](#).

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Looking For Some PDU's . . .

As many of you would already know, if you have obtained your Project Management Professional (PMP®) or Program Management Professional (PgMPSM) certification with the PMI®, to maintain your certification status you are required to accrue and report a minimum of **60 professional development units** (PDU's) during each Continuing Certification Requirements program (CCR), which is typically 3 years.

If the time has come for you to collect some PDU's PM-Partners group can assist. By completing one of our many Project Management, Program Management or Business Analysis training workshops you can earn PDU's. An example of some of our training workshops and their PDU values are listed below.

To view a workshop outline for any of these courses just click on the workshop title, or to speak to one of our experienced sales consultants please phone **02 9900 1400** or email info@pm-partners.com.au

49 PDUs [Managing Successful Programmes Foundation to Advanced Practitioner \(3 Days + 2 Days + 2 Days\)](#)

42 PDUs [Diploma of Project Management \(6 Days\)](#)

42 PDUs [PRINCE2® Foundation to Practitioner Certificate \(4 Days + 2 Days\)](#)

35 PDUs [Business Analysis: Effective Requirements for Successful Projects \(5 Days\)](#)

21 PDUs [CBAP™ Exam Preparation Workshop \(3 Days\)](#)

21 PDUs [ITIL Foundation Certificate \(3 Days\)](#)

14 PDUs [Program Management Essentials \(2 Days\)](#)

7 PDUs [Portfolio Management \(1 Day\)](#)

7 PDUs [Microsoft Project Essentials \(1 Day\)](#)



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Certify & Save!

To help get you certified in Project Management, Program Management or Business Analysis (plus save you some money at the same time), PM-Partners group are offering discounts off some of our most sought-after training workshops.

The only condition is that the workshops must be booked and paid for **at the same time**.

PRINCE2™ Foundation + PRINCE2™ Practitioner = 15% Discount

Diploma of Project Management + CAPM®/PMP® Exam Preparation = 20% Discount

Business Analysis Effective Requirements for Successful Projects + CBAP Exam Preparation = 15% Discount

To speak to one of our sales consultants about this special offer please phone **02 9900 1400** or email info@pm-partners.com.au



Get More From Your PRINCE2™ Training

PM-Partners group now give you more than just quality training and a certification from our PRINCE2™ Foundation workshop.

By attending our PRINCE2™ Foundation workshop you will receive:

- Facilitation by experience, expert PRINCE2™ Practitioner
- A comprehensive workshop manual and practical hands on learning using exercises and case studies
- **Foundation Exam Guarantee – if you do not pass the Foundation exam the first time, we will put you through again at no charge**
- Full email support throughout the study process
- Telephone and email advice for 60 days
- PRINCE2™ Briefing & Process Model emailed prior to the commencement of the workshop
- PRINCE2™ Project Templates emailed upon workshop completion



Tales From the Battle Field

By Nik Samuelson, PM-Partners group Director of Project Delivery

If you are considering the risks of implementing a new software system into your business environment you only need to type “ERP Disasters” into Google and you hit paydirt on how and where things can and have gone wrong. We all know that systems can provide significant improvements in productivity and quality and subsequent cost savings within an organisation. Get it right and the ROI can be significant, get it wrong and you could be paying for it over the next 5 years.



Having read many articles and experienced doing it the wrong way firsthand, I am still surprised each time I encounter pushback on the investment of time and resources in the front end planning and definition of a software system implementation. Whilst I recognise that every organisation is different and there is uniqueness in each and every approach to software system implementation, there are some basic fundamentals that will help with a successful project implementation.

So next time you are thinking of implementing a new system even before you investigate software solutions, ask yourself these three key questions:

1. Do we understand the way our business works today?
2. Is the way we run our business today clearly documented (Standard Operating Procedures)?
3. Have we invested time in understanding if we can improve the way we do things around here?

Spend some time up front investing in a YES answer to each of these questions and you are well on your way to a successful system implementation. If the answer is NO to any of these questions work on getting to YES or find another project to invest your money in.

If you understand how things work within your organisation it is easier to then align this to the way a software system functions and in turn identify any gaps or overlaps. The selection process in identifying the right software is more focused, and the changes, and associated costs required to tailor a solution can be clearly defined and understood before the final selection decision

This may seem straight forward, however there are still organisations that choose to invest the time and effort in the back-end (post selection and implementation) to “fix” the user experience and the standard operating procedures. In my experience the cost of doing it this way in lost business productivity, staff frustration (and associated attrition) and the work required to get it right can be three fold on the

investment required to get it right up front.

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Coming Events

PMI Sydney Chapter Meeting

12 November

6pm

Venue, TBA

Presenter, Chivonne Watt from UTS

<http://sydney.pmichapters-australia.org.au>

PMI® Melbourne Chapter Inaugural End Of Year Bash 2008

25 November

6:00pm

The Chapter House, 197 Flinders Lane, Melbourne

Cocktail hour, Dinner, Keynote speaker and live music

<http://www.pmichapters-australia.org.au/melbourne/home.asp>



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