

a. The Project Management Institute (PMI)

Background

The PMI is a nonprofit professional organization with more than 240,000 members in over 160 countries whose mission is to advance the state-of-art in project management. Its core processes include:

- Developing a community of project managers.
- Advancing the profession of project management.
- Acting as an information distribution forum for project management.
- Facilitating education in project management.

PMI is actively engaged in advocacy for the profession, setting professional standards, conducting research and providing access to project management information and resources. PMI also promotes career and professional development and offers certification, networking and community involvement opportunities.

Membership

Individual membership is open to anyone interested in project management. One can join a special interest group (SIG) to network with others members who share common interests and industries. As well, a member of PMI with a passion for or expertise in one of the project management knowledge areas may join one of PMI's colleges. Like a SIG, PMI's colleges of Performance and Scheduling Management bring together individuals who have developed a formal approach to one of the areas within A Guide to the Project Management Body of

Knowledge (PMBOK Guide). These individuals are committed to furthering this knowledge and making it available to the profession.

Certification - The PMI offers 3 professional credentials:

- Program Management Professional (PgMP) This credential is designed to demonstrate project and program management skills. To be eligible for the PgMP credential, one must meet specific guidelines that objectively measure experience, education and professional knowledge, and undergo a rigorous application process as well as three assessments.
- Project Management Professional (PMP) In addition to meeting the same requirements as those for PgMP, individuals who seek PMI's PMP credential must have several years experience as a PM and have obtained a proficient level of project management leadership skills.
- Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) Designed specifically for project team members, the CAPM credential is aimed at improving overall project success by helping to ensure project management knowledge.

b. Local Chapter - Utah

The Northern Utah chapter of PMI is located in Salt Lake City. Its membership chair is Terry Matthies @ 801-239-4053.

c. PMBOK

The Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) document, last published in 1987, is a codification of knowledge specifically related to the management of projects. The document is a collection of processes and

knowledge areas widely accepted as best practice within the project management discipline and is an internationally recognized standard (IEEE Std 1490-1998) that includes five basic Project Management processes; Initiating, Planning, Executing, Controlling and Closing, and 9 Knowledge areas of the project management profession, including Integration, Scope, Time, Cost, Human Resources, Communications, Performance Reporting, Risks and Administration. For each process, activity, or practice, a description of input, tools and technique and output (deliverables) is made.

d. The Nature & Future of Project Management

Project management leadership concepts will change progressively in response to additional regulatory pressures, external demands of a better informed and discerning public, and an increasingly better educated work force. Internally, the change will encompass the electronic revolution; socio-technical systems (wherein the team itself shares responsibility with accountability for self-management in defining all steps, execution, and project deliverables); and shared power (distributed leadership or partnering). The skill sets needed for these different and changing environments will be identified and the means developed for transferring them to project-managers-in-the-making through education.

Dr. Russ Archibald, one of the founding fathers of modern project management, has developed a number of predictions for where project management will be in the year 2010. He offered these predictions as part of his address to the second annual international conference of the PMI Moscow

Chapter in October 2005. Some of Dr Archibald's notable predictions included:

1. Strategic Project Management

- Best organizations will integrate strategic management, project management, and operations management through project portfolio management.

2. Specialization by Project Category

- There will be widespread use of a systematic approach to project categorization and classification. As a result of this systematic categorization there will be improvements in
 - a. strategic PM
 - b. operational PM
 - c. PM software
 - d. PM consulting, education, and training

3. Total Project Life Cycle Management

- The best PM practitioners (project buyers/owners) will include concept phase plus achievement of project benefits as part of the project management responsibilities.
- Catalogs will exist of life-cycle models for each major product category.
- Wider application of systems thinking and the theory of constraints to project life-cycle models will produce continual improvements.

4. PM Systems, Tools and Practices

- Systems will be fully integrated with corporate IS.
- PM software will be more specialized to fit project categories or types.
- Web-enabled PM will be used by all; virtual teams will be commonplace.
- Wireless will be everywhere.
- PM software vendors will begin consolidation phase of a mature industry.
- It will be best practice for project and operations management to be integrated through a corporate-wide project/operations planning and control system.
- Critical chain will still not be widely applied.

5. PM Discipline and Individuals

- Certification will be
 - a. based more on proven capabilities
 - b. sharply focused on specific areas of application and/or project types
 - c. awarded at 3 or 4 levels.
- Demonstrated PM capabilities (not necessarily certification) will be a prerequisite for senior management positions.
- Government licensing in PM will not exist.

6. The Profession of Project Management

PMI

- PM will merge into general management, and become required competency for top executives, similar to financial management competency.
- Many will say PM is a profession but no government licensing will exist.
- PM will be widely known and used by managers at all levels.

Reference:

Archibald, Dr. Russ (2005). Breaking News in the Project Management World; PMFORUM Breaking News, Monday, October 17, 2005. Retrieved 4 December 2007 from <http://www.pmforum.org/blogs/news/2005/10/project-management-pioneer-announces.html>