



Project Assistants Newsletter

May 2009

Tips from the Chief

Portfolio Management: Where to Begin?

In these challenging economic times, organizations need to determine a sensible approach for sequencing their maturity improvement plan in a way that drives value to the organization. But where should you begin?

You have four distinct choices, each with its own costs and benefits:

- Tackle Portfolio Management first
- Tackle Project Management first
- Tackle Project & Portfolio Management at the same time, stage by stage
- Tackle Project & Portfolio Management at the same time, in a simultaneous but disjointed way

So how do you decide where to begin, or which of the above choices is best for you? You must first accurately and honestly assess your current Project & Portfolio Management Maturity status and thereby determine what you need most right now (and which of the above choices best fits your current situation).

Resource Management Challenges?

There is a *Great Divide* between the Gantt Chart users of the world (the majority) and the Resource Managers of the world (the minority). Crossing this divide is a huge challenge for most organizations.

While there are many tools and technologies out there to help you meet this challenge, there is also a logical progression for successfully implementing these changes. To embark on the adventure of evolving your organizational leaders from schedule users to efficient resource managers, you need a well thought out strategy and detailed supporting plan. [Contact us](#) to learn more about how to develop a strategy and implement an effective plan to bring the value of resource management to your organization.

2009 Webinar Series

Topic: Evolve or Die: How Organizations Use Project & Portfolio Management to Adapt to Change

Date: June 18, 2009

Time: 3:00 pm EST

A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) matrix such as the one below may help you assess your strengths and weaknesses, as well as determine where your opportunities and threats lie. From this matrix, organizations can begin to determine which of the above options offers the greatest return on investment (Project Management first? Portfolio Management first? A combination of both?).



Are you ready to improve the PPM Maturity level in your organization? Contact us to schedule a complimentary PPM Maturity Improvement Readiness Briefing today!

Help Us Help You

Through this forum we hope to provide content that brings value to Project & Portfolio Managers. To help us help you, we'd love to hear suggestions you might have to improve this newsletter. Please forward any content ideas and recommendations to newsletter@projectassistants.com.

Project Assistants is pleased to announce registration is open for the third webinar of our 2009 Webinar Series. On June 18th at 3:00 PM EST, Project Assistants CEO Gus Cicala will address ***Evolve or Die: How Organizations Use Project & Portfolio Management to Adapt to Change.***

Darwin's Theory of Evolution, written over 150 years ago, remains a rock-solid scientific theory for how organisms adapt to their external environment. Just as the Theory of Evolution defines a framework for dealing with environmental change, PPM brings to the business environment the science required by organizations to successfully adapt to change and to thrive with that change.

In this webinar, Gus Cicala will show how an organization's strategy is doomed to fail without a clear way to execute this strategy – a well-defined approach to PPM. The presentation will include an overview of the framework, including PPM best practices, required to enable effective initiative management that supports the execution of corporate strategy. Mr. Cicala will also review methods of developing a convincing business case that will obtain the investment necessary to drive these changes in an organization.

This webinar, which is offered at no cost, will last for one hour and will include time for questions and answers. Please contact us with any questions or click here to register. Visit our website to learn more about our 2009 Webinar Series.

For more information about Project Assistants, Inc., please go to www.projectassistants.com or call us at 1-800-642-9259.

