

project
assistants



Project Assistants Newsletter

January 2010

Tips from the Chief

Improved Portfolio Management: The Perfect New Year's Resolution!

As the economy begins its upward trend, we have some observations to share. The world has changed, and through this we are pressured to reevaluate and improve the way we run our businesses. We've seen dramatic failures of once mighty companies, primarily due to their poor approach to Portfolio Management and their inability to respond appropriately to rapidly changing market conditions.

Enlightened organizations are realizing they must be more accountable for effectively meeting commitments to clients and stakeholders. Often the difficulty in providing timely and accurate resource capacity and project status information creates enormous challenges to successfully accomplishing investment and improvement initiatives.

This economic recovery presents an opportunity to garner the executive commitment necessary to implement the right solutions to these challenges.

We have begun to see organizations commit to improving their Portfolio Management capabilities. They understand that investing time and money in process improvement + people capabilities + supporting tools and technologies is necessary to survive and thrive in 2010 and beyond.

We've received strong positive feedback from prospects and customers regarding the simple set of quantitative metrics that we recommend in order to promote the assessment and monitoring of Portfolio Management improvement initiatives.

Offering Spotlight: Project & Portfolio Staffing Services

Helping Your Organization Successfully Drive Change

Is your organization struggling with any of these challenges?

Inadequate time/resources to hire experienced project managers

Slow internal staffing cycle

Difficulty responding to rapidly changing technology and initiatives

Sudden short-term need for critical skill set which is unavailable internally

In most organizations, many people have the ability to design change. However, driving execution – and thereby driving change – requires the ability to consistently address all projects with competent project leadership. Managing change requires a project manager, ideally one who is well-skilled in the specific application area/industry.

But when project management staffing levels are lower than what is required, the ability to drive project throughput is constrained. Project Assistants can remove this constraint by providing industry-specific project managers to drive project throughput and therefore promote successful change management. We will ensure your project managers have the right tools, capabilities and processes to do their jobs effectively...the first time.

Are you ready to improve the Portfolio Management Maturity level in your organization based on a proven, concrete and measurable methodology? Contact us to schedule a complimentary Portfolio Management Maturity Improvement Readiness Briefing today!.

2010 Webinar Series

Topic: Rescuing Your Enterprise Project Management (EPM) Solution Implementation

Date: February 24, 2010

Time: 3:00 pm EST

Project Assistants is pleased to announce registration is open for the first webinar of our 2010 Webinar Series. On February 24th at 3:00 PM EST, Project Assistants CEO Gus Cicala will address ***Rescuing Your EPM Solution Implementation***.

Most EPM solution implementations (by our experience, over 85%) are destined to suboptimal outcomes due to their heavily tool-focused approach. In reality, however, a more balanced deployment is required to drive the change that is needed to achieve the maximum return on your implementation investment. Executive mandate alone is not enough to drive this change; instead, a careful approach that includes planning, implementation and adoption is required to remove the common barriers to success and achieve a successful enterprise deployment.

In this webinar, Mr. Cicala will address typical challenges that hinder your ability to achieve the desired results of your at-risk EPM implementation. In the process, he will share our time-tested methodology that will allow you to *Get beyond the Gantt Chart* to realize the full potential of your technology investment.

Please [contact us](#) to learn more about our webinar series.

Our overall focus on providing the best PPM services available, combined with our proven QA process in evaluating personnel, uniquely qualifies us to identify and attract the best candidates for our customers.

We differentiate our PPM Staffing Services by providing a comprehensive managed service that includes the proper setup, implementation and review of project management and governance methodology. Contact us to learn more about our PPM Staffing Services.

Web-Based Learning

Because of the ongoing popularity of our 2008/2009 Webinar Series, we have posted recordings of each webinar on our website to enable easy download and viewing. Click here to find links to our 2008 and 2009 webinar recordings, including the following:

Executive Track

- Evolve or Die: How Organizations Use Project & Portfolio Management (PPM) to Adapt to Change
- Making It Stick: The Project Management Adoption Challenge
- Enterprise Transformation: What Your Executive Team Needs to Know about PPM
- Resource Management: The Keystone to Successful PPM

PPM Strategy Track

- Achieving Your Business Objectives: Best Practices for Integrating Portfolio Management Strategies with Project Management Excellence in Execution
- Which Came First – The Project or the Portfolio?

PPM Technology Track

- Best Practices for Integrating Portfolio, Project & Knowledge Management by Leveraging the Microsoft EPM & MOSS Solutions
- Enterprise Project Management: Best Practices for Optimizing Resource Management

Go to www.projectassistants.com to learn more about Project Assistants, or call us at 1-800-642-9259.

