



Project Assistants Newsletter

February 2009

Tips from the Chief

Evolve or Die: Turbulent Times Require a Dramatic Response to a Rapidly Changing Global Environment!

Each day headlines spotlight rapidly changing economic conditions. It is clear that in order to survive and thrive, organizations must be able to continuously innovate in order to respond to today's economic realities. And driving the changes necessary to embrace this innovation is absolutely critical.

Throughout our planet's history, major environmental events (meteor strikes, ice ages, etc.) have led to mass extinctions of species. At the same time, however, these events also provided the impetus for many species to evolve and adapt to new conditions, and these new species were able to survive and thrive into the future.

In the same way, today's current events represent a major shift in the economic environment that requires organizations to embrace change through innovation and as a way to evolve, survive and thrive. Organizations which are able to develop a strategy and effectively execute a plan for the adoption and improvement of Project & Portfolio Management are the ones which will succeed.

Interested in Improving Your Organization's Project & Portfolio Management (PPM) Maturity Level?

Schedule a PPM Maturity Improvement Readiness Briefing Today!

Key to success in the current economic environment is the ability to successfully adapt to change. A mature Project & Portfolio Management (PPM) infrastructure brings to the business environment the framework required by organizations to successfully make these changes *stick*.

Are you ready to improve this structure within your organization? [Contact us](#) to schedule a complimentary PPM Maturity Improvement Readiness Briefing today!

During this briefing, Project Assistants' expert consultants will discuss the requirements for successful PPM improvements in your organization, including:

- Project Management reporting
- Technology environment
- Resource planning methods
- PPM Governance

In the process, you'll learn how Project Assistants time-tested methodology helps address common PPM challenges.

Define desired future state in a strategy

- General plan for change

Develop strategy-supporting tactical initiatives/projects

- Review projects/initiatives regularly
- Deliver projects right, the first time

For a more detailed discussion of these concepts you can view a recording of this webinar – [Evolve or Die: How Organizations Use Project & Portfolio Management to Adapt to Change](#).

2009 Webinar Series

Topic: Which Came First: The Project or the Portfolio?

Date: March 31, 2009

Time: 3:00 pm EST

Project Assistants is pleased to announce registration is open for the second webinar of our 2009 Webinar Series. On March 31 at 3:00 PM EST, Project Assistants CEO Gus Cicala will address ***Which Came First – The Project or the Portfolio?***

Organizations that are looking to implement and approve their approach to PPM are faced with the question of whether it is best to tackle Project Management or Portfolio Management first. In order to answer this question, there are a number of issues and perspectives which need to be considered such as:

- Where is the greatest opportunity for improvement?
- What is in place today (what is working well vs. what is not)?
- What are the industry best practices for sequencing the steps for developing the most effective approaches for improvement?

Introducing our 2009 Project & Portfolio Management Webinar Series

Because of our well-attended 2008 Webinar Series, Project Assistants is pleased to announce that registration open for our 2009 Webinar Series. Webinars, which are offered at no cost, will last for one hour and will include time for questions and answers. Following are the webinar to be offered in 2009:

Executive Track

- Evolve or Die: How Organizations Use Project & Portfolio Management to Adapt to Change
- Making It Stick: The Project Management Adoption Challenge

PPM Strategy Track

- 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

Visit our [website](#) for more information about Project Assistants' 2009 Webinar Series.

Project Assistants in the News

With an average of 20+ years each of project management and related business experience, Project Assistants' consultants are recognized experts in the field of Project & Portfolio Management. They frequently contribute to periodicals and books dealing with their areas of expertise.

In this webinar, we will explore the typical issues and proven approaches available to drive this process of maturation. We will also address the logical sequencing that organizations must follow to successfully develop and execute strategies and supporting tactical plans. We will discuss Project Assistants' extensive real world experience, which leverages our own proven methodology and PMI's OPM3 model, in order to answer the question *Which Came First?*

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.

Whether responsible for managing a portfolio or managing a project, an organization needs to determine a sensible approach for sequencing the maturity improvement plan in a way that makes sense and drives value to the organization.

On our [website](#) we maintain links to many of our consultants' published material – topics range from Microsoft Project *help* guides to subject matter dealing with leadership principles and portfolio management strategies. Please take a look at this material and [let us know](#) if you have any follow-up questions.

At Project Assistants we are THE EXPERTS in Project & Portfolio Management, devoted to effectively creating, enhancing and supporting our clients' project management infrastructures – the people, processes and technology that work together to help you reach your organizational goals.

Founded in 1996, Project Assistants is headquartered in Wilmington, Delaware with international delivery capability. A leading Microsoft Gold Certified Partner and Microsoft Office Project Premier Partner, Project Assistants was recognized in Inc 500 as one of "America's Fastest Growing Private Companies." On average, each member of our consulting team has over 20 years of project management and related business experience. The team also includes a significant number of published authors of the best-selling Microsoft Project publications and other leading Project Management publications. For more information about Project Assistants, Inc., please go to www.projectassistants.com or call us at 1-800-642-9259.

