

Project Management Practitioners Conference 2009

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Project Management Practitioners Conference

11th & 12th September 2009

The **Project Management Practitioners' Conference (PMPC 2009)** kicked off to an excellent start at 9:00 am, **11th September 2009** at Nimhans Convention Center, Bangalore.

There was an overwhelming and enthusiastic response from Project professionals in Bangalore to this flagship event organized by **PMI Bangalore Chapter**. This was evident by the presence of 600+ delegates who braved the Bangalore traffic and recession, to register for the conference.

The conference welcome address was given by Mr. Amar Bhaskar, the president of the Chapter. He shared the chapter's journey in creating and sustaining its 5 brands of service to the PM Community. These included the **PMP Quest, PM Footprints, PM Essence, 1 day PM Seminar** and the recently launched **PM Primer** for the student community. All these along with the annual **Project Management Practitioners' Conference** had resulted in the PMI Bangalore Chapter becoming the '**largest chapter in India**' and the '**fastest growing chapter in Asia Pacific region...**'

On an average, the chapter has been delivering 60+ calendered programs every year for knowledge sharing and improving PM Competencies. He also shared as to how successful project execution needs continuous Innovation. The Changing market scenario demands Project Organizations to have differentiator's for delivering enhanced business value.

Towards this objective, the **Project Management Practitioners' Conference** had planned for **mega project case studies** to be presented during the two day conference.

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**PM Primer - PM Concepts for student community
launched on 10th September 2009**



PM concepts for student community



Chief Guest - Dr. M.P. Ravindra lighting the lamp inaugurated the **PM Primer Inaugural session**, on 10th September 2009 seen along with Mr. Murail Santhanam, Mr. Vijay K. Paul and Mr. Amar Bhaskar, President PMI Bangalore Chapter

PM Primer program was officially launched on **10th September 2009**.

The objective of PM Primer is to orient student community towards project management concepts.

About 40 Professors and Faculties and 300 students from 14 colleges including Engineering, MBA and MCA participated. Mr. V.S. Subramanian, VP - Education and Certification of PMI Bangalore Chapter welcomed the Professors, Students and the chief guest.

In his inaugural address, **Dr. M. P. Ravindra** from Infosys, spoke about, how it makes eminent sense to integrate the act of living with concepts of project management and project management with ethics to leave a better world than we got.

He also highlighted about the role of concepts like discipline, pride, care in our role as educated people endowed with that extra bit and how we can be different from the general group.

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The **Inaugural address** was delivered by **Mr. Vikram S Kirloskar**, Vice Chairman, Toyota Kirloskar Motor. He shared the interesting experience of adapting the Japanese style of Project Management to local conditions. His analogy of '**Kitchen Management**' to the 'Manufacturing Industry, brought out the principles behind **Kirloskar Production System** very excellently. Project Control and Communication using only A3 sheets and the use of a common 'Project room' with stand-in meetings, presented a unique perspective that was in contrast to traditional Project Management. Mr. Vikram shared how good 'Visualization' and transparent communication were the keys to success of many projects.



The next scintillating session was the **keynote session** by **Ms Laura A Parkin**, Executive Director of NEN (National Entrepreneurship Networks). This was a very inspiring session on creating more opportunities by enabling entrepreneurship. This session was very interactive and impressive on the way academic institutions were connected up with, for increasing awareness and launching programs. For example: 480 top tier institutes across 30 cities in India were part of the inclusive growth for the entrepreneurship initiative. A well made film on the accomplishments of this project had the audience giving a thundering applause for the speaker.



The next session was a **Panel discussion** which was ably anchored by **Mr. B.G. Jayaram**, VP of PMI Bangalore Chapter. It had 5 eminent panelists from HP, Infosys, Mphasis, Oracle SSI and Yahoo. The panel topic '**Project Management in Challenging Times**' struck a strong chord with each panel member and the delegates. The panel discussed the challenges and solutions at the Industry, Organization and Individual Level.



The next sessions were in 3 multiple tracks and were well received. The 600+ delegates had a wonderful learning experience along with 'Connect' Opportunities during the breaks.

PMI Bangalore Chapter thanks all the delegates for making the first day a great success. **Mr. V.S. Subramanian**, VP Education of the chapter was the host for the day and concluded the session.

Madhavan S Rao
Director Publications
PMI Bangalore Chapter.



The PM Primer inaugural session was conducted by **Mr. Vijay K. Paul, Sr. Vice President, Elbit Medical Diagnostics** and **Mr. Murali Santhanam, Partner (Banking Projects), IBM Global Business Services**.

Mr. Amar Bhaskar, President of the PMI Bangalore Chapter, in his welcome address highlighted the importance and benefits of continuous learning and how Project Managers should be on their toes to learn, unlearn and relearn. **Mr. Sumanth Padival**, Director - Programs (PM Footprints) of PMI Bangalore Chapter gave the vote of thanks.



Professors, Teachers & Students from 14 institutes in Bangalore take part in the inaugural PM Primer session organised by PMI Bangalore Chapter



Project Management Practitioners' Conference 2009
Photo Gallery



Cost Effective method of obtaining PDU's to maintain PMP certification

By Venkataramiah Annapragada, PMP

Introduction

The PMP certification is valid for a period of three years from the day you pass the exam. To maintain the PMP certification beyond that, you need to accumulate at least 60 Professional Development Units [PDU's] during the three year period. As per the PMP handbook, you earn one PDU for every hour of planned, structured learning experience or activity. This learning has to be related to Project Management. Further the handbook lists the various categories under which one can accumulate PDU's. Here let me highlight some of the categories under which PDU's can be obtained in a cost effective manner.

PDU Categories

The following are the commonly used categories to obtain PDU's. For the complete list refer to the PMP handbook.

Category 2 D : Under this category you can earn PDU's for speaking on a topic related to Project Management at a PMI component meeting, like the PMI Bangalore Chapter meeting. You earn 5 PDU's per topic that you speak on.

Category 2 H: Many of you would be actively performing the role of a Project Manager at your organization. Under this category, you can earn 5 PDU's per calendar year if you are a Project Manager for at least 1500 hours in that calendar year.

Category 3: Under this category you can earn PDU's by attending knowledge sharing sessions organized by PMI components like the PM Footprints at PMI Bangalore Chapter. You earn one PDU for each session you attend. Also under this category, you can earn PDU's by attending educational courses offered by PMI Registered Education Providers [REP's]. Many of these REP's offer courses in the form of online books, webinars and white papers. Depending upon the length of the course you can earn one or more PDU's. Some of the prominent REP's are International Institute for Learning, Prodevia and Learning Curve Associates. The PMP handbook provides a searchable database of REP's.

Category 5: Under this category, you can earn PDU's for becoming a volunteer at a Project Management Organization like the PMI Bangalore

Chapter. You need to be a volunteer for a minimum period of three months and can earn up to 5 PDU's in a year.

Plan Certification Maintenance

Consider PMP Certification Maintenance as a mini Project where the scope is to obtain 60 PDU's in a three year schedule at minimum cost. With this in mind, prepare a plan at the beginning of the first year in the following manner :

- List out all the categories under which you would like to earn your PDU's. Understand the constraints in each of the categories. For example, Category 2H allows you to earn only 5 PDU's in a year.
- Next, consider the cost per PDU in every category. For example, to earn one PDU in Category 3 could cost you upto 10\$. Search for educational courses that are offered free of cost by REP's.
- Last but not the least; consider the Quality of the activities planned. For example, do not plan to attend all the knowledge sharing sessions for simply obtaining the PDU's. Plan to attend those sessions where the topic would have a direct relevance to your area of work.

Based on these calculate how many PDU's you can earn in each of these categories. Ensure the total is at least 60 PDU's. Spread these activities over a three year period and prepare a schedule. Have milestone targets for one year and two years.

In the above method you accumulate PDU steadily. It is time consuming but cost effective. This method is suitable if you have enough time left for your re-certification. But in case you are near the re-certification deadline and do not have sufficient PDU's then you shall plan to attend high cost educational courses which will offer you PDU's in a short span of time.

Some of the best practices that you can follow :

1. Remember you can claim your PDU's online at the PMI website. Raise your claim as soon as you complete the activity and have received the certificate of completion. This way you will not lose track of your activities.
2. Maintain proof of completion of activity. This would be required if there is an audit check at the time of re-certification.

For more information and video presentation visit www.pmi.org / www.pmibangalorechapter.org

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