



**Emerald Coast Florida Chapter**

*Volume 3, Issue 5*

**President's Corner**

by  
Cheryl Archer, PMP

Fellow Program Managers,

As we endure these steamy summer months, I want to take a moment to remind you of the many opportunities you have as a member or potential member of the PMI Emerald Coast FL Chapter.

At our monthly membership meetings, we continue our "Journey through the PMBOK" in August with Chapter 9, Project Human Resource Management. In addition, each of the three branches located in Panama City Beach, Mobile and Pensacola have regularly scheduled monthly membership meetings. We have our general membership dinner meeting in November and are very excited to have our Regional Mentor, John Watson presenting that evening.

We always have several other discounted educational opportunities posted each month on the website as well. We are striving to maximize our member's educational and networking opportunities. Come a little early to the meetings and spend some time talking to your counterparts.

We all are eager to learn, and the value of these networking opportunities cannot be overstated. It is an extremely valuable skill in our profession and even more critical in these economically uncertain times. We need to work to establish our "network" effectively and efficiently so our efforts help us land that all important new contract or job.

Your "network" consists of all of your personal and professional contacts. Networking skills involve maintaining existing contacts as well as continuously expanding your list. This can help provide a valuable POC, a "heads up", and potentially even a "leg up" in competitive professional situations. We can rely on luck or work proactively to make something happen. This is true in both our professional and personal lives.

We are also continually looking for opportunities for chapter growth. There are quite a number of opportunities for chapter members to participate. We rely on our volunteers to make our programs happen. Chapter volunteers develop and organize our programs, such as the monthly meetings, education programs, the Newsletter, and annual conference. I encourage you to consider serving on the Board or becoming a key volunteer leading or contributing to a project team.

If you haven't already, join the PMI Emerald Coast FL chapter. Attend our membership meetings at the most convenient location for you. Elections are coming up soon for our chapter board members. Please consider volunteering for a leadership role or working on a committee. Get to know us and let us get to know you!

Sincerely,

*Cheryl*

**PMI Emerald Coast  
Florida Chapter  
P. O. Box 1265  
Shalimar, FL 32579**

July 2011

Membership Stats  
as of  
June 2011

Members: 233  
137 PMP & 3 CAPM

102 Chapter Members  
27 Mobile Branch Members  
48 Panama City Branch  
Members  
56 Pensacola Branch Mem-  
bers

Membership Activity:  
10 New Members

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## August Chapter Membership Meeting Information

**August 17, 2011**

**Time:** 11:30AM—12:30PM (network 11:00—11:30)

Two Trees Restaurant, 1955 Lewis Turner Blvd, Ft. Walton Beach, FL

**Speaker:** Mrs. Mary Gianelloni, PMP

**Topic:** Project Human Resource Management (Chapter 9 PMBoK)

Earn **1 PDU** for attending!

The meeting will start at 11:30 and will conclude at approximately 12:30 with networking, lunch ordering from 11:00am—11:30am. Let Server know upon arrival what you would like for lunch, orders will be paid by attendee at time of meeting. Requirement for use of Two Trees Restaurant at no cost to the chapter is EVERYONE must have lunch (see registration site for menu).

Register online at [http://pmiemcfl\\_chapter\\_aug2011.eventsbot.com/](http://pmiemcfl_chapter_aug2011.eventsbot.com/)

or visit chapter website at <http://pmiemeraldcoastfl.org> for additional information.

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## August Mobile Branch Meeting Information

**August 15, 2011**

**Time:** 6:00 PM—7:00PM

**Location:** ITT Technical Institute Lab 5 Room

**Speaker:** Les Holford, ITT Tech, Project Management Instructor

**Topic:** Quality Management

See [www.pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](http://www.pmiemeraldcoastfl.org) for registration information

Earn **1 PDU** for attending! Bring your own lunch.

Look for more information on the [Mobile Branch](#) page of the Chapter website or contact

Carrie French, PMP Director, Mobile Branch at [directormobilebranch@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:directormobilebranch@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org)



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## Panama City Branch Meeting Information

**August 25, 2011**

**Time:** 5:00 PM—7:00 PM

**Location:** L-3 Communications Main Conf Room

**Speaker:** Bob Hess, PMP

**Topic:** ‘PMI Housekeeping—Maintaining Certification, Registering PDUs, and Changes to the PMP Exam’

**Register Online at:** <http://www.eventsbot.com/events/eb343051428>

Earn **1 PDU** for attending!

Look for more information on the [Panama City Branch](#) page of the Chapter website or contact John Dawson, PMP Director, Panama City Branch at [directorpanamacitybranch@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:directorpanamacitybranch@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org)



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## Pensacola Branch Meeting Information

**August 18, 2011**

**Time:** 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

**Location:** Angus Steakhouse, 1101 Scenic Highway Pensacola

**Speaker:** Adam Johnson, Director of Performance Improvement and Decision Support from Baptist Hospital

**Topic:** Quality Management

**Register Online at:** <http://www.eventsbot.com/events/eb913076403>

Earn **1 PDU** for attending!

Look for more information on the [Pensacola Branch](#) page of the Chapter website or contact Charlotte Peacock, PMP Director, Pensacola Branch at [directorpensacolabranh@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:directorpensacolabranh@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org)



## SAVE THE DATE!

**Date:** November 10, 2011

### Annual Evening PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter Membership Meeting

**Time:** 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM

**Location:** Ramada Inn, Fort Walton Beach

**Speaker:** John Watson, PMP (Regional Mentor)

**Speaker Topic:** A life cycle overview of PMI, Project Management and you as a Project Manager

**Additional Topic:** Announcement of new Board Members

Social 5:30 to 6:00, Program 6:00 to 8:00, 8:00 to 8:30 Closing

**Cost:** Student: \$35.00; Member: \$39.00; Non-Member: \$44.00

#### Dinner Options:

Chicken Parmesan:

Caesar Salad

Breaded Chicken Breast topped with

Marinara Sauce and Cheese

Angel Hair Pasta

Italian Green Beans

Dessert

Grilled Vegetable Plate:

Caesar Salad

Chef's Choice Grilled Vegetables

Saffron Rice Pilaf

Dessert

Earn **1 PDU** for attending.

Register online at: <http://pmiemcfl2011annualnovembermeeting.eventsbot.com/>

Cash bar will be available from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Watch for Nomination and Election Information to follow soon as Board Member elections will take place shortly and the outcomes will be announced at this meeting.

**Come meet your 2012 Board of Directors!**

## Why participate as a Sponsor?

The PMI Emerald Coast FL Chapter serves the Northwest panhandle of Florida and Southern Alabama area. Sponsorship at this Chapter offers a tremendous opportunity to support the Project Management profession while exposing your company's products and services to our members.

We are the newest chapter in our Region. Our depth and breadth of membership has various needs for community outreach programs, educational opportunities and professional networking. Our primary location is Fort Walton Beach, FL with Chapter branches in Mobile AL, Pensacola FL and Panama City, FL

### **Additional facts about PMI Emerald Coast FL:**

Our members are Project Managers working in a broad range of industries.

Our monthly Chapter meetings are broadly attended by local project management practitioners and are open to members and non-members. Many of our member attendees are certified Project Management Professionals (PMP®).

Our newsletter is circulated electronically to active members & subscribers.

Our Chapter website receives frequent visits from guests, members and other Project Management professionals.

We will be happy to discuss our sponsorship program with you. Simply email your inquiry to [info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org).

### **Sponsorship Options**

The PMI Emerald Coast FL Chapter is pleased to offer a variety of sponsorship options. Descriptions for each of these sponsorship options are presented below.

- *Annual Sponsorships (\$2,500, \$1,000, \$500)*
- *Event Sponsorships (\$500, \$250)*
- *Bi-Monthly Newsletter Promotions (\$500, \$250, \$100)*

If you would like to sponsor the Chapter Annually, for an event, or newsletter contact us at [info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org).

If you have suggestions for other sponsorship ideas, please feel free to contact us at [info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org).

# Project Management Professional (PMP) Certification Boot Camp

## August 15th through August 19th



CLASSES PROVIDED BY:



**NEW PMP EXAM**

### Government Grant Subsidized PROJECT MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL (PMP) CERTIFICATION BOOT CAMP

New 2011 PMP Exam Changes  
take place Aug. 31, 2011  
ARE YOU READY?

**HAVEN'T TAKEN YOUR EXAM YET?  
WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!  
H2 HAS PARTNERED WITH PMI TO OFFER THE NEWEST  
PMP EXAM, CALL NOW TO REGISTER**

#### Each Student Receives:

- o PMBOK® Guide-Fourth Edition Courseware approved by PMI
- o Workshop for PMI's PMP Application process
- o Computer-based PMI Testing Voucher for the PMP exam (price of the exam reimbursed by PSC with passing grade)
- o PMP Exam prep study guides with over 600 practice questions
- o 35 Professional Development Units (PDU)
- o Dynamic, interactive workshops during the span of the course
- o Flash cards for each knowledge area
- o Additional customized courseware developed by H2 PMP-Certified expert consultants
- o Personalized Learning Management System including interactive practice questions
- o You get Job Aids which include: Templates including Project Charter, Communications Plans, Risk Management and more....

## All this for only: \$1,125!! cost per student

**CLASS DATE AND LOCATION**  
Aug. 15 - Aug. 19, 2011  
8:30am - 4:30pm  
PSC Pensacola Campus  
Building 17

#### FOR REGISTRATION AND SUMMER CLASS SCHEDULE:

Contact Mary Adams - H2PC Training Solutions Manager  
Office: 850-266-7087 | Toll Free: 877-844-4970 | Mobile: 850-602-0715  
mary.adams@h2pc.com www.h2pc.com training@h2pc.com



# Certified ScrumMaster (CSM) Class



## Certified ScrumMaster (CSM)

14 PDUs Per Course

September 8-9, Destin, FL  
NO PREREQUISITES REQUIRED

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Project Managers
- IT Professionals (Architects, BA's, DBAs, Developers, etc.)
- IT Leadership (Managers, Directors, VPs, CIOs, CTOs)
- Anyone interested in learning the benefits of Scrum

### COURSE OVERVIEW

Certified ScrumMaster (CSM) is an in-depth two day immersion into the world of Scrum. This course teaches the project manager how to serve in the role of the ScrumMaster as well as the project team how to utilize Scrum. After leaving this course, you will be eligible to sit for the Certified ScrumMaster exam. One year membership to the Scrum Alliance also included.

### COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- The advantages that Scrum brings to your organization
- A solid understanding of the Scrum framework
- Your role and responsibilities as the ScrumMaster
- The fundamentals of Agile Leadership (Servant Leadership)
- Facilitation skills that will help you succeed in your new role
- The importance of quickly uncovering roadblocks and clearing them for your team
- Tracking team performance with Agile Earned Value Management and burn down/up charts
- Considerations for implementing Scrum throughout your enterprise

**REGISTER ONLINE TODAY AT:**  
<http://destincsmsept2011.eventbrite.com>  
(SEATING IS LIMITED)

**\$1047 Early Bird Pricing**  
**\$1147 Regular Pricing**  
\*ask about our group discount  
for 3 or more attendees

PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter Members are eligible to receive a \$200 discount on this class. Enter code PMIEC to take advantage of this offer.

### ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR- Brain M. Rabon, CST, PMP



Brian is the President of The Braintrust Consulting Group, a provider of project management services for a wide range of software related projects. Brian holds a BS in computer science from Auburn University and a MS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is an avid author, blogger (<http://aspe-sdlc.com/blog> and <http://blog.your-pm-partner.com>), and speaker at conferences, professional organizations, and user groups around the globe. Brian loves teaching and is an Adjunct Instructor for UAB's Information Engineering and Management Program, a contract instructor for ASPE, New Horizons, Rally, Version One, and many other quality organizations. Brian is a Certified Scrum Trainer through the Scrum Alliance and The Braintrust Consulting Group is a Registered Education Provider for the Scrum Alliance.

[www.your-pm-partner.com](http://www.your-pm-partner.com) [info@your-pm-partner.com](mailto:info@your-pm-partner.com) 205.329.3794

# PMI Global Congress North America 2011

## PMI® Global Congress 2011—North America 22–25 October 2011 Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, USA

There are many exciting learning and networking possibilities at PMI Global Congress 2011—North America. At this three-day event attendees will gather the know-how and inspiration needed to succeed. Educational sessions and networking opportunities will connect peers to discuss common issues, innovative solutions and best practices, and to learn about the latest trends, tools and techniques from project management experts.

PMI Global Congress 2011—North America  
Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center  
1501 Gaylord Trail  
Grapevine, TX 76051 USA

### Keynote Speaker Malcolm Gladwell



The best and most effective managers are often said to be intuitive in the sense that they have the confidence to act on instinct. What is this instinct? And how can this intuition be developed? Author Malcolm Gladwell draws lessons from the world of professional athletes, surgeons and musicians to understand the components of intuitive expertise and help decision makers tap into that powerful resource.

For more information visit [www.PMI.org](http://www.PMI.org)

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Proud member of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce.



## PMP® Examination Change Approaching

There are changes coming to both the exam and the application process.

The new Project Management Professional (PMP)® examination will be released on August 31, 2011.

It is strongly recommended if you have prepared for the current exam to schedule your exam on or before August 30, 2011.

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**Congratulations to our newest Project Management Professionals!**

**Carl Brasington, PMP**

**Rodger Culkin, PMP**

**Mary Gianelloni, PMP**

**Anna Jingst, PMP**

**John Marsh, PMP**

**Ernest Martinez, PMP**

**Raymond Nowlin, PMP**

**George Rials, PMP**

**James Wilson, PMP**

**Don Perry, PMP**

## Three Ways To Fail Your PMP Exam Audit

By Cornelius Fichtner, PMP - Making the [PMBOK®](#) Guide fun.

The Project Management Institute's (PMI)® Project Management Professional (PMP)® credential is a globally recognized certification of project management knowledge, skills and experience. So it's not surprising that PMI takes great care to insure the quality of its certification process, from application through post certification.

When you apply to sit for PMI's [PMP Certification](#), you will submit a qualification of your education, quantification of your project management experience and classroom hours. If accepted, you can then take the PMP Exam. And if you pass, you'll be added to the PMI list of certified Project Management Professionals with all its privileges.

You and every PMI certified professional deserves to know that their hard fought credential will retain its value and integrity year in and year out. PMI takes this responsibility very seriously. One of the ways they insure the integrity of your PMP certification is by auditing applicants as well as certified PMPs throughout their programs.

Your PMP application and, later, your PMP Status, can be audited at any time. There are a lot of rumors about PMI's audit selection criteria, but the truth is that the audit selection process is completely random. There is no control chart of outliers or red flags.

So don't focus on whether you might fit a truly non-existent profile of someone who gets audited. Focus on making sure your information and actions are aligned with passing an audit from the start! There is a positive and proactive way to approach your PMP application. Take these simple ideas to heart:

### ***Your chances of being audited:***

During the application process your chances of being audited are about 50/50 and drop dramatically after certification. Since the PMP Exam audit selection process is completely random, you shouldn't waste your time listening to and worrying about the rumors of profiling or trigger conditions. Use your energy to properly study for the exam instead and take the time to make your application audit proof.

### ***Being truthful means you don't have to remember anything:***

PMI takes its code of ethics very seriously and so should you. The more time you take to make sure your application is aligned with your experience, the better it will withstand an audit.

### ***Document, Communicate, Align:***

Take the time to document clearly your experience. Make sure you know where you stored your degree, training certificates, dates, documentation, contact names, addresses and phone numbers from your projects. Better yet, create a new project folder of all the background information that supports your application.

Continued on next page.

When you submit your Project Management experience application you will be asked to provide contact persons for each and every project. Be sure to confirm their current email address and phone numbers. These contact persons could be your managers, co-workers, vendors, clients and any other applicable stakeholders from your past projects. Let them know you're applying to take the PMP Exam. Jog their memory of your projects by sharing with them what you're submitting and ask them if they agree with what you've written. Make corrections if they disagree.

### ***The Three Ways to Fail a PMP Exam Audit:***

According to PMI's Customer Care there are three ways that you can fail an audit: No Fault, Non-Compliance and Fraud. Let's look at them in detail. First we'll see what PMI writes for each, then we'll give you an interpretation and our recommendations.

#### 1.) No Fault

"Cannot verify education or experience through no fault of their own - No suspension period and cannot reapply until candidate can provide the experience hours and document them."

You should be able to avoid this by making sure you have all your documentation before you submit your PMP Exam application. However, if for some reason, your education or experience cannot be confirmed, through no fault of your own, then PMI will still let you fail the audit. You may re-apply as soon as you have your experience hours documented or confirmation of your degree.

#### 2.) Non-Compliance

"Candidate chooses not to attempt audit - One year suspension period"

If you are audited and you simply have too much going on in your life to participate in the audit, then you can choose not to give any audit responses. Similar to pleading "no contest," the candidate is subject to a one year suspension period before he/she can apply for the [PMP Exam](#) again.

#### 3.) Fraud

"Providing False Information - Permanently suspended from sitting for PMI exams.

This should be obvious to you... Don't lie! It's not worth it! If you provide false information on your PMP application and you fail an audit because of it, you will be permanently suspended from sitting for any PMI exams. And they truly do mean forever.

If you're concerned about not having enough contact hours, consider putting off your application until you do. If you're looking for projects to fill in those hours, there are a lot of volunteer project management opportunities through community service and other non-profit organizations.

If you need a certification by a particular deadline and you're short of hours, consider sitting for the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)® while you're accumulating the hours you'll need for the PMP. A CAPM certification requires only a high school (or equivalent) diploma and either 23 hours of project management education or 1,500 experience hours.

Although PMI can choose to change the PMP Audit process at any time, should you be audited, you'll be asked to provide copies of your diplomas or equivalents, signatures from people that can verify your experience such as managers and supervisors, and copies of certificates and/or letters from training institutions for each educational course you're claiming.

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The PMP Exam audit process is a hiccup, but not a road block on your way to becoming certified. Take a little care up front, and you'll come through it with flying colors.

About the author: Cornelius Fichtner, PMP is a noted PMP expert. He has helped over 15,000 students prepare for the [PMP Exam](#) with The Project Management PrepCast and The [PMP Exam Simulator](#).

### **Summary:**

Every Project Management Professional (PMP) application has a 50/50 chance of being audited. Your best strategy for “surviving” the PMP Exam audit successfully is to be truthful from the start, know what will be asked of you, and proactively prepare your PMP application.

## **Project Communications: To Blog or Not to Blog**

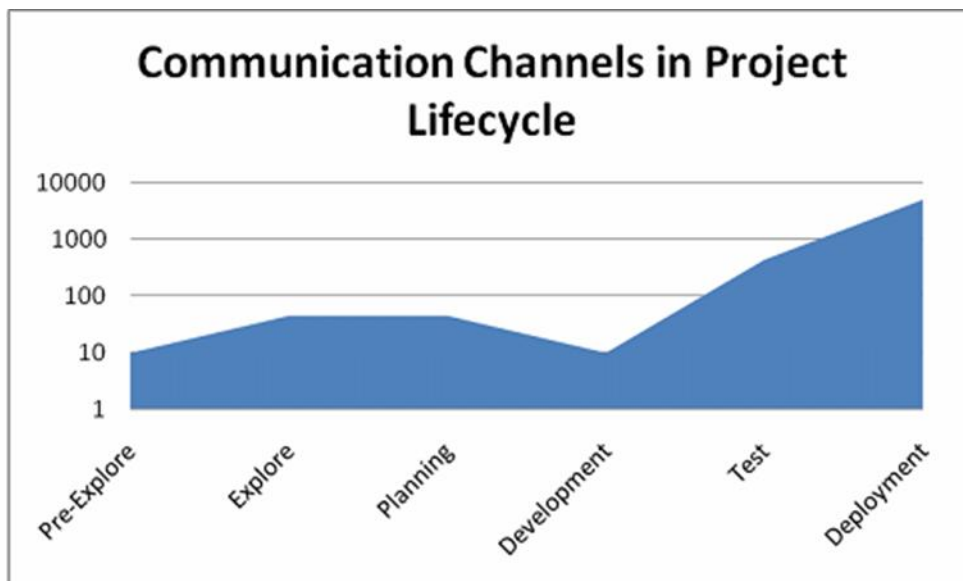
By Gareth Byatt, Gary Hamilton, and Jeff Hodgkinson

We have all been told that communication with all stakeholders, particularly the core project team, is one of the central responsibilities of the Project Manager. We support this idea and have mentioned it in several of our previous articles. You may have seen a well-known communications formula of  $N(N-1)/2$  used as proof that the addition of new members to any program or project team increases the number of communication channels exponentially. For example, if your team increases from 15 to 17, the number of possible communication channels goes up by 31; try the calculations and you'll see what we mean.

Applying this theory, a small team may have ten to fifty communication channels, while a large team may have thousands. A Project Manager should understand that the time required to manage communications grows with the number of channels, and begin to look for ways to effectively and efficiently communicate with their project stakeholders – keeping in mind that different stakeholders require different information at different times in the project. (Our article on Project Success Planning covers this topic.) With the ease and availability of blogs in today's corporate setting, you may be asking yourself, “Is blogging a good communication option for my project?”

Because each project phase requires the appropriate emphasis at a given time, the number of channels the program or project manager must manage varies throughout the lifecycle of a project. For example, in the early stage of a project – let's call it Preliminary (or Discovery, the term we use in our article “Nine Essential Steps for Project Success”) – you may have a relatively low number of channels because you are only working with a few key stakeholders. In contrast, in the Execution or Deployment phase, your team will be fully engaged with many people. Further, communication by the project manager is a key area of focus as the project lifecycle draws to a close. Figure 1.1 below illustrates an example/typical scenario. (Note: the lifecycle phases are examples; your organisation probably has different ones).

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Clearly, managing communications with a large number of users can be challenging. As program / project managers, we are typically overly reliant on email to both send and receive written messages to stakeholders. This may entail managing a distribution list, and you can never be sure if you are over-communicating or under-communicating. In terms of communication, a good rule of thumb is that it's better to over-communicate than to do too little. We strive to be 'masters of our craft' and, therefore, we want to find a method by which we ensure that necessary and sufficient information is communicated, and that we are not saturating our team, customers, and other stakeholders with 'ToMITO' (Too Much Information Too Often).

One suggestion to aid project communications to certain stakeholders is to use a Blog or an online forum, perhaps by utilizing the features of your company's intranet site or a secure site that offers this functionality. Blogs are a great way to send a general message or update to your audience. Wikipedia defines a blog as:

A **blog** (a blend of the term *web log*) is a type of website or part of a website. Blogs are usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, or other material such as graphics or video. Entries are commonly displayed in reverse-chronological order. *Blog* can also be used as a verb, meaning *to maintain or add content to a blog*. Most blogs are interactive, allowing visitors to leave comments and even message each other via widgets on the blogs and it is this interactivity that distinguishes them from other static websites.

Many blogs provide commentary or news on a particular subject; others function as more personal online diaries. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, Web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability of readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs. Most blogs are primarily textual, although some focus on art (art blog), photographs (photoblog), videos (video blogging), music (MP3 blog), and audio (podcasting). Microblogging is another type of blogging, featuring very short posts. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blog>

As of 16 February 2011 (2011 -02-16)<sup>[update]</sup>, there were over 156 million public blogs in existence.

Continued on next page

Stakeholders can choose or decline to subscribe to your blog updates. Forums are also an effective means to provide feedback and generate discussion among your project team and users. The benefit to you is that you can easily share one-to-many or solicit many-to-many messages among your base and rid yourself of your distribution lists. Use the following matrix to decide how to best use these mediums:




Are there downsides to blogging? For sure. Blogging will not be the communication mode of choice for all stakeholders, and it is certainly not the only channel to use. As with any well-planned project, you should conduct a full stakeholder analysis and build your specific communication plan based on the needs of your project team and their stakeholder “circle of influence” (using models such as the RACI one to determine who is Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed). We also all know that stakeholders come and go on projects, so remaining current is vital. As stakeholder needs vary, a Blog will not be “The method” for everyone, and you may have to duplicate information in different

On a Blog/Forum	Not on Blogs or Forums
Tip and Tricks	Detailed Training
Committed Priorities and Schedules	Priorities and Schedules in Development
Progress Updates	User Acceptance Meetings
Indicators	Confidential Data
Downtime Announcements	

formats. This is a “fact of life” for projects, and not necessarily a bad thing. For example, if you have an IT project in the Testing phase, or a construction project and are carrying out the “punchlist” or “snagging remediation works,” a Bug/Issue/Defect report on a Blog may not be appropriate – it may be too detailed. But a high-level summary may be appropriate for summary reporting to certain stakeholders. You will need to agree on the appropriate use of a blog and determine what should be tracked in formal documentation and other mediums of communication.

In conclusion, ‘Blogging’ can be a great “string to the bow” of the Project Manager for communicating information about your project to appropriate parties. Blogging should not be used to communicate all levels of information and its use should be planned, based on stakeholder communication needs as identified and agreed upon in your project communications plan. Effective blogging is a skill. Much guidance material is freely available on the Internet. If you are unfamiliar with blogging, we recommend you review a few of these readily available resources by searching for “tips for blogging”. Lastly, always follow standard legal, business confidentiality and corporate guidelines and ensure you respond daily to your blog comments.

Author information on next page.

<b>Article Author Bios as of July 2011</b>	
<p><b>About The Article Authors, Their Roles Their Plans, And Their Goals</b></p>	<p>Gareth Byatt, Gary Hamilton, and Jeff Hodgkinson are experienced PMO, program, and project managers who developed a mutual friendship by realizing they shared a common passion to help others and share knowledge about PMO, portfolio, program and project management (collectively termed PM below). In February 2010 they decided to collaborate on a three (3) year goal to write 50 PM subject articles for publication in any/all PM subject websites, newsletters, and professional magazines / journals. So far 29 have been written, published, and translated into Arabic, Czechoslovakian, French, German, Indonesia, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian and published on websites in 25 countries including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, India, Jamaica, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Trinidad, Turkey, UK, Ukraine and the USA. Their mission is to help expand good program and project management practices by promoting the PM profession, to be a positive influence to the PM Community, be known as eminent influencers of PM practices, and in earnest hope readers can gain benefit from the advice of their 60+ years of combined experience and expertise and include the expertise of co-authors who write with them on certain articles and subjects. Along with writing articles, each also champions a role in the overall writing program collaboration process:</p> <p>Gareth manages all requests for additional guest author collaborations  Gary manages the article development tracking and readership metrics  Jeff manages the article distribution and new readership demographics  Each can be contacted for advice, coaching, collaboration, and speaking individually as noted in their bios or as a team at: <a href="mailto:Contactus@pmoracles.com">Contactus@pmoracles.com</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">Gareth Byatt</a> has 15+ years of experience in project, program and PMO management in IT and construction for <a href="#">Lend Lease</a>. Gareth has worked in several countries and lives in Sydney, Australia. He can be contacted through <a href="#">LinkedIn</a>.</p> <p>Gareth holds numerous degrees, certifications, and credentials in program and project management as follows: an MBA from one of the world's leading education establishments, a 1st-class undergraduate management degree, and the PMP®, PgMP®, PMI-RMP®, PMI-SP® &amp; PRINCE2 professional certifications. Gareth is currently a Director of the PMI Sydney Chapter, he is the APAC Region Director for the PMI's PMO Community of Practice and he chairs several peer networking groups.</p> <p>He has presented on PMOs, portfolio and program and project management at international conferences in the UK, Australia, &amp; Asia including PMI APAC in 2010. Email Gareth: <a href="mailto:gareth.byatt@gmail.com">gareth.byatt@gmail.com</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">Gary Hamilton</a> has 16+ years of project and program management experience in IT, finance, and human resources and volunteers as the VP of Professional Development for the PMI East Tennessee chapter. Gary is a 2009 &amp; 2010 Presidents' Volunteer Award recipient for his charitable work with local fire services and professional groups. He has won several internal awards for results achieved from projects and programs he managed as well as being named one of the <a href="#">Business Journal's Top 40 Professionals</a> in 2007. Gary was the first person globally to obtain the five credentials PgMP®, PMP®, PMI-RMP®, PMI-SP®, CAPM®. In addition to these, Gary holds numerous other degrees and certifications in IT, management, and project management and they include: an advanced MBA degree in finance, Project+, PRINCE2, ITIL-F, MCTS (Sharepoint), MCITP (Project), and Six Sigma GB professional certifications. Email Gary: <a href="mailto:Gary@PMOracles.com">Gary@PMOracles.com</a> or contact him through <a href="#">LinkedIn</a>.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Jeff Hodgkinson</a> is a 32 year veteran of <a href="#">Intel Corporation</a>, where he continues on a progressive career as a program/project manager. Jeff is an IT@Intel Expert and blogs on <a href="#">Intel's Community for IT Professionals</a> for Program/Project Management subjects and interests. He is also the Intel IT PMO PMI Credential Mentor supporting colleagues in pursuit of a new credential. Jeff received the <a href="#">2010 PMI (Project Management Institute) Distinguished Contribution Award</a> for his support of the Project Management profession from the <a href="#">Project Management Institute</a>. Jeff was also the 2nd place finalist for the 2009 <a href="#">Kerzner International Project Manager of the Year Award™</a>. He lives in Mesa, Arizona, USA and is a member of <a href="#">Phoenix PMI Chapter</a>. Because of his contributions to helping people achieve their goals, he is the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) most recommended person on <a href="#">LinkedIn</a> with 555+ recommendations, and is ranked 54th most networked <a href="#">LinkedIn</a> person. He gladly accepts all connection invite requests from PM practitioners at: <a href="http://www.linkedin.com/in/jeffhodgkinson">www.linkedin.com/in/jeffhodgkinson</a>. Jeff holds numerous certifications and credentials in program and project management, which are as follows: CAPM®, CCS, CDT, CPC™, CIPM™, CPPM–Level 10, CDRP, CSM™, CSQE, GPM™, IPMA-B®, ITIL-F, MPM™, PME™, PMOC, PMP®, PgMP®, PMI-RMP®, PMI-SP®, PMW, and SSGB. Jeff is an expert at program and project management principles and best practices. He enjoys sharing his experiences with audiences around the globe as a keynote speaker at various PM events. Email Jeff: <a href="mailto:ijhmesa@gmail.com">ijhmesa@gmail.com</a></p>

## Where do I take the PMP Exam?

If you are not taking a PMP training class that includes taking the exam, you may be wondering how/where you will take your test. The PMI website provides the name of the testing company but not much more in the way of specifics. You might start your search using the following URL: <http://www.prometric.com/default.htm> As you drill down to find a testing site, be aware that the one most convenient for YOU may not be in Florida; for instance, the site in Mobile Alabama is more convenient if you live near Pensacola. Another possibility is Tallahassee—depending on your location.

## Interested in forming a PMP Study Group?

Keith Yockey, VP Professional Development would like to hear from you if you are interested in participating in a study group to prepare for the PMP Exam. Some details remain to be resolved, such as finding a suitable location; but the Board has access to study materials and is willing to name a POC if sufficient interest is shown. Also, this would provide another way for current PMPs to earn PDUs—by leading a session.

So—if you are interested in forming a PMP Study Group or leading a session, please contact Keith Yockey, PMP at: [vpprofdevelopment@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:vpprofdevelopment@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org)

## PMI Emerald Coast FL Chapter Needs YOU!

If you are interested in volunteering, the Chapter has many opportunities for Volunteers and you can earn PDUs at the same time. The Chapter has a continuous needs for volunteers to help board members with planning and executing Chapter activities.

Volunteering is an excellent way to expand your contact network, and to increase your skills and qualifications as a leader.

Board Members earn 10 PDUs for their service. Chapter volunteers also earn PDUs to help you meet your continuing certification requirements for your PMP. However, having a PMP is **NOT** a prerequisite!

## NOT a member of PMI® or the Chapter?

When you become a PMI member, you'll gain access to knowledge, networks and resources that can help you to improve your work and advance your career in project management. Membership means you'll be recognized as someone who is:

- Serious about professional and personal development
- Enthusiastic about good practices in project management
- Dedicated to practicing your profession in an ethical manner

All of these factors give you an edge in the job market and distinguish you to employers, colleagues and stakeholders. Go to <http://www.pmi.org/en/Membership/Membership-Benefits-of-Membership.aspx> for more details on how to become a member of PMI and the Emerald Coast FL Chapter

## Chapter Website

[www.pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](http://www.pmiemeraldcoastfl.org)

Check the website often for information regarding Chapter Events (and registration for Events), Newsletters, as well as PDU-earning opportunities such as Webinars, Classes and Bootcamp sessions that might be of interest to our members. You will also find the Monthly Training Session presentations on the website; these are posted within a day or so after the monthly membership meeting. We encourage suggestions and other input regarding Newsletter and/or Website content. If you have an item or an idea for Newsletter or Website content —please send it to: [info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:info@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org)

## Academic Resources

To advance the teaching of project management in higher education, PMI offers a range of programs and services for students, professors, researchers and educational institutions.

**Student Resources:** For students, PMI continues to develop educational resources to help them achieve their academic goals. PMI also offers discounted student memberships, tuition scholarships, professional credentials and the ability to get involved in communities to learn and network with other students and project management practitioners.

**Faculty Resources:** Classroom resources such as teaching case studies, journal articles, *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge* and other global standards have proven invaluable to instructors. PMI also offers a scholarly journal and research grant opportunities.

**Institutional Resources:** Because higher education plays an important role in advancing project management, PMI offers programs that give recognition to universities and colleges that meet quality standards for project management education and training.

From: PMI website - see “Academic Resources” under “Academic Degree Accreditation” on the “Career Development” page on the PMI.org website: [www.pmi.org](http://www.pmi.org).

## Chapter Communications

If you are receiving e-mail communications from the PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter - your e-mail address is on our distribution list. You have been added to this list because - (1) you have requested notification of chapter events (2) we have received notification from the PMI that you have joined/renewed your membership in our chapter (includes contact info) and/or (3) you are a PMI member in our area and we hope to interest you in an upcoming chapter event (including Chapter Branch formation). Also—when you renew your membership - please ensure your contact information is current!

It is not our intent to contact anyone who wishes to be excluded from our distribution list. If you receive unwanted e-mail from the PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter- please contact the VP Communications at [vpcommunications@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org](mailto:vpcommunications@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org) and request to be removed from this distribution list.

For new members who may not yet be receiving chapter e-mail notices - depending on the day of the month you join it may take a couple of weeks for us to receive your information from the PMI. Please feel free to contact the VP Communications to have your e-mail address added to our distribution list rather than waiting for PMI to send us their notification.